ASSIST Texas

October 29, 2014

Greetings!

I received the following information from Mike McGregor, Director of COTSO this morning. COTSO will honor the fallen officer at the funeral and help with funeral expenses. Reach out to Mike McGregor if you wish to be of assistance at the funeral. The date and time of the services will not be determined until the coroner releases the deceased. Mike’s number is 214-729-0667.

From Fox News: Austin Texas October 27, 2014

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Police are still searching for suspects in the murder of a security guard over the weekend. A local security company tells us they often become a target.
APD has identified the victim as 28-year-old Richard Escalante.
He was working at El Agazajo Bar and Grill in Southeast Austin Saturday night into Sunday. That’s when things turned deadly.
From training on defense tactics to situational drills, Top Gun Security says it’s all to prepare for the unexpected.
"It could turn just like that. You can say one word, one word wrong and it can change that person's whole demeanor," says Captain Josh Weiner, Top Gun Security Services.
It was early Sunday when APD found 28-year-old Richard Escalante lying in the parking lot of El Agazajo Bar and Grill.
He was taken to Brackenridge hospital where he later died.
"The young man was very friendly to tell you the truth. Many of the clients liked him a lot," says Esbejde Cornejo, El Agazajo Bar and Grill, owner.
We spoke to the owner on Sunday.
She says customers noticed three vehicles coming into the parking lot around midnight.
They say the drivers asked the security guard where to park and if he could walk them over to it.
That’s when they heard screaming and saw the vehicles drive off.
Commissioned Officer Josh Weiner says it’s a risky situation.
"Always bring your fellow officer with you, never go into a dark area, ever. You know, make sure you're in front of the public," says Weiner.
Body language makes up about 80 percent of what they teach at Top Gun Security.
"The way you stand. If you’re talking to somebody you don’t want to be standing there with your arms crossed, like I've got something better to do or things of that nature. You want to be relaxed. Be open to what they have to say," says Weiner.
We're told these type of tactics can help protect the public and deter crime, but that doesn't mean security guards are immune.
Top Gun Security says around 25 percent of the time they become a target of violent behavior, like Escalante.
A sad reality for Monica Gault who spoke with us Sunday, saying she is the victim’s mother.
"I'm thinking that it's a dream and I want to wake up from this nightmare. I'm so used to having him at home and you know do what he does...being silly and stuff so it's just something I'm going to have to not have anymore," says Monica Gault, says she is victim's mother.
Austin Police are looking for one car in particular: a black Nissan four-door.

Stay safe and keep your loved ones close.
Sincerely,