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NASCO Annual Contract Security Washington Summit Features Top Political, Labor, Finance, and Legal Speakers

Washington DC – On June 11-13, 2013, the National Association of Security Companies (NASCO), the leading association for the contract security industry, held its eighth annual Washington D.C. “Contract Security Summit.” “NASCO is recognized as the face of the industry in Washington and elsewhere, and the Summit provided congressional and executive branch officials as well as industry analysts and legal experts with some quality ‘face time’ with contract security industry leaders,” said NASCO Executive Director and General Counsel Steve Amitay.

Summit speakers covered a wide variety of governmental, legal, employment, political and business related topics. The governmental side of the program was highlighted by an address and Q&A session with House Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Mike McCaul (R-TX) who said he wants to work closely with the private sector to strengthen homeland security and bring more efficiency to DHS. Federal officials from the Federal Protective Service (FPS) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spoke about their respective agency programs that utilize private security. FPS Deputy Director Rick Swengros pointed out that for the past two years FPS has been working closely with NASCO and its members in an effort to make improvements to the FPS Protective Security Officer Program. Attendees also heard from key staff of both the House and Senate Homeland Security Committees who oversee these FPS and TSA programs.

In the labor arena, Glenn Spencer, Vice President of the U.S. Chamber Workforce Freedom Initiative, discussed current and future Obama administration and NLRB labor-related efforts. In the employment law arena, Theane Evangelis of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, one of the nation’s top employee class action litigators, gave a detailed review of developments in employee class action litigation affecting contract security companies.

From the financial side, top security industry analyst Jeff Kessler of Imperial Capital provided a Wall Street view of the state of the contract security industry. From the sociological side, Drexel Professor Robert Stokes presented on the growing use of private security for public safety.

These days, no industry summit could be complete without a presentation on Obamacare, and leading Obamacare expert Tami Simon of Buck Consultants provided an overview of the findings of a soon to be

completed “white paper”, commissioned by NASCO, on the affects of Obamacare on the contract security industry and options for companies to comply with the new law and its requirements.

The Summit also included a preview of the 2014 federal elections and a report on political developments around the country given by the National Political Director of the U.S. Chamber, Rob Engrstom.

“As in past years, but this year particularly, the breadth and expertise of the Summit speakers was quite impressive,” said NASCO Chairman Jim McNulty of Securitas Services USA.

NASCO’s next public meeting will be its annual “NASCO Contract Security Breakfast at ASIS” which will take place Wednesday September 25, 2013 at the ASIS Seminar and Exhibits in Chicago.

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About NASCO – *The National Association of Security Companies (NASCO) is the nation's largest contract security industry association, representing private security companies that employ more than 250,000 of the nation's most highly trained security officers servicing every business sector. As the national leader and voice of the contract security industry, NASCO interacts with Congress, federal agencies, state legislators, regulators, the courts, and the media on a variety of industry related issues and programs, and NASCO is leading efforts to set meaningful standards for the private security industry and security officers at all levels of government.*