

BLACKSTONE POST



The Voice of Blackstone Security



The Secret to Our Success is in Our People

SUMMER/FALL 2017

Blackstone Goes Back to School – Literally!

Scottsdale, Ariz. – An executive for a national school-based law enforcement association gave high praise to Blackstone Security Services, Inc.® for taking the initiative to further train its security officers for duty inside schools.

Mo Canady, executive director for the National Association of School Resource Officers, said the association is “flattered” by Blackstone’s desire to learn more about NASRO training.

“We’re certainly flattered by Blackstone seeking any opportunity to partner with NASRO and seek alignment with us,” Canady said. “We certainly have an interest in that. No doubt.”

Canady’s comments were made during a pause in the action



Blackstone’s Bobby Holley (l) chats with ASROA President Kevin Quinn (c) and NASRO Executive Director Mo Canady (r).

at the Safety Convention hosted by the Arizona School Resource Officers’ Association (ASROA) this summer at the Talking Stick

Resort. An estimated 225 school resource officers, school administrators and security personnel attended the 3-day event, June 13-15. “In terms of training, this really could be a game-changer for security officers,” Canady continued. “Attending these type of events gives Blackstone an inside look into what school resource officers are doing in a school environment.”

NASRO has trained law enforcement officers for duty inside school since 1991. It also offers a training curriculum for private security officers to become

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Employee Satisfaction Committee Strikes

Myeshia May is First Recipient of Bill Richards Scholarship Award



Myeshia May

Phoenix – Dallas’ Division 53 security officer Myeshia May made Blackstone history this year by being named the recipient of the inaugural Bill Richards Memorial Scholarship.

As the first honoree, Myeshia received a check for \$1,000 payable to the institution where she is enrolled, the Texas Women’s University in Denton, Texas, where she is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Family Studies. Her ultimate goal is a master’s degree in occupational therapy.

Myeshia thought she had an outside shot at winning the award, but was still a little stunned when she heard the news.

“I was surprised and shocked that I got it,” she said a little in disbelief. “I was happy too.”

Myeshia and her family were so happy, they posted the news on their Facebook page.

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POST ORDERS

Dan Swindall, President & CEO

Private Security being Tapped to Help Keep Schools Safe

Those of us who have been paying attention for the past two decades have seen school districts and college campuses beef up security with everything from armed law enforcement to armed staff. This is not a phenomenon that is characteristic of a single region, it's coast to coast.

But with it comes inherent concerns. The problems with arming staff is liability and training. Just because someone can shoot a gun, does not mean that person has the judgement to know when to shoot.

The concern with law enforcement or school resource officers is one of tolerance and cost. So, school districts are turning to the next best alternative – unarmed private security guards. Private security companies, Blackstone included, have provided security after hours for buildings and bus yards. But, as indicated by the article on Page 1, school districts are taking a hard look at bringing private security guards inside the schools during school hours. Some school districts already have.

This can be a game-changer. Just because you are a good cop, or a good security guard does not mean you can operate in an educational environment around students whose hormones are raging out of control. There have been a number of reports and incidences caught on cell phones, of trained school resource officers getting physical with students and losing their jobs.

One of the most difficult decisions a resource officer must make is determining a disciplinary problem from criminal activity. Disciplinary problems are in the realm of instructional staff.

This trend may signal the next opportunity for private security. School districts are in a perpetual budget crisis and private security guards are more economical than sworn law enforcement officers. The role of the private security guard in most cases is to be an extra set of eyes and ears for the resource officer, to observe and report. It would be more budget-wise to hire one or two private security guards to assist one school resource officer than to have several sworn police officers.

When that happens, Blackstone will be ready. We are looking at a training course provided by the National Association of School Resource Officers that will prepare private security guards for service inside the school buildings. School resource officers are also educators and counselors. There are some of those same course offerings in the curriculum.

As this new frontier continues to open for private security, we must always keep in mind that: just because you're a good security guard, does not mean you can operate in an educational environment. We will be ready.



By Ken Vandiver, Operations Director, Phoenix

Security is for All Seasons and All Reasons!

