

# AKAL SECURITY



Volume 1, number 1 Spring '98

*Eagle*



*“Our Officers are trained to handle very stressful and critical situations. I am proud to serve with these fine men and women.”*

Shanti Kaur Khalsa  
Deputy Commanding Officer

## Notes from the Field

It was 4 o'clock in the morning on Sunday August 3, and **PATROL OFFICER JOSEPH LITTLE BULL**, 24 years old, was patrolling his Albuquerque, New Mexico district, when he saw a fire ahead of him lighting up the pre-dawn darkness. As he got closer he saw that a small brown car had struck a steel pole and was on fire. The driver was still inside, trapped behind the wheel by his seat belt and in the car by a jammed door!

The flames from the engine were beginning to enter the passenger compartment from under the dashboard and through the windshield area coming closer and closer to the driver and Officer Little Bull. Finally, the heroic Akal officer was able to cut through the seat belt and pull the driver through the window minutes before the car was consumed in flames.

Thanks to the quick and decisive action of Officer Little Bull a life was saved. In recognition of his heroic action, Albuquerque Chief of Police, Joe Polisar, presented him with the Akal Security Medal of Valor and a financial award at a ceremony in Akal's Albuquerque office this past October. Akal also proudly honored this new employee as Albuquerque's Officer of the Year, 1997.

In another case, a juror from a District of Columbia Superior Court jury was choking on his food in the cafeteria of the Carl Moultrie Building and gasping desperately for air when Court Security Officer (CSO) **EDWARD P. DUNNING** of the 12th Judicial Circuit arrived on the scene. It was Thursday, January 8 when Dunning raced to the distressed man after being notified that someone was in trouble.

When he arrived he found a concerned citizen trying unsuccessfully to apply the Heimlich Maneuver to the victim. CSO Dunning immediately intervened. He laid the choking man face down on the floor and extended his neck to open his airway. The man was still unable to breath and turning blue. Dunning then turned the man's head to the left, straddled his back, and applied pressure below the ribcage in an upward thrust. After the third application of pressure the piece of food caught in the man's windpipe popped out and he started to breath on his own.

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# Roll Call of Honor

**Albuquerque, NM \*\* CORPORAL RON CASE**, Officer of the Month, Jan., 1998. Cpl. Case has been an excellent patrol officer at the New Mexico State Fair. **CORPORAL PAT MARTINEZ**, Officer of the Month, Feb., 1998. Cpl. Martinez serves as a positive leadership model for other employees. **OFFICER JOSEPH LITTLE BULL**, Officer of the Year, 1997. (See story on page 1) **OFFICER SARAH MORENO**, Officer of the Month, March, 1998.

**El Paso, TX \*\* OFFICER LUIS SANCHEZ**, Officer of the Month, Jan., 1998. Officer Sanchez has been outstanding in his professional appearance and demeanor and his reliability on post. **OFFICER STEVE RAMIREZ**, Officer of the Month, Feb., 1998. Officer Ramirez has drawn praise from both clients and contractors at Thompson Consumer Electronics. Officer Rodolfo Diaz, Officer of the Month, March, 1998. Officer Diaz was the first security officer to train on the new computer tracking system for warehouse shipping.

**HI \*\* OFFICER JESUS BELICANO**, Officer of the Month, Jan., 1998. **ROBERT BOGACZ**, Officer of the Month, March, 1998. Officer Bogacz intercepted an intruder coming over the fence at Hawaiian Electric. **OFFICER TAI UTOAFILI**, Officer of the Month, March, 1998.

**Los Angeles, CA \*\* ESTER MALVEAUX, JOHN SAN ELIAS, and ALBERT CRAWFORD**, Officers of the Quarter, 1st quarter, 1998. These officers were chosen for their

outstanding team effort in managing Akal's priority accounts during the inclement "El Nino" weather.

**Phoenix, AZ \*\* SERGEANT MARCIA BILLBE**, Officer of the Month, Dec., 1997. Sgt. M. Billbe has been an



*"Our most important asset is our employees. It is their quality, dedication and integrity that makes Akal the success that it is."*

Daya Singh Khalsa  
Senior Vice President

effective and aggressive security supervisor at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. She has recently been promoted to Officer Manager of the Phoenix branch office. **SERGEANT BOB BILLBE**, Officer of the Month, Jan., 1998. Sgt. B. Billbe has been a supervisor of the Mark Taylor Development and Management Corporation account, successfully starting up several large projects on very short notice. **OFFICER JOSEPH HONYUMPTWEA**, Officer of the Month, February. Officer Honyumtewa successfully stopped a burglary in progress during his patrol for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad in January of this year.

