

AKAL SECURITY NEWSLINE

W W W . A K A L S E C U R I T Y . C O M

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CLIENT PROFILES

City of Tucson Akal's newest client

On March 1, Akal became responsible for security at Tucson's City Hall, Convention Center, public libraries, a water recycling plant, housing and community services buildings, public parking lots and recreation centers, all of which require very different skills and experience. The new contract with the City of Tucson presented Akal with some unique challenges – train more than 70 officers to manage security at widely diverse venues and do it all in two weeks.

Undaunted by the tight time frame, Arizona Regional Manager Ken Lieberman and the Tucson team – Contract Manager John Bradley, Administrative Assistant Colette Bourgoyne, and supervisors Chris Maple, Rupert Bejarano and Harry Neuhaus – set up shop in Tucson and began two weeks of training, walkthroughs and client meetings.

"To date, according to the positive client feedback, all Akal Security



Administrative Assistant Colette Bourgoyne and Contract Manager John Bradley

personnel have performed up to, and in some cases, beyond expectations," said Bradley, a retired Tucson Police Department sergeant. *continued on page 4*

Akal Keeping Albuquerque Safe



L to R: Troy Alwin, Branch Manager; Richard Pepe, Project Manager; Larry Smith, Operations Manager; Benson Kee, Officer in Command (OIC)

With less than two weeks to get up to speed, Akal began providing about 1,300 hours of security services to the City of Albuquerque, N.M. on March 1.

About 35 officers, working closely with the city's Aviation Police, provide security at Albuquerque International Support, including access control to high security areas on the runways

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Akal select- ed Employer of the Year

Akal has been selected Employer of the Year by the city of El Centro, Calif. Joaquin Reclosado, Akal's project manager at the ICE Service Processing Center, will travel to Sacramento to accept the award.

Akal previously received an award from the El Centro Veterans Administration in recognition of the number of veterans Akal has hired.

Akal donates to Hawaii food banks

It's the gift that keeps on giving. In January, Fred Chun, local operations manager, presented a \$3,000 check on behalf of Akal's 750 local employees to the Hawaii Food Bank. This charitable organization feeds more than 118,000 different people each week, 43,000 of which are children. This is the fifteenth year for the food drive.

Akal is part of a coalition of companies operating at the Honolulu Airport that raise money each year for the statewide effort. Each dollar donated to the food bank allows it to distribute more than \$20 worth of food.



Akal Operations Manager Fred Chun presents check to Hawaii Foodbank Food Drive chairwoman Sheri Rolf.

AKAL'S LEADING EDGE

Celebrating 20 years

This year, five men celebrate 20 years of service as CSOs. Congratulations and best wishes for your continued career!

CSO John Bates retired from the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C. in 1976, and began his security career at the Library of Congress. He stayed until 1979 when he decided to move to Greenville, S.C.



CSO John Bates

In 1984, Bates became a CSO. Today, he's known for being the first person to arrive at the courthouse every day, as well as his cheerful greetings and warm smile.

CSO Bates and his wife, Mary, have been married for 56 years. They have two children and six grandchildren. John enjoys his church, playing the guitar and has plans to become a fishing expert.

After retiring from the U.S. Navy in 1981, **CSO Robert Geiger** worked as a security officer at Columbia Metropolitan Airport in Columbia, S.C. In 1984, he became a CSO in Columbia.

CSO Geiger enjoys many hobbies including daily walks, South Carolina State College football games and traveling with his wife, Emma. The Geigers have two sons, Robert Jr. and Wesley.



CSO Robert Geiger

CSO John Sullivan began his law enforcement career in Greenwood, S.C. Later he joined the Greer, S.C. Police Department and finally the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. In 1984, Sullivan became a CSO in Columbia, S.C., after attending the

first CSO orientation in January 1984.

CSO Sullivan is a senior master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and has seen action in Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, Germany and Panama. He's known as "Coach"



CSO Sullivan

because he coaches the U.S. District Court and Bankruptcy Court softball team, which has won several championship tournaments.

CSO Randy McAllister began his law enforcement career with the Florence, S.C. Sheriff's Department. In 1984, McAllister left the Sheriff's Department to become one of only two CSOs in Florence at the time.

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ABOVE & BEYOND THE CALL

Officer saves soldier's life

It started off as just another day at Fort Stewart, a large Army post in Hinesville, Georgia. Officer William Rodriguez was at his post at Gate 2 when a soldier pulled up and gave Officer Rodriguez a signal that he was choking. Officer Rodriguez pulled the soldier from his car and administered the Heimlich maneuver, which revived this soldier.

