

BLACKSTONE POST



The
Voice of
Blackstone
Security



The Secret to Our Success is in Our People

SPRING, 2012

First Security Company in Arizona to Win the Award

Blackstone Wins Arizona BBB 2012 Business Ethics Award!



Jeanne Croft and Dan Swindall at BBB Awards Dinner.

PHOENIX – Blackstone Security Services, Inc. reached a milestone recently when it became the first security guard company in Arizona to win the coveted 2012 Business Ethics Award, given by the Better Business Bureau of Greater Arizona and its Educational Foundation.

Blackstone was one of five winners from a competitive field that included more than 300 nominees.

Blackstone was selected for the award in the largest of five company categories; businesses employing 151 persons or more. Award winners were announced during a dinner at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa on May 17. The event was hosted by local radio and television legend Pat McMahon. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Robert Shelton, former president of the University of Arizona and current executive director of the Fiesta Bowl. It is the 11th year the award has been given. Blackstone's name will now be submitted for the International BBB Torch Awards where it will compete with companies from across the U.S. and Canada.

Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall and Blackstone Executive Vice President Jeanne Croft attended the dinner. Swindall called the award a "prestigious honor" and a milestone that makes an indelible mark on the history of the company he founded in 1993.

"When you stick to a plan, a goal or an ideal, this is what can happen," Swindall beamed. "It was an honor just to be selected as a finalist from such a fine, competitive field. But to win this award is the whole point of why I founded Blackstone."

Blackstone's closest competitors for the award were two national companies based outside Arizona, one of whom was a previous winner.

Nominees were judged in six areas: Leadership Commitment to Ethical Practices; Communications of Ethical Practices; Organizational Commitment to Ethical Practices; Organizational Commitment to Performance Management Practices; Organizational Commitment to Ethical Human Resources Practices; and Organizational Commitment to the Community.

The winners were revealed via a tense multi-media program that flashed the winning company's name in each of the five categories on two huge screens. Sponsoring businesses and former winners also attended the dinner.



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POST ORDERS

Dan Swindall, President & CEO

Ethically Speaking, Our Secret is Out!

My compliments!

I'd like to offer my compliments to every security officer, every supervisor, and every administrator for their contribution to our selection as a winner of the Better Business Bureau's Business Ethics Award. Thanks to the BBB for providing a platform for all businesses to excel should they choose to do so.

We came out ahead of more than 300 of the toughest competitors the state and nation had to offer. Many of the companies we vanquished are based out of state. And we did it on our first try!

I say "we" because this prestigious honor is the sum total of all our efforts to make Blackstone a force to be reckoned with in the security industry throughout the Southwest region.

The secret to our success is in our people. Well, our secret is out now.

My compliments to all of our clients for their trust and loyalty.

My compliments to each Employee of the Quarter we have had to date for caring enough to qualify for the distinction.

My compliments to Keith Rohrman for achieving a level of professionalism that helped him become Blackstone's first Employee of the Year.

My compliments to Jeanne Croft for her dogged determination in seeking out and pursuing new opportunities.

My compliments to Tony Browe for his willingness to assume new responsibilities and quick response to client concerns.

My compliments to Mary Beth O'Neal for the industry knowledge that she brings to the table.

My compliments to Mitzi Hagan for making sure Blackstone hires top quality security officers.

My compliments to Bill Richards for keeping us in contractual compliance; his work on proposals and his ability to forge positive relationships with clients.

My compliments to Shana Kohlman for doing a yeoman's job of holding down the fort in New Mexico, a state that has many challenges.

My compliments to Vanessa Polanco for her tireless volunteer efforts to help the residents of El Paso have a better life.

My compliments to Cynthia Trujillo for her enthusiastic pursuit of new opportunities in New Mexico and West Texas.

My compliments to Di Gonzalez for being the glue that holds the main office together through all the chaos.

My compliments to Ken Vandiver for his uncanny ability to manage a diversified guard force and the attention he pays to customer satisfaction.

My compliments to Bill "Hutch" Hutchison for stepping up at a critical time to help wherever he has been needed.

My compliments to Ryan Swindall for keeping us technically sound.

What happened the night of May 17, 2012 at the Arizona Biltmore would not have been possible without all of you. It is a milestone that solidifies an already stable foundation. Let's continue to build.

I am humbled and proud. Thank you.

