



# THE PALI INFORMANT

Summer 2015



## 2015 PALI Conference Pittsburgh, PA September 14-15

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On September 14 and 15, the largest annual educational and networking gathering of PIs in Pennsylvania will take place at the Marriott North Hotel in Cranberry Township, in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area.

As always, we have a great slate of speakers lined up, as well as interesting vendors and the opportunity to network with some of the most interesting people in the world—your fellow private investigators!

Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime (well, once in a year, anyway) chance to expand your knowledge, discover new resources, meet new prospective clients and find the PIs who can help you when a job is too far away or outside your

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Any questions, suggestions or submissions for this newsletter may be addressed to its editor, Bill Everman, by e-mail to [weverman@comcast.net](mailto:weverman@comcast.net), by telephone at 610-494-0635, or by mail to PO Box 2006, Aston, PA 19014. Many thanks to Lindsay Kowalski, PALI's executive secretary, to Greg Pirnik for his help in editing, and to former newsletter committee members Barbara Thompson and Bob Kozura for their invaluable assistance.

# From The Editor

## by Bill Everman

Welcome to the Summer 2015 issue of the PALI Informant!

A lot of exciting and interesting things are happening in our industry here in Pennsylvania and all over the country, and PALI wants to keep all the investigators in the Commonwealth informed, whether they are PALI members (yet!) or not.

There's a bill in the legislature which could change the way in which PI licenses are issued in Pennsylvania; you can read about it and how PALI is responding to it in Barbara Thompson's article on page 3.

We also have a great educational and networking opportunity coming up: the annual PALI conference, which will be in the Pittsburgh area this year. Since the conference is further west than usual, we're looking forward to seeing some new faces. You can read all about it in our cover story.

Beyond what's covered here in this issue, we're also looking at other changes that could affect our industry, such as rules for drones, federal interest in professional licensing laws, and new, controversial approaches to the investigative business such as the Uber-like startup Trustify, formerly known as Flim-Flam. We will do our best to keep you informed about all the developments that could impact our industry and your business.

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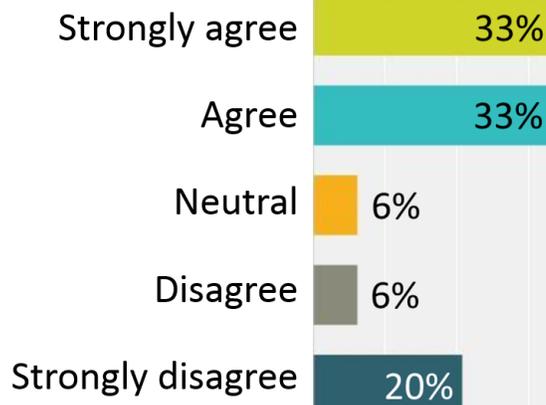
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# Legislative Update

## by Barbara Thompson

A lot has changed since our last newsletter! In that issue, we announced that PALI was exploring the level of interest among its members in seeking to introduce legislation to move the licensing authority for private detectives to a state agency, replacing the current county-by-county licensing scheme established by the Private Detective Act of 1953. Before we had the opportunity to poll the membership, though, PALI’s Board of Directors became aware that such legislation had been introduced in the form of House Bill 514, without our participation and, as far as we know, without the participation of any PALI members. As a result of this, we quickly retooled our survey, which had been meant to determine the level of support for legislation amending the Private Detective Act in general, to gauge the support for HB 514 in particular.

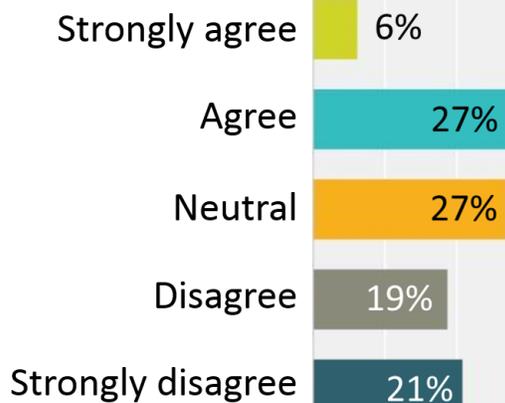
In general, I believe that the Private Detective Act should be changed so that a state board administers the licensing process, rather than individual counties.



In April and May, the PALI Board of Directors sent out a series of five memos outlining HB 514, a bill to amend the Private Detective Act of 1953 (1953 PDA), that was introduced in the current session of Congress in January.\* After the membership had a chance to consider and comment on the changes to the 1953 PDA, we sent out a survey to each member asking them to provide feedback regarding the position, if any, that PALI might take with respect to HB 514. First Vice-President Bill Everman analyzed the survey results and made the following report to the PALI Board of Directors.

Based on the response to the survey, 67% of the PALI membership is in favor of supporting moving the licensing authority for private investigators to a state agency. However, only 33% of respondents agreed that PALI should support HB 514 in its current form, with 38% opposing PALI supporting the bill as it stands today.

### PALI should announce its support of HB 514 in its current form.



While a solid majority of the respondents are in favor of supporting HB 514’s principal goal of moving the licensing authority to a state board, 67% would like PALI to try to effect some changes in the current language. The membership indicated that the four most important changes would be clarification of individuals who may and may not be licensed; reciprocity; eliminating the continuing education

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requirement; and changing the two year license term to five years (as it is currently).

