



March 8, 2022

To: Barbara Quaid, CEO 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association

Ventura County Fair Grounds

From: Tom Cady - Via: email

RE: Compliance Monitoring - Crossroads of the West Gun Show March 4-5, 2022

Pursuant to a consulting agreement with the 31<sup>st</sup> District Agricultural Association I provided compliance monitoring for the Crossroads of the West Gun Show March 5 and 6, 2022 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. As was the case for the October 23-24, 2022 show at the Ventura Fair Grounds, the Agreement required compliance monitoring for the operational conditions.

Due to a scheduling conflict on my part I was unable to attend the event until 11:00am on Saturday March 4. Upon arrival I met with Rob Templeton, the operator of the show and began a physical check of the display area. I also contact Jason Amelio from the Fair Grounds regarding the gun show as well as a Gem Show in a building near the location for the gun show.

I checked with the Crew Protection Enterprises Inc. coordinator for the private security team and the guard assigned to monitor access from vendor parking to the gun show area. He assured that only the vendors (who had been issued wristbands) were entering via the parking lot gate and Gem Show attendees who also wanted to attend the gun show were directed around to the main entrance to follow the check in process and pay their admittance fee.

I then did a quick visual check of the vendors in Anacapa Hall for compliance with the weapons securing provisions in the operational agreement with the Fair Grounds. Three vendors had only a portion of their weapons properly secured. One had shown a weapon and had not rerun the cable through all of the weapons. One had both non-operational replicable guns and two real weapons in the same case. He was reminded of the condition and obtained the cabling for the two real weapons. Grey Room Firearms, a new vendor to the show from Orange County, had several rifles on display that did not have the proper cabling attached and had to obtain the material to secure the weapons from the Mr. Templeton.

I checked San Miguel Hall and found only two vendors who did not have all of their weapons properly secured and both were from display racks where the vendor had shown a weapon and inadvertently failed to secure all of the weapons back to the display rack. Once reminded they secured the weapons without complaint.

I subsequently did a walk-through of the main entrance area near the parking lot and checked with the event and security staff working there. As per our recommendation from the prior show Crossroads

had gun check signage however the high wind was constantly blowing the sign down. The armed guards working the gun check desk were doing a good job in verbally catching individuals coming in with a firearm so they can be tagged and disabled with a zip ties or taken back out to the person's vehicle. We discussed the protocol for attendees with firearms leaving the event site. The guards were reminded that no reloading should occur in the fairgrounds proper. Attendees were told by the guards to leave the premise before reloading their weapon/s.

The required education area as specified in Exhibit G was setup just outside the entrance. There was also a gun safety certification booth inside Anacapa Hall.

In Anacapa Grey Room Firearms had to be directed to cable together some handguns that they had on display. They gave some push back regarding the requirements and I had Mr. Templeton speak with them and provide the material they needed to be in compliance. It should be noted that one of the owners subsequently told me that the clip from one of the display handguns had been stolen. He noted that they could not watch everything all the time and agreed that it was probably a good thing we required that the weapons be secured or the handgun itself might be missing as well.

Mr. Templton was consistent in advising the vendors that the gun show operation was under close scrutiny at the Ventura Fair Grounds and this aided in compliance / cooperation from the vendors who were anxious to see the show continue.

There was one vendor in each hall selling barrels, stocks and other parts for customizing weapons. The items did not include lower receiver kits nor did they have blanks for the manufacture of a lower receiver. One dealer in Anacapa did have drilling jigs for the accurate manufacture of a lower receiver. I spoke to him about the concerns over manufactured weapons and he agreed to place the stock of jigs behind the table and only leave one out for display. He secured the item so it could not be removed from the table. There were no lower receivers offered for sale by both vendors and no blanks that I could determine in their stock of items. I monitored these locations several times throughout the show.

One firearms vendor in Anacapa was using commercially purchased retractable security cable devices for their firearms. These devices which use light weight metal cabling and a setscrew to attach them to the firearm while the retraction housing can be attached to the table by screws. These are available for \$10.00 on Amazon <a href="https://www.amazon.com/Xanwudu-Retractable-Double-Sided-Anti-Theft-Electronic/dp/B09MQNMNQG/ref=sr-1-3?keywords=Xanwudu&qid=1647139939&sr=8-3&th=1">https://www.amazon.com/Xanwudu-Retractable-Double-Sided-Anti-Theft-Electronic/dp/B09MQNMNQG/ref=sr-1-3?keywords=Xanwudu&qid=1647139939&sr=8-3&th=1</a>



Throughout the two days of the show I made several checks of the ammunition sales area to be sure the required instant background check for all purchasers was being conducted. The guard at the side entrance to the Anacapa Hall were helping with line management and keeping an eye on the background check-in area. The vendor at the show apparently sells ammo at near wholesale rates so attendees often purchase multiple calibers in various quantities. This is one of the busiest vendors in the entire show.

Throughout the show I also monitored the exits to the display halls to ensure no purchased weapons left the premise. All vendors appeared to be complying with the waiting period and purchasers were going to the federal firearms dealer desk to record their purchase/s.

On Sunday as the show opened there were some vendors late in setting up so full activation did not occur until around 9:00am. Some vendors failed to have all of their firearms cabled until I contacted them. All were cooperative and the failures appeared to be oversights.

Close to noon I found two vendors drinking beer in their booth in San Miguel Hall. I reminded them of the operational conditions for the show that prohibited vendors from consuming alcohol and had them pour the beer out in the restroom. I then contacted the security supervisor and requested that his rover guards makes specific note of any alcohol consumption by vendors.

Since all vendors are given a colored wrist band to wear and, as I understand the guidelines for the show, the vendors are prohibited from drinking alcohol during the operational hours for the show. For future shows perhaps the alcohol sales staff should be cautioned about selling to anyone with a wrist band.

During my interaction with the Crew Security supervisor I noted that he had a wired ear bud but no portable radio. He indicated that they did not have radios and were using cell phone calls and group text messages to communicate. I advised him that the lack of radios had been a problem at the previous show and was supposed to be addressed. Since the show operator Mr. Templeton was responsible for contracting the guard service he was notified of this deficiency. I advised him that it would be standard procedure for a security company to equip a team of guards at this large of a site and type of event with radio communication equipment. With the number of security posts and distances involved in the site plan it would be very hard for the guards to rapidly communicate with each other particularly in case of an emergence. I told him that I believed that the agreement also required that the security team have radios and leave one with him as the organizer.

When I checked the food/beverage sales area on Sunday additional chairs had been setup verses Saturday which was impacted strong cold wind so more attendees were eating and drinking near the sales area. This helped reduce the number of people going into the halls with drinks and food.

Toward the end of the show I spoke with Mr. Templeton and the security supervisor to reposition the entrance guards from outside Anacapa and San Miguel to just inside the door so they could help ensure attendees were not leaving with any unpurchased goods while the vendors were breaking down their booths. Most vendors had at least two workers but a few did not.

The guard near the ammunition sales area was supplemented by one of the roving guards to monitor foot traffic in and around the booth as they were using pallet jacks and a forklift to place merchandise

back into their semi-trailer. Ammo sales of most calibers were available until close to the end of the advertised times for the gun show.

I checked with Mr Templeton and by 4:00 pm all sales activity had been concluded and the vendors were packing the last of their goods. Other than the one clip that had been stolen from Grey Room no other incidents were reported to me during the show.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide services to Association.

Tom Cady, President

TKC Enterprises