

Situational Awareness: Security Protection Service Threat



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Below, this work goes into issues related to security protection threats, but as this is an update on the topic because of the threats in theatre we will begin with these new issues.

In most countries the compromised energy and food security caused by the Russia Ukraine war has set the inflation rates and cost to live at unaffordable levels for the ground level security officer. Desperate people will break their moral code when their fundamental needs such as food and no electricity in the winter is compromised besides other needs could drive people to do unthinkable things to survive.

Nevertheless, *the public employing non-licensed security companies and security officers could have even greater and major problems* as the decision doing such to save money will open the door to organized and gang crime that could highjack the business and enforce protection fees. Using a legitimate security company that is versed on profit protection protocols using distinct methods then *the security expense would be an actual investment* to protect the financial integrity of the clients.

The security officer could be the biggest insider threat and has been responsible for mass murder and destruction. Any attack by a security guarding officer could destroy the security company's reputation. The most horrific attack of all was in, Orlando Florida in June 2016 when Omar Mateen, a security officer killed 50 people and wounded 50 in a gay club.

Throughout the world there are reports of security officers charged with insider theft and working in concert with others. In Feb 2015, In Kempton Park, South Africa where seven officers were charged for the theft of metal and iron from a scrap yard that their company was outsourced to protect. (Citizen News Paper). May 2017, South Africa, where 10 armed robbers stole money at a coal mine and which three of them are security guards in Mpumalanga. Furthermore, other security officers were charged with bribery for letting coal trucks filled with coal leave the site without registration and payment for the coal. (News 24 Feb 5th, 2018)

The Security Manager either outsources security officers, bodyguards and close protection services or recruits their own security officers. The officer wearing a uniform and badge has free access to the site and does not draw attention when carrying bags which could be filled with chemicals, weapons, or any items which could cause elevated levels of collateral damage. Furthermore, the security guard could damage the reputation of the client by insulting or violating the client's staff or visitors. Today, the mobile phone can easily capture video footage and publicize bad behaviour of any sort of the security officer that will deliver devastating to the security company's reputation within minutes.

Security Officers may not be forthcoming with information for numerous reasons, which presents the highest risk factor being, the security manager has no idea of what is going on the ground right here and now. They could be working on their own or in concert with organized crime either voluntarily or under duress.

The Managers that recruit their own officers should consider the same below in their own context.

Managers must insist that their security service suppliers do the following, namely,

1. Insist that the security guard service reduce the risk when recruiting and vetting keeping in mind certain aspects pertaining to and for insider threat considerations in-line with current challenges.
2. Security Managers know that officers could use corruption or obtain counterfeited certification from awarding bodies, therefore a third party should vet staff to determine the security knowledge of the guard.
3. The security company must ensure that the management team are constantly updated with meaningful threat intelligence and ensure that all officers are quickly mentored down the line. The managers and supervisors should vet and ensure the workforce is continuously being monitored to identify issues in-line with current challenges in theatre.

Identify if,

- The officer is racist or biased
- knows villains or gangsters in organized crime
- marches with or supports left or right-winged groups or is politically driven in any which way or has xenophobic tendencies
- is becoming more conservative in their religion such as being radicalized
- has the tendency to bully or belittle others
- and how they would react if they were bullied, blackmailed or extorted by others

The security officers that are skilled with specific skills should be considered as high-value assets. An example: security officers that are familiar with cultural diversity are best to handle and manage international clients, visitors or tourists depending on the client's portfolio, for example: hotel foyer security. Reason being, is that they would handle disputes more easily by being understood and viewed as polite when confronting cultural behaviour of others. Security Officers that are unskilled in cultural diversity could offend other cultures and therefore the reputation of the client.

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