About the BBB Business Ethics Awards

In 2002, the Business Ethics Awards was established by the Better Business Bureau of Greater Arizona and its Educational Foundation to recognize firms whose business practices and related activities exemplify BBB's mission and principles of promoting the highest ethical standards of business conduct. In addition to honoring local firms annually, the program raises awareness of marketplace ethics and encourages businesses to operate with integrity.

The annual Business Ethics Awards program begins each summer with a call for nominations from consumers and businesses. Nominees are judged on six criteria by an independent, volunteer panel of community leaders and past award winners.

Fifteen finalists are chosen to participate in an in-person interview, which gives applicants an opportunity to bring their application to life by providing more information about their company and why they should be considered for a Business Ethics Award. Ultimately, five winners are selected, one in each of five categories based on size of business.

Award winners are then submitted to the International BBB Torch Awards where they compete with companies from across the United States and Canada.



Team Blackstone www.blackstonesecurity.com

PHOENIX

Corporate – Division 32

Dan Swindall – President & CEO
 Jeanne Croft – Executive Vice Pres.
 Mary Beth O'Neal – Dir. of Operations
 Bill Richards – Quality Control Mgr.
 Mitzi Hagan – Human Resources Mgr.

TUCSON

Division 34

Tony Browe – District Mgr.
 Marly Nicoletti – District Sales Mgr.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Division 42

Shana Kohlman – District Mgr.

EL PASO, TX

Division 52

Vanessa Polanco – District Mgr.
 Cynthia Trujillo – District Sales Mgr.



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The "Swindall Sweep"

Swindall Companies use Chili to Raise Money for Fallen Officers

PHOENIX – When his contemporaries in the Arizona Private Security Professionals' Association (APSPA) decided to hold a fundraiser for the newly-established Arizona Security Officer Memorial Fund (AZSOMF), Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall suggested a chili cook-off.

When the association agreed Dan volunteered to sponsor two booths, one for Blackstone and the second for SecuraGuard USA, a sister company of Blackstone that provides armed security, also owned by Swindall.



Frank Boyer and Marilyn Gardner show off their hardware

As it turns out, maybe Swindall knew something. In what has become known as the "Swindall Sweep," SecuraGuard and Blackstone took the two top spots in the statewide culinary competition. SecuraGuard took first place with chef Marilyn Gardner, who was assisted by SecuraGuard Vice President Tony Browe. Gardner is a grant writer with the Arizona Department of Education. Second Place was won by Frank Boyer, a security officer with Blackstone assigned to the Princess Resort in Scottsdale.

Swindall said earning industry bragging rights for the next

year was the icing on the cake but the reason for the event should come first. "More than 10 private security officers have died in the line of duty in Arizona over the past decade," Swindall said. "We hope this will become an annual event and bring even more attention to the dangers and other challenges faced by private security."



Sandy Woods (l) and Chris Cropp of Sun City West sample some first-place chili while Tony Browe and Marilyn Gardner look on.

Private security officers are often the first responders when crimes are committed and in emergency medical situations. In many cases they face the same criminal element as sworn police officers."

The event was officially called Security Officer Appreciation Day Chili Cook-Off and was held March 10 at the Glendale Renaissance Resort and Spa. It should be noted that a chef from the host Renaissance also entered the competition.

More than \$3,000 was raised for the memorial fund, which provides assistance to the families of fallen security officers.

Sharon Knutson-Felix, executive director of the 100 Club of Arizona, which provides similar support for the families of fallen law enforcement officers and firefighters, helped judge the competition, as did Paul Penzone, candidate for Maricopa County Sheriff.

Knutson-Felix called the cook-off a "wonderful event" and said the fund is the start of something that should have been done a long time ago. Penzone agreed saying the event was indicative of their commitment to keeping the community safe.



Photo by Carolyn Dryer Peoria Times

A Different Smile at City Hall

PEORIA – Peoria Police Officer Scott "Scotty" Taylor trained Blackstone Security officer Suzi Gartman in the operation of Peoria City Hall security. And they are both smiling. City council voted to have a private security firm take over the duties at the main municipal complex building to save money. Gartman will be at the front desk 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Taylor has resumed his duties back on patrol.

Source: Peoria Times

Repeat Performance

Swindall to Serve 2nd Term as APSPA Board Chair



Blackstone CEO Dan Swindall presides at an APSPA meeting.

PHOENIX – Citing valuable gains in organizational cohesiveness, knowledge of legislative processes and leveraging, the Board of Officers for the Arizona Private Security Professionals' Association will alter the group's by-laws to allow a second consecutive one-year term for the Board and has re-elected Blackstone CEO Dan Swindall as Chair.

