

**APRIL 2011**  
**LEGISLATIVE EDITION**

# **TLA** *Advisor*



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## President's Message

### Troy Maynard

Hello Fellow TLA Members:

I can't believe March is gone, this feels like another one of those years that's just blowing by.....OH wait, I keep forgetting the years just fly by as you get older, that's the other problem with getting older I keep forgetting everything.... OK, OK, I'll stop it's depressing but TRUE!!

I want to thank our Editor John Helweg for his 2013 (?) Article. I don't know if the members just felt like they had to pay John in some way by getting in touch with me for the good humor he provided, or if they felt sorry for me on the abuse I took from John... anyway, it worked. I want to thank the members that have taken the time to call or email me with your comments. We will be discussing them at our upcoming conference call in April. Please feel free to contact me anytime if I can answer questions or help with anything. Email me at [president@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:president@texaslocksmiths.org) or you can call me. My cell number is 512-563-7815 and if you get my voice mail leave me a message and I will call you back.

I also want to thank Billy Garrett for coming to Austin for a Senate meeting at the Capitol on HB1867 on very short notice. Billy and I found out about this meeting late on a Friday, the meeting was on Wednesday, and I had a meeting that I could not get out of.

I was at the Capitol on Monday, April 4, 2011 for round two of these meetings. Please read your LAC reports, Billy will have some very important information this year!! For those of you that may not know, Billy Garrett is the Chairman of the LAC committee for me this year, Shane Williams is Co-Chair, and Mark Dawson is Secretary.

I will be talking with Keith Oakley at the end of May about writing a report for the membership on the new laws and how they may affect us. The update will be posted in the Advisor and on the Website.

# Treasurer's Report

## Billy Garrett

**TLA Financial Report  
March 3 – April 4, 2011**

**Balances on All Accounts as of April 4, 2011**

<b>Chase General Fund</b>	<b>\$27,886.14</b>
<b>Chase Legislative Money Market</b>	<b>\$16,697.39</b>
<b>Chase Scholarship Money Market</b>	<b>\$ 8,599.54</b>
<b>Chase Education Fund</b>	<b>\$15,180.42</b>
<b>Chase College Fund</b>	<b>\$62,079.19</b>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$130,442.68</b>

**Chase General Fund**

Beginning Balance	\$30,837.72
Deposits (Membership, Contributions,)	\$ 3,662.75
Total Check Withdrawals	-\$ 5,425.43
Total Debit Withdrawals	-\$ 1,188.90
Ending Balance	\$27,886.14

**Check & Debit Withdrawal Categories**

Bankcard Processing Services	\$ 31.23
Advisor Expenses	\$ 409.76
Instructor Fee	\$ 1300.00
Transfer to Legislative Money Market	\$ 615.00
From Legislative Assessment/Legislative Contribution	
Storage Fee	\$ 53.00
BOD Room Expense	\$ 338.90
Walk the Halls Expenses	\$ 557.01
Freedom Telecom	\$ 56.34
Reimbursement of IRS Fees	\$ 3,253.09
to Laura Milliorn	

## **Sgt-at-Arm's Report**

### **Jim Holzberlein**

March is finally over, Thank God! The last month was very hectic running my business, board meeting, Hans Johnson show, representing our members at the state capital, having our granddaughter stay a week and my political activism bringing Brigitte Gabriel to Abilene. She spoke about Islamic extremist and their threat to our national security. You may understand my not having a report last month.

While attending the March on the Capital, my wife and I met with a liberal lobbyist who said common people don't get it. Well, I believe we do! We've had our God given rights taken away by both the Federal and State governments and we have nothing to show for it. That is why it is crucial you participate when such events are available. Although the state requires us to be licensed to do our work, they don't regulate the tools we use. That's what we went to Austin for, to start trying to protect our profession by speaking with our state representatives. Without these definitions we will never be able to enforce the law that we, as legitimate locksmith work under. When you have a scab or scammer in your area you need to report them, including unlicensed lumber yards, or hardware stores.