Before the Halloween candy was dumped from the buckets and children had their sugar highs turn into stomach aches, it happened. Yes, the holidays are upon us. The signs are all around us now, that guy in the "Red Suit" has taken over every store and neighborhood with lights, packages and sugar plums. With all this Joy and Goodwill, there is an underlying downside that we all should be aware of – crime.

This is the season thieves have waited for all year. Law enforcement warns that crimes increase up to 30 % during the holiday season. In times like these we all get distracted with all the

holiday activities, shopping, and parties. But we need to make ourselves aware of the dangers that could affect not only our safety but the security of the client's property we are tasked to protect.

As we all know, staying aware of your surroundings is the most important thing you can do to not become the next victim, but there are some other things we might want to advise our clients of to reduce the risk to visitors or tenants of their properties. As security professionals, we should always report safety and security issues to our clients, so they can make the necessary corrections. But

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School

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school safety officers to supplement the SROs.

Blackstone's Quality Assurance Manager, Bobby Holley, attended the event to learn more about training opportunities in education for security officers.

Holley said he talked with various levels of police, NASRO officials and local school officials concerning their understanding of the role of security guards inside of the schools.

"The consensus was that security officers, such as the ones from Blackstone Security, were needed to assist, and in some cases, to act as SROs when they were not available or assigned," Holley said. "The SRO's I spoke with that did not have private security assigned to their location were very excited about the concept of having assistance from such a group of professionals. They stated that it would be a pleasure to see more of that type of interaction between the police and private security in order to maintain a higher level of security in our schools during such a challenging time."

Holley continued saying that one of the most mind-opening discussions he had involved the changes that are taking place inside the schools in consideration of the violent acts that are occurring more frequently.

"I was advised many times by different attendees that it takes a special kind of person to effectively carry out the demanding job of daily interaction with students because of the sensitive nature, counseling aspect and observation skills required," Holley said.

Canady agreed with Holley adding that when he was an SRO private security officers were valuable on the perimeter. "There is no question they made for fantastic eyes and ears outside the building," Canady said. "And they absolutely can have value inside the building."

Canady went on to compliment the work Blackstone guard Virginia Tsosie is doing in her assignment at Newcomb High School in Gallup, NM. He read about Tsosie in the Blackstone Post, the company newsletter. Students call Tsosie, "Sarge."

"In looking at Sarge, if security officers are taught the idea of relationship building instead of just securing a building with or without an SRO present, there is certainly value in that."

ASROA President Kevin Quinn of the Chandler Police Department, said a lot of the public schools have their own district security personnel but some private schools are contracting with private security here in Arizona. He welcomed the presence of private security participants at the safety conference.

"I think it's great because school safety takes all the different stakeholders to meet our goal of keeping our schools safe," Quinn said. "School staff, teachers, administrators, security companies and counselors should join with SROs so everybody is on the same page."

NASRO offers a specialized training course that teaches private security officers to not only interact with students and faculty, but also to better communicate and coordinate with the SRO. "This training is invaluable to the private security sector," Holley said. "And Blackstone will be pursuing further opportunities to interact with NASRO and others who attend these events."

"Teamwork makes the Dream work!"

Blackstone Does Dallas!

Dallas, Texas – Team Blackstone descended upon Dallas, Texas in September when President and CEO Dan Swindall treated his entire administrative team from each of Blackstone's divisions to ASIS International's 2017 Seminar and Exhibits.



Blackstone team members listen to a presentation on paperless proposals.

"I felt this was a great opportunity to expose our people to an event of this magnitude, so they get a global view of what they are a part of," Dan said. "I wanted them to get a whole new appreciation for the security industry and how much Blackstone believes in them. I wanted them to get renewed energy and learn what is happening technologically, so they can pass that on to our clients in improved services. I firmly believe that in business, if you're not growing and improving through educational opportunities, you're dying."

An estimated 22,000 security professionals from 96 countries attended the event Sept. 25-28 at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center in the heart of Downtown Dallas. It was the 63rd Annual Seminar and Exhibit Show and featured more than 8,000 exhibitors. Keynote speakers included former President George W. Bush and Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban.

Educational sessions included active shooters, workplace violence, soft target protection, cybersecurity and terrorism, and technology solutions leveraging machine learning. Trade show booths included everything from guard tracking technology to security robotics.

