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# Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

There is definitely a lot going on at CALSAGA. From the upcoming Annual Conference (our first in Las Vegas), to Board elections, Legislative action, ongoing efforts to assist members with AB 2880 compliance, and more, there are few dull moments around the CALSAGA offices these days.

Fortunately, *Observed & Reported* is here to ensure that CALSAGA members know the latest on all these matters and more. But enough of the self-promotion...what's in this issue for you, right?

Our cover story deals with the state of the AB 2880 Security Officer Training Law, over a year after it took effect.

We asked members, BSIS, legislators, and training experts what they thought the law had accomplished, how compliant was the industry, how difficult it had been to implement, and more.

In short, as our cover asks, "Is AB 2880 working?"

Most of those we interviewed gave the law mixed, but somewhat positive, reviews. They generally agreed that higher training standards

were a positive force for the industry, and expected that over the long term, AB 2880 would provide a great boost to California PPOs. However, the general opinion was that in these early stages, spotty compliance, different standards from PPO to PPO on how to provide training, and poor communication between BSIS and PPOs had lead to these mixed results.

We hope you'll read the comments, and if you have your own opinion, that you'll send them along to us.

Along with our review of the training law, this issue also includes statements from the candidates for the 2006 CALSAGA Board of Directors. Elections are now underway for these positions, and you should have received these statements already in the mail, along with your ballots. However, we again encourage all members to read the statements from the candidates, think about their qualifications and ideas, and vote for next year's CALSAGA leadership. While some of the offices do not have contested races, it is still important for members to get a sense of the direction that next year's Board candidates are interested in taking CALSAGA. Take a look!

As we prepare for the upcoming CALSAGA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, we have also provided more details about

the upcoming conference agenda. We are excited to announce that Department of Consumer Affairs Director Charlene Zettel will be joining us at the conference to talk about the new WMD training and other changes at BSIS and DCA.

It was no small debate at the CALSAGA Board of Directors to, for the first time, hold our Conference outside of California. We wondered whether members would travel out of state, and whether it was even appropriate for a California association to hold a conference in Nevada. We are pleased to report that this year's conference has the highest number of pre-registered guests we have ever had. Thank you for your support. While the 2006 Conference will probably be back in California somewhere, we know that when we put together a quality agenda, our members will show up.

At the Conference, members will also hear from new BSIS Chief, Paul Johnson, a presentation on the CALSAGA online training database, the rollout of the Certification Program, a keynote address from Ray Semko, "the DICE Man," and much more. We hope to see you there.

Speaking of Paul Johnson, this issue's Member Profile

The bottom line is that we want to help your bottom line. While there are many reasons to join CALSAGA, we want one of them to be that your business will succeed and profit from your participation. Thank you for being a member!

contains a double size interview with the new Chief, in which he shares a little about his family life, his hobbies, his philosophy on how he'll approach the new post, and how he looks forward to working with CALSAGA and our members. If you want to get to know the new Chief a little better, I suggest you read the profile, and then introduce yourself to him in Las Vegas.

As usual, this issue contains our regular features, including the Board report, opinion columns, the "Under the Dome" legislative report, and many more features. I truly hope you enjoy this issue, and that you will let us know what you think. Happy reading!

--- Jeff Flint  
Editor

**Editors's Note:** *Observed & Reported* is not just CALSAGA's magazine, it is **your** magazine. Many of the features in CALSAGA rely on content submissions from our members. Letters to the editor, guest opinion columns, advice columns, and more, all rely on your input. Please send your ideas, thoughts, and comments to us, and we will do our best to include them in future issues.

# Board Report



**New BSIS Chief Paul Johnson and Deputy Chief Robert Puleo Drop by**

**Report from Board of Directors Meetings:  
August 11, 2005  
Sacramento, California**

## **Board Meeting to Greet CALSAGA, Promise Strong Relationship**

At the August CALSAGA Board of Directors meeting in Sacramento, California, the Board of Directors had the chance to meet newly appointed BSIS Chief Paul Johnson, learn more about the upcoming Annual Conference, as well as hear reports and take action on several other items.

With CALSAGA President Randy Davis on vacation, Southern California Vice President Mark Miller presided over the meeting, and by all accounts, did a fine job.

The highlight of the meeting was when the new Chief and Deputy Chief stopped by. Chief Paul Johnson, along with Deputy Chief Robert Puleo, joined a portion of the board meeting so they would have the opportunity to meet everyone on the Board of Directors. Chief Johnson expressed that he is looking forward to working with CALSAGA and our members in the future. Chief Johnson assured us he will be attending the Annual Conference in Las Vegas, so all the members in attendance will have a chance to meet him. By continuing Steve Giorgi's tradition of attending our conferences, he is giving us a great signal that we will have the same close relationship that we did with the new former chief.

