

**FRESNO DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION**

The summer of 2013 is already off to a busy start for the FDSA and its membership. I am pleased to report, The County of Fresno wrapped up FY13/14 Budget Hearings in record time- without a single position deleted from within the Sheriff's Department! Even better, there were actually four positions added back into the Sheriff's Budget- even after the third-party funding supporting them, was cut. The Board of Supervisors is committed to rebuilding the Fresno County Sheriff's Office as our economy is looking like it's moving in a positive position.

### **Insurance Trust**

During the calendar year, the FDSA/FSSA Insurance Benefits and trust meets quarterly, to discuss the operation of the health insurance and investment accounts associated with the Trust.

I would like to inform new members who may not be aware, in the 1980s, the FDSA split off from the County of Fresno and its insurance and benefits programs. By setting up the Insurance Trust, each member of the FDSA and FSSA is enrolled into the Trust and the benefits are administered from there. This means we hire a broker, which we selected to be Dibudio andDefendis. They go out and essentially shop for the best rates possible, on our behalf. We have been using D&D since 1997, and have been enrolled in Blue Shield of California Health Plan for over 25 years. Since we prefer the best dental benefits, we are always changing dental carriers to obtain the best value for our money.

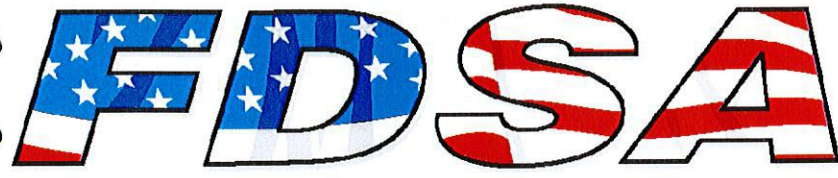
Also, we were able to get the Lieutenants and Captains into the Insurance Trust in January of 2010. The purpose behind this is as members promote from Deputy Sheriff through the rank of Captain, there will be no interruption in your health care provider. Also, in January of 2013, we also added the Correctional Sergeants, who are associate members of the FDSA, to the Insurance Trust as well.

During the Insurance Trust meetings, we go over experience reports and the overall operation of the plan given to us by D&D. We also review our investment account given to us by our investment account manager, Stan Cooper, from HBSC.

At the second quarter meeting, the Trust board was briefed by D&D on Health Care Reform that is taking affect January 2014. Currently, the FDSA is in compliance. Some private business and governmental institutions may not be in compliance and will be subjected to fines if they are not. Right now, the biggest discussion surrounding this is whether the fines outweigh the risk. So in other words, some companies are contemplating

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whether it is cheaper to pay fines for being out of compliance, rather than spend the money to provide insurance.

- **Experience Reports**

Experience reports are what our rates are set at for the calendar year and how much we pay for our health plan. Our rates are negotiated on a prior year basis. Over the past five years, we have seen better results from the PPO plans and not as much from the HMO plan. Experience is based on the percentage the plan pays out compared to what it brings in. So if we are paying 100,000 for our plan coverage a month and the company is paying out \$60,000 we are doing extremely well.

Experience that gets us on par or better than last year rates, are percentages below 70%. When we start getting above 80 and into the 90 percentile we will start to see some ramp up and there then has to become some creative negotiating between D&D and Blue Shield. So far in 2013, our experience for the PPO plan is right at about 111%. For the HMO, it is hovering around 60%. This means the PPO is going to see some plan increase and the HMO will see some plan decrease. How much or how little, remains to be seen. This will take some creative negotiation by D&D to keep this as low as possible. However, I want to let all of you know before there is sticker shock- the PPO plan will likely be raising. The one good thing about all of this is, we (IBTF), have never ran up the PPO that high before. We may get a pass from the carrier on this because of the anomaly of it all. We shall see and I will keep you all updated about what is to come.

- **Debbie Myers**

As I reported in an email in June, our go to at Dibuduo/Defendis, Debbie Myers will be retiring on June 28<sup>th</sup>. I am attaching the letter we sent out to the membership telling everyone of this. See Below.

*June 12, 2013*

*To All Active and Retiree Members of the FDSA*

*RE: Debbie Myers Retirement*

*Please be informed that Debbie Myers, who has handled the FDSA Medical, Dental and Cigna Life Benefits for you is retiring June 28, 2013. She has been training her replacement, Karna Rincon since May 1 to get her up to speed on all of her job duties.*

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*Karna brings 15 years of Health Insurance experience. Karna will have the same telephone number as Debbie, (559-437-6750). Her email address will be [krincon@dibu.com](mailto:krincon@dibu.com). If an email is sent to Debbie Myers in error, it will automatically be forwarded to Karna's email inbox.*

## **Building Upgrade**

This month we completed another phase of the building upgrade that your board voted to do back in 2011.

The latest upgrade we have completed is taking down the old gold iron bars upstairs and enclosing the second floor, next to the offices. This railing was secured to obviously keep people from falling off the second story.

The railing was removed and replaced by a finished wall, painted to match the rest of the building. This offers the same security as the railing did, but finishes the building above the bar area. This has added so much more dimension to the building when you walk in.

