

Sacred Vengeance Corporation

"To the last, I grapple with thee; From Hell's heart, I stab at thee; For hate's sake, I spit my last breath at thee"
-Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*

The SVC is a for-profit revenge company that allow customers to make life difficult for people. This can range from pranks and smears to physical violence or even murder, depending on budget. SVC is a legal extropian company: it carefully adjusts what it does so the profit exceeds the payments it must make to law companies in order to pursue someone. Actually hitting a person with a good contract with Medusan Shield is pretty expensive, but someone outside extropian jurisdiction or unprotected is very cheap to harass.



For example, a person might hire SVC as a Major favour (level 4) to get back at an enemy after an unfriendly review. If the enemy is unprotected the SVC might simply kill him. However, if the enemy has a typical security contract (as a minor favour, level 2) the result would be level 2 (4-2) harassment: he gets roughed up, and afterwards the rented goon shows the security corp that he was hired by SVC, an SVC arbitrator shows up and pays the security firm for their trouble and freeing the goon. If the enemy has high security (like a level 3 favour), then the harassment might be merely a smear campaign, getting crazies to come to the enemy's parties or lectures, or repeated annoying flashcrowds.

One of SVCs most important services is vengeance bonds. Rather than specify someone to be a victim, the customer sets up a contract so that if they are attacked or killed the SVC will strike. While other law companies have similar services SVC offers variants that go further, such as post-mortem revenge, undirected revenge ("If I die, bad things will happen to everybody in this habitat") and blood feuds. These are usually intended as safety measures than an actual desire for causing harm: having a high level vengeance bond makes attacks less profitable, yet the high chance of the bond never "maturing" allows SVC to offer pretty extreme revenges for a smaller investment.

Many non-extropians regard companies like SVC as signs of their immorality or complete insanity. Extropians tend to view SVC as merely a specialised law company, playing a bit with symbolism (the company logo is a stylized bloody dagger and its standard simspace skin is a mixture of chilly 20th century corporate office and Hashishim fortress). Security companies regularly deal with SVC: they have arbitration deals with the company, usually making interaction quick. A few people have become annoyed by SVC itself and have tried to strike at it, but it is well protected with high-level defence contracts.