



*TKC Enterprises, Inc.  
Executive Consulting  
Organizational Security and  
Investigative Services*

October 24, 2021

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 October 23-24, 2021

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 October 23-24, 2021 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Prior to the event I was provided a copy of Agreement 21-040 between Crossroads and the Association. I reviewed the terms and operational requirements for the gun show. The Agreement included exhibits A through G which established requirements for Crossroads to hold the event and it was my role to monitor compliance with these requirements.

On 10/23/2021 I met both Barbara and Jason Amelio at the Fair Grounds at approximately 0800 hrs. and discussed key setup compliance issues. One of the primary differences from this show verses prior shows was the requirement for the event organizer to provide their own private security for the show under standards set by the Association.

When I arrived vendors were parking in a security guard controlled lot and completing their setup. Jason introduced me to Rob Templeton one of the Crossroad owners/operators and we discussed where they were at in the setup process. I had Mr. Templeton use the PA system to call the security personnel up to the main table in Anacapa Hall. I spoke to the site supervisor for Crew Protection Enterprises Inc. which was providing the uniformed security guard services. Most of the guards assigned to the event had arrived but none of them had portable radios and they did not have a security radio to provide to Association staff as required under Exhibit D Section #2 of the Agreement.

Jason advised me that Crew Protection had previously provided security for events at the fair grounds and was currently providing security for a Halloween themed event. He said they had worked that event the night before and were equipped with radios at that time so he was not sure why they had none for the gun show. He later said it was his understanding that the Halloween event organizers may have provided radios for the guards.

However, it would be standard procedure for a security company to equip a team of guards at 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. Since the show operator Mr. Templeton was

responsible for contracting the guard service he was notified of this deficiency. Crew Protection was not able to address the radio issue on Saturday but did bring radios on Sunday.

I then conducted a walk-through of the vendors in Anacapa Hall. The required education area as specified in Exhibit G was setup just inside the entrance. After checking the vendor tables in the Hall I found approximately 80 to 85% compliance with the group cable and firearm action disabling requirements. Most of the non-compliance appeared to be just errors. For example the vendor might have 10 firearms on display but only 8 had the required zip ties in place to secure the actions. Some of the other vendors were slow in setup or having difficulty in finding the proper method to disable the firearm. The show operators had zip ties and cabling materials available to assist vendors where needed.

At approximately 9:00am I checked with the guard supervisor and he advised that all of the guards had arrived and were on post.

I checked with the vendor selling barrels, stocks and other parts for building custom weapons. The items do not include lower receiver kits nor did they have blanks for the manufacture of a lower receiver.

One vendor did offer lower assemblies for sale however there was only one example kept behind the counter and it was serialized. Any orders for assemblies were handled just like firearms transactions with recorded serial numbers, background checks and 10 day waiting periods. I monitored this vendor several times during the day and the majority of customers seemed to be interested in the actual firearms on display for sale. There were no lower receiver blanks that I could see in their stock of items.

I then examined the vendors in San Miguel Hall for any compliance issues. I found approximately 90% compliance with a few vendors needing the security cables for their displays as well as the zip ties to disable the action on the firearm. I received some push back from one of the vendors in San Miguel about the disabling requirement. I advised the organizer and he ensured that the vendor was brought into compliance.

At approximately 10:30 am I checked the ammo sales area and the waiting line. Jason and I discussed line management for the ammo sales and security for the vendor lot. We gave some direction to the gate guard between the vendor lot and the show area regarding walk-up traffic.

At approximately 11:00 am some of the vendors were attempting to gain Wi-Fi access in both halls. Some vendors, such as the ammo sales area had their own hot spots so they could do the required preclearance check before a sale. Others who were mostly doing gun sales did not have internet access and could not record their sales at the show. Because of the ten day waiting period this was not a significant problem since they could enter the information from the paper work filled out at the show at a later date. How the organizer and the fairgrounds want to approach the issue of internet access might be a subject for a further discussion.

