



# WVTA Newsletter

## MARCH 2010



[www.wvtroopers.org](http://www.wvtroopers.org)

[wvtaoffice@aol.com](mailto:wvtaoffice@aol.com)

Editor: JW Smith Jr

# WINTER'S WRATH



The 2009-2010 winter has brought with it the re-occurring snow storms that we have not seen in many years allowing us to wake in the mornings to find the beauty of the snow covering the hills and roadways of our State.

However, the snowstorms bring with them the winds, furiously falling snow, and disoriented travelers attempting to navigate the difficult and almost impassible roadways.



Power outages, road closures, traffic crashes, stranded motorists, and downed power lines all become normal calls for service on top of our day to day duties. With a large portion of our vehicles unable to travel the snow covered roadways and in many cases unable to move from the parking lots, you continued to find ways to accomplish the mission and provide the public we serve with the long lasting dedicated service without hesitation. Keep up the good work!!

January 2, 2010 ([The Charleston Gazette Op-Ed Commentaries section](#))

### Joseph G. Murphy: Agencies hardworking during storm on Turnpike

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- I commend the West Virginia Division of Highways, the West Virginia State Police and the West Virginia Turnpike Authority on their handling of the severe winter storm that erupted over the Mid-Atlantic region Dec. 18.

I was one of the "unfortunate" motorists trapped on Sandstone Mountain for about 18 hours that night. I must confess that the blame lies with me. However, the response of those West Virginia agencies made a bad situation much better. I am sure there is much blame to be passed around, but most of it lies with the drivers, who, like myself, decided to continue traveling even in the face of deteriorating weather conditions and worsening road conditions.

I fell into a line of vehicles following a snow plow up the mountain on I-64, starting on level ground at the base of the "hill." I am sure I was better equipped and better able to deal with poor driving conditions than many of the drivers I saw on the mountain that night, in that I know how to drive in snowy conditions, and my preparations took into account the possibility of an extended stay. I had food, water and plenty of warm clothes. To castigate the state agencies listed above for lack of preparation does them no justice. You should be responsible for yourself if you choose to venture out in such conditions.

-continued page 2



## STATE POLICE RETIREMENTS In the bullseye

Story on page 3

(cont: **Charleston Gazette Op-Ed**)

I was trapped on Sandstone Mountain Friday night due to two other drivers' inability to drive on snow-covered roads. So I hunkered down. Plows worked all night to clear a path through the stalled vehicles. Shortly after first light, I could see bare pavement. A little while later, a state trooper checked on my welfare. (I was OK.) I felt sorry for the plow driver who had to inch his way up the mountain due to a shredded fan belt (a sign of poor preventative maintenance, probably due to budget cuts). But the driver was friendly and encouraging, letting me know that help was working its way up the mountain. Another state trooper brought food and water, and confirmed that help was on its way. These conversations indicated that only one plow was functional in this area due to maintenance issues or being stuck themselves.

About 11 a.m. Saturday, around the time I'd resigned myself to another long day and night on the mountain, a Division of Highways pick-up truck stopped beside me. The six gentlemen that barreled out shoveled out the truck and trailer in front of me, and then got me on the road again. Six men with shovels and cinders mixed with salt. Total concentration. I was on my way by 11:45 a.m. Stunning! The Division of Highways had accomplished what the poor drivers in front of me had failed to achieve, and the tow truck operators in the area could not do. I know at least one of the men was on work release. At least one was a highways employee. These men are to be commended. And commend whoever made the decision to use work release men to help us out.

Four clear lanes - meaning open travel lanes - from just outside Beckley to just past Pax. Then there was a short stretch of poorly cleared road, and soon Charleston was in sight. I know there were more issues on the Turnpike southbound. I can't speak to them. But I thought the State of West Virginia did a yeoman's job in making a bad situation better for all of us trapped on snowy roads, and never judged those of us stuck through our own volition.

I am sure better decisions could have been made all the way around. But this bad situation could have been worse were it not for the dedicated efforts of so many state employees.

I hope the **trooper** who showed up with the back of his SUV loaded with bread, meat and water was reimbursed; I suspect this was out of pocket, mostly because no official agency could possibly have reacted so quickly. I hope the men who were on work release receive extra days off for their efforts. But, over all, I hope Gov. Joe Manchin realizes that part of the blame lies on him and his office: the budget cuts to essential services (preventative maintenance), and his failure to declare an emergency until after the storm had almost passed. Despite state lethargy, many things worked well. And I thank 104.5 FM radio in Bluefield. This was the only radio station I could find broadcasting travel, shelter and road conditions.

