

## **It's about Accountability**

*Thoughts from the owner of CYA*

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### ***The owner of Cover Your Assets, LLC thoughts on accountability.***

Accountability. "It defines not only what you do, but what you don't do. Anyone can rationalize why they did or did not do something, but it is another who will ultimately decide if the decisions we make were right. It is easy to sell ourselves that we should or should not be doing whatever; but having to ask should be telling you something about what you are about to do or not do."

"We all make honest mistakes in our daily lives. These mistakes teach us about who we are, what we stand for [morals and character], and how we will be known. Like burning yourself on a stove burner, it only takes once to know you'll get burned if you do that again. So unfortunately a mistake the first time shows what it costs to do that again. Unfortunately in public safety the cost is not always known until someone else scrutinizes our actions and you receive the ultimate feedback." He went on to say; "The proverbial judgment day win or loss is up to us as individuals and cannot be blamed on anyone else. The ability to make our own decisions is a gift, one that comes with great responsibility. At the end of the day, each of us will pass on to others lessons learned; what we are known for is what our legacy will be."

Public Safety involves; Trust, Integrity and Accountability. After the death of a fellow officer he crafted the following poem in remembrance his friend. It puts his philosophy into a simple perspective.

#### ***Your Badge***

*It came from those before you, it is a worthy badge to wear  
It represents more than just a title for you to bare  
so make your choices wisely as you journey in your career  
because it is yours to use and cherish for as long as you are here  
you can lose the other gear given you, yet it all can be replaced  
but a black mark on your badge friend, can never be erased  
so make sure you guard it wisely and after all is said and done  
you'll be glad the badge is spotless when you pass it to next one.  
- Ted Cormier*