MAY 2024 THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF LICENSED

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF





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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DAVID CHANDLER, CALSAGA PRESIDENT



Welcome to the 2024 Q2 edition of The Californian: The Quarterly Newsletter of CALSAGA.

I got to see many of you during Security University Irvine in March and I look forward to seeing more of you during Security University Sacramento next week. Ordinarily, I would encourage you to register but the event is sold out!

Whether or not you missed the opportunity to attend one of the sessions of our management training program, you do not want to miss the 2024 CALSAGA Annual Conference! Registration is expected to open later this month. Based on your feedback, we are expanding the program and starting the first day earlier this year. The schedule and all of the program information will be emailed to you once registration opens.

I frequently travel to events in other states and everyone is always interested in what is happening in California. As always, the association staff and Board of Directors will work to keep you informed and to advocate for the best interests of the industry. I appreciate the opportunity to continue serving as the Association President.

David Chandler, CALSAGA President

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A reminder from the BSIS:

Check your baton permit status on <u>BreEZe</u>. If you were issued a baton permit prior to January 1, 2024, and it is not showing as current on BreEZe, that means it is not properly associated with a current and valid qualifying license. A baton permit is only valid when associated to a qualifying license. To associate your baton permit with your qualifying license, email the Bureau at <u>bsis@dca.ca.gov</u> with a front and back copy of your baton permit that clearly shows the date of completion, the facility name/license number and trainer signature/license number so the Bureau can verify and associate your permit. The Bureau will continue to assist individuals with associating a previously issued baton permit to their qualifying license until June 1, 2024. Individuals who do not get their baton permits associated to their qualifying license before June 1, 2024, will have to apply for a new baton permit.

The Bureau of Security and Investigative Services will send you an email when your license is issued, renewed, or coming due for renewal, but we can only do it if you have an email address on file. Make sure to include a current, valid email address on your BreEZe account.



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SB 553 -WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN



SHAUN KELLY, ASSURED PARTNERS, CALSAGA PREFERRED BROKER

It is every employers' priority to provide a safe workplace environment. Now with SB 553, California employers are mandated to implement a program regarding the prevention of workplace violence.

The new bill signed by the Governor requires employers to implement a Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP) no later than 7-1-24. The WVPP is being established to educate employees, identify the concerns/hazards, evaluate the concerns/hazards and implement corrective actions. Workplace violence includes but is not limited to any act or threat of physical violence, harassment, intimidation, or other disrupting behavior that occurs at the worksite. Workplace violence can affect employees, customers, clients, visitors and others.

CAL/OSHA as part of the Department of Industrial relations will be the enforcing agency, as they also enforce the Injury & Illness Prevention Plan and the Heat Illness Prevention Plan. They will require employers to engage and implement the WVPP with employee involvement.

California is the first State to mandate a WVPP, however it is expected that others States will follow.

Attached is a Workplace Violence Prevention Plan template from CAL/OSHA. You can use this as a guide to implement and customize your own plan.

Model-WPV-Plan-General-Industry

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Take care.



WOMEN IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY: TRENDS, CHALLENGES AND ADVICE

JILL DAVIE, TEAM SOFTWARE BY WORKWAVE, CALSAGA NETWORK PARTNER

For security employers in today's market, it's important to understand the labor pool to encourage diversity in the workforce. Women in the security industry only represent 22.5% of the leadership roles and only 24.9% of guards, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics.

Moving closer to equal representation takes understanding the challenges in attracting and retaining women who want to work in the security field, while removing barriers to ensure that women can have an equal opportunity to climb up the professional ladder. According to several female leaders in the field services industry, there are a number of contributing factors that are creating barriers for women - both external and internal.

Overcoming gender biases and stereotypes

Gaining respect – particularly from male colleagues – is a critical factor for women across the field service industries. Historically, women have reported facing skepticism about their abilities, ideas or experiences both in the field and in leadership roles.

To overcome these barriers, it's important for women to be assertive, express opinions and push back if needed - while employers can build an environment based on respect that fosters a culture where women's opinions, skills and accomplishments are valued and recognized. The businesses that achieve this will reap the benefits of having access to different perspectives, strategies and process improvements.

"One of the biggest benefits of having women in leadership roles is that it creates a space for more overall diversity within your business. When your organization becomes an advocate for different perspectives, mindsets and collaboration, the sky's the limit," said Sharon Roebuck-McBride, the Senior Executive Vice President at Triangle Home Services.



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FROM COMPLEXITY TO CLARITY: CLEARING THE HURDLES OF PAYROLL

JORDAN WALLACH, BELFRY SOFTWARE, ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Handling payroll in the security industry is notoriously complicated.

Each contract is different, with pay rates that could change based on site, time of day, overtime & holidays, qualifications, and more. This variability makes the payroll process very challenging and time-consuming. Most security firms use several different systems to manage payroll, which means data must be moved manually from one system to another — one for scheduling, one for tracking time, another for processing payroll. This not only raises the chances of making mistakes but also takes a lot of time. Payroll teams find themselves spending days managing what should be straightforward tasks, from verifying hours worked against shifts to ensuring compliance with ever-changing labor laws.