**Santa Fe, NM \*\* CORPORAL SOLOMON ROMERO**, Officer of the Quarter, 4th quarter, 1997. Cpl. Romero is the Security Supervisor for the Espanola Valley High School and has successfully reduced security incidents by 50% over last year at this time. **OFFICER CHARLES JENNINGS**, Officer of the Month, Jan., 1998. Officer Jennings works at Santa Fe's Marketplace Grocery and has successfully reduced theft and pilferage. **OFFICER GREG FILIP**, Officer of the Month, Feb., 1998. He was chosen by his supervisors to acknowledge his dedication to Akal and his willingness to serve above and beyond the call of duty. **CORPORAL JOHN WOODS**, Officer of the Month, March, 1998. Cpl. Woods is the senior officer at St. Vincent Hospital.

# The US Marshals Service

The US Marshals Service, one of America's oldest and most distinguished law enforcement agencies, and an Akal client since 1992, is responsible for law enforcement and security at Federal Courthouses throughout the United States. In recent years this has been a responsibility of increasing magnitude. High-profile federal trials and grand juries have attracted large crowds, inordinate publicity, and increased risk of terrorist and anti-government activities. Keeping the judge, jury, witnesses, defendants, court personnel, even the press and the crowds safe falls into the capable hands of this agency.

The Court Security Officers whom Akal manages under contract to the US Marshals Service are retired and former federal, state, and local law enforcement officers who are deputized as United States Marshals while on the job.

Under the direction of Richard Wimberly, Division Director, Akal currently manages an effective and highly skilled security force of 1,300 Court Security Officers for the 4th, 5th, 7th and 12th US Federal Judicial Circuits. These circuits encompass Washington DC, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. A recent expansion of Akal's contracts with the US Marshals service makes Akal the second largest provider of court security services to the U.S. government.



Many of Akal's court security officers have received special training and the most current information on the detection of improvised explosive devices and preventing terrorist acts. The program was developed by Richard Wimberly with the cooperation of federal and state law enforcement agencies and is unique to Akal Security.

Richard Wimberly, Director of Akal's Government Contracts Division, joined Akal Security in 1988. His professional experience began with the Coleman Police Department and the Taylor County Sheriff's Department, both in Texas. Before coming to Akal, Mr. Wimberly worked in the US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons. At Akal he has been an innovative leader in managing the company's contracts with the US Marshals Service.

## The Akal Security Eagle

Vol. 1, number 1 Spring, 1998  
Editor: Shanti Kaur Khalsa

The Akal Security Eagle is a quarterly published at Akal headquarters in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Letters, comments and news from employees and clients are invited.

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## About Akal Security

Akal Security, Inc. was founded in 1980 in Northern New Mexico. The company quickly established a national reputation for excellence built on its professionalism, innovative training and management programs as well as an unsurpassed standard of service.

Akal is an industry leader with over 2,000 employees in 17 states serving in government and commercial protection positions in hundreds of facilities. These include mining, high-tech, warehousing, city, state and federal government and the US armed forces.

## HOT TIPS THAT MEAN BUSINESS

### Parking Lot Security

- ▶ **LIGHTING:** Install and maintain enough effective lighting as specified by the National Parking Association's lighting guidelines.
- ▶ **LANDSCAPING:** Avoid hedges or other plants that provide concealment for intruders. Replace them with groundcover and low-growing vegetation.
- ▶ **ACCESS CONTROL:** Erect fences around open-air parking lots. Limit entrances and exits to one or two to make it more difficult for troublemakers to get into the lot.
- ▶ **CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV:** Place CCTV at entrances and cashier's booths to have a visual record of incidents.
- ▶ **SECURITY PATROLS:** Consider investing in around-the-clock security patrols for larger lots, hotels and retail centers to increase customer confidence and safety and to reduce theft and vandalism. Patrols can be in vehicles, golf carts or on foot depending on the area to be covered. Smaller lots can have random patrol inspections. Patrol frequency should be regular, but not routine.

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Paramedics responding to the scene said that if CSO Dunning had not reacted as quickly and as professionally as he did the juror could have lost consciousness and died. CSO Dunning's ability and dedication to duty are a model for all CSOs. Thanks for a job well done.

## Bragging Rights



*Before being deputized as United States Marshals, Court Security Officers were federal, state or local law enforcement officers.*

### Akal awarded new contracts by US Marshals Service

Akal Security has been awarded two new contracts to provide Court Security Officers to all Federal Courthouses in Washington, D.C., Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. These areas make up the 12th and 7th Federal Judicial Circuits. These highly skilled Court Security Officers are lead by Contract Manager Carl Siler in the 12th circuit and Robert Starke in the 7th. Akal Security is proud to welcome the Court Security Officers of the 7th and 12th Circuits who join those of the 4th and 5th Circuits as valued members of Akal's court security division. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your stories in the Akal Security Eagle.

### Akal Security Among Top Companies in New Mexico

Akal Security has been ranked the 38th largest privately held company in the state by the New Mexico Private 100. It is the third time Akal has been named a member of this prestigious group. Akal and other New Mexico companies were honored at the group's annual luncheon at the Albuquerque Marriot earlier this year. The New Mexico Private 100 was created by Nations Bank in 1988 to recognize the important contributions made by private companies to the state's economy.