I am a living testament that a large number of West Virginia's state employees from at least three agencies went above and beyond to help those of us stuck in what was a truly bad situation. It wasn't fun sleeping in my Jeep while stuck on a mountainside highway. But I could have waited to get to Huntington. I was at least prepared. However, no one should demand more of the agencies than they were able to provide, and my experience was that everyone was doing their best with what they had available, including spending money out of their own pocket.

I had a tough trip. But I arrived safe and sound at my destination, in no small part to folks who really did try hard to make a serious situation so much better for many of us on the road on a holiday weekend. You may be Wild and Wonderful, but you are also helpful, generous and resourceful. Thank you, West Virginia.



**FACEBOOK and MYSPACE users beware what you post on the internet;  
Brady v. Maryland (1963)**

Under Brady, evidence affecting the credibility of the police officer as a witness may be exculpatory evidence and shall be given to the defense. Indeed, evidence that the officer has had in his personnel file that displays a sustained finding of untruthfulness is exculpatory to the defense.

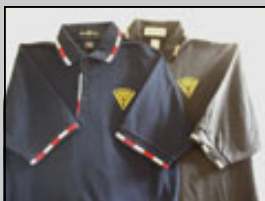
A NYPD officer found his statements that he had posted on his Facebook webpage enough that was needed by defense attorneys, in what should have been an easy prosecutable case, into an acquittal for the defendant.

Below is the web address containing the story that the New York times published concerning this story.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/11/nyregion/11about.html>

You can visit the online store to view a wide selection of items made available online

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**Navy-Gray Golf \$32**



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**Health Care, Health Care, Health Care!!** Seems to be all you hear when you turn on the news these days. It was a benefit that at one time, was very simple with very little cost provided to the hard dedicated working class, to becoming a benefit so expensive that it is now being eliminated as a benefit altogether. In 1974, retirees were able to purchase PEIA insurance at an average monthly premium of \$21. Between 1999 and 2008, premiums for family coverage increased 119 percent, which was three-and-a-half times faster than cumulative wage increases over the same time period.

We unfortunately, will be seeing **affordable health** care for any of our new Troopers hired after July 1, 2010, eliminated for them when they retire. This is unfair, and is not a solution that we should support.

We attended public hearings around the State during the previous year, educating PEIA on the effects that the changes will bring to our department and the citizens of this State. During these public hearings, not one comment from the public supported the decision to eliminate **affordable health care**. It was clear, their decision had been made and there was no changing the decision to eliminate benefits from the working class. The Governor and legislators were asked to intervene with this ridiculous decision. We are still waiting to see what direction they may take, if any.

There is no doubt that the working class, both active and retired, will continue to bear the burden of the health care problem and we will see our insurance premiums continue to increase. Our health insurance premiums come at an extremely large cost to both us and the State. Our friends within the AFL-CIO and CWA have been working to find a solution to these problems at the Federal level for quite some time and are seeking legislation from our State leaders to reinstate the subsidy for newly hired employees. At the Federal level they are asking that Health Care reform contain: (1) Lower cost; (2) Improve quality; (3) cover every one by ensuring full participation of all public and private sector employers along with making affordable health coverage available to everyone, including retirees who are not yet eligible for Medicare. We must continue to work on this issue and find a solution to the problem. Eliminating affordable health care coverage for our future retirees **is not** a solution that we can support.

By: J.W. Smith

**IRS update with RETIREMENT ISSUES:**

In late October 2009, the IRS issued Notice 2009-86 wherein they announced a two-year extension of the enactment date from 01-01-2011 to 01-01-2013 before government plans would be covered by the new retirement regulations.

Those members that will be attempting to retire before attaining the age of fifty (50) after 2013 will still need to monitor this IRS rule. The National Troopers Coalition is working for total exclusion from the new IRS rules.

**RETIREMENTS IN THE BULLSEYE:**

It seems to be becoming routine to see actions taken that may effect our state police retirements and those that are collecting from them. We have seen during the previous year attempts to make reductions to our benefits by reducing the military service credit, eliminating benefits from a retiree that retired in 1985, seeking to expand authority of the retirement board, and placing our retirements within a forfeiture bill targeting criminals.