Board members acknowledged that it would be better to maintain some continuity going forward to optimize the group's effectiveness during the next legislative session and in dealing with industry issues. "I am really happy to be a part of this board and I'm flattered they would want me to continue as Chair," Swindall said. "From the beginning it was evident this board wanted to accom-

plish significant things and not just meet for lunch once a month." During the past year under Swindall's chairmanship APSPA has:

- Established the Arizona Security Officer Memorial Fund
- Held two successful fundraising events that raised more than \$10,000 for AZSOMF
- Improved overall communications within the industry by publishing and distributing the *Arizona Security Adviser* newsletter
- Enrolled new members
- Reached out to similar organizations in Arizona, Texas and other states
- Maintained a guest speaker list relevant to APSPA goals and interests
- Identified and pursued a solid legislative agenda with specific goals designed to protect the integrity of the industry
- Established APSPA as a proactive advocate for private security in Arizona
- Solidified existing membership

"Going forward it is important that we maintain our momentum," Swindall added. "We've made some progress but we also know we've got a ways to go and a bumpy road to travel. The advantage is that now we know where those bumps are."

Nicoletti Joins Blackstone in Tucson

TUCSON – Marly Nicoletti is the new District Sales Manager for Blackstone's Tucson Division. Born and raised in Denmark, Marly came to the United State in 1998. She adds to the international flavor represented by many of Blackstone's employees.

Marly has held a number of sales, marketing and account managing positions in the newspaper, automotive and security industries in California and most recently in Arizona. She moved to Tucson in 2011 when her husband, Willie, a military contractor, was transferred to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

She is accustomed to handling large security assignments having managed 1,000 to 1,100 hours per week as the security account manager for NBCUniversal in Los Angeles.

To Marly private security is the first line of defense against the bad guys. "Uniform security guards provide a visible and physical deterrent to crime, facility threats, and inappropriate actions," she said. "They observe for signs of crime, fire or disorder, then take action and report any incidents to the client and emergency services as appropriate."

She pointed to Blackstone's screening and training as pluses for the company. "All Blackstone security guards are thoroughly screened and must pass an interview process and background check," she said. "Our guards receive numerous hours of on-site training, and refresher training throughout the year, along with customer service training."



Marly Nicoletti (rt) and daughter Michelle

Marly knows a thing or two about security guard screening and training, because apparently it runs in the family. Her 20-year-old daughter, Michelle, just joined Blackstone's Tucson Division as a guard. She had been working for another guard company.

Marly is an avid horseback rider who loves dogs, especially her new German Shepherd puppy, Yoss. Marly also has a 16-year-old daughter, Maiken.

April & May Recipients – Bashas’/Food City Exemplary Performance

April

Charles Hollman- Food City #26

Charles was assigned to a large construction site upon his date of hire on the outskirts of the Phoenix area. His dedication to Blackstone Security is shown by his decision-making while keeping the clients concerns a priority. Charles has brought this mindset to Food City #26, where he always treats everyone with respect and leaves everyone with a smile.

William Culbertson- Bashas’ #43

William has worked Bashas’ #43 and other Bashas’/Food City sites. William’s attention to detail and dealing with client concerns is evident by his background as a business owner and the transition into the security field. William stands out as a person and a valued Blackstone employee.

May

Dody Dyson – Bashas’ #130

Dody has worked Bashas’ #130 from the start of the contract. She has always been a model employee. Dody brings a caring attitude to the workplace that is seen by staff and customers alike. This is obvious by her dedication to the continued performance on the job. Dody not only stands out in the workplace but also in her personal life. From February 2010 to November 2011 she spent her time unselfishly in a caregiver.

Doug Dement – Food City #151 and #165 (Tucson)

Doug enjoys working at Food City, especially the interaction with the customers. He works six days a week at two Food City locations. Doug has shown his professionalism in all areas of his work performance. He is always on time and has proven to be highly reliable. Doug was born in Arkansas, and loves to ride motorcycles.

Blackstone Guard Gives Aid to Injured Man

TUCSON - Blackstone security officers are trained to expect the unexpected. On the night of May 12, that’s exactly what security officer Joseph Acosta saw walking toward him while on duty at one of Blackstone’s sites.

Acosta’s incident report for that evening offers the best explanation: “I saw a male subject approach me with blood on his right arm. I sat (him) down on a chair outside due to the fact that he was bleeding. (He) told me he was trying to kill himself.”