These problems can have a big impact. Payroll errors can lead to dissatisfaction among officers, potentially increasing turnover in an industry where reliability and trust are key. Moreover, the time consumed by manual processes detracts from more strategic activities that could enhance client relationships and operational effectiveness.

It's clear that a single, connected system would be a huge help. A system that smoothly links scheduling, time tracking, and payroll within the same experience would cut out unnecessary steps and mistakes. By automating these processes, companies could focus more on growing and providing excellent service, making sure their back office helps rather than holds back their business goals.

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MARKET TRENDS FOR SECURITY CONTRACTORS

CARISSA GAPPA, TEAM SOFTWARE BY WORKWAVE, CALSAGA NETWORK PARTNER

Employers in the security industry can gain a competitive advantage by integrating market research, global economic outlooks, and industry-specific predictions. Accurate data is particularly important due to challenges like increased demands from clients. They can stay one step ahead by understanding market trends and the broader macroeconomic picture.

Inflation

The U.S. inflation rate was 3.5% as of March 2024, based on a 12-month percentage change from the year prior, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Although the inflation rate is still higher than the Federal Reserve's target of 2%, that number has significantly dropped from the 9.1% spike in June 2022. With the latest drop in unemployment rate to 3.8% in March, the U.S. economy remains strong, discouraging the Fed from cutting interest rates again until prices decline at a more consistent rate.

Despite wages increasing by 4.5% in 2023, the increase felt like 0.8% with inflation. Economists believe that the elevated rate may explain why many Americans feel dissatisfied with the economy, despite reports of steady economic growth, ongoing wage increases and low unemployment.

Interest rates

To combat current inflation, the Federal Reserve leveraged interest rates to engineer a 'soft landing' and avoid a full recession.



Rising interest rates can affect a company's ability to service debt, especially if it incurs rising costs without a boost in revenue to balance it out.

Throughout most of last year, the cost of capital was exceeding 5%. Economists report that interest rates are holding somewhat steady, increasing by about 1% between January and July 2023 — but the Federal Reserve predicted decreases in 2024, which set the table for multiple interest rate cuts at some point this year.

Recent job and inflation reports, indicating ongoing pricing pressure and job growth through the first quarter, have pushed the probability of any rate cuts later into the year than initially projected.



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ENSURING PAY DATA REPORTING COMPLIANCE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

JEFF DIDOMENICO, TRACKFORCE VALIANT + TRACKTIK, CALSAGA NETWORK PARTNER

California employers must take note of new legislation around employee pay data that could come with fines if they don't comply. Back in 2020, California required employers with 100 or more employees to report certain pay data to the California Civil Rights Department (CRD) each year. In 2022, the law was amended and expanded to update the filing requirements and now includes civil penalties for noncompliance. In fact, employers need to report their 2023 employee

pay data to the state no later than May 8, 2024, or else they face the possibility of civil penalties of \$100 per employee, with the penalties increasing to \$200 per employee for each subsequent failure to report.

Employers have an obligation to calculate the mean and median hourly rates of employees among these reportable categories: establishment location, job category, race/ethnicity, & sex. For an FAQ document with specific instructions on how to properly calculate pay data according to the CRD, <u>click here</u>.

For security employers still tracking payroll and employee records manually, reporting on employee pay data for the CRD might become a challenge. However, with security workforce management technology, these data records can be auto generated and easily pulled within seconds. Keep track of pay data records across multiple site locations, guard certifications and job categories with access to employee records at your fingertips.

With the right technology tools in place, employers can meet compliance requirements with ease, generating the necessary MS Excel spreadsheets to adhere to CRD pay data reporting laws.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ASHLEE CERVANTES, CALSAGA AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE CHAIR

The CALSAGA Ambassador Committee is proud to spotlight one of our very own this quarter, Fisotec Security Inc.

> Fisotec is not only one of CALSAGA's longest running members, of 18 years, their executive management team collectively boasts 106+ years in the industry.

Their Mission Statement says it all; "With a commitment to making your mission as our mission, Fisotec Security, Inc. is revolutionizing the industry by bringing forth integrity, courage, and wisdom from each of our security professionals to ensure the ultimate protection of your staff, property, and life's work."

Ralph Day Memorial Security Officer Heroism Award

Each year, one security officer is recognized by the ASIS Security Services Community (SSC) for outstanding service/acts in the security profession through the Ralph Day Security Officer Heroism Award. This award recognizes a contract security employee that goes above and beyond their duties to help others in a time of need while on the job.







Fisotec Security stands out among the competition for a variety of reasons, but their core values are certainly at the forefront. The company founder, Bobby Debozi, describes their core values as being rooted in the principles taught to him by his late mentor, Daisaku Ikeda. Speaking fondly of his late mentor Mr. Debozi explains, "He taught and demonstrated living with a mission, the importance of integrity, being united, and servant leadership." To this day, these characteristics serve as the foundation of Fisotec Security, Inc.

These core values translate into fostering and empowering security personnel who feel respected, appreciated, and take to heart their roles and responsibility.

Fisotec Security goes to great lengths to invest in the growth of our officers and inspire them to bring out their highest potential. Each of them has a tremendous mission and by helping them tap into that, the officers, in turn, are able to provide our clients the highest level of professional security service possible.

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