For his life-saving efforts, Officer Rodriguez was awarded the Coin of Excellence – a Ft. Stewart commemorative coin – by Provost Marshal Lt. Col. Huey in a ceremony in March.

"Lt. Col. Huey told the officers that he really appreciated what a great and professional job they're doing," said James Crumley, Chief of Guards at Ft. Stewart.

In late 2003, when National Guard and Reserve troops were reassigned, Akal was awarded a contract to provide access control services at eight army bases across the country. More than 1,700 Akal officers man access points and monitor who and what gets on and off the bases.



Officer William Rodriguez



ABOVE & BEYOND THE CALL

Outstanding Accomplishments

CSO Robert Dodd, District of Oregon, was selected by his peers as CSO of the Quarter for his dedication to duty, attention to detail and overall performance.

CSO Ted Whitmer, Southern District of California, received a certificate of appreciation from the USMS for detecting a loaded handgun in a bag belonging to a man trying to enter the FBI offices.

In February CSOs Stephen McDonald and Gary Prochorow, Ninth Circuit – Western District of Washington, were assigned to the Marshals Office monitoring control center console. They were advised to keep a close eye on a female prisoner who was suicidal. They observed the prisoner tying what turned out to be her shoelace around her neck. CSO McDonald and Prochorow notified the USMS immediately and the prisoner was stopped before she could harm

herself. Both CSOs have been awarded a commendation.

Chief Judge Mark Bennett, U.S. District Court, Sioux City, Iowa, wrote to commend the CSOs serving the Sioux City Federal Building and Courthouse, the busiest trial courthouse in the nation.

“The federal building could not run without the services and dedication of Bill Abbe, Gery Swanson, Gene Persinger, Denny Feauto, Don Bremer, Arlen Dean, Rick Saunders and their steadfast leader, John Sanders,” wrote Judge Bennett. “The service and dedication of the Sioux City CSOs exceeds even my lofty expectations.”

CSOs William Howard, Richard David and Roger McClenny were commended in a letter from Chief Judge John Lungstrum, U.S. District Court, Kansas City, Kan., for their actions

in removing disruptive individuals from a courtroom during a December sentencing hearing.

“The incident was the most potentially explosive that I have experienced in my 12 years on the Bench. I cannot tell you how appreciative I am of the exceptional work of these individuals in carrying out their duties,” wrote Judge Lungstrum.

In Memoriam

On March 11, Lead Court Security Officer Robert (Bob) Tull Perry died suddenly at his home in Jonesboro, Ill. LCSO Perry retired from the Illinois State Police after 34 years of service. Following retirement, Perry worked at Players River Boat Casino as a surveillance supervisor and at Shawnee Community College as a defensive driving instructor. In 1998, he was hired as a CSO in the Western District of Kentucky and was promoted to LCSO in 2003. Officer Perry leaves a wife and two children.

Officer Jeranimo Marin, 56, also died recently. Officer Marin served as a guard at Fort Hood in Texas since January 2004. Officer Marin was part of a team recognized for their work at Fort Hood where a member of a local car theft ring was identified driving a stolen car and subsequently arrested. The team’s work resulted in the break up of the theft ring. Officer Marin served three years in the U. S. Marine Corps and had several years of law enforcement and security experience prior to joining Akal. He was a life-long resident of Texas.

ABOVE & BEYOND THE CALL

Booher, Tatro named CSOs of the Year

CSOs Ronald Tatro and Robert Booher, Burlington, Vt., have been named 2003 Harry Belluomini Court Security Officers of the Year by the US Marshals Service.

On the morning of January 17, CSOs Tatro and Booher, as well as CSO Donna Sieverding were at their posts in the lobby of the Federal Building in Burlington when they saw a man collapse in the adjacent post office lobby. Officers Tatro and Booher went to his assistance, while Officer Sieverding called for additional assistance.

Officers Tatro and Booher administered CPR until EMT personnel

arrived. The gentleman was transported to a local hospital where he was released after a short stay.

“I think it is safe to say that the timely CPR administered by Court Security Officers Tatro and Booher saved the gentleman’s life,” wrote John Edwards, USMS.

Officers Tatro and Booher were honored at the Director’s Awards Ceremony in March in Arlington, Va.

CSOs take initiative to enhance security measures

When CSOs Mikel Lott and John Lewis, Western District of Arkansas, read the memo from the U.S. Marshals Service about the results of tests conducted to get around security screenings, they took the initiative to come up with a solution.

In the fall of 2003, the USMS General Accounting Office conducted a series of covert inspections and were able to get contraband into secured facilities using several methods, one of which was concealing a handgun or plastic explosive in a large soft drink cup. These items were not typically placed on the X-ray conveyor belt because they could spill and damage the machine. Hand-wanding worked on Styrofoam or paper cups, but was useless on metal soft drink cans.