I subsequently did a walk-through of the entrance area near the parking lot and checked with the event and security staff working there. The armed guards working the gun check desk were doing a good job in trying to catch individuals coming in with a firearm so they can be tagged and disabled with a zip tie. I did note that the gun check table lacked any signage at the table or on the walkway. Additionally, only one of the two gate check staff was aware of the gun check requirement and the need to send people back to the nearby table if they had not been properly processed. Following our discussion they worked the gun check guards to ensure compliance with the show's requirements.

I spoke to Mr. Templeton about the lack of signage for the gun check desk and he indicated that they had signs but needed to locate them. After checking Mr. Templeton determined that they did not have the signs with them.

The event organizers had one large sign placed at the entrance to each hall regarding to Ventura County mask mandate. At the beginning of the show and until approximately noon mask compliance inside both halls was excellent. After lunch compliance dropped to around 85-90% some of which can be attributed to people drinking and eating. I had the organizers make follow-up announcements regarding the mask mandate which appeared to help.

I did note a number of people drinking beer inside the halls however none of the vendors had alcohol in the hall area. It's unknown if any vendors purchased beer and drank it outside in the food service area although I did not see any consumption.

When I checked the food/beer sales area I did note that there were few tables or chairs to encourage people to remain in that area to drink and eat. This might be something to address for future shows since it is always better to encourage people who are drinking to eat food as well.

On Sunday 10/24/2021 I returned to the event at approximately 7:50 am and only two guards were present. One guard was monitoring the pedestrian gate between the vendor parking lot and the display halls. At that time the halls were not open since Mr. Templeton had just arrived.

The second guard was Sully Crew CEO of Crew Protection. He indicated that the other guards were arriving and would be moving to their posts. I asked about radios and he had brought them to the site himself. I requested a radio which he gave me and I told him that the show operator would need one as well.

I connected with Jason Amelio and began compliance checks in the San Miguel room. All but a couple of the weapons were properly secured with cables and had the disabling zip ties. The vendors were notified and brought their displays into compliance.

I then went to the weapons check and entrance gate areas which were fully staffed. Although there was still no signage for the gun check desk the staff was aware of the need to be sure loaded weapons did not enter the site.

Guards were assisting with mask compliance requirements at the entrances to both halls which helped with compliance. However, at approximately 11:00 am a small group of individuals became argumentative with the guards about the mask mandate. One individual in particular began accusing a guard of forcing a medical procedure on him and he had underlying health problems that prevented him from wearing the mask. The guard called the CHP and a unit responded to the fairgrounds and contacted both the guard and the individual between San Miguel and Anacapa Halls.

The guards said the individual also was pushing other patrons however this information was from a third party and could not be verified. No individuals contacted us regarding being pushed. The guards wanted the argumentative individual ejected from the event site. I contacted Mr. Templeton who responded to the location. The Highway Patrol officers ran a warrant check on the individual and, after some discussion; Mr. Templeton got the individual to minimally comply with the mask mandate. A

female who was with the individual also did not want to wear a mask and was sitting on a chair in the doorway to one side-door into San Miguel. She was told that she could not enter any of the enclosed areas without a mask and could not block the door way with a chair so she remained standing at the door.

The Highway Patrol Officers cleared the area with no further action required.

I continued to monitor the individual as he went through the Anacapa Hall and he was not bothering any of the other patrons or vendors. I did additional sweeps of both halls and did not note any significant mask compliance issues. Mr. Templeton made additional periodic public address announcements regarding masking requirements and this helped with the compliance rate for patrons entering from the food/beverage sales area.

When I checked the food/beverage sales area on Sunday additional chairs had been setup 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.

Jason and I spoke to Mr. Templeton about having more lead time in the future to ensure the guard service is more prepared for the requirements of the show and basic expectations for the fairgrounds venue. Ample lead time for steps such as post orders for guards and walkthroughs should be an area of emphasis for future guns shows.

After a final walkthrough of the Anacapa Hall with Jason he took the security radio and I left the venue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide services to Association.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Cady", is written above a solid black horizontal line.

Tom Cady, President

TKC Enterprises