Here are the field offices phone and fax numbers:

Austin (512) 506-2847; fax (512) 506-2864

Brownsville (956) 983-1900; no fax

El Paso (915) 834-7622; fax (915) 849-4144

Garland (214) 861-2000; fax (214) 861-2440

Humble (281) 517-1200; fax (281) 548-0735

Hurst (817) 299-1300; fax (817) 299-1388

Lubbock (806) 472-2700; fax (806) 472-2795

McKinney (214) 733-5310; fax (214) 733-5315

Midland (432) 498-2100; fax (432) 498-2398

San Antonio (210) 531-2200; fax (210) 531-2276

Seguin (830) 379-4210; fax (830) 372-1496

Tyler (903) 939-6000; fax (903) 939-6045

Webster (281) 990-0599; fax (281) 486-8370

Weslaco (956) 969-2987; fax (956) 969-2967

This information is on the DPS web site:  
[www.txdps.state.us/psb](http://www.txdps.state.us/psb), under field investigator offices.

If you report someone, I've heard it's best to fax the complaint until they take action. Also let your local DA know you want them to enforce the license law, because the DPS will not even try to enforce it unless they have a DA willing to prosecute. I don't like where we are, but because we are where we are, I have become proactive and you should as well.

## **2nd Vice President's Report Steven Sharp**

I have been brainstorming to come up with classes to make available on our upcoming TLA convention. Two of the most popular classes seem to be the Safe Penetration Party and Harry Sher's Defense Against Methods of Entry. My goal is to make sure that we offer classes to help each member excel and not just achieve their CEU's. If there are any classes that you would like to see offered and you think others might benefit from, please contact me. I know it seems like we have a lot of time, but I do not want to lose the possibility of getting a class because the instructor is already booked.

There are free classes that can be taken advantage of as well, but due to no CEU's offered there is lower attendance. To name one, Strattec always offers the most up to date automotive presentation with hands on training. Let's keep this in mind when attending the TLA Convention.

I had no idea how much the Board continually works for the benefit of all of us. Now that I have been doing this for three months, I am very impressed and thankful to their dedication.

## Who are the Private Security Board

The [Private Security Board](#) - is a seven member board of Industry and non-Industry Representatives appointed by the Governor. The Private Security Board was established to hear appeals by applicants under the Private Security Act. In addition, the Board devises rules for the administration of the Private Security Act.

### [Honorable John E. Chism](#), *Chairman - Represents the Private Investigators*

Chism is owner of John Chism Investigations. He is a life member of the International and Dallas Police associations, and a member of the International Intelligence Investigators Association, National Association of Legal Investigators and National Council of Investigative and Security Specialists. He is also chair of the Texas Association of Licensed Investigators Board Advisory Committee, a past member of the Irving Youth Commission Board of Directors, and a volunteer with the Irving Police Department. Chism served in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Corps, and received an associate degree from El Centro College. He will continue to serve as chair of the board. He is being reappointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2015

### [Honorable Howard H. Johnsen](#), *Vice-Chairman*

Howard Johnsen of Dallas is board chairman and CEO of Hans Johnsen Company. He is a board member and executive committee member of the Visiting Nurse Association of Texas, and past president and past director of Security Hardware Distributing and the Bicycle Product Suppliers Association. He served in the Texas Air National Guard. Johnsen received a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas. He is being reappointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2017.

**Honorable Mark L. Smith, Secretary - Represents the Guard Industry**

Mark Smith of Dallas is owner and president of Smith Protective Services Inc. He is a founder and life member of Law Enforcement and Private Security (LEAPS), a life member of Associated Security Services and Investigators of the State of Texas, and a former licensed Texas Polygraph Examiner. Smith received a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University and is a graduate of the Texas A&M Polygraph Examiner School and Eastfield College Commissioned Officer Training School. He is being reappointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2017.

**Honorable Albert L. Black**

Albert L. Black of Austin is executive director of Child Inc. He is a board member of the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau, Austin Urban League, Early Childhood Education Council, and Austin Sports Commission, and a member of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals and National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners. He is president of the St. John District Baptist Association and Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas, and a past member of the Austin Area Alliance of Black School Educators and National Parents Day Coalition. He is also a past member of the I Care Now Foundation Inc., Meals on Wheels and More of Austin, St. James Episcopal School Board of Trustees, and Texas Commission on Jail Standards. Black received a bachelor's degree from Paul Quinn College and a master's degree in elementary education and administration from Prairie View A&M University, and is pursuing a doctorate degree in education from the University of Texas. He is appointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2017.