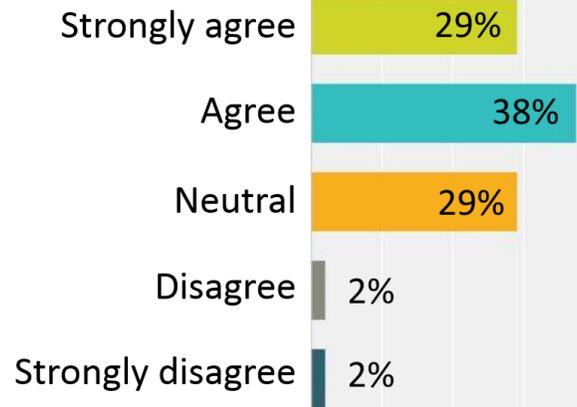
As has been the case for a long time, there is a great deal of concern about making sure that unlicensed activity by constables, fire police, and other law enforcement officers is restricted and that HB 514 will not grant them legal authority to engage in private investigative or private security activity, or allow them to be licensed.

Many respondents, although not a majority, expressed concern about a possible increase in the private detective license fee.

As a result of the survey, the Board decided that PALI should attempt to change some of the language in HB 514. Bill Everman, with the support of other board and PALI members, will reach out to the main sponsors of HB 514 to discuss the possibility of making any or all of the changes that the membership suggested.

*\*Please contact Barbara Thompson at thompson@twinllc.com if you would like a copy of any or all memos that were distributed.*

**PALI should attempt to amend some of the aspects of HB 514.**



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area of expertise.

Here are a few of the speakers scheduled for this year's conference:

**William Applegate** is the Director of Digital Forensics for Information Network Associates, Inc. Mr. Applegate is a retired sworn law enforcement officer with more than 23 years of experience. He recently retired as a Special Agent from the Office of Attorney General's Computer Forensic Unit where he spent more than twelve years assisting local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in the seizure, processing and court presentation of digital evidence. He has conducted investigations into all facets of crime from narcotics investigations, child exploitation and pornography, to white collar, Medicaid and financial crimes. Mr. Applegate was one of two detectives instrumental in Pennsylvania obtaining the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) grant from the OJJDP/DOJ. He instructs and assists civilian and sworn personnel in the area of high tech investigations, intrusion response, social media, internet safety, digital evidence and forensics.

**Marc Bourne** is Vice President and Co-Founder of Know It All Intelligence Group, a nationwide provider of Background Investigations, Drug Testing, Security Services, and Corporate Investigations. He is a Pennsylvania Licensed Private Investigator and a Board Certified Cyber Intelligence Professional. An expert in safe hiring practices, workplace violence, and private investigations, Marc has over 20 years of experience in the areas of employment screening, background checks, FCRA compliance, loss prevention, and investigations. His work has been featured on various national news outlets such as ABC News, Fox Business News, Fusion and others.

**John Bruner** holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in Criminal Justice and is a former Chief County Detective with the Greene County, Pennsylvania District Attorney's Office. A former crisis negotiator, Bruner has lectured and studied active shooter violence since 2007. In 2013, John testified in front of the Pennsylvania Senate on improving school safety, and has appeared on ABC's 20/20, the Steve Harvey Show, and Al Jazeera International as a subject matter expert on active shooter violence.

**Scott Patterson** retired from the Pennsylvania State Police in January of 2008 as a Corporal with 27 ½ years experience, 24 of those years as a Detective and/or Polygraph Examiner. From April of 2001 through retirement, he was the Polygraph Examiner for Troop D of the Pennsylvania State Police. In that time period, Scott conducted in excess of one thousand separate examinations covering all aspects of criminal investigations, including homicide and equivocal death investigations, sex offenses, assaults, burglary, theft, arson, internal affairs investigations, and pre-employment screening. Since retirement from the Pennsylvania State Police, Scott has continued his career in polygraphy. He is currently conducting polygraph examination in various law enforcement settings and for numerous therapists involved in Post Conviction Sex Offender Treatment Programs.

**Arthur Young** earned his Bachelor of Science in Pre-Medical Sciences from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1991 (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette), with interests in human anatomy, physiology, and biochemistry. His training includes the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Serological Research Institute, and the McCrone Research Institute. His approach to casework is as an investigative scientist, and he believes that every case can be solved. His personal interests, which include cooking, photography, psychology, anthropology, engineering, and architecture, have been useful in casework. In 2010, he and his partners formed Guardian Forensic Sciences to explore the non-profit business model of

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forensic science, bridging the gap between what a crime lab could be with what it should be.

**Lindsay Young & Kelly Orris** founded Net Navigators, LLC in 2014. Net Navigators, LLC is a Licensed Private Detective Agency, specializing in social media and deep web investigations. Ms. Young obtained a B.A. in Criminology and Psychology and an M.A. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her prior professional experience includes working as an insurance fraud investigator, a juvenile probation officer and a Certified Pressure Point Control Tactics Instructor. Ms. Orris attended Kent State University. Her prior professional experience includes working as an insurance fraud investigator and a certified paralegal in the corporate and litigation areas of the private sector.

**Michael T. Yergey** started with Yergey Insurance Agency in 1995 after graduating from Ferrum College as a triple major in business. He started in sales for small businesses in the small family owned agency and subsequently has worked in personal and commercial services, accounting and sales. He became a partner in 2004 and handled personal lines and special programs. Since the sale of the agency to Towne Insurance Agency, LLC in 2013 Mike is handling special programs for the agency, including private investigators and security guard operations. Yergey/Towne is endorsed by many different associations for their insurance products. Since graduating from college, Mike has been involved with the Nokesville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, currently serving as a Captain. Mike has also been a member of Independent Insurance Agents of Virginia (IIAV) since 1995 and has been a committee chair for the Membership Committee of the IIAV. Mike won the Young Agent Award from the IIAV for his outstanding contribution to the association during his time as committee chair. He is now serving as board member for the IIAV as an at large director.

To register for the 2005 PALI Conference, visit <http://www.pali.org/2015-conference/>. We look forward to seeing you there!



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**Join us for the  
2015 PALI Conference**

**September 14-15, 2015**

***Details inside!***