



COMMON GROUND

SPRING 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings MCSA members,

Finally, Spring is on its way and brings with it changes, challenges and opportunities.

MCSA is a strong voice for the security industry in legislative and regulatory matters. The Governor has once again discussed a 5.5% service tax on all services for the 2011 budget. MCSA led the fight on this issue in 2007 and won the fight. The battle is once again brewing and we will once more be called to fight. MCSA continues to work on amending Public Act 330. In this election year it will be critical for MCSA to assist our industry in identifying and electing security friendly State Representatives, Senators and the Governor. If you haven't already made a contribution to the MCSA PAC, I would strongly encourage you to do so. All donations will make a difference in getting the results we need to strengthen our industry.

As many of you have probably heard, a security officer was stabbed at the Van Andel Arena in late February. Although his wounds were not life threatening, it tells me that there is still much that can be done to protect the protectors. We can't stop working to provide for the safest working conditions we can achieve for ourselves and our comrades. MCSA's Fallen Heroes Award is meant to offer comfort and support to the survivors of Security Professionals who weren't as fortunate as the guard who was stabbed in February.

Our Membership Committee is working diligently on promoting MCSA and increasing our membership. Our Website Committee chair is looking into ways to make our website more dynamic, informative and user friendly. Lastly, our Insurance Program provider continues to look for ways to make signing up and enjoying substantial savings easier than ever, by making their application an interactive document on our website.

MCSA offers a wide variety of benefits that are well worth the membership fee. If you have not renewed your membership with MCSA yet, I strongly encourage you to do so. If you have, please help us promote MCSA by asking a fellow security company to join today.

I wish you all a safe and prosperous 2010.

As always,

Dale White
MCSA President



Dale White,
MCSA PRESIDENT

IN THIS ISSUE

Presidents Letter

Capitol Report

2010 Membership
Renewal Form

2010 Associations
One Registration &
Sponsor Forms

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CONTACT INFO

UPDATES

We at the MCSA office like very much to stay current with our members. We invite you to send us any updates or changes you might have in your contact info. Also if you have an email address, we would like to include this in our records as well.

All updates should be sent to:
MCSA
235 North Pine St.
Lansing, Michigan 48933



CAPITOL REPORT

Julian Vail, LLC, Legislative Liaison

The buzz in the Capitol City today is the proposed budget released on 2/11/10 by Governor Granholm. The Governor issued warnings with the budget figures released, that if the legislature attempts to cut education or pass on problems with balancing the budget to her successor that she would veto the budget. Michigan continues to struggle to emerge from the recession that seems to have lasted forever.

The 2010/2011 budget proposal contains several items of interest to Michigan Contract Security members. A proposal to implement a service tax will be revisited again, as in 2007. This proposal will lower all sales taxes in Michigan to 5.5% and spread the sales tax to services, currently exempt from paying a tax. Although this is proposed, the devil is in the details. Which services will be affected and which will not? There is a general agreement that if all services were subject to the additional taxes, then it would be less controversial. In 2007, the legislature attempted to pick winners and losers and ultimately the service tax was repealed due to the overwhelming opposition.

There is a Michigan Business Tax proposal in the budget to reduce the surcharge by 50% in 2011 and completely remove the surcharge in 2012. Also included is a reduction in the Gross Receipts Tax from .08 to .06 in 2012 and another .01 reduction in 2013. While Governor Granholm proposes eliminating the surcharge on the Michigan Business Tax and reducing the gross receipts portion of the tax, the proposal would be a net tax increase in 2011, 2012 and 2013. The proposal would become revenue neutral after 2013.

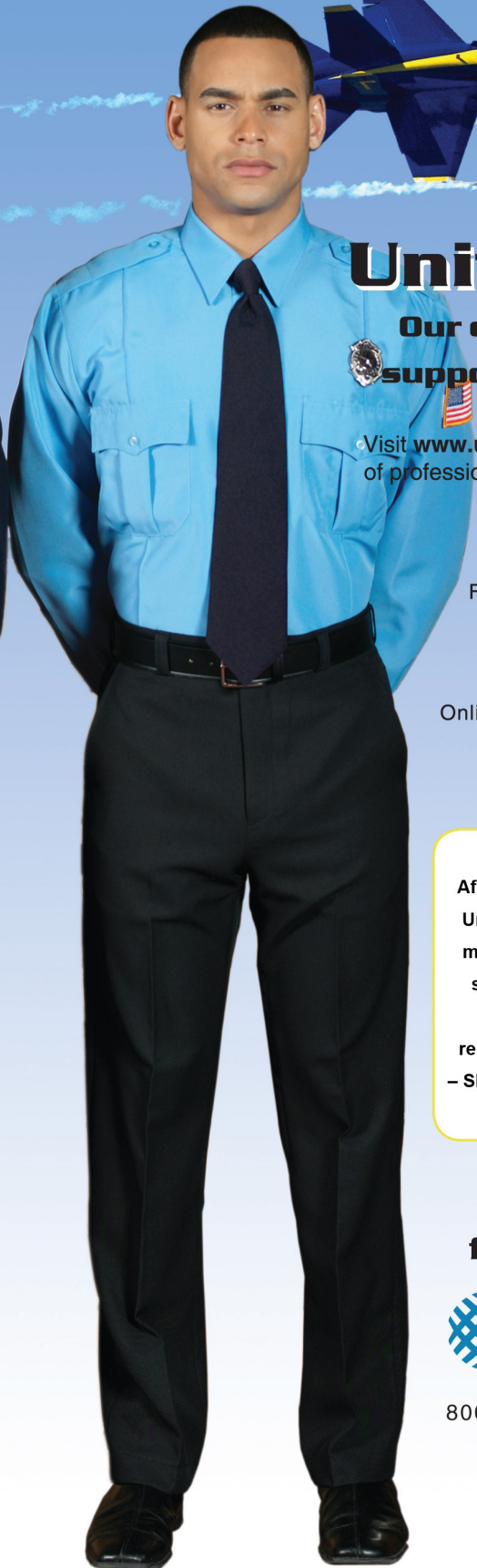
Most of the general fund savings in the proposed budget come from the anticipated savings in fewer, cheaper employees and in changes to the health care insurance and retirement systems. This savings will depend on the total number of early retirements, pending their approval by the legislature.

Savings are also proposed through the Department of Corrections. As expected, the law enforcement community is vocal about the proposals to release inmates early.

We will monitor all hearings, committee meetings and communication that affect the budgets that could adversely affect your industry.

We continue to promote the final drafting of P.A. 330 and the re-write that the association has worked so hard on getting passed. There is additional information that has been turned over to the drafters to include in the bill. As soon as the bill is completed in drafting, Rep. Booher will introduce in the House of Representatives.

2010 is an election year and it is extremely important to get out and meet the candidates for Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Senate and State House. Invite them to your farm, large or small and get their opinion on the security industry and their support for our many issues.



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Michigan Contract Security Association
235 North Pine St.
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MCSA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 24, 2010	11:00 am	Julian Vail Offices 235 N. Pine St Lansing, MI 48933
May 5-7, 2010		Associations One- Indianapolis, Indiana
May 19, 2010 (Annual Meeting)	TBD	TBD



MCSA Insurance program has declared a premium return dividend for the 6th straight year for the general/professional liability and workers compensation coverage's!

Checks will be distributed @ the membership meeting on 5-19-10.

Visit www.mcsa-online.org for locations and meeting times.