

Local Business Merits State Award

Safe Harbor Security, Inc., of Vermilion was recently presented with the Ohio Electronic Life Safety and Security Association's MEMBER OF THE YEAR award for 2007. This award was presented to Safe Harbor for their outstanding leadership and involvement, and was presented during the association's Leadership Awards Luncheon in Columbus on May 2nd. The Award Luncheon was only part of the association's annual 2-day Professional Alarm Convention and Exhibition (PACE). Also on the PACE agenda were training seminars for dealers on Internet Monitoring, VoIP Service Issues, Networking 101, and Fire Detection Devices; as well as two False Alarm "Best Practices" seminars – one for dealers and one for PD/FD attendees.

President of Safe Harbor Security, Greg Kessinger, started his own one-man alarm company 25 years ago in Vermilion, OH, while still a school teacher at Admiral King High School. After a ten-year stint in Elyria, the business returned in 2000 to downtown Vermilion, with an expanded staff. Safe Harbor's customer base includes many local businesses, government and utility buildings, and all the Vermilion school buildings. Greg and his wife, Barbara, the firm's Operations Manager, have set high standards for their company and pride themselves on the excellent customer service they provide.

Barbara Kessinger is chairperson of OELSSA's Membership Committee and has been instrumental in instituting two public service programs for the alarm association: the Youth Scholarship Program and the Habitat for Humanity Tool Collection Drive. OELSSA president Ray Jones of Buckeye Protective Services states, "Her experience and enthusiasm regarding issues pertinent to Ohio alarm dealers is recognized and valued. We are lucky to have her involved with our organization."

The OELSSA Board of Directors encourages consumers to do business with OELSSA members when choosing an alarm contractor, in order to ensure the highest level of integrity, service and installation. OELSSA Members adhere to a strict code of ethics and integrity regarding the public they serve. Member companies specialize in a wide spectrum of services to commercial and residential consumers, including security and fire alarms, video surveillance, access control and monitoring. The OELSSA provides government advocacy and delivers timely information, professional development tools, products and services that members use to grow and prosper their businesses.

The OELSSA, a non-profit trade association, is a chartered state association of the NBFSA, the nation's oldest and largest organization dedicated to representing, promoting, and supporting the electronic life safety, security, and systems industry. The OELSSA can be reached at 1-800-746-2322 or on the Web at www.secureohio.org or by email sent to: info@secureohio.org.