Legislation was introduced during the 2010 regular session that could have had negative consequences to those collecting now or in the future from our State Police Retirements.

**HB4382** was legislation introduced targeting criminals and the proceeds that were profited from their criminal acts. Sounds like good legislation, but buried within the bill was language which included benefits from the State Police retirements as being subject to this legislation. The legislation does not require any form of criminal prosecution and the forfeiture proceedings would have required a "preponderance of the evidence" standard, which is a much lesser standard of proof for successful forfeiture of property, and in this case, benefits that are being drawn by a member.

**SB506 and HB4404** both were legislation dealing with State Police Retirements. This legislation would have given the Retirement Board the authority to demand the return of benefits, without any due process afforded. Both of these bills died and did not pass the legislative process after we requested amendments to both requiring that a criminal conviction be required prior to providing the Retirement Board authority to demand benefits be returned.



# West Virginia AFL-CIO

One Voice, One Agenda, One Movement!



March 24, 2010

The Honorable Joe Manchin III, Governor  
State Capitol Complex  
Building 1, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East  
Charleston WV 25305

The Honorable Joe Manchin III, Governor

I am writing to request that you not veto HB 4397. I hope that you will again review the legislation and the purpose to increase the ranks of the WV State Troopers.

The State Troopers will prove to be very important in your promise to go after drug dealers as well as their efforts against child molesters.

The best way to attack these problems and others is to increase their numbers.

Governor, the State Troopers are our front line defense and I ask that you not veto this bill but sign HB 4397 with great fan fare. This will be a good signal to the great people of West Virginia that they will be protected.

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Purdue  
President

## STRONG SUPPORT

Elaine Harris (Lobbyist-CWA Representative) and Kenneth M. Purdue (President AFL-CIO) provided leadership, guidance, and a strong political voice during the 2010 legislative session working on issues important to our membership. Both displayed their continuous commitment to issues of the WVTA and for this we are greatly appreciative.

## THANKS

## Troopers Helping Troopers

“CONTINUING TO HELP“ our own during rough times has been tradition for our members of the WVTA. Unfortunately we sometimes find ourselves in times of need due to unexpected events. Your association is committed to ensuring that help is provided to our own when these times come upon us.

### H. B. 4397

(By Delegates Caputo, Boggs, Pethtel, Martin, D. Walker, Staggers, D. Poling, T. Walker, Spencer, Campbell, Hamilton)

[Passed March 12, 2010; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §15-2-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring the Superintendent of the State Police to develop a program to increase the number of troopers up to eight hundred troopers by July 1, 2016; and requiring the superintendent to annually report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance on the progress of said program.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §15-2-3 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE 2. WEST VIRGINIA STATE POLICE.

##### §15-2-3. State police structure; how established.

The superintendent shall create, appoint and equip the State Police which shall consist of the number of troops, districts and detachments required for the proper administration of the State Police. Each troop, district or detachment shall be composed of the number of officers and members the superintendent determines are necessary to meet operational needs and are required for the efficient operation of the State Police. The superintendent shall develop a program to enable the state to attain up to eight hundred troopers by July 1, 2016: *Provided*, That the superintendent shall annually report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance on the progress of said program. The superintendent shall establish the general organizational structure of the State Police by interpretive rule in accordance with the provisions of article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. The superintendent shall provide adequate facilities for the training of all members of the State Police and shall prescribe basic training requirements for newly enlisted members. He or she shall also provide advanced or in-service training from time to time for all members of the State Police. The superintendent shall hold training classes for other peace officers in the state without cost to those officers, except actual expenses for food, lodging and school supplies.

# VETO

## Manchin vetoes bill increasing trooper levels

By David Beard  
The Dominion Post

Gov. Joe Manchin has vetoed the bill calling for the superintendent of State Police to increase the number of troopers to 800 by July 1, 2016.

Manchin said in his notice issued Wednesday that, while he supports enhanced public safety, "placing a specific number and time frame on that plan... cannot and should not be mandated by law."

Manchin also said increasing trooper levels by more than 120 members in five years could lead to lowering accept-

ance standards, which "does not promote public safety and undermines the hard work of so many within the State Police who are proud to be referred to as "second to none.""