CSOs Lott and Lewis obtained a plastic tray with individual compartments that held soft drink cups or cans securely and prevented them from spilling as they went through the X-ray machine. They field-tested the tray with great success.

“CSO Lott and CSO Lewis represented the Court Security Officers, as well as Akal Security, in a very positive manner. I appreciate their abilities and applaud their dedication,” wrote Gary Gray, judicial security inspector, U.S. Marshals Service.

USMS hosts, Akal facilitates multi-agency training

In February, representatives from the FBI, Secret Service, U.S. Marshal Service, Dallas Police Department, Fort Worth Police Department, Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Army and other organizations attended

a three-day training session on detection of explosive devices. Akal instructors led the training at the USMS Training Center in Dallas.



Gurutej S. Khalsa, SVP/Founder and Richard Wimberly, Executive Director Federal Services and Government Relations

With its origins in the CSO training program, Akal began offering the instructional course eight years ago as a value-added service to law enforcement agencies.

Officers praised at Martha Stewart trial

Reporters and photographers, particularly during high profile trials and events, often find themselves at odds with security personnel. It's the age-old balancing act between access for the press and maintaining safety and order.

The Martha Stewart trial was about as high profile as trials get. Yet, according to Rick Maiman, a contract photographer with Bloomberg News assigned to cover the trial, Akal officers achieved a good balance between maintaining security and allowing the press to do its job.

"I covered this trial every day, and though at its outset there may have been a few contentious concerns, there developed a rapport and good natured tolerance I did not think could be attained," wrote Maiman. "I have been around a long time in this line of work and when I get asked how I am by your men, it becomes humanistic; just people, instead of 'us' and 'them.'"

Celebrating 20 years

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His most memorable moment was the time he refused to allow an aide to one of the attorney's to enter the courtroom while the judge was charging the jury. His actions led to a lawsuit, which was promptly dismissed by the presiding district judge, who represented McAllister since he had no personal attorney.

CSO McAllister enjoys his friends, family and church.

Before becoming a CSO in 1983, **Richard Hillman** served in law enforcement in Meadville, Pa. and Phoenix, Ariz. Hillman began his CSO career in Phoenix. He also served as the LCSO in San Diego, Calif. before being transferred to Columbia, S.C.



CSO Richard Hillman

CSO Hillman has three daughters, Terry, Toni and Casey, and a son, Tracy. Dick is quite a sports fanatic. He's known by the court family for his knowledge of sports trivia.



NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Akal "scores high" with Army

Since National Guard and Reserve troops were assigned other duties in December, more than 1,700 Akal officers have been keeping a sharp eye on who and what gets on and off eight army installations around the country. Now, three months after Akal began providing access control services, the Company has scored high on its performance review.

"Akal received very favorable, positive feedback," said Gurutej. "All the installations scored in the 90s (out of 100) on everything."

Akal was scored on four criteria – achieving full operational capabilities of the Guard service mission; proper control of access

to the installations; effectively contributing to the army image at the installations and surrounding communities; cooperation with the government and sound management of government property. Each installation was scored separately by the post's contract review officer.

Since the contract went into effect in December, the installation at Ft. Reilly, Kan., has added 40 additional guards.

According to Gurutej, other branches of the military service are also considering outsourcing access control services. Akal plans to pursue the opportunities as they become viable.

Akal Keeping Albuquerque Safe

continued from front

(Albuquerque Sunport and Kirkland Air Force Base share runways), terminal loading and unloading zones, an airport parking structure and the nearby car rental center.

The contract also includes security services at two Albuquerque libraries, a parking structure in the heart of the city, a wastewater treatment facility, an animal control facility, a detox center, a soil amendment facility, and a number of community and senior centers.

"We also support the city during large events, such as Cinco de Mayo, Spring and Summer Fest and the Spanish Market," said Richard Pepe, City of Albuquerque project manager.

Pepe has been with Akal in Albuquerque since June 2002, starting as a peer officer at the New Mexico State Fairgrounds. From a military family, he served in the U.S. Army in the mid '80s.

City of Tucson Akal's newest client

continued from front

Since getting the contract off the ground, Lt. Ed Dodson was recognized as March Employee of the Month for demonstrating a high level of competence and deportment. The Tucson Water Facility Team was recognized as March Employee of the Month for its safety record, attendance and overall excellence.

AKAL SECURITY NEWSLINE

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The Akal Security Newsline is published quarterly at Akal headquarters. Letters, comments and news from employees and clients are invited.

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