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### **Officers of the Month Congratulations!**

October – Gilbert Picon  
Anaheim Cytec  
November – Eliacel Ortega  
Antelope Valley Shopping Center  
December – Paulita Rios  
Orange Cytec

### **Supervisor of the Quarter Nicole Patino**

### **SP Plus Security Services Welcomes New Clients:**

**The Globe – San Jose  
CBRE (Berryessa, Mabury &  
Bordeaux Industrial Parks) – San  
Jose**

We provide quality services for:

Retail & Neighborhood Centers  
Homeowner & Property Owner  
Association Needs  
Office Parks  
Office/Medical Complexes  
Commercial Properties  
Transportation Hubs  
Recreation Facilities  
Governments Properties  
Business Improvement Districts  
Vehicle Patrols  
Security Consultation  
CCTV & Property Security Assessments

SP Plus Security Services  
Corporate Office

## Exciting New Development - PRSS Name Change

We want to let you know about an exciting development.

Next month, we'll be changing our name from Preferred Response Security Services to SP Plus<sup>SM</sup> Security Services. Our new name will better identify the reach of our brand and depth of our organization, from our sister organizations at SP Plus<sup>SM</sup> Maintenance and SP Plus<sup>SM</sup> Transportation to our parent company, Standard Parking Corporation, one of the country's leading parking management service providers.



Through this network of over 12,000 employees, we translate the benefits of scale into a stable and reliable work force, national buying power to control costs, and best practices that reflect our core values – excellence, innovation and integrity – in everything that we do. Indeed, we're proud to be part of an eco-friendly organization whose innovative business processes won an "Empower the Green Enterprise" award from software giant Oracle and which we expect each year will save 312 tons of paper, 624 tons of trees, 5.1 million gallons of water, 600,000 pounds of waste and 19,000 pounds of emissions throughout our organization.

So when next month rolls around, expect to see our new SP Plus<sup>SM</sup> Security Services name and logo. What you won't see, however, is any change to our service or personnel. Our team of security professionals will remain in place, committed as always to delivering superior performance that maximizes your bottom line. That's where our focus has always been, and that's where it will stay.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have at 213-252-1600. We look forward to our continued business partnership!!

## New California State Law Impacts Proprietary Security Officers and Their Employers

On December 2, 2009 the California Office of Administrative Law approved the proprietary training regulations that were established by the BSIS Advisory Committee on Senate Bill 666.

The adopted regulations will require that all proprietary security officers complete an initial training curriculum of 16 hours with an additional 2 hours of annual continuing education each year thereafter. These regulations went into effect December 12, 2009.

A proprietary private security officer is an unarmed individual who is employed exclusively by any one employer whose primary duty is to provide security services for his or her employer, whose services are not contracted to any other entity or person, and who is not exempt pursuant to Section 7582.2, and who meets both the following criteria:

- is required to wear a distinctive uniform clearly identifying the individual as a security officer
- is likely to interact with the public while performing his or her duties

The Proprietary Security Services Act, passed in 2006, required a person who met the definition of a proprietary private security officer to register with the Department of Consumer Affairs. It required a proprietary private security officer to complete training in security officer skills within a specified period of time.

The recent Senate bill 741 amended the Proprietary Security Services Act of 2006:

Effective on and after January 1, 2011, companies that employ security officers as employees or "proprietary private security employers" will be required to register with the department. The bill would require applicants for registration

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to apply to the department and would require these applications to include, among other things, a \$50 fee for officers and a \$75 fee for employers as well as fingerprints for the officer application. The bill would require that, upon approval of an application by the Director of Consumer Affairs, officer and employer applicants be issued a registration card or registration certificate, respectively.

This bill would also, on and after July 1, 2011, require registered proprietary private security officers to complete training in security officer skills. The bill would require employers to maintain specified records regarding the employment of officers and the completion by officers of training in security officer skills. The bill would also require these offices on duty to carry a valid and current registration card or a specified alternative as well as other identification.

### Tips for a Fire Safe Holiday Season

Christmas trees are only one of the many potential fire hazards that may be lurking in homes during the holiday season.

Cooking, using candles and operating additional electrical items may place homes at increase risk for fire, especially during the holiday season when people are sometimes rushed, distracted or tired.



During the holidays and winter months, people may use space heaters to provide extra warmth. If space heaters are used incorrectly, they can result in shock, fire and burn. Use extreme caution when operating space heaters and carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions.

#### Live Tree Safety Tips:

- Pick a fresh tree with a strong green color and noticeable fragrance.
- Store tree in cool, sheltered place until ready to set up.
- The best protection for a tree is moisture. Because of its high moisture content, a fresh tree is naturally fire retardant and can remain so with a continuous supply of water for 10-14 days.
- Place a tree in a stand that will hold water and top it off daily. Remember, if water drops below the end of the trunk, the stem may reseal itself, and may need a fresh cut.
- Keep tree away from all sources of heat including radiators, furnace ducts, television sets, fireplaces and window with direct exposure to the sun.
- Ensure all electric light and connections are in good working order.
- Never use lighted candles on or near a Christmas tree.
- Use flame-resistant decorations.
- After 10-14 days in a heated building, even the freshest tree will begin to dry out and should be discarded.