Delegate Mike Caputo, D-Marion and lead sponsor of HB4397, said he was disappointed with the governor's decision and he must "respectfully disagree" with his reasoning.

Caputo said the troopers work hard to protect the public and the agency is understaffed. Legislators worked with the West Virginia

Troopers Association to develop the bill.

Troopers Association President John Smith was also displeased. He said they discussed the issue thoroughly with legislators and came up with the best plan.

The 800 figure was not a fixed number, just a goal, he said. And the Joint Committee on Government and Finance would have oversight of the plan. Smith noted some reasons why the plan is needed:

A 2008 audit said State Police is understaffed. Numbers have dropped from 700

in 2000 to 668 now — including 36 in training and 19 on military duty.

Meanwhile, crime and their responsibilities have increased. While, they solved about 22 percent of crimes in 1991, now that number is 16 percent. "We're becoming crime reporters instead of crime investigators."

Thirty-three counties have five troopers or less; 26 have four or less. Troopers often have no backup, which puts them in danger.

Smith said he will meet with Manchin on Friday.

March 26, 2010

### STATEMENT FROM THE GOVERNOR ABOUT MEETING WITH STATE POLICE AND THE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION

Contact: Matt Turner, 304-558-2000

**Gov. Joe Manchin released this statement after meeting this afternoon with members of the West Virginia State Police and the West Virginia Troopers Association – the meeting was about trooper staffing levels across the state:**

"This was a very productive meeting with representatives from all facets of the State Police that included the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety cabinet secretary to the State Police superintendent to representatives from the Troopers Association and their union.

"Together, we are committed to responsible growth of the State Police force to ensure that all the troopers who join the ranks have the skills we desire. Obviously, we face budget challenges in fiscal year 2011 and the years that follow. As governor, I have never eliminated a cadet class and will not do so. We will maximize the number of cadets in our upcoming class and grow in a responsible manner that gives the greatest benefit to our citizens. This is an important issue and I have pledged to sit down with the Association and our troopers and work through our challenges.

"We have the greatest troopers in the country. Their jobs are tough and they have a great deal of responsibility. While we have limited resources, I know that together we will work to ensure that our state police force continues to meet our needs and maintains the high standards we all expect."

### **WVTA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- \$5000 Line of Duty and Accidental Death Benefit for active duty Troopers
- \$5000 Life Insurance on member and family (\$2500 for spouse and \$1000 for children)
- Affiliation with CWA (Local 2019) which provides a full time lobbyist {Elaine Harris} - with an additional \$2500 accidental death and dismemberment benefit (\$500 spouse and \$250 child)
- Legal Advice from the Office of Masters Law Firm and Representation if needed upon approval of the Board of Directors
- Lobbying for Trooper causes – (Pay, Benefits, Manpower, Equipment, etc)
- Bi-Annual newsletter
- Membership with the National Troopers Coalition
- Annual Conference/Trooper of the Year
- Sponsorship of golf Tournaments made available to membership
- Voice to State Police Leadership and State Leaders with WVTA Office with employee and merchandise sales
- Hardship/Emergency Relief Assistance to members and families
- Competitive Scholarship Program
- Self Satisfaction knowing that we help those who protect this State

## **TECHNOLOGY CREATING UNEXPECTED PROBLEMS FOR SOME TROOPERS:**

In 2008 an Indiana Trooper was charged for **reckless homicide** for crashing his cruiser into a vehicle and killing both occupants (teenage girls). The investigation showed that the Trooper was traveling at 126 mph and that he was receiving and sending texts while responding to the scene of a crash. He was charged at the request of his own Department.

In 2009 an Indiana Trooper was **fired** for postings made on his Facebook account, some while working, of pictures of him drinking, pointing guns at other officers, and statements about beating up suspects and that he was not a trooper but a garbage man taking out the trash.

In 2009, a New Mexico a court ordered cell phone records of an arresting officer as discoverable information within the case. The New Mexico Supreme Court later up held the ruling. An aggressive Prosecutor refused the order from both courts and refused to turn the records over to the suspect, who was a convicted felon. The case ended up being dismissed.

In 2009, two Washington State police officers were **fired** for a posting on Facebook, containing pictures of them in uniform and then pictures of them drinking, and intoxicated.

