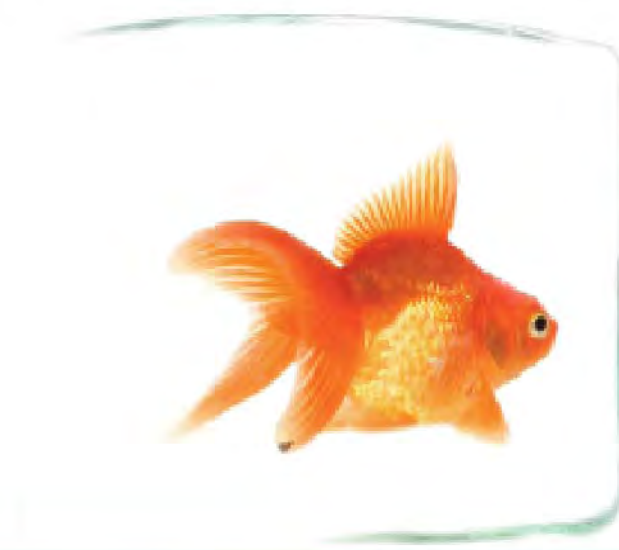


You're Invited to Lunch!



... Well, Actually Breakfast!

Elizabeth Souther Insurance Group and Strategic Outsourcing Inc. are hosting a special pre-seminar breakfast on Friday, October 14th at the CALSAGA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Join us, and learn how you can:

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Do you have an item for AAR?

Email it to: info@calsaga.org

After Action Report

Officer Shines in Homeland Security Exercise, Earns "Officer of the Year" Nomination and Mention in After Action Report

A client writes:

"I'd like to nominate Elmer Pinto for Security Officer of the Year. A couple of months ago, surveillance exercises were conducted on and around the property of US Bank Tower, with members of the Secret Service, LAPD, Department of Homeland Security and Los Angeles County Sheriff's in attendance. These exercises were conducted over a two day period. Elmer was able to detect 14 of 14 attempts of covert surveillance the first

day, not knowing who the players were. The second day, Elmer detected 9 out of 10 attempts of surveillance, dogging 2 Secret Service agents the whole time. They described Elmer as "A pain in the ass". He was able to find out who was conducting surveillance and promptly notified the command center to their activities. Each attempt at surveying our building was thwarted by Elmer. The Secret Service agents, as well as some of the other agents in attendance, acknowledged Elmer as an outstanding security officer. They further stated that they wished more security officers were like him.

Elmer is a true asset to our team here at US Bank Tower, and is a valuable employee of Universal Protection Services. His daily performance is always consistent, and he's a benchmark here at USBT for other officers. Thank you for the opportunity to nominate Elmer for this prestigious award.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 12, 2005

CALSAGA Board of Directors Meeting
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Rio All Suites Casino & Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

All members are welcome to attend Board meetings, but please RSVP so that we will have an accurate count.

Thursday, October 13, 2005

First Day of CALSAGA Annual Conference
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Rio All Suites Casino & Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

Thursday, October 13, 2005

CALSAGA Gala Awards Banquet
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM
Rio All Suites Casino & Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

The inaugural CALSAGA "Security Officer of the Year" Award will be presented.

Friday, October 14, 2005

Second Day of CALSAGA Annual Conference
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Rio All Suites Casino & Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

Monday, December 5, 2005

CALSAGA Board of Directors Meeting
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Marine's Memorial Club & Hotel
609 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

All members are welcome to attend Board meetings, but please RSVP so that we will have an accurate count.





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BSIS Needs to Step Up Audits, Enforcement of AB 2880 Training Law

This issue of *Observed & Reported* focused on the AB 2880 Security Officer Training Law. Enacted in 2002 and taking effect on July 1, 2004, the law has now been in effect for over a year.

The law promises to be a major step forward for security officer professionalism, raising the esteem of our industry and our employees.

But for that promise to be realized, it must be vigorously enforced.

As detailed in this issue, BSIS has gone out of their way to work with CALSAGA on the development of the law, and for that, we praise them. The close working relationship continues.

Now that the program has been in place for over a year, it is time for BSIS to take the next step and start enforcing the law. Only then will the standards begin to be realized.

Many PPOs in California are working hard, and spending a lot of time and money, to comply with the law. Many good PSTFs are helping some of them train their officers.

SB 194, Even if Signed, Is Just a Start

At press time, SB 194, CALSAGA's sponsored bill to require DOJ/FBI background checks and BSIS registration for proprietary security officers is on the Governor's desk, awaiting his signature or veto. By the time you read this issue, we will know whether he signed or vetoed the bill.

We have already urged him to sign the bill, and are cautiously optimistic that he will do so.

Through the legislative process, SB 194 was modified - some would say watered down - to address some opposition. The explicit inclusion of AB 2880 mandated training for the proprietary security officers. And officers working directly for movie studios were excluded from the bill.

Finally, it's implementation was also delayed a year to allow BSIS and DOJ to prepare for the implementation.

Some CALSAGA members has complained that the bill was watered down too much. Some of these debates took place in open forums on CALSAGA's list server. Even those who complained, however, agreed that it was a

BSIS says that 80% or more the working market share in California is in compliance. That may be the case, but there is too much anecdotal evidence that compliance is not that pervasive...yet.

PPO after PPO reports that, on an almost daily basis, officers with valid guard cards and issue dates months prior present themselves for jobs, with apparently no knowledge of the training law's existence.

They are not partially compliant. They did not even try.

For AB 2880 to achieve the greatness that it is capable of, PPOs that are in compliance must be rewarded, and those not in compliance must be held to account.

This situation is not entirely BSIS's fault. They do not have the staff to do an effective job in enforcement of existing laws or the new training law. Despite their operating budget surplus, they do not have legislative or gubernatorial authority to spend these funds on new staff.

Earlier this year, CALSAGA tried to insert budget authority into the state budget for BSIS to hire more staff for enforcement. Unfortunately, this language was vetoed from the budget.

Having laws on the books with no enforcement makes the laws worthless. Sure, some, maybe even most, will comply, because it is the right thing to do. But enough scofflaws will flaunt the law to make its effect, for all the good efforts, nil

positive experience to allow this open discussion among the members.

On the issue of watered down we agree. We also believe that training should be mandatory for all security. In the regulatory process of implementing SB 194, if signed, we will press for at least some training for these officers. And in future years, we may seek legislative authority for the full training program.

However, we also disagree that the amendment to SB 194 were "too much." In fact, if SB 194 is signed, it will be the first time any state has regulated proprietary security. This is a big first step. In the face of some major business opposition, if we had not agreed to scale back SB 194, the opposition may have succeeded in blocking the bill altogether in the Legislature, and would certainly have had a better chance of convincing the Governor to veto it.

In effect, if SB 194 is half a loaf after amendments, then it is clearly better than no loaf after a legislative defeat or veto.

With the half loaf in hand, we are always free to seek the other half in the future. And we will.

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CALSAGA welcomes letters to the editor to comment on these opinion pieces, and other matters in our publication or affecting the industry. We prefer submissions by email to info@calsaga.org. The editorial staff reserves the right to determine which letters and articles to publish, and to edit for space and clarity.