**Fake News Examples**

**How it was done**

- Abandoned web address bought for $5.00
- 15 minutes to write/develop the story
- Google image search for “ballot boxes” (photo from The Birmingham Mail, showing a British election)
- Invented “Randall Prince, Columbus area electrical worker who entered a back room in a warehouse and found boxes of pre-marked ballots”
- Earned writer about $5,000 in ad money

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**“FBI Agent Suspected in Hillary Email Leaks Found Dead”**

Walkerville, MD — An FBI agent believed to be responsible for the latest email leaks “pertinent to the investigation” into Hillary Clinton’s private email server while she was Secretary of State, was found dead in an apparent murder-suicide early Saturday morning, according to police.

Investigators believe FBI agent, Michael Brown, 45, shot and killed his 33-year-old wife, Susan Brown, late Friday night before setting the couple’s home on fire and then turning the gun on himself. Brown was a 12 year veteran of the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department before spending the last six years in the FBI.

- (Fake) article published on web site of Denverguardian.com
- (False) newspaper website had local weather information, but only one news story
- Shared on Facebook with over 500,000 hits and 1.6 million views
There are sources that are openly satirical, such as the article from *The Onion*.

**Benny The Bull Busted For Possession Of Unlicensed T-Shirt Gun**

CHICAGO—Noting that the suspect had been taken into custody after officers managed to tackle and wrestle the individual to the ground of the United Center concourse, police confirmed Monday that Chicago Bulls mascot Benny the Bull was arrested for possession of an unlicensed T-shirt gun. “The suspect was driving erratically on his motorcycle when we pulled him over to the side of the court, at which point we uncovered a weapon hidden on his person,” said Chicago police officer Isaac Guerrero, adding that Benny the Bull then fled from authorities on foot, eventually jumping off a trampoline, somersaulting through the air, and barreling through several cheerleaders who were blocking his path. “The suspect then began firing indiscriminately into the crowd before tossing the weapon into a trash can. Upon recovering the T-shirt gun it was clear the serial numbers had been filed off, and we later discovered over 300 rounds of T-shirts stockpiled in his storage locker.” In addition to the current weapons charges, officers said that Benny the Bull might face further prosecution if ballistic experts can successfully link the T-shirt gun to several unsolved shootings at the United Center.

In other articles, the fake news is less easily identifiable and make take further research to assess it's credibility. For example, the article "**At Least 17 Bodies Found in Ohio River Near Henderson, Kentucky?**"

**POSTED ON JULY 7, 2014 BY A. MICHAEL SMITH**

**HENDERSON, Kentucky –**

A mass burial ground was discovered by divers near Henderson, Kentucky yesterday, after a local man walking his dog had alerted police that he thought he saw someone floating down the Ohio River.

Police searched the area, and discovered at least 17 bodies in different stages of dismemberment and decay. The bodies were all found wrapped individually in plastic bags.

“This could be the most prolific, active serial

It may look like a real story, but further investigation to it's credibility reveals it that the news sources is from a self described "a satirical and entertainment website," and therefore no major new sources reported on the story.