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### **Honorable Charles E. Crenshaw - *Represents the Alarm Industry***

Charles Crenshaw of Austin is president and owner of Crenshaw Alarm and Signal Corporation, a full service security alarm system provider. He is treasurer of the Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association and director of the Central Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association. Crenshaw attended the University of Texas. He replaces Michael Samulin of San Antonio. His term expires Jan. 31, 2013.

### **Honorable Brian England**

Brian England of Forney is senior assistant city attorney for the City of Garland. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, College of the State Bar of Texas, and Dallas County Bar Association. He is also a volunteer with the Dallas Christian School and New River Church Ministries, and a past member of the Garland Police Association. England received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in religion from Abilene Christian University, and a law degree from the Southern Methodist University School of Law. He is appointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2015.

### **Honorable Doris F. Washington**

Doris Davis Washington of Arlington is a real estate broker and owner of Doris Davis Realtors. She is past chairman of the Arlington Board of Realtors, past president of the Fort Worth Association of Real Estate Brokers, and board member of the Texas Association of Real Estate Brokers. Additionally, she is a member of the Tarrant County College Advisory Committee and board member of the Mount Olive Baptist Church Federal Credit Union. Washington received an associate's degree from Tarrant County Junior College. She replaces Linda Sadler of Lubbock. Her term expires Jan. 31, 2013.

## What is LAC?

LAC is Legislative Action Committee, sometimes also referred to as PAC Political Action Committee is a group of people delegated to raise money and awareness of political and legislative agendas. Our committee was formed to help give the Board of Directors of TLA advice on legislative issues as well as possible PSB rule changes.

Those who are members of the committee are all TLA members who have expressed a desire to give positive input on issues that affect our industry. This input should come in three areas:

1. The members should contact locksmiths in their area for ideas. Every locksmith in our state should have the opportunity to share what they like or dislike about the rules that affect us. The LAC committee members can give voice to those locksmiths.
2. The members will meet, either by telephone or physically, to compile these and other ideas to present to the BOD.
3. The members should be physically involved in Austin, both at the quarterly PSB meetings and at "Walk the Halls" or committee meetings in the state capital. Mailing and phoning in ideas to those that matter is important, but just as important is being in attendance and putting a face to the issue.

Being a member of the committee takes time. Most locksmith shops are one or two person operations and devoting time is something we rarely have to spare. I want to thank those members of the LAC committee who have seen the necessity of giving above and beyond so that this profession that we love will continue to be a prosperous and vital industry for many years to come. It is only through much work that great gains can and will be accomplished.

—Billy Garrett, LAC Chairman

## LAC Report

March was a heavy month for the TLA legislatively. On March 15 nine locksmiths from across the state gathered in Austin to knock on the doors of State Senators and Representatives and asked for their help in the support of the different bills we have before congress this year. On March 30 there was a hearing on [SB1400](#) where I spoke to the Senate Committee on Business and Commerce. On April 4 there was a hearing on [HB1867](#) where Troy Maynard spoke to the House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety. At both committee hearings we asked for the support of each branch of the legislature on these bills. Both bills deal with three main things which should be of interest to the locksmiths in Texas.

First, the definitions of lock, locksmith and locksmith company were changed. Presently the law defines a locksmith as a person who, “sells, installs, services or maintains mechanical security devices...” If the bills pass into law it will read a person who, “for a fee and with legal authority, sells, installs, services, maintains, bypasses, or defeats electronic access control devices or mechanical security devices...”

The definition of locks will change to “Lock’ means a fastening device that:

- A. is used to secure, regulate, activate, or control a door, gate, drawer, cabinet, safe, or automobile by means of a mechanical or electric device, including a latch, bolt, key, transmitter, card-reader, keypad, or proximity key fob; and
- B. is not monitored by security personnel or services and does not send a signal to which law enforcement or emergency services respond.”

The second important change is if the law passes, there will be two additional members on the Private Security Board, one of which is a licensed locksmith. Hopefully this will pass so we can have more of a say on the rules that are passed governing our industry.

The third change is the addition of the Camera Systems Company endorsement which, if passed will allow all companies with a B license to install CCTV.

The other bill of interest is [HB2577](#). It deals with the use of locksmiths tools and picks in the commission of a crime.

We need your help now. I want to challenge each and every locksmith in the state of Texas to call their Congressman and Senator and ask them to support these bills. LAC and the TLA Board of Directors can only do so much. The time to step up and let your voice be heard in Austin is now. Let's all get involved before it's too late.

