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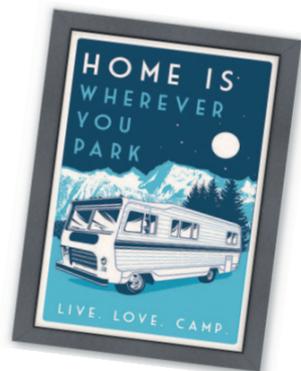
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Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

# THE DENVER POST

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2014



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★

DP ONLINE: Amy Van Dyken-Rouen transferring to Craig Hospital to start rehab next week. »denverpost.com

## TURMOIL IN IRAQ

# Militants' gains set sectarian battles

Cleric's call to arms comes amid melting of U.S.-trained army.

By Loveday Morris  
The Washington Post

**IRBIL, IRAQ»** The stage was set Friday for a major sectarian confrontation in Iraq after the government and the country's most powerful Shiite cleric implored civilians to take up arms against Sunni militants — a move that would partially plug the ranks of the decimated security forces with religiously motivated volunteers.

Those developments appeared directly at odds with the approach urged by U.S. President Barack Obama, who appealed to the Iraqi government to find ways to bridge the country's sectarian divisions.

After an offensive this week by the al-Qaeda-inspired Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant — known by the acronyms ISIL and ISIS, depending on translations — triggered a massive retreat by security forces in the north, the government called for volunteers to join the battle. Friday, that call was echoed in a message from Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani, delivered during prayers in the southern Shiite holy city Karbala.

Baghdad residents said those signing up are largely members of Shiite militias notorious for bloodletting during the darkest days of Iraq's civil war, raising fears of a return to levels of sectarian violence that could tear the country apart.

The new recruits will face militants who have received a significant military boost from warehouses of equipment left behind by the retreating Iraqi army.

Hisham al-Hashemi, an Iraqi se-

IRAQ » 14A

**Inside:** Iraqi prime minister's hold on power is in jeopardy amid losses to insurgents. » 16A

## COMING SUNDAY

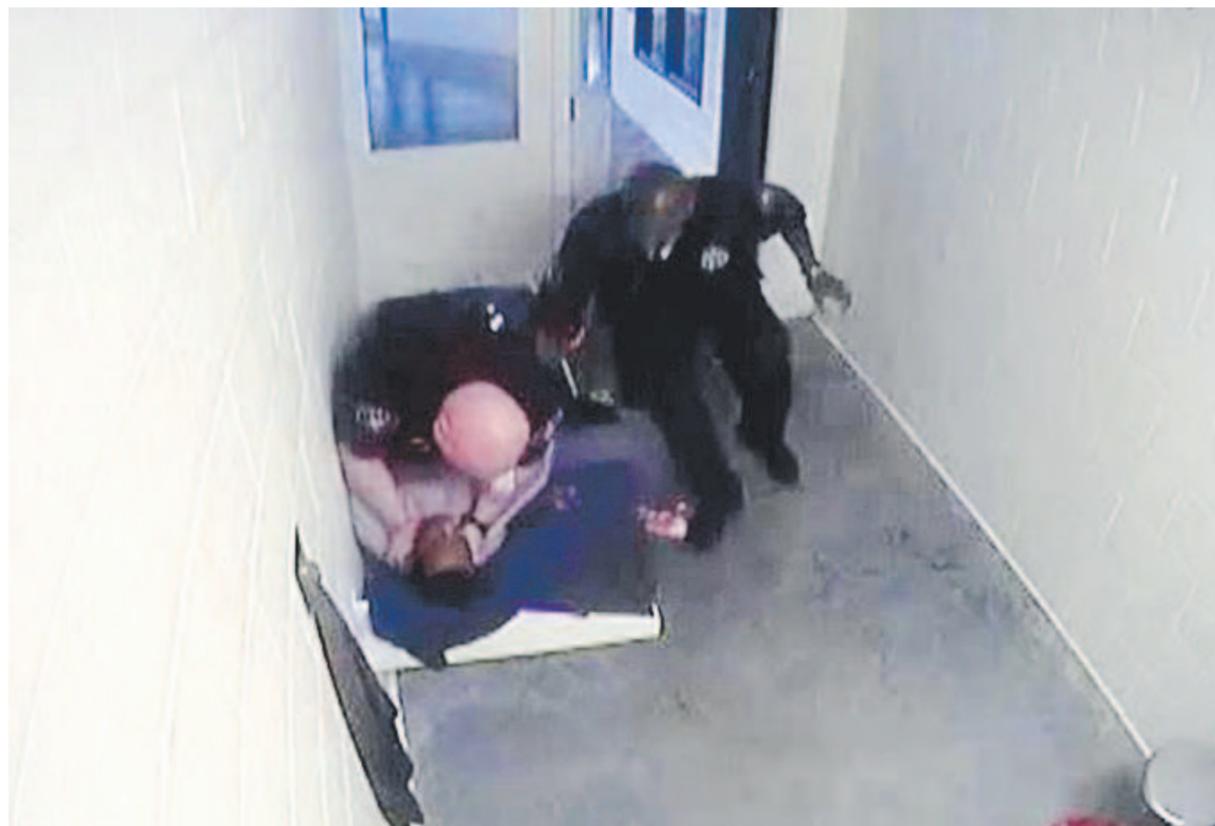
**Herb Empire**  
A series about the recreational marijuana industry

Pot dispensaries face a barrier: where to bank. With financial services still under anti-marijuana federal law, pot shop owners turn to private security services to ferry their taxes.

## Video of 2011 Denver Jail Choking Incident

# Deputy on inmate who's not fighting

Disciplinary, criminal probes didn't start till more than 2 years later



Denver jail surveillance-camera footage — time-stamped July 31, 2011 — shows sheriff's Deputy Edward Keller, left, on top of inmate Jamal Hunter and choking him. Provided by Denver Federal Court

By Kirk Mitchell The Denver Post

**The video of Denver sheriff's Deputy Edward Keller choking a noncombative inmate was recorded in the summer of 2011. But disciplinary and criminal investigations did not begin until more than two years later and only after the Denver jail inmate, Jamal Hunter, filed a federal lawsuit against Keller, another deputy and the city of Denver.**

"At the time of his deposition on May 29, 2013, defendant Keller had not even been interviewed regarding the July 31, 2011 incident," according to a brief by Hunter's attorney, Quisair Mohamedbhai.

To this day, neither Keller nor anyone else has been punished in the incident in which Hunter was also tased twice — although a disciplinary panel has recommended Keller be suspended for 30 days.

The incident involving Keller happened only 13 days after another deputy, Gaynel Rumer, allegedly stood by while inmates beat Hunter and severely burned his genitals. Hunter claims he was pleading for bet-

ter medical attention when Keller assaulted him.

The Hunter case led to the revelation that dozens of serious allegations against sheriff's deputies by inmates had not been investigated.

Hunter's treatment sparked a far-flung internal investigation of the Denver jail's grievance practices. A judge has also recommended a federal investigation.

At the crossroads of local and federal allegations is a man who ran the Denver jail until his recent resignation after he became the target of an unrelated criminal

JAIL » 11A

**Video:** Watch the video of the excessive-force incident inside the Denver jail. »denverpost.com/extras

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