Blackstone's offices in Phoenix, Tucson, Albuquerque, Houston, El Paso and Dallas were represented.

"It was amazing to see how vast the security industry is and how it is progressing so fast with new technologies," commented Aaron Matsusaka, sales manager in Blackstone's Houston office. "I also liked that I was able to spend more time in person with the sales team. Any time spent together for communication and problem-solving is time well spent. Teamwork makes the dream work!"

El Paso District Manager Vanessa Polanco said the conference featured all facets of physical and technological security. "Conferences like this one are needed and essential for our growth in this industry," Vanessa said. "In addition, attending with the Blackstone family is a plus. As we grow as an organization, we realize the im



**Ahmed
Hussain**



**Officer of the Quarter
Division 32 – Phoenix**

Phoenix – Ahmed Hussain is described by Blackstone’s Director of Corporate Operations as someone who is “squared away” and doesn’t like “hiccups”. Translation: “He’s on top of things,” says Ken Vandiver.

Translation is something Ahmed understands. Before joining Blackstone, the El Mirage resident spent six years overseas as a translator for the U.S. military, where he was attached to the 1st Cavalry Brigade and the 2nd Cavalry 104th Troop. For his service, Ahmed received a Certificate of Appreciation, from the troop commander.

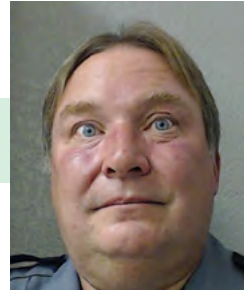
The opposite of hiccup is “smoothness,” which is what Ahmed says he most enjoys about his job. He likes Blackstone for its organization and “communication of the staff.”

Ahmed, a 5-year security veteran, has taken only seven days off in the three-and-a-half years he’s been with Blackstone. “Ahmed has covered over twice that (time) for call-offs at the site,” Ken said, adding that Ahmed is always ready to fill in whenever needed, even though he works the graveyard shift.

He said Ahmed handles himself well under pressure. “He has been yelled at, poked in the chest by upset individuals, and has chased down persons accessing secure areas,” Ken said. “And each situation was handled with professionalism. This not only shows his attention to detail while performing his duties, but also his daily dedication to enforcing the rules of the client.”

When Ahmed is not on duty or pursuing his hobbies, which are “target shooting and cardio,” he spends time with his spouse, Nada Alkharasani and their two children.

Congratulations, Ahmed, and thanks for being a Blackstone ambassador.



**Michael
Edminston**



**Officer of the Quarter
Division 52 – El Paso**

El Paso, Texas – Michael Edminston is not a chemist, but he does believe in the chemistry of good relationships with the clients and with his coworkers. In fact, that’s one of the things he enjoys about Blackstone.

“I like that when I am assigned a site in which I like, and the site management likes me, I’m allowed to remain as their guard,” Michael said. “I like the (client) management and employees (at the site). They are respectful and kind. They let me know their needs, so I can perform to the best of my ability.”

Blackstone Division 52 management describes Michael as a “real hard worker” who always has a smile on his face and a positive attitude. “He is a very understanding person who knows what it takes to be a security officer,” said Connie Contreras. “He is willing to help others at his job site, he is alert and professional, and he cares.”

Michael has been a security officer for two years, all with Blackstone.

Michael’s philosophy on security mirrors Connie’s words and reveals a dedicated work ethic. “I believe in doing my job to the best of my ability,” he said. “To go beyond my regular job assignments and be helpful whenever I can. I want the clients to feel safe and comfortable because of my presence.”

When Michael is not on duty, he enjoys listening to music and spending time with his wife, Valerie, and their three children.

Congratulations, Michael, and thanks for being a Blackstone ambassador.

I always wanted to be in the medical field. I think it’s fascinating.”

Myeshia is already on the dean’s list. She also wrote that her education will help her provide for herself and her family as well as make contributions to her community. She added that she will eventually open a rehabilitation center and mentor others in occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy and recreational therapy.

Myeshia, a Hurricane Katrina survivor, has two favorite sayings: “PUSH through (Pray Until Something Happens),” and “that which does not kill you makes you stronger.”

