

The Observer

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR SECURITY
GUARD SERVICES NEWSLETTER



August 2017

Introducing the PISGS Newsletter

Private Investigator Security Guard Services (PISGS) is excited to introduce our new monthly newsletter: The Observer.

This newsletter, along with our weekly Mid-Week Minute email and updates on social media is a collaboration of efforts to increase communication to the industry we serve and to the public.

Our overall goal is to "Contribute to a Safer Ohio" by ensuring our licensees have the resources and training they need to be successful. We also hope to expand awareness and understanding, among the public, of the laws and rules that govern the private investigator and security guard services in Ohio, and why licensing truly matters.

We are striving to be a well-known resource for people when questions or concerns arise.

PISGS continues to expand its outreach into the community by attending conferences, conventions and training events. We have been connecting with other state agencies and state organizations to provide important information on licensing requirements for private investigators and security guards.

In addition, PISGS hopes to raise the bar on professionalism in the industry by working with state and national organizations, as well as the Ohio Private Investigation Security Services Commission, to provide training opportunities to our licensed companies and their employees.

We hope that you will find this monthly newsletter informative and useful. Feedback and suggestions are always welcome!



In this issue



Guest Blog



Upcoming Events



Safer Ohio Standout

GUEST BLOG

By Rodney
Armstrong

Manager · Securitas USA
Chair · Ohio Private Investigation and
Security Services Commission

August is "Back to School Safety Month" and Ohio's schools are preparing for a new school year. Safety and security is on everyone's mind as school districts spend a substantial amount of time and money ensuring plans are in place for potential threats to the safety of the students and staff. Although safety in schools has always been a focus of administrators, until events like Columbine and Sandy Hook, security was focused on locking doors when the school day ends, weather emergencies, and fire safety. It was less about controlling access during school hours, proactive collaboration, and utilizing personnel and technology to maximize efficiencies of an overall program.

Many schools' security plans begin with lighting, access control, communications, cameras, alarms and metal detectors. However, these resources must be backed up by personnel, usually in the form of school resource officers and/or security guards. All are important parts of constructing a plan to prevent and to respond to an active-shooter or other act of violence in a school. Each of these components to the plan can fail and are only as good as the plan in its entirety.

Crisis and response plans include local law enforcement agencies and security personnel, as well as other first responders in the area. It is, therefore, imperative that the school districts share the plan with all who would potentially be involved, and practice the plans as regular drills, just as they have with fires and tornadoes for decades.

As Chair of the Ohio Private Investigation and Security Services Commission, one of my tasks is to encourage security guards and law enforcement to collaborate on efforts. If a school district employs security guards, local law enforcement needs to be aware and to work cohesively on prevention and response planning. School districts also need to work with the Ohio Department of Public Safety to ensure the security services they hire are properly licensed by the state and that all guards are registered. This essential communication line will contribute to a Safer Ohio overall.

Another line of communication that must be open is that among students and school resource officers or security guards. Students have to be a part of the plan. There are always more students than anyone else in any school facility. They have to know who to report potential violent situations to and feel comfortable in doing so. Without the students being vigilant every day in their own safety and security, the school and/or campus will not be as safe as it can be. Security guards or the resource officer for the facility has to have the relationship with the students to encourage them to say something if they see or hear something. The bottom line is, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure the safety and security of Ohio's schools. With proper communication and plans in place, Ohio's citizens can feel more at ease sending our children back to school this month.

Did you know?

Kate Warne



Kate Warne is considered the first woman to be a PI in the US. She played a key role in the foiled assassination attempt of President-elect Abraham Lincoln in 1861 in Baltimore. Warne disguised herself as a wealthy Southern lady and attended secessionist social gatherings. There, she was able to discover details of the assassination plot.

For more information visit <https://www.civilwarwomenblog.com/kate-warne/>



Upcoming Events

September 13	Qualifying Agent Exam
September 21	Informational Seminar
September 23	PISGS Presentation at Ohio Bail Agents Association Annual Conference

For more information on the above events, please contact 614-466-4130



Congratulations to the latest Safer Ohio Standout, Gordon Self. "Gordon has been in the security industry for 40 years, 14 years with Anderson Security. He is an outstanding employee and greatly appreciated by those that he serves." - Anderson Security

Send Safer Ohio Standout submissions to PISGStips@dps.ohio.gov along with a photo and a short description of what makes the employee a "Safer Ohio Standout."

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