

Handbook of Loss Prevention and Crime Prevention

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All references in this book to personnel of male gender are used for convenience only and shall be regarded as including both males and females.

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To the important people in my life
my wife, *Annmarie* my children,
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William Michael, and Stephen Campbell.

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Preface and Acknowledgements

Crime prevention and loss prevention are closely allied fields differing primarily in their forms of management and sources of authority. A crime prevention officer is a public servant who possesses police powers. A loss prevention manager or security director works in the private sector and receives whatever authority he possesses from his employer, but he is not granted the powers of a public law enforcement officer. The job descriptions of these two positions, however, are quite similar and the skills required are identical. Prevention is the focus in both cases. The crime prevention officer and the loss prevention manager are expected to assess crime vulnerability — no matter whether it is of a residential area, small business, college campus, hospital, or a corporation —and recommend cost effective security measures. Security problems are common to both the public sector and the private sector and so, too, are solutions.

Vulnerability assessment and target hardening encompass very important components of the crime/loss prevention field, and for this reason, a good deal of this book is devoted to security methods and equipment. We have also included material on management, for to implement and supervise a security program requires an understanding of public relations, budgeting, program planning, and evaluation. The director of the program is in every respect a manager and these skills are vital to the smooth operation of the department. Finally, *The Handbook of Loss Prevention and Crime Prevention* applies these principles to various institutions where the need for security is great.

Those who review this book may describe it as another 'How To' book. We feel that this is a 'how to' book which goes beyond the description of just another book. Our intention was to compile a complete, practical reference work that would address a variety of subjects from museum security and media relations to alarms and CCTV.

Because of the comprehensive nature of this work I chose to seek out contributors who would write chapters in their areas of expertise, rather than attempt to make myself out to be an expert on every topic. The field is much

too complex for one person to do a credible job. The authors represent a broad segment of our security world. They are university professors, private consultants, law enforcement practitioners, community leaders, and corporate loss prevention managers. This distinguished group of professionals have combined their talents to produce what I feel is a definitive reference work. I am forever grateful to them for their trust in me and belief in this venture we have assembled.

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The battle cry is *prevention*,
Enforced controls is the sword,
Awareness is the shield.
Security must be in the air,
Not violently, not suddenly,
Just there — *always there*.

Colin Venning
Ontario, Canada

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I. INTRODUCTION