Myeshia’s essay was selected in a “blind” draw by members of Blackstone’s Employee Satisfaction Committee (ESAT). Members were unaware of the authors’ names.

Blackstone Human Resources Manager Mitzi Hagan, who chairs the ESAT Committee said Myeshia’s essay was a powerful statement that impressed committee members. “It definitely caught my attention and I was touched by the fact that she survived Katrina,” Hagan said. “I have family that went through Katrina. The committee also liked the personal drive and community commitment her essay reflected.”

May *Continued from Page 1*

Myeshia was also pleased to learn that she had become part of Blackstone history by being the initial recipient of the scholarship award. “That makes it even better,” she said. “I want to thank everyone that chose me. This is the first company that I worked for that offered a scholarship and I sure do appreciate it.”

Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall decided two years ago to offer financial assistance to deserving employees to pursue their education. When long time Blackstone employee Bill Richards passed away in May 2016, that financial assistance gained a name – the Bill Richards Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Richards was a mainstay at Blackstone for many years and contributed much to Blackstone’s growth and prestige.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants had to submit an essay of up to 500 words on why they should be considered. Myeshia wrote: “I have made sacrifices for others, now it’s my turn. I will be the first grandchild to graduate with a bachelor’s degree.



Mark Cole

Officer of the Quarter
Division 53 – Dallas



Dallas – Mark Cole is the epitome of the discipline and professionalism that military veterans bring to Blackstone Security Services, Inc.®

The Vietnam-era U.S. Army veteran also served as a Unit Police Officer in Korea and was a detention officer for the Collin County Sheriff's Department in McKinney, Texas.

The former buck sergeant demonstrated his leadership skills shortly after joining Blackstone in 2015 when he was elevated to site supervisor. District Manager Shane Brown says Cole “took ownership” of the client post.

“Site Supervisor Cole has shown his experience with leading an account by assisting with client expectations and going above and beyond to ensure his guard staff is current with any changes from the client and Blackstone,” Brown explained. “He leads by example as he takes pride in what he does as a leader. Site Supervisor Cole conducts himself in a very professional manner when dealing with the client and visitors, as well as being responsive to the client’s needs. He presents a professional appearance and attitude and demands the same of his teammates.”

A veteran of more than 20 years in the security industry, Mark has been with Blackstone a shade under three years. The Freeport, Illinois native says his coworkers are what he likes most about Blackstone as well as those he encounters at his post.

“What I most enjoy are the people I interact with and the jobsite itself,” Mark explained. “I enjoy the leadership with an understanding that my input and direction matters, and makes a difference when supplying security services to the client.”

Mark’s philosophy on security reveals his background: “Security is like the military and law enforcement,” he says. “We are here to protect and serve.”

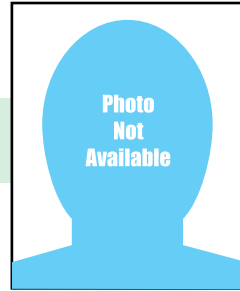
When Mark is not protecting and serving, he enjoys bass fishing and playing pool. His favorite pastime, however, is spending time with his wife, Patti. The couple have two adult children, Marcus and Marsha, and a granddaughter, Zuri Roberson.

Congratulations Mark. Thank you for your service and for being a Blackstone ambassador.

Dallas *Continued from Page 3*

portance of our positions and we use that to better serve our clients at our local levels.”

Dallas District Manager Shane Brown said he was impressed with the updates in technology, products and services from all the vendors. “I really enjoyed the breakdown of the TrackTik system that we currently utilize as well as what the paperless proposal will do for us in the future,” Shane explained. “I found this event to be very informational in the security industry and of course I enjoyed the time spent with other members of the Blackstone team.”



Curtis Bellard

Officer of the Quarter
Division 54 – HOUSTON



Houston – Curtis Bellard is described by Blackstone Division 54 District Manager Tony Browe as a “great worker,” adding, “Security officer Bellard is very willing to help at any time. He is definitely a candidate for moving up in the ranks.”