For his part, Robert Puleo, the new Deputy Chief, indicated that his background as a former legislative policy analyst in the Department of Consumer Affairs would be helpful in working with CALSAGA's new focus on working more aggressively in the

Legislature.

The Board was presented with a report from staff on the many details of the upcoming Annual Conference to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada in October. Rather than hold an elaborate gala dinner, the Board decided to hold a cocktail reception on Thursday night at the conference that will benefit the new Memorial and Scholarship Funds that were established at the previous board meeting. The next report to the Board from the Scholarship Committee will come at the Annual Conference as it is announced who will be receiving the awards. The Board also voted to start an annual program of CALSAGA "Best Of" awards with a "Security Officer of the Year" award at this conference.

There was an opening on the PAC Board of Directors that was filled during this August's meeting. Pete Simonsen of First Alarm & Patrol, Inc. was appointed to fill the vacancy. First Alarm & Patrol has been actively involved in CALSAGA for many years.

The Board considered reports from several members of officers coming from other companies, in which the officers had not received AB 2880 training and in some cases, had not even heard of the training law. The Board brought this up with Chief Johnson, and he assured the Board that enforcement would be a priority of his administration.

CALSAGA's lobbyist, Chris Khan of Sloat Higgins Jensen & Associates, reported to the Board on the

latest happenings in the Legislature. SB 194, CALSAGA's legislation to require background checks and registration for in house security, will be determined in the next month (Editor's Note - SB 194 was passed and awaits the Governor's signature or veto.) He reported that since so many legislative maneuvers happen in the final days of session, we would have to keep a close eye on our bill, and other legislative matters.

Earle Graham and Jeff Flint reported on the status of development of the Certification Committee, which is scheduled to be unveiled at the Annual Conference.

Finally, the Board asked the By-Laws Committee to consider possible amendments to allow for past CALSAGA Presidents to remain on the Board as ex-officio (non-voting) members, so that the Board will benefit from their past experience. The Committee will report back to the Board at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday evening the day before the Annual Conference.

**Next Board Meeting:  
October 12, 2005  
Las Vegas**

**All Members Welcome  
to Attend**

# SB 194 Clears Final Legislative Hurdles, Heads to Governor for Final Step

The final weeks of any legislative session are always a harried and busy time. Bills are debated at a rapid-fire pace. Deals are cut. Language from a bill has been known to be completely gutted, with entirely new ideas being inserted in its place. A lobbyist earns his pay in these weeks, working long hours and having to keep tracks of dozens of moving parts.

For CALSAGA, with SB 194 nearing end of its legislative journey, CALSAGA Board members, staff, and our lobbyists in Sacramento were on high alert to make sure no more opposition cropped up, no more requests for amendments were made, and that the bill would generate strong bi-partisan support.

On August 31, Assemblyman Russ Bogh from Riverside County, the bill's Assembly "Floor Jockey" (a floor jockey



is the Assembly member who presents a Senate bill on the Assembly Floor, or vice versa), brought up SB 194, asking his colleagues to support the bill. With most of the opposition removed, and merits of increased background checks obvious, the bill achieved its goal with a strong 68-5 bi-partisan vote, leaving one legislative hurdle - Senate concurrence.

A concurrence vote is when the original house of a bill votes on whether or not they concur, or agree, with the amendments made by the other house. On September 7, with just a couple days left in the Legislative Session, Senator Maldonado brought up SB 194 for its final legislative vote, and received a 34-6 vote from his fellow Senators.

Having cleared the Legislature, SB 194 has one final step to determine its fate: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. As with any bill, he has the final say, by either signing or vetoing the bill. And while most of the opposition to SB 194 was removed over the course of legislative amendments, and the bill received overwhelming support in the votes in both houses, this is not always a guarantee of a Governor's signature. Administrations look at legislative proposals with an additional perspective than the Legislature, such as whether the law is practical to enforce.

CALSAGA crafted SB 194 to give BSIS and DCA flexibility to enforce it properly, and hope that this make the Governor comfortable in signing it. By the Annual Conference in October, we will know, because the Governor has until October 9 to sign or veto all bills.

The amendments to SB 194 through the process did water the bill down some, and some CALSAGA members have questioned whether it has any value. CALSAGA believes that even an amended SB 194 is a major step forward in ending the disparity between contract and in house security, and improving public safety. Once in place, it can be expanded if necessary.

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