



National Association of Security Companies

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECURITY COMPANIES MOURNS SECURITY OFFICER
STEPHEN TYRONE JOHNS FOR HEROIC ACTIONS AT THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM**

*WACKENHUT SECURITY OFFICER KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE PROTECTING MUSEUM
PATRONS; JONES' FELLOW OFFICERS CRITICALLY WOUND ASSAILANT*

The National Association of Security Companies (NASCO) today offered its condolences and gratitude to the family, friends and colleagues of Security Officer Stephen Tyrone Jones. Officer Johns – an employee of Wackenhut Services, Inc., an affiliate of NASCO member The Wackenhut Corporation – was killed in the line of duty yesterday at the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC while protecting museum patrons from unprovoked attack. Johns' fellow museum security officers returned fire and critically wounded the assailant while evacuating museum guests. Thanks to the actions of the officers, no museum patrons were injured.

NASCO is reaching out to Officer Johns' family through contacts at The Wackenhut Corporation to inquire about assistance with the family's expenses and ongoing needs.

"Officer Stephen Johns is a hero, plain and simple," said NASCO Executive Director Jeff Flint. "His actions and the actions of his security colleagues at the Holocaust Museum demonstrate the critical role that private security officers play everyday, often without thanks, to protect people's lives and property. Too many people take the work of private security officers for granted, until a tragedy like yesterday occurs."

Private security officers work in one of the most dangerous and under-appreciated professions in America according to information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at the U.S. Census Bureau, NASCO said. A broad range of sites in the United States are protected primarily by private security, including oil refineries, chemical plants, office buildings, tourist and entertainment venues, and malls and retail establishments.

"The last week has been a particularly grim period for private security, as at least six security officers have been killed in the line of duty nationwide – far greater than normal," added Flint. "They are all heroes."

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***About NASCO** – The National Association of Security Companies (NASCO) is the leading national industry association representing contract private security companies in the United States. NASCO member companies collectively employ approximately 500,000 security officers. NASCO advocates for higher standards, increased professionalism, and greater respect for the private security industry.*

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