

# Western Washington - Seattle CSO Quarterly Newsletter

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## Local #71 Holds Elections for New Board Members

Elections were held the week of January 18th, 2010. Nominations were requested the previous week. Four candidates were nominated one for each position and were unopposed. The results were as follows, Mike Ware - President, Gary Trowbridge - Vice President, Mike Ward -Treasurer, and Jeff Stottlemeyer - Secretary. A transition meeting was held on Saturday January 30th, to turn over the responsibilities to the new board members. Letters were sent out to the members by the National sanctioning the election and thanking the previous officers for their service over the past years.

## Local #71 Meeting in March

Local #71 will hold it first meeting of 2010 on March 13th, 2010 at 0800 at the Seattle Police Department West Pct in the community meeting room. Parking will be allowed in the District Courthouse Garage and Coffee and Coffee cake will be served at the meeting. If you have anything that you want on the agenda please e-mail Mike with the information. If not bring you ideas to the meeting as we will be discussing several items of importance to the membership.

## Range Practice Shoot at Wades

After the Local Union on Saturday March 13th, Mike and Gary will be at Wades Gun Range in Bellevue from 11am until about 1pm. Anyone is welcome and targets will be provided. You will need to bring **your own personal** weapon and ammunition. Wades will give us the LE discount for shooting. If you don't have a personnel weapon Mike and Gary will have some available for you. This is a good opportunity to keep in practice.

## Message From the President

I would like to thank Vinny Smith and Mike Ward for serving as the Local Board for the past years. I have asked Vinny to stay on as the District Shop Steward and he has agreed. Mike Ward will be staying and continuing the excellent job he has been doing as Treasurer. I would like to welcome the new board members, and thank them for stepping up to the plate as we continue forward. We will work hard for you. But we need your input and cooperation. We will be looking for one member from district to join the grievance committee team, that already consists of the Gary Trowbridge, and Wayne Slater. If you are interested please e-mail me and let me know. I look forward to serving as your new President and believe that together we can accomplish what is needed. **-Mike Ware-**

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### PRESIDENT

**MIKE WARE**

*trooper492@comcast.net*

#### VICE PRESIDENT

**GARY TROWBRIDGE**

*usafgman@yahoo.com*

#### SECRETARY

**JEFF STOTTELMYER**

*jstottlemeyer@hotmail.com*

#### TRESURER

**MIKE WARD**

*ward44@comcast.net*

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#### Shop Stewards

**District—Vinny Smith**

*smithtani@aol.com*

**COA—Bob Davis**

*cowboidave@msn.com*

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**UGSOA**  
**Local #71**

## Vice President Attends CSO Conference in Las Vegas

I attended the American Court Security Officers Association annual conference. A lot of information from all over the US was presented. The first speaker was an attorney from Texas, Kathy Butler. She has taken up the cause for the CSOs that have been fired for failing their hearing test. The hearing aid issue is when the CSOs can wear the hearing aids on duty but are not allowed to wear them when they get tested. She has filed many cases against the Federal government and the USMS on this issue, won some and lost some. She said that she has not been able to get any Federal Judge to give a complete ruling in our favor yet.

They had two of the CSOs that were involved in the shooting in Vegas tell their story. There were some changes from the time that Wayne and I heard the story at Stan Cooper's funeral. One of the biggest discrepancies was the fact that there were no drugs in the bad guy. Bad guy was carrying 16 rounds of bird shot and had a plug in his shot gun. The gun could only hold 3 rounds. He fired 5 rounds and was trying to reload when the CSOs started shooting.

The CSOs had always been told that the Courthouse was blast proof since it was built after the Oklahoma City bombing. Bullet proof glass etc. One of the CSOs fired from inside of the building at the bad guy as he exited and also when he was trying to get back inside. All three rounds fired by the CSO went through the bullet proof glass door (.40 cal). Not so bullet proof. A total of 81 shots were fired in all, minimum of 22 hits on bad guy with several others hitting his trench coat but not hitting him. The attack was two minutes and 57 seconds from start to finish. Distance was 30 to at least 50 yards. They said that they fired and when the bad guy went down they all stopped firing. Then the bad guy got up again and started walking back towards the bus stop where there were several people. The CSOs started to fire again and bad guy went down again. Whenever there was movement they would fire. It was the CSOs who crossed the street, made contact with the downed bad guy and cuffed him; not any of the USMS.

One thing that was pointed out is the lack of firearms training at that kind of distance. Another thing that was said is they really were not ready mentally for that to happen. They said they had been retired for 20 -30 years and never thought they would have to be in another shoot out. They thought that was all in their past. When the shooting started all the old gray haired cops started to run towards the shooting and get into the fight, all their years of training and experience kicked in. As they put it, more balls than brains sometimes.

They had nothing but good things to say about the way that Akal responded and handled things. They hired a psychologist who talked to all those involved and called them several times a day to check on them. They said that many of the CSOs had problems with eating, sleeping, and some had nightmares about the ordeal. Akal hired an attorney after everyone found out the US Attorney was not going to represent them; the CSOs had to walk out of a hearing due to no representation. Everyone was under the impression that they would be represented by the US Attorney. They did not hear from UGSOA at all. They said that Akal was there right away. One of the CSOs was talking with the number two man in Akal. He said I know why you are here it is because of your liability. The guy from Akal said get that idea out of your head right now that is why we have insurance, I'm here for you. The CSOs said they showed that several times throughout the whole thing. **-Gary Trowbridge-**