Tim Dimoff's Testimony

May 8, 2019

Dear Committee Members,

After 20 years involved in law Enforcement with the Akron, Ohio Police Dept and Federal Task Force I have been licensed member of Ohio Private Investigations and Security Services. There has been an ongoing problem where registrants who have a valid FAB had been getting arrested by Ohio's Law Enforcement community and charged with career ending felonies of either Carrying a Concealed Weapon or Improper Handling of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle simply because they do not have a valid Ohio Concealed Handgun License also while working in an armed capacity. I've been seeking relief and solutions to this growing abused issue for many, many years!. Ohio HB 178 is the first piece of legislation that is on the table in a long time that stands to correct that issue.

Recently, I had an armed company security officer who left his security post to use the bathroom and get a quick bite to eat. He was stopped by the Highway Patrol and discovered he had his firearm still on him. The local police were called to the scene and my armed security officer showed ID, his State of Ohio Firearm Bearer Card, his security registration card by State of Ohio and answer all the questions asked of him. The Highway patrol officer charged him with improper carry of firearm felony. He explained that he was in the middle of his shift and was just taking a break to use the restroom, get a bite to eat and was still "on call" if alarm went off or other security called for his assistance. He would be returning to his security post to finish out his shift so he was technically "Still on duty and working" which supports his right to carry.

To end this misery the City Police told the state of Ohio Highway Patrol officer they (City Police) saw no violations and did not want to press any charges and they were leaving not wanting to be part of this "questionable" felony charges!

We have spent an enormous amount of time and effort and money defending this case which is still ongoing!

This is just one SAD example of the obvious problem. Please continue to fix this problem and lets collectively treat our hard working security officers with respect!

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Timothy Dimoff, CEO/President

J. A. Dimitt

SACS Security and Investigative Services, Inc.