—Billy Garrett, LAC Chairman

## **Membership Director's Report**

### **James 'Jake' Hall**

The following new applicants are applying for regular membership.

RAUL MORENO – Katy, TX

GARY BOWERMAN – Houston, TX

JASON WEINSTEIN – Longview, TX

— Mark Dawson

# **HB1867 & SB1400 aka Omnibus Bill**

## **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

### **AN ACT**

**Bold** = Remove

Underline = Add

relating to the regulation of certain private security companies and occupations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 1702.002, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subdivisions (1) and (6-a) and adding Subdivisions (4), (4-a), and (13-a) to read as follows:

(1) "Alarm system" means:

(A) electronic equipment and devices designed to detect or signal:

(i) an unauthorized entry or attempted entry of a person or object into a residence, business, or area monitored by the system; or

(ii) the occurrence of a robbery or other emergency; or

(B) electronic equipment and devices using a computer or data processor designed to control the access of a person, vehicle, or object through a door, gate, or entrance into the controlled area of a residence or business[; **or**

**[(C) a television camera or still camera system that:**

**[(i) records or archives images of property or individuals in a public or private area of a residence or business; or**

**[(ii) is monitored by security personnel or services].**

(4) "Closed circuit television or still camera system" means a device or system of devices that:

(A) records or transmits, including transmission by an intranet or Internet device, an image or series of images;

(B) is monitored by security personnel for the purposes of security or surveillance; and

(C) is not used exclusively:

(i) to view or monitor traffic conditions on public roads;

(ii) to detect motor vehicle violations on public roads;

(iii) for telephone or video conferencing;

(iv) to monitor a manufacturing process;

(v) for a medical purpose by medical practitioners;  
(vi) by a courtroom reporter for recording or archiving depositions or testimony;  
(vii) in the course of an ongoing investigation, when installed by and remaining under the control of a licensed investigations company; or  
(viii) by a law enforcement agency to monitor criminal activity.  
(4-a) "Camera systems company" means a person who performs the activities described by Section 1702.1057.

(6-a) "Electronic access control device" means an electronic, electrical, or computer-based device, including a telephone entry system, that allows access to a controlled area **[of a business]**, but that is not monitored by security personnel or services and does not send a signal to which law enforcement or emergency services respond. The term does not include:

(A) a mechanical device, such as a deadbolt or lock; or  
(B) an operator for opening or closing a commercial gate or door or an accessory, such as a fixed or portable transmitter, card-reader, or keypad, if the operator or accessory is used only to activate the gate or door and is not connected to an alarm system.

(13-a) "Lock" means a fastening device that:

(A) is used to secure, regulate, activate, or control a door, gate, drawer, cabinet, safe, or automobile by means of a mechanical or electric device, including a latch, bolt, key, transmitter, card-reader, keypad, or proximity key fob; and

(B) is not monitored by security personnel or services and does not send a signal to which law enforcement or emergency services respond.

SECTION 2. Section 1702.021(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Texas Private Security Board consists of nine **[seven]** members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate as follows:

- (1) five **[four]** public members, each of whom is a citizen of the United States;
- (2) one member who is licensed under this chapter as a private investigator;
- (3) one member who is licensed under this chapter as an alarm systems company; **[and]**
- (4) one member who is licensed under this chapter as the owner

or operator of a guard company; and  
(5) one member who is licensed under this chapter as a locksmith.

SECTION 3. Section 1702.102(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Unless the person holds a license as a security services contractor, a person may not:

(1) act as an alarm systems company, armored car company, camera systems company, courier company, guard company, guard dog company, locksmith company, or private security consultant company;

(2) offer to perform the services of a company in Subdivision (1);  
or

(3) engage in business activity for which a license is required under this chapter.

SECTION 4. Section 1702.1056(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person acts as a locksmith company for the purposes of this chapter if the person:

(1) for a fee and with legal authorization, sells, installs, services, **[or] maintains, bypasses, or defeats electronic access control devices** or **[offers to sell, install, service, or maintain,]** mechanical security devices, including deadbolts and locks;

(2) advertises services traditionally offered by a [the] company using the term "locksmith"; or

(3) includes the term "locksmith" in the company's name.