#### Artificial Tree Safety Tips:

- Trees should be made of fire-resistant material and kept away from heat sources.
- Never use electric light on metallic trees.
- Check for frayed wires or broken sockets and throw out damaged sets.
- Don't use outdoor light on an indoor Christmas tree. Use miniature lights; they produce less heat.
- Make sure lights do not touch combustible materials.
- Don't overload outlets. Never use more than three strings of lights on once circuit.
- Never leave Christmas lights on when going to bed or leaving the house.

#### Year-Round Safety Tips:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of the home.
- Make sure your smoke alarms work.
- Review your home fire escape plan with everyone.

#### Holiday Pet Tips:

As you celebrate the season, it's important to keep your companion animals safe and stress-free.

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Common yuletide plants such as poinsettias, mistletoe, ivy and holly berries can be poisonous, possibly even fatal. Tree adornments and Christmas and Hanukkah candles can cause choking or severe intestinal problems if swallowed.
- Exposed wiring can electrocute a curious animal who chews on it. Dogs and cats can be allowed to romp through discarded wrapping paper and empty boxes, but be sure to dispose of all bows, yarn, curling ribbons or any cellophane type products.



- Crowds of people and holiday festivities can frighten animals. If you plan to entertain, you must plan ahead on your pets' behalf. Make sure they have a "safe haven" where they can retreat. If you are a cat owner, note that a disruption such as the rearrangement of furniture around the house for the holidays may cause your feline to stop using the litter box.
- Pets are not garbage disposals for holiday left-overs. Do not stuff an animal. Poultry bones can splinter and cause blockages, chocolates are poisonous and any sudden change of diet, even for just one meal can give your dog or cat stomach pain and diarrhea. This is particularly true for older animals whose digestive systems are often more delicate and nutritional requirements more strict. Be aware of aluminum foil that had been wrapped around food – ingestion of aluminum foil may cause vomiting, intestinal blockage or even more serious problems.
- A Christmas tree should stand in a flat, wide base. You might also want to anchor the tree with fishing line tied to draper rods or the wall. Cats often see trees as fabulous climbing posts. If your feline shows a penchant for this activity, decorate with animal-safe items such as dried flowers, pine cones or fabric and wood ornaments. You also might want to consider putting the tree in a room with doors that close. Tinsel and popcorn strands can be deadly to pets and glass balls can shatter in an animal's mouth.
- Please remember that the changes and activity over the holidays can cause an animal stress and anxiety.

By taking proper precautions, you can help your pet enjoy the holiday season.

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**QUOTE:** "Many a man is saved from being a thief by finding everything locked up."  
- Edgar Watson Howe, 1853-1937, American Journalist, Author

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### **Prevent Crime - Don't be a Victim this Holiday Season**

The Los Angeles Police Department recommends the following measures to lower your risk of becoming a victim of theft.

Do not leave any items visible inside your vehicle. Most vehicle thefts are due to victims leaving items in plain view. This includes items such as: Detachable/Handheld GPS Systems, Clothing, Purses, Wallets, Briefcases, Shopping Bags, Gym bags, Laptop Computers, Cellular Phones, iPods, CDs, Cameras, Camcorders, etc.

Park your vehicle in a secured, private parking lot. Although this does not guarantee complete vehicle security, it greatly lowers your risk.

Make sure that the parking lot attendant is an employee of the company. The employees will be wearing uniforms consistent with the company's logo.

Don't park your vehicle in dark/hidden areas, where there is no consistent pedestrian/vehicle traffic.

At night, park in well-lit areas.

Remember, it only takes an auto thief a few seconds to enter a locked vehicle and remove property!

*Tips provided by the Los Angeles Police Department*

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### **Safety Tips Before Going on that Holiday Trip**

Security personnel and police are urging people to take heed of several safety tips before they go out traveling to see friends and family during the holidays. Residents are advised to make sure their alarm systems are working before hitting the road and to let security companies know they are leaving. "Make sure your neighbors know you are away and how you they can contact you," said one security official. It is also a good idea to cancel newspaper deliveries and get a friend to pick up your mail. Uncollected mail and left over newspapers on a porch are a dead giveaway that no one is home. Also informing the local police station or neighborhood watch that no one is home is advisable.

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**QUOTE:** "If Columbus had turned back, no one would have blamed him. Of course, no one would have remembered him either." - unknown

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We certainly value your opinion and would appreciate any feedback you may have regarding our e-Newsletter so please feel free to contact me at [rely@spplussecurity.com](mailto:rely@spplussecurity.com) with any

comments or suggestions you may have that would enhance our service.



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