That’s why the 15-year security veteran is Blackstone’s Officer of the Quarter for Division 54, even though he’s been with Blackstone just under a year. His experience shows, and he loves his assignment.

“I know the tenants and property manager very well,” Curtis said. “I like to make the client happy, which makes Blackstone happy. It’s important to be able to help people.”

Curtis, a native of Lake Charles, LA, said he likes the environment Blackstone creates for its employees. “You are all compassionate and very understanding,” he said. “You really seem like you care about the guards and you step up to the plate.”

Curtis’ philosophy on security reflects his commitment to performing well on the job. “Everyone deserves the right to feel safe and comfortable,” he says. “Some people need help to feel that way in today’s society, and it’s a wonderful feeling when we can assist them.”

Bravo!

When Curtis is not helping others feel safe and protecting property, he enjoys reading and watching sports.

Congratulations, Curtis, and thanks for being a Blackstone ambassador.

Tucson Sales Manager Ryan Swindall said the conference gave him a glimpse into the future. I enjoyed seeing the direction the industry is going,” said Ryan, who also doubles as the company’s director of technical services. “It’s obvious that robotics and surveillance are the future of security.”



Blackstone team members unwind after a hard day of conferencing.

person is unaware of all the people who are working for the safety of communities around the world. “This event will help me to explain to future clients how we can better serve them with the technologies we have,” she said.

El Paso Sales Manager Raquel Deal called the conference “an incredible experience,” adding that the average

Boots *Continued from Page 2*

during the holiday season these could be the difference between a would-be thief spying on a building or a customer, or moving on to an easier target. Some of these thoughts can even be utilized at home to help secure our families.

Here are some things to keep in mind from a security standpoint as we secure our client's property or when we are out holiday shopping so you're not a victim. Actually, patrons and merchants alike should keep these tips in mind throughout the year.

Travel in twos - Bring a family member or friend with you as this can discourage an attacker.

Check your surroundings before you park - Look for suspicious persons and park in well-lighted areas. Remember criminals don't wear a sign around their necks saying, "I'm a Criminal." They look like normal persons but will look out of place, not moving normally or just hanging around. Note any signs where you parked so you can easily find your vehicle when you return.

Ladies while shopping keep your purse closed - And men need to put your wallet in your front pocket to avoid pickpockets. Before you exit the building; get your keys out so you are prepared to enter your vehicle and always keep your phone in your hand for emergence calls. When putting bags in your vehicle, you should keep them out of sight or locked in your trunk if you plan on shopping at other locations.

Lighting in parking areas is essential - Thieves don't like lighted areas. This creates a more secure atmosphere. We all ask ourselves; is it worth it? Yes, there have been several risk assessments done by law enforcement and determined that well-lighted areas were less likely to have damage, theft or assaults. Operation cost can be reduced with solar lighting or motion lights in low traffic areas. Therefore, security should report lights out on properties, so repairs can be made. On-site assessment of dark areas should be noted and reported to management to determine if additional lighting is needed.

Keeping the site free of trash and graffiti makes the site more presentable and gives the impression that it is secure. Trees and shrubbery should be trimmed and planted away from building entry points, parking areas and walkways. This helps with eliminating hiding spots for criminals. Overgrown shrubbery and trash should be reported to management and graffiti should be reported to law enforcement to track gang activity.

So, if you see a Santa Claus carrying a bag over his shoulder and wearing tennis shoes walking along the street, it's not Santa Claus!! It's a criminal dressed up like Santa Claus. CALL THE POLICE!!



Be safe out there and Happy Holidays!

"Red, White and You" a Success!



VETERAN'S CORNER

Blackstone Scores Big at Job Fair

El Paso - A local job fair netted immediate dividends when more than a dozen attendees, some of them military veterans, visited Blackstone's office on Lockheed Drive to fill out applications.



Blackstone's David Garcia chats with an attendee interested in security at the 6th annual "Hiring Red, White and You" job fair in El Paso.

The 6th annual "Hiring Red, White and You" job fair is an effort by organizer, Workforce Solutions, to bring job-seeking military veterans together with companies looking to hire them.

According to Workforce representatives, the event, held at the El Paso Marriott, attracted more than 700 veterans and their spouses.