In 2009, a Montana officer was **forced to resign** over the comment "It should be a law to arrest stupid people" on his Facebook page, which was found after an attorney for a subject that was suing the officer for a 4<sup>th</sup> amendment violation searched the officer's name on the internet and found his Facebook page.

In 2009, an officer was **fired** for posting vague information about a case he was working on. He posted that he was working with the FBI and that he smelled a million dollar drug bust coming. Technology such as the "Black boxes", which have been used to determine speed of the vehicle before a crash, cell phone records, internet activity, and the digital in-car camera systems that the camera is always recording which is currently set with a thirty second loop allowing the system to record the thirty seconds prior to activating you lights or camera system has been used to discipline officers in many jurisdictions.

The incidents go on and on. We don't need to become the next Trooper to lose his job and be embarrassed in court. If you have pictures on Myspace, Facebook, etc, that could be viewed in a negative manner, you may want to remove them. In most of the cases, even though the officers had profiles set to private, the photos still got out.

By: Lonnie C. Carpenter

## **2010 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

There were 2079 bills introduced during the 2010 Regular Session and of those, 217 pieces of legislation passed. The following are some of the legislation that may be of interest that has completed the legislative process and will now be awaiting the Governor's signature:

**HB4397** - Requires the superintendant to implement a program to increase the number of Troopers to 800 by July 1, 2016 (**Vetoed by Governor**)

**HB4188** - Anti-Criminal Street Gang Act - Prohibits the participation in a criminal street gang

**SB462** - Limiting State Police applicants age (Age 39)

**SB435** - Relating to speed-detecting device use law (Requires training for speed measuring devices)

**SB649** - Establishes motor vehicle search criteria. Relates to requiring written or oral recordation of permission for consent searches of motor vehicles by law-enforcement officers; exceptions to recordation requirement; establishing criteria and content of officers oral or written statement to persons whose vehicles may be searched; and requiring rules

The following is some of the legislation of interest that **failed** to complete the legislative process:

**SB506** and **HB4404** - Related to State Police Retirements

**SB124** and **HB2618** - Related to providing compensation for being on-call

**SB700** - Related to providing the State Police authority to issue administrative subpoenas to providers of internet service in suspected cases of child pornography and soliciting a minor using a computer



## WVTA Presidents Message:

During the 2010 regular session, the WVTA was successful with the passing of **HB4397**, legislation to bring our numbers up to 800 Troopers by July 1, 2016 with overwhelming support from the legislative body. Unfortunately, it was then vetoed by the Governor. We continue to work on this issue and with the strong legislative voice that we have gained through our affiliation with the CWA and AFL-CIO, which has proven to have been a very

*Legislation to increase the State Police manpower to 800 by July 1, 2016*

wise decision, within the Legislative arena we are confident that our issues will be addressed. I personally want to thank those before us that sought out an avenue to provide the WVTA membership with a voice within the legislative process and allow us the opportunity to not only make improvements, but also prevent poor legislation that could be harmful to us and our retirees.

One piece of legislation that caught our attention was **HB4241**, which did not complete the legislative process, "Authorizing the superintendent of the state police to refuse a request to carry a handgun when made by a retired trooper not living in West Virginia", but did cause us to research the issue, learning the following:

The **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT** is Federal law, enacted in 2004, that allows "qualified law enforcement officer" and the "qualified retired law enforcement officer" to carry a concealed firearm in any jurisdiction in the United States, regardless of any state or local law to the contrary with certain exceptions.

If a person is covered by the Act, then "notwithstanding any other provision of the law of any State or any political subdivision thereof," he or she may carry a concealed firearm in any state. Thus, the LEOSA-qualified person does not generally require a state-issued permit for carrying concealed firearms. (This does not apply to air travel)

There are two types of state laws that are not overridden by the federal law, being "the laws of any State that (1) permit private persons or entities to prohibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms on their property; or (2) prohibit or restrict the possession of firearms on any State or local government property, installation, building, base, or park." This does not mean that qualified persons are prohibited from carrying concealed firearms in such areas, but only that they must obey whatever state laws apply on those two points. They are "FREE" to disregard all other state and local laws that govern the carrying of concealed firearms.