Acosta’s incident report indicates that the man had cut himself with a razor blade. It also indicates that Acosta did not hesitate to act. Acosta called 911 and did what he could to stop the bleeding until paramedics arrived and took control of the situation.

“I was just doing what I am supposed to do,” Acosta said. “It’s

our duty to help people when they need it.”

The South Tucson Police voiced their appreciation for everything Acosta does. “I’ve known Joseph for a number of months from his time on this post, said Sgt. Sean Masters. “He is nice, presentable and quite conscientious. He always seems to be aware of what is happening. His actions on that night were commendable and I was very impressed. He is well-trained, and I say that even down to his uniform because he is properly equipped with latex gloves. He is a credit to the industry and a great reflection on (Blackstone).”

Our client contact, Mario Salazar also expressed his gratitude. “Joe did his job very well,” Mario said. “We’re very happy to have someone here that is capable of handling all that happens.”

Browe to Chair Security Officer Memorial Fund

PHOENIX - Blackstone District Manager Tony Browe has been tapped to chair the Arizona Security Officer Memorial Fund (AZSOMF) for 2012-2013 for the Arizona Private Security Professionals’ Association (APSPA).

The AZSOMF assists the families of private security officers who give their lives in the line of duty. The AZSOMF provides a stipend for the family of the fallen officer; presents the surviving family with a U.S. Flag



Tony Browe (rt) explains the AZSOMF to a patron at the Southwest Security Conference.

and provides an Honor Guard during the ceremony.

“I truly believe in my heart that this is a worthwhile cause and the men and women we employ, along with their families, deserve all the assistance we can offer them in exchange for the efforts they put in,” Browe said. “The memorial fund lets people know that times are different, and we are different from the old school companies that they may have worked for in the past. I am truly honored to be part of such an entity as this.”

See **AZSOMF** Page 6



Employees of the Quarter Division 32 - Phoenix



Mike Quinn and Serban C. Pirvulescu

At Blackstone Security Services, Inc. security is a team effort. And there is no better example of that fact than the guard tandem of Mike Quinn and Serban C. Pirvulescu. The two keep a lid on the lobby of the Department of Environmental Quality while dealing with a variety of challenges with aplomb, camaraderie and professionalism. That's why they are the co-Employees of the Quarter for Blackstone's Division 32 in Phoenix.

Quinn handles the morning shift. In his two years with Blackstone, the Boston native has distinguished himself as an easygoing stickler for details and protocol who wields a velvet shillelagh to get the job done.

Pirvulescu takes the baton for the afternoon stint. A native of Bucharest, Romania, Pirvulescu gained his American citizenship in 2007. He has been with Blackstone since 2008.

Both men share a common approach to their jobs. They are sociable but keep the safety of employees and visitors uppermost in their minds.

"I like meeting and conversing with people and assisting visitors," Quinn says. "People are entitled to feel safe."

Pirvulescu agrees. "I want everyone to feel secure when they come here," he says.

Evidence of the effectiveness of the two is contained in a memo from Blackstone President & CEO Dan Swindall.

"I recently received a phone call from a DEQ Department Head who wanted to congratulate both of you for your professional manner in conducting your responsibilities at your assigned posts," Swindall wrote. "Serban, your attention to detail and your constant vigilance at your post, as well as escorting employees to the garage to ensure their safety, has been duly noted and appreciated by employees of the DEQ building.

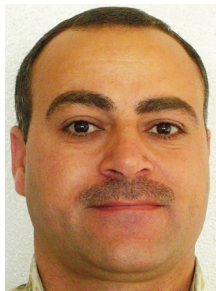
"Mike, your pleasant manner at the front desk brings many compliments. You greet everyone entering the lobby and, most of all you make sure everyone is properly badged. Morning control of the "homeless" on campus grounds has also been noted by several employees at the DEQ building.

"Gentlemen, I want to offer both of you a sincere "thank you" for the way you handle your duties. It is only with personnel such as you that Blackstone continues to be successful. I cannot express to you how much I appreciate your actions on behalf of Blackstone."

The Boss has spoken guys. So, congratulations and thanks for being the epitome of Blackstone ambassadors.

Great Quotes:

"I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have."
- Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)



Employee of the Quarter Division 34 -Tucson

Mohammad Hantoosh

Mohammad Hantoosh is a man of few words, but his body of work during the past three years with Blackstone speaks volumes about the man. That's why this native of Baghdad, Iraq is the Employee of the Quarter for Blackstone's Tucson Division 34.