David Garcia, Blackstone's account manager in El Paso, said he spoke to more than 60 people who registered on his sign-in sheet. Garcia, himself a veteran of more than 23 years in the U.S. Army, said it was a long day, but worth it. "I was tired," he said. "You do a lot of standing and talking and that's fine, but it does take a toll on you."

Garcia, who retired a Sgt. 1st Class, said he recognized the names of four job fair attendees right away when he saw the applications. Garcia said he represents Blackstone at about four job fairs a year.

"This one was with Texas Workforce," he explained. "We have a partnership with them. We've attended so many of their events."

Blackstone's veteran hiring initiative has resulted in the El Paso roster varying from 25 percent to almost 50 percent veterans. "That number fluctuates because some are reservists who are placed on alert status for deployment and others who are called upon for disaster relief, as with Harvey," Garcia said.

Blackstone President and CEO Dan Swindall, a U.S. Air Force veteran, praised the El Paso Division's efforts especially during a time when the industry is experiencing a shortage of qualified security officers. "They're doing it the right way," Swindall said. "I'm am very pleased with their efforts and the outcome. It is a well-known fact that if you've served in the military you possess certain qualities and disciplines that contribute greatly to success in the security industry. Blackstone welcomes veterans company wide."

According to KTSM NewsChannel 9 in El Paso, the Texas Workforce Commission reports that more than 16,000 veterans and 2,000 employers attended job fairs in 2016. Hiring Red White & You! Has connected more than 58,000 veterans with more than 8,400 employers in its first five years.

"Division 52 has hired many military personnel due to these job fairs," Garcia added. "I am glad I have the opportunity as a representative of Blackstone to reach out to my fellow veterans."

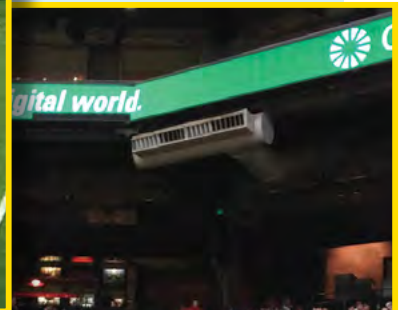
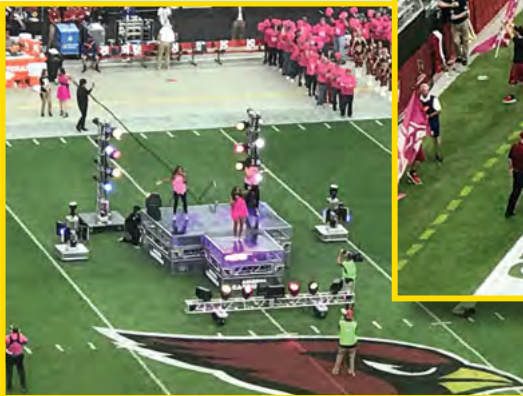
Fringe Benefits with Blackstone



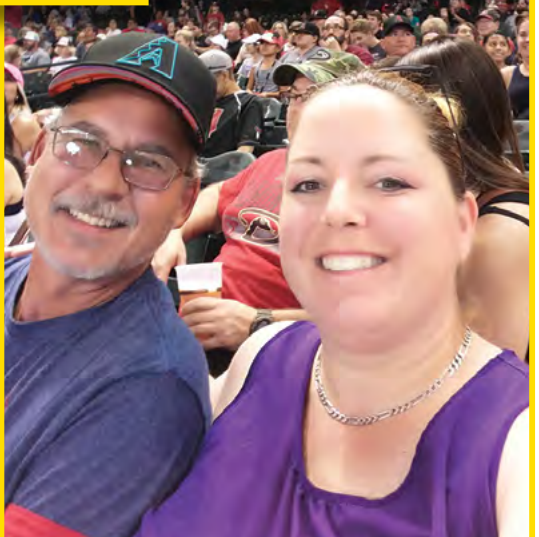
Root, root, root for the home team ...



Blackstone clients attend Arizona Diamondbacks baseball games, Arizona Cardinals' football games and the Arizona Rattlers' Indoor Football League games with family and friends as guests of Blackstone Security Services, Inc.® where treating clients to these top-notch sports venues has become a tradition.