There is no doubt that each of us qualify as a "qualified law enforcement officer". For retirees, to be considered a "qualified retired law enforcement officer," one must be a person who "(1) retired in good standing from service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer, other than for reasons of mental instability; (2) before such retirement, was authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and had statutory powers of arrest; (3)(A) before such retirement, was regularly employed as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 15 years or more; or (B) retired from service with such agency, after completing any applicable probationary period of such service, due to a service-connected disability, as determined by such agency; (4) has a non-forfeitable right to benefits under the retirement plan of the agency; (5) during the most recent 12-month period, has met, at the expense of the individual, the State's standards for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry firearms.." (continued:)

60<sup>h</sup> Cadet Class began September 21, 2009 and will graduate on April 16, 2010. Thirty-six Cadets remain. We welcome our future Troopers and wish them the best. *Congratulations!*

Allata, Naif F  
Allen, Scott C  
Blankenship, Rachel N.  
Bragg, Joshua M.  
Burgess, Jennifer E.  
Carson, Jeremy D.  
Cook, Troy W.  
Cornelius, James J.  
Demeyer, Jennifer M.  
Donohue, John A.  
Frye, Joseph B  
Gilkeson, John W.

Hatcher, Kenneth R.  
Herrnberger, Grant P.  
Higginbotham, Newton E.  
Holmes, Sean O.  
Honaker, Gary P.  
Johnston, Christopher S.  
Jones, Robert J.  
Lowe, Bradley A.  
Matheny, Jeff D.  
Miller, Andrew L.  
Morgan, Justin R.  
Moss, Roy A.

Newman, Jeremy A  
Padilla, Jr. Jesus A  
Powers, Joshua R  
Rohrbaugh, Lacy L.  
Shrewsbury, Mark A.  
Smith, Brandon K.  
Speece, Christopher T.  
Thornton, Christopher M.  
Wade, Christopher M.  
Weaver, Jonathan J.  
Weiss, Jason K.  
Wood, Justin T.

Presidents message continued:

Even if the retiree does qualify under each requirement quoted above, he must possess one of two types of permissible identification: Either (1) a photographic identification issued by the agency from which the individual retired from service as a law enforcement officer that indicates that the individual has, not less recently than one year before the date the individual is carrying the concealed firearm, been tested or otherwise found by the agency to meet the standards established by the agency for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm;” or “(2)(A) a photographic identification issued by the agency from which the individual retired from service as a law enforcement officer; and (B) a certification issued by the State in which the individual resides that indicates that the individual has, not less recently than one year before the date the individual is carrying the concealed firearm, been tested or otherwise found by the State to meet the standards established by the State for training and qualification for active law enforcement officers to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.”

In enacting the LEOSA, Congress overrode the authority of any state or local government to deny LEOSA-qualified individuals, from any jurisdiction, the right to carry concealed firearms. However, there has been debate over whether the heads of individual law enforcement agencies may order active employees from exercising the right conferred by Congress.

It appears that most authorities believe that federal law now trumps the local’s authority in this regard. However, an agency can forbid an employee from carrying a specific weapon that is the property of the agency.

John W Smith Jr



I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruits of his labor so far as it in no way interferes with any other man’s rights.

**A house divided against itself cannot stand.  
“Abraham Lincoln”**

### CWA MEMBER BENEFITS

In addition to the benefits of a strong voice and representation your union membership brings you a wide range of money saving Union Plus benefits and services.

From discounts on everything from flowers to travel to help buying a house or going to college, the Union Plus benefits work for you and your family. You can find a long list of benefits at:

**[www.UnionPlus.org](http://www.UnionPlus.org)**

### UP-COMING EVENTS

June 16-18th–Spring Golf Tournament–Barboursville,WV  
June 18-19th– 25th Annual Conference–LAKEVIEW

### Important

-Update your insurance information with the WVTA Office to ensure accurate information is on file.  
-Email the [wvtaoffice@aol.com](mailto:wvtaoffice@aol.com) with updates.



*The*  
**MASTERS**  
*L a w F i r m l c*

Marvin W. Masters  
Richard A. Monahan  
Charles M. Love, IV  
181 Summers Street  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301  
1-800-342-3106

Legal Representation

-Legal advice- duty related matters contact Masters Law Firm

-Legal Representation- contact your WVTA representative or executive board for board approval

#### WVTA Executive Board

President John W. Smith Jr  
V. President Lonnie Carpenter  
Secretary Jim Gibson

#### WVTA Board of Directors

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