"Hantoosh has worked a number of posts," says District Manager Tony Browe. "He has grown over his time with us into someone who is dependable and trustworthy. We appreciate all he has done for us."

When Mohammad is not standing post at Pima Community College or the Arizona Historical Society, he is attending classes at The University of Arizona where he is pursuing a Master's Degree in Engineering.

Security is a family affair for Mohammad, his brother Saad also works for Blackstone. There are other reasons why Hantoosh likes working at Blackstone. "We are treated fairly, and I am allowed to work my schedule around my studies," he says. "I have looked at other security companies but none offer the level of compassion and understanding for our lives that our company does. I also enjoy the camaraderie with my supervisors and workmates."

Mohammad says he has three hobbies: "Education, education, education."

His view of security is a simple, telling statement: "Everyone has the right to be safe and have a feeling of comfort in their lives."

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

AZSOMF

Continued from Page 5

During the past year, more than \$10,000 was raised from a raffle and a chili cook-off held March 10 during Security Officer Appreciation Day.

Since 1994, 10 private security officers have been killed while on duty in Arizona. Their survivors were left to fend for themselves to handle funeral and other expenses.

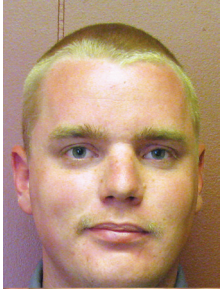
Browe is also the Vice President of SecuraGuard USA, a sister company of Blackstone that provides armed security.

The APSA is an association of the owners of private security companies and supporters who come together to promote the industry and improve their services.

Great Quotes:

"Men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all the other alternatives."

- Abba Eban (1915-2002)



**Employee of the
Quarter
Division 42 - Albuquerque**

Phillip M. Olson

Phillip Olson is a straight-forward kind of guy who relishes the continuous process of self-improvement. That's why the four-year security veteran is the Employee of the Quarter for Blackstone's Division 42 Office in Albuquerque.

Even though he's been with Blackstone only a year-and-a-half of his security career, Phillip has distinguished himself as a dependable professional who has developed a mutual admiration society with his coworkers and with the clients at Schott Solar, where he stands post.

"I have a great supervisor and all around great people to work with," Olson says. "I also enjoy steady employment with a company that has a good reputation in the security business."

Albuquerque District Manager Shana Kohlman knew Olson was something special when he applied for the job. "My first impressions about Phillip still hold," Kohlman says. "He is a great employee. He is dedicated, reliable and has always been somebody I can depend upon. The people at Schott Solar have nothing but good things to say about him. They say Phillip is a person they can always go to if they have any issues or problems. Blackstone is happy to have him."

Born and bred in Albuquerque, Olson is in the process of obtaining a degree in Information Technology.

His philosophy on security reflects Blackstone's philosophy on preparing its security personnel. "In security, nothing is to be expected, but to expect the unexpected, as security is a process, not a product," Olson says. "With our physical presence, we as a whole reassure the safety and trust of the client."

When Olson is not studying or standing his post, he is fulfilling his role as an outdoor enthusiast. Olson says he enjoys anything outside. His hobbies include snowboarding, running, mountain climbing, judo, dirt-biking, working out and automotive activities. Oh, yeah, he also enjoys drawing and glassblowing.

See what we mean by a "continuous process of self improvement?"

More power to you, Phillip. Congratulations and thanks for being a Blackstone ambassador.



**Employee of the
Quarter
Division 52 - El Paso**

Jason Driscoll

Jason Driscoll is a fast learner. That's why after only a year, he is the Employee of the Quarter for Blackstone's Division 54 in El Paso. A native of Lake Elsinore, CA, Driscoll understands what security is all about. "I enjoy allowing clients the opportunity to go home and not worry about their property," he says. "I enjoy keeping everything safe."

Jason admits his opinion about Blackstone is influenced by his coworkers: "I like the management at Blackstone, the (management team) is very pleasant to work for."

Blackstone District Manager Vanessa Polanco said Jason came to Blackstone as a green security rookie who visited her office more than once asking to be a security officer. He has since overcome his inexperience and consistently gets positive reports from clients. "We hired Jason as a first-time security officer and taught him client relations and the security procedures needed to be a productive security officer for Blackstone," Polanco said. "Since then he is doing so well. We have gotten great feedback from various clients on him. He does excellent reports and is always on time at his post."

Driscoll is an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, playing sports and going to movies.

His philosophy on security reflects his philosophy on life: "I just want to do the best and most accurate job I can do."

