



The Law Offices
of Jeffrey S. Salisbury



Clients & Friends Newsletter

November 2009

How are you doing?

This is a special but difficult time of year for my family and me. Just about three years ago, on November 14, 2006, we lost our son, Ryan, to a tragic shooting incident with the Eugene Police Department. This loss tore our family in half and left quite a hole in our life. However some good things have come from the ashes of Ryan's passing, as Denise and I have dedicated ourselves in his memory to working with the City to help assure something like this does not happen again. We have attended numerous meetings with the Use of Force and Mental Health sub-committees of the Police Commission, testified and submitted papers to them, met with Mayor Piercy and former Mayor Torrey, reviewed and critiqued proposed police commission rules regarding taser and CIT, written articles to the Register Guard, and been interviewed by TV stations frequently. I am pleased to report that Ryan's legacy has taken wing. The police department is now fully committed to Crisis Intervention Training and has graduated numerous officers from a rigorous 40 hour course. Chief Kerns recently announced his intent to run more trainings in 2010. We believe, eventually, all officers will be trained in this important technique which emphasizes deescalating tense situations rather than resorting to lethal force. As to tasers, the city has now equipped 40 officers with them, and they are using them subject to a restrictive policy. This policy is under scrutiny now, and Denise and I support further refinement of it, so that tasers are only used in the face of serious and imminent harm to the police, the suspect, or others. The most rewarding feedback here is Chief Kern's recent report that tasers were used successfully to subdue six suspects in lethal situations over the past two years, which I interpret to mean that up to six lives were likely saved! People suffering from mental illnesses, like Ryan, have been hit with very real diseases that are chemically based, and are not merely "all in their head". And so it is very gratifying to see the progress made locally, which is spreading nation wide, to find ways of subduing and getting mental illness victims into the medical care they need rather than subjecting them to lethal force when instances of extreme agitation occur. This progress has helped restore a measure of peace and happiness to my family as we journey forward without Ryan in our midst.

Tip of the Month!

As you know, one of my sub-specialties is helping investors who have been taken advantage of to recover lost investment funds from their financial advisors. I only bring these cases if I truly feel the broker has crossed the line and taken advantage of an investor who was unable to protect themselves from bad advice or bad actions. I have five of these cases going now. In one instance, the broker switched a client's entire multi-million dollar portfolio from a sound mix of conservative bonds into highly concentrated stock positions within the banking and real estate sector— just before the big crash in 2008. In another case, the broker refused to liquidate the client's account (a sweet elderly widow) despite her repeated requests for him to do so, once again, just before the 2008 market crash. In another case, the broker recommended that the portfolio of a retired couple, both of whom were severely ill and disabled to the point of requiring 24/7 care from multiple in-home caregivers, put the money at risk in stocks, commodities and bonds instead of conservative, liquid assets such as CDs, money markets and the like. The common thread in all of these cases is the financial advisor putting his interests ahead of the interests of the investors, who were incapable of discerning that conflict of interest and protecting themselves against it. I have a success rate of approximately 90% in these kinds of cases and am hopeful to help these individuals make substantial recoveries of their losses. Please feel free to call me for a free consultation should you or someone you know have suffered investment losses over the last year or two under questionable circumstances.... I hope all is well with you and your family members!

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