SECTION 5. Subchapter F, Chapter 1702, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1702.1057 to read as follows:

Sec. 1702.1057. CAMERA SYSTEMS COMPANY. A person acts as a camera systems company for purposes of this chapter if the person:

(1) sells, installs, services, or monitors a closed circuit television or still camera system; or

(2) offers to perform a service described by Subdivision (1).

SECTION 6. Section 1702.221(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) An individual must obtain the appropriate endorsement in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and related ad-

ministrative rules if the individual:

(1) is employed as:

- (A) an alarm instructor;
- (B) an alarm systems installer;
- (C) an alarm systems monitor;
- (D) an electronic access control device installer;
- (E) a level 3 classroom or firearm instructor;
- (F) a locksmith;
- (G) a dog trainer;
- (H) a manager or branch office manager;
- (I) a noncommissioned security officer;
- (J) a level 4 personal protection instructor;
- (K) a private investigator;
- (L) a private security consultant;
- (M) a security salesperson; **[or]**
- (N) a camera systems installer; or

(O) an individual whose duties include performing another activity for which an endorsement is required under Subsection (e); or  
(2) is an owner who oversees the security-related aspects of the business, officer, partner, or shareholder of a license holder.

SECTION 7. Section 1702.2227(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An individual acts as a locksmith for the purposes of this chapter if the person:

(1) for a fee and with legal authorization, sells, installs, services, [or] maintains, bypasses, or defeats electronic access control devices or mechanical security devices, including deadbolts and locks; or

(2) advertises or offers locksmith services to the public or represents to the public that the person is a locksmith.

SECTION 8. Subchapter J, Chapter 1702, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1702.2228 to read as follows:

Sec. 1702.2228. CAMERA SYSTEMS INSTALLER. An individual acts as a camera systems installer for purposes of this chapter if the individual:

(1) installs, maintains, or repairs a closed circuit television or still camera system; or

(2) advertises or offers the services under Subdivision (1) to the public or represents to the public that the person is a camera systems installer.

SECTION 9. Section 1702.288, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) A license holder acting as an alarm systems company does not have to provide the notice required under Subsection (d) if the contact information, including the address and the telephone numbers for the alarm company, has not changed.

SECTION 10. Section 1702.328, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1702.328. SECURITY SYSTEMS SALES AND INSTALLATION EXEMPTIONS. This chapter does not apply to:

(1) a person who owns and installs an alarm system or [a burglar] detection [or alarm] device, electronic access control device, lock, or closed circuit television or still camera system on the person's own property or[, **if the person does not charge for the device or the installation,**] installs the system or device for the protection of the person's personal property located on another person's property and does not, as a normal business practice, install the systems or devices on the property of another, and who does not perform any other act that requires a license under this chapter;

(2) a person in the business of building construction that installs electrical wiring and devices that may include in part the installation of an [a burglar] alarm system, [or] detection device, electronic access control device, lock, or closed circuit television or still camera system if:

(A) the person is a party to a contract that provides that:

(i) the installation will be performed, **[under the direct supervision of, and]** inspected, and certified by[,], a person licensed to install and certify the alarm system, [or] detection device, electronic access control device, lock, or closed circuit television or still camera system; and

(ii) the license holder assumes full responsibility for the installation of the system [alarm] or [detection] device; and

(B) the person does not service or maintain alarm systems, electronic access control devices, locks, closed circuit television or still camera systems, or detection devices;

(3) a person who sells or installs automobile burglar alarm devices and who does not perform any other act that requires a license under this chapter; or

(4) a person who sells exclusively by e-commerce, over the counter transactions, or mail order, alarm systems, electronic

access control devices, locks, or detection devices and who does not perform any other act that requires a license under this chapter.

SECTION 11. (a) The changes in law made by this Act to Chapter 1702, Occupations Code, apply only to an application for an original or renewal license, registration, or endorsement submitted to the Texas Private Security Board on or after January 1, 2012. An application submitted before January 1, 2012, is governed by the law in effect on the date the application was submitted, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) Not later than February 1, 2013, the governor shall appoint the members of the Texas Private Security Board necessary to ensure the composition of the board complies with Section 1702.021, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

(c) The Texas Private Security Board shall adopt rules to implement the changes in law made by this Act not later than January 1, 2012. A person is not required to obtain a registration or endorsement under Section 1702.2228, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, before January 1, 2012.