Attending MLB, NFL and IFL games is a great way for family members to bond with each other and with BFFs. This is just one of the ways Blackstone demonstrates its appreciation to clients. Yell if you see anyone you know!





Employee Anniversaries

Twelve Years

Snyder, Jerry

Nine Years

Hernandez, Daniel

Eight Years

Sojack, Joseph

Seven Years

Ghadban, Tareq
Thurston, Jack

Six Years

Keymolent, Gracis	Martinez, Raul (SecuraGuard)
Calderon, Daniel	Pilon, James
Chatham, Michelle	

Five Years

Wood, Shirley
Yanez, Manuel (SecuraGuard)

Four Years

Abuzaid, Faris	Davis, Damien
Cansler, Brian	George, Lawrence
Kadim, Muyad	Nicholas, Anthony
Skyrm, Ron	Risley, Edward
Vasquez, Andrew	Turney, Stephen

Three Years

Gresham, William	Cavanaugh, Brenda
Callen, Linda	

Two Years

Berube, Michael	Rivera, Albert
Buelna, Lenore	Thompson, Aaron
Carnaza, Malcom	Tsosie, Virginia
Cox, Billie	Walsh, James
Drake, Charles (SecuraGuard)	Winters, Nicolas
Falkovitch, Shawn	Hiiibel, Deborah
Forbes, Cheryl	Myers, Harvey
Freeman, Robert	Nelson, Selve
Isahia, Melianie	Parke, Ray
Merritt, Cindy	Prendergast, Jody
Merritt, Lucinda	

One Year

Alcoverde, Joshua (SecuraGuard)	Johnson, Naajiy
Benally Lane	Madrid, Cindy
Charley Jamie	Marzano, Daniel
Chee, Herman	Mejia, Craig
Escobedo, Robert	Munoz, Alonzo
Garcia, Juan	Ratcliff, Gregory
Gabriel, Joshua	Riley, Clyde
Gaters, Joshua	White, John (SecuraGuard)
Green, Wesley	

3rd Security Officer Killed in Phoenix while on Duty in 4 Years In Memoriam

Michael Randall – End of Watch, Oct. 7, 2017

Phoenix – Michael Randall, a security officer for Blackstone Security Services, Inc.® for eight years, was found dead at his post in the far southwest Valley on Oct. 7. The 70-year-old Air Force Veteran had been shot. He is the third security officer killed while on duty in Phoenix in the past four years.



Michael Randall poses at home with some of his multimedia artwork in this 2015 photo

APSPA's Arizona Fallen Officer Memorial Fund presented Michael's Brother, Storm Randall, with a check for \$1,000 for funeral expenses.

"It is always a bad time for our industry when we lose a security officer through violence,

but this has been an especially bad time for the entire Blackstone family in Arizona, Texas and New Mexico," said Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall. "Mike really enjoyed his job and we really enjoyed him. He was dependable and professional. Our prayers go out to his family and hope they find some peace. I also want to thank the Memorial Fund for being there in this family's time of need."

Swindall, Chair of the APSA Board of Officers, said the safety of all security officers is a major concern of the APSA and it will continue to work to ensure that security officers have the safest working conditions possible.

Before becoming a security officer, Michael was a graphic designer for major Hollywood production studios such as Fimation and Hanna-Barbera where he did the title work on popular animated productions such as Fat Albert, He-Man & Masters of the Universe and The Lone Ranger. He continued his artistic ways in his spare time by pursuing Multimedia Art, and was a fixture at the Sunnyslope Art Walk.

Michael chose security because it seemed like stable work and he could use the same skills he learned as an artist – patience and attention to detail.

"Definitely patience," Michael said in a 2015 interview. "An artist and a security officer both need patience whether you're working on a project or dealing with people. Both need to pay attention to detail because art and security are about details. Being at a site where there's no one else, you must perform your duties. That requires some patience. My site right now is in the desert and the desert inspires me. I've always loved the desert. It's physical work and you're dealing with desert wildlife, but I really enjoy it."

Michael Randall is the 14th security officer killed in the line of duty in Arizona since 1977.

Blackstone Security is a Proud Member of:

