



# Seattle's Finest Company Statement

Seattle, WA

October 12, 2017

Seattle's Finest Security & Traffic Control, LLC (Seattle's Finest) is a professional services company that offers security services for traffic control, executive protection, and security for facilities. The company has been in business for 16 years providing services to construction, security, and retail industries; the law enforcement community, and the community-at-large.

Seattle's Finest is owned operated by Raleigh Evans and his wife, April. Raleigh is a retired Seattle Police Department Officer with 20 years of experience on the force. Together, Raleigh and April operate a reputable company providing traffic control and security services and complies with all state, local, and federal laws. It engages in above-the-board, important and necessary work in the greater Seattle area, which provides an opportunity for off-duty police officers to supplement their income.

There have been recent articles in the local, and regional media that have included content about the company. We wish to respond to these articles with the facts.

Businesses in Seattle retain Seattle's Finest for several reasons.

All officers are employees, which means that Seattle's Finest pays payroll and B&O taxes. The company also pays liability insurance, Labor and Industries coverage (L&I), and Employment Security coverage; which protects the officer, and clients, from potential liability if an incident or accident occurs. (For reference of why, see [Gary Merlino Construction, App. v. City of Seattle, WA State Court of Appeals Division One No. 66403-4-1 April 9, 2012.](#))

There is nothing unusual about the relationship with Seattle's Finest and clients, including Seattle City Light, or any other clients. Seattle's Finest responds to requests for services, and provides quotes to prospective clients. If clients approve of the service-based quotes, the company will provide commissioned officers to provide the requested services.

In 2009 the company met with Seattle City Light personnel, as they were looking for an additional option for hiring off-duty officers. Seattle's Finest entered into an agreement to provide off-duty officers on request to Seattle City Light crews. Seattle City Light crew chiefs were given the option to request officers through Seattle's Finest, or use another company. Over the years, many of the crew chiefs have chosen to work with Seattle's Finest due to a track record, and because officers, employed by Seattle's Finest, are employees and are covered by insurance. This limits the potential liability to City Light.

Seattle's Finest continues to be interested in addressing whatever concerns the City of Seattle may have in creating additional oversight of its police officers working off-duty. Seattle's Finest has an electronic scheduling and reporting system that offers transparency to clients. Seattle's Finest offers customized reporting of all officer's off-duty activity on demand, or in real time. The company can grant the agency administrative access to view activity and revoke or grant permissions. By way of example, the company



provides monthly reports of off-duty employment activity to another law enforcement agency that has granted permission for its officers to work for the company. This report identifies personnel that have worked for Seattle's Finest in the preceding month, as well as detail on each officer's work dates, locations, and hours. This agency then uses that report to ensure each officer complies with the agency's off-duty policies. We have offered this information to the Seattle Police Department as well.

The services offered by Seattle's Finest are a thorough, cost-effective solution. The services provide officers freedom of choice, limits potential liability to our customers, and reduces costs to our customers and ultimately the consumer.

Finally, Seattle's Finest operates with integrity. There have been suggestions that price-fixing, high-pressure, intimidation, or "bully" tactics may occur in this industry. Seattle's Finest takes no part in operating in that manner. Seattle's Finest strongly condemns such tactics, and states unequivocally that they are in no way involved. The company has contacted, and has offered to meet with both the Seattle Police Department and the FBI to answer any questions they may have.

Raleigh Evans, co-owner of Seattle's Finest, is responsible for all proposals, bids, and contracts. April Evans, co-owner, is the secondary contact for the company. The company submits proposals to potential clients, and they can choose to do business with Seattle's Finest, or a competitor.

### Media contact:

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