SECTION 12. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

**HB2577**  
**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**  
**AN ACT**

**Bold** = Remove

Underline = Add

relating to the unlawful use of a criminal instrument or mechanical security device; providing a penalty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 16.01, Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 16.01. UNLAWFUL USE OF CRIMINAL INSTRUMENT OR MECHANICAL SECURITY DEVICE. (a) A person commits an offense if:

(1) the person [he] possesses a criminal instrument or mechanical security device with the intent to use the instrument or device [it] in the commission of an offense; or

(2) with knowledge of its character and with the intent to use a criminal instrument or mechanical security device or aid or permit another to use the instrument or device in the commission of an offense, the person [he] manufactures, adapts, sells, installs, or sets up the [a criminal] instrument or device.

(b) For the purpose of this section:

(1) "Criminal[, "**criminal**]" instrument" means anything, the possession, manufacture, or sale of which is not otherwise an offense, that is specially designed, made, or adapted for use in the commission of an offense.

(2) "Mechanical security device" means a device designed or manufactured for use by a locksmith to perform services for a customer who seeks entry to a structure, motor vehicle, or other property.

(c) An offense under Subsection (a)(1) is one category lower than the offense intended. An offense under Subsection (a)(2) is a state jail felony.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

## **2013 & 2014 Conventions**

We had a good Board conference call. We discussed the 2013 and 2014 Conventions. We are strongly leaning towards the Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi for the 2013 Convention and would like to have the 2014 Convention in Austin. The Board is trying to choose two locations to alternate between and select a repeatable date so members and vendors will know exactly when and where the future Conventions are going to be. Our long term goal is to have the Convention in Austin on even years and in Plano on odd years on the same weekend each year.

What do you think about that?

You can email Troy at [president@texaslocksmiths.org](mailto:president@texaslocksmiths.org) or call 512-563-7815 to give him your thoughts on the matter.

This is a pretty big change from the way we've been doing things. We think it's for the best, but we would like more feedback.

# LockPAC Pledge Card

It began as early as August 2005. It was published in the Advisor that there was a need for the locksmiths of the TLA to help with additional contributions to the Legislative Fund. The need was great then and even greater now. Just as in 2005 you are being encouraged to help with the following:

1. Would you pledge one service call fee a month for one year?
2. Would you make an honest attempt to sign up a non-member. There are many locksmiths who are not members, but should be.

If each member of TLA pledges the above, we could continue to fund our lobbyist, Keith Oakley, as he works on our behalf in the legislature and with the PSB board. We could also increase our membership to approx. 800 members.

We are anticipating many positive legislative changes this year, but those changes do not automatically happen. Will you join with other locksmiths in Texas affect changes for the future of our industry? Please sign up today!

I, \_\_\_\_\_ will pledge one service call fee per month for one year to support our lobbyist efforts, and I will contact one non-member and ask him to join TLA.

It's that simple! You may mail in your pledge monthly, quarterly, or yearly. Thank you in advance for those who will pledge and for those who continue to honor there pledges.

TLA Board of Directors.

Member & Company Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

TLA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## **A Word from the Editor**

### **John C. Helweg**

A big thanks to those of you that took time from your busy work schedule to respond to Troy and myself about the 2013 convention article. I was getting pretty concerned. At one point I thought I saw Troy curled up in a corner sucking his thumb. All kidding aside, I'm glad that you guys enjoyed the humor and finally responded. DON'T STOP! This is an association of locksmiths for locksmiths. The Board is not some all knowing deity that can read minds. We rely on you guys to let us know when you like something. God knows you'll let us know when you don't. LOL

I'm calling this Advisor the Legislative Edition because most of the content pertains to our legislation endeavors. It is long and sometimes confusing to read. Welcome to the legal speak that is legislation. This year the locksmiths have a lot to gain if all goes well.

I have also been working with the alarm industry to make sure we are all on the same page. I may have a successful alarm company, but make no mistake I do plenty of lock work and my father and I are locksmiths to the core. My eight year old daughter just got her first pick set at this past TLA Convention. They're pink. :) And my four month old daughter has been present at a number of Board meetings.

I'm working on a few upcoming articles to watch for: How to become a Locksmith, Future Conventions and the Difference Between Training and CEU's.

I'm also looking for a person from LASA and a person from NTLA to communicate with me on an ongoing basis. I would like someone that can share with me ideas and the general feeling about Board ideas from your association's perspective. I look forward to hearing from you.

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