We also removed old furniture, and downsized the number of chairs and couches we had upstairs. The furniture is a couch and two chairs, along with a small coffee table. Near the wall, there will be an eight person conference table added as well, to allow small meetings near our business offices. I have been moving a lot of meetings to the FDSA as a way to bring more people to our building and utilize the space we occupy.

The income we receive through renting the FDSA building is the primary source of income for these improvements. I want to thank our building committee, FDSA Staff, and the many of you who help facilitate the events that help generate this revenue. We have seen an increase in rentals over the last few years, which indicates a need for this type of venue and a price point that is affordable. The building is receiving great reviews, especially since we started updating it.

## **Measure G – Trash Initiative**

The FDSA did not get involved in the recent special election, 'Measure G.' As you are aware, this was an initiative lead by Mayor Ashley Swearengin to try and privatize the residential trash service within the City of Fresno. About three years ago, the commercial trash service was turned over to Mid Valley Disposal, in order to save money. Mayor Swearengin vowed then, she would not touch the residential part of trash service. Obviously, at some point, she had a change of heart.

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The initiative, if passed, claimed would save the city about \$2.5million dollars the first and subsequent years. The Mayor proposed hiring police officers with this money. However, no concrete deals on this were made public.

The Fresno Police Officer's Association (FPOA) became the driving force for the NO on Measure G campaign. FPOA President, Jacky Parks, provided many reasons why the \$2.5 million dollars would not hold up with hiring the officers the Mayor claimed she would. The FPOA has tried, on numerous occasions, to help the Mayor and close a gap in the City's budget by offering up contract concessions. The Mayor refused these concessions. Nonetheless, the FPOA made a last and final attempt to give the City back over \$8 million dollars in concessions, asking only to extend the FPOA labor contract through 2017. The Mayor and City Manager, Mark Scott, rejected the final offer and refused to even discuss it.

On June 11, Measure G officially failed and the NO side was victorious. There will be no private trash service for residential trash pickup in the City of Fresno.

The City of Fresno is in serious financial trouble. A large majority of their general fund money goes to debt service on City of Fresno owned properties. The only way to obtain balance is through contract negotiations with City Employees, and the city employees agreeing to give back money to just keep a job. Layoffs are looming along with severe medical shared costs.

I am proud of our County CAO and County Board of Supervisors for contracting the County of Fresno the way they did and bring us back to living within our means in Fresno County. The FDSA has been a partner in this process and is viewed by the Board, CAO and public- as cooperative leaders in this arena.

I am really grateful for the sacrifices each of you have made for the greater cause. We are not facing the challenges and struggles the City of Fresno is because of the foresight by our Fresno County Leadership.

### **Fundraisers in July**

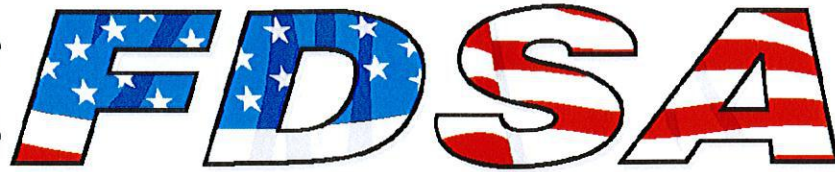
July is going to be a busy month for the FDSA.

- **Firework Stand**

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Our firework stand will be at the southwest corner of Barstow and Blackstone again this year. We are looking forward to a profitable year since there are now 20 less stands being hosted by Phantom Fireworks. We will be up and running by Friday June 28, 2013 and running through the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>. All profits will be applied towards our FDSA Peace Officer Memorial Fund. This will be a great event with lot of volunteer participation from our members.

- **FSO vs FPD Baseball Game**

The Fresno Grizzlies will be hosting a law enforcement baseball game at Grizzlies Stadium on July 20, 2013 at Noon. The venue – Fresno Sheriff's Office vs. Fresno Police Dept. This will be a fast pitch baseball game that will be limited to 2 hours in time. This will be a fundraiser that will benefit the Fresno County Peace Officer Memorial Foundation. Both agencies are actively involved in this foundation.

Once our game is finished, there will the opportunity for the players and their families to attend the regularly scheduled Fresno Grizzlies game that evening at no cost.

I hope many of you can come out and attend some of these events we are participating in.

### **Police Officer Olympics Results**

K-9 Deputy, Jeff Hooper participated in the Police Officer Olympics in San Diego recently and shared some highlights in the following report:

*"I finished first again this year in my age group (40-44). I threw the discus 143'10", which is 4 feet further than last year. Last year, I set the record in my age group with a throw of 139'6". So, I broke my own record, which is kind of cool. Now, I move up a division (45-49) and the record is actually the same as before (139'6"), when I tied a guy from Arizona last year. He was in the 45-49 group last year and this year. He didn't throw very well this year, and has now moved up to the 50-54 group. I look forward to beating his record- just to make a point. I've attached some pictures from last year and this year. Thank you and the FDSA for your support. As long as I stay healthy, I plan on keeping in shape and continue to represent FSO at the US Police and Fire Games."*

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