Oh, and another hobby that he places at the top of his list is being a husband to his wife, Shannon; and a father to his daughter, Sidnee Driscoll and his stepsons, Caleb Wertz and Joshua Wertz.

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

Blackstone

Continued from Page 1

Croft said the atmosphere kept her on the edge of her seat the whole time and praised the BBB for its leadership. "This is something we'll always have and we can build upon," Croft said. "This competition by the BBB is a roadmap to excellence. If you can stand the test of the criteria set forth by the BBB, your company will get better even if you do not win."

Swindall, who chairs the Board of Officers for the Arizona Private Security Professionals' Association (APSPA), said the award is good for the entire security industry. "The competition we face within our industry makes us a better company," Swindall said. "The fact that a security company has won in the largest category is a testimony to the rise of private security in Arizona and the Southwest. As an industry we are getting better and this award is proof. I thank the BBB for providing us with the venue to represent our clients, our employees and our industry in such a positive way."

Blackstone is headquartered in Phoenix and has permanent branch offices in Tucson, Albuquerque and El Paso.

Great Quotes:

"You can avoid reality, but you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality."

- Ayn Rand (1905-1982)

Students feel safer

Albuquerque PD Increases Security Measures Downtown

ALBUQUERQUE – On weekends, Albuquerque police have tripled their presence downtown and now close more sections of the area to cars in an effort to increase safety.

In March, the Albuquerque Police Department began blocking the streets off to all cars other than taxis on Friday and Saturday nights at 10 p.m.

APD Public Information Officer Tasia Martinez said the plan decreases the number of drivers and triples the number of police officers downtown on weekends and holidays. She said that in the past, three to four officers patrolled the downtown area, but the number has increased to 10 to 12 officers and includes additional officers from the Horse Mounted Unit and the Gang Division.

“The number varies based on the night,” she said. “At any time we could also have K-9 units, undercover, all of that; and that adds to the number that could be there.”

Martinez said APD will continue to close Central Avenue from Third Street to Fifth Street and Fourth Street from Gold Avenue to Central Avenue, including access from Fifth Street and Sixth Street. Martinez said the efforts are part of APD’s Downtown Initiative, implemented by Police Chief Ray Schultz in an effort to make downtown a safer area for bar-goers and visitors.

“The whole point is to promote peacefulness downtown and keep crime out,” Martinez said. “The focus is in increasing the safety and maintaining a pleasant atmosphere in downtown as a whole.”

Martinez said the plan calls for an increased police presence.

“There will be an elevated observation post in order to keep a bird’s eye view of potential fights and other problems,” she said. “APD also included the Gang Division in the initiative to assist bar security in the identification of gang members.”

Source: New Mexico Daily Lobo

Great Quotes:

“I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

– Thomas Alva Edison (1847–1931)

“In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. But in practice, there is.”

– Yogi Berra

International

Brits Want to Use Bees as Security Guards to Protect Historic Site

UNITED KINGDOM – Vandals are damaging a historic site in Wales, and its operators have come up with an ingenious solution: protect the place with bees. This should work, for as noted bee expert Homer Simpson once observed, bees will bite your bottom, and then your bottom’s big.

The operators of Greenfield Valley Heritage Park near Holywell, Wales are looking to protect the site’s historic mills, which are under threat from unauthorized visitors to the fragile buildings. According to park

manager Chris Wright, there’s no real way to stop vandals who are determined to get inside the mills, so the solution is to have something there to welcome them. As such, makes the proposal of stationing a bunch of pissed off bees as mill security guards, according to Wright, “seem sensible.” Never has the word “seem” been asked to do so much heavy lifting in a sentence.

As an added bonus, Wright says the bees could be used to pollinate wildflower meadows that don’t exist yet, but could be created in the area. Plus, as the caption to the BBC News article puts it, “the idea is to use the bees as a security deterrent and sell honey in the park’s new cafe,” which actually reads as though the bees would be running the cafe themselves. If we really are headed towards an entire bee-run historical site, then I might actually be in favor of this. Shockingly, however, bee experts are not super thrilled about this idea. They could be a deterrent,” said Barbara Chick, publicity officer for the Welsh Beekeepers’ Association. “I haven’t heard of them being used as security bees.”

However, she pointed out there may be health and safety issues if someone was stung and said she would not agree to their use as a security measure.

Source: BBC News



Great Quotes:

“If you are going through hell, keep going.”

– Sir Winston Churchill (1874–1965)

Blackstone Security is a Proud Member of:

