

The Role of Private Security in  
Support of The Commonwealth's  
Critical Infrastructure Protection and  
Resiliency Strategic Plan

# Objective

- To leverage the role that Virginia's Private Security Sector can play in support of the Commonwealth's Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency Plan.

# The Mandate from Secretary Marshall

- Ascertain how Private Security can be used as a resource and partner in support of the Secure Commonwealth Panel's CI/KR Plan.
- Deliver by October 2009 specific recommendations and action items for consideration by the Secure Commonwealth Panel.

# The Process

- Secretary Marshall working through the Department of Criminal Justice Services impaneled a working group.
- The Panel consists of the following members
  - Mike McAlister – Co-Chairman, Office of Commonwealth Preparedness
  - Leon Baker – Co-Chairman, Department of Criminal Justice Services
  - Leonard Cooke – Department of Criminal Justice Services
  - Dario Marquez – MVM
  - Dan Jenkins – Dominion
  - Steve Lambert – Virginia State Police

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# The Process (cont'd)

- Roy G. Taylor – Virginia National Guard
- Mary Kay Wakefield - Richmond Alarm Company
- Lisa McGee – Department of Criminal Justice Services
- John Lorenti - Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Billy Shelton - Virginia Department of Fire Programs
- Tim Paul – Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Gary Brown – Virginia Department of Health
- Frank Cheatham – Virginia Department of Health
- Randy Francis – Virginia Department of Emergency Management
- Sam Hoffman – Department of Criminal Justice Services

# The Process (cont'd)

- Working with Moderator John Lorenti of the Department of Criminal Justice Services:
  - The panel used the Synetics Creative Problem Solving Process to narrow a large number of initiatives into three actionable items.

# The Process (Con'd)

- The action items were presented and approved by Secretary Marshall for presentation to the Secure Commonwealth Panel.

# Background

- The Department of Criminal Justice Services has regulatory authority over 40,000 Security Professionals. pursuant to §9.1-141 and §9.1-150 of the Code of Virginia.
  - Armored Car Personnel
  - Couriers, Armed and Unarmed Security Officers
  - Detector Canine Handlers, Security Canine Handlers
  - Private Investigators
  - Personal Protection Specialists
  - Alarm Responders & Central Station Dispatchers
  - Electronic Security Sales Representatives
  - Electronic Security Technicians or Technicians Assistants
  - Locksmiths
  - Special Conservators of the Peace

# Background (Cont'd)

- Together with tens of thousands of Proprietary Security Officers working in the Commonwealth constitutes a significant security resource pool.
- The vast majority of the Commonwealth's CI/KR are currently protected by these Private Sector resources.

# Background (Cont'd)

- The Secure Commonwealth Strategic Plan states:
  - "The Commonwealth will provide an orientation on Private Security to Virginia's Law Enforcement Officers during basic competency training"
  - "The state and local governments will coordinate with businesses and applicable Private Security organizations on the specific roles and restrictions of private security during heightened criminal alerts and catastrophic events."

# Background (cont'd)

- The specific roles and restrictions mandated in the Secure Commonwealth's Initiatives Strategic Plan have not been clearly defined!

# Private Security Interaction with Law Enforcement & First Responders

- Private Security interacts with Law Enforcement & first responders in the following ways:
  - Deterring crime
    - The first duty of a Security Officer is to deter criminal activity by his or her presence and alertness.
    - Alarm systems & surveillance detector systems are used to deter criminal activities electronically.

# Private Security Interaction with Law Enforcement & First Responders (cont'd)

- Notification of suspicious or criminal activity
  - The Security Officer's second duty is to observe and report suspicious and/or criminal activities.
  - Alarm systems make notification through the transfer of data electronically.
  
- Response
  - At most CI/KR locations a Private Security Officer will be the first responder. His or her role is to control the scene until Law Enforcement Officers arrive.
  - If there is no Security Officer present, most CI/KR locations are equipped with electronic alarm and detection systems. Law Enforcement responds to an alarm activation.

# Proposed Initiatives

1. Incorporate the Seven Signs of Terrorism course into the mandated training for Private Security Personnel.
  - Incorporating this training will ensure that thousands of security personnel:
    - Are aware of the terrorist threats
    - Have a better understanding of what to observe
    - Know how & where to report suspicious information
  - There will be no cost incurred by either the Commonwealth or the Private Sector as this training can be incorporated into the already approved DCJS Training Curriculum.

# Proposed Initiatives (Cont'd)

## 2. Define DCJS's role and resources within the Virginia Critical Infrastructure Protection Plan.

- DCJS has the regulatory authority over the Private Security Sector, therefore DCJS should be given authority and resources to:
  - Be included as one of the primary agencies within the Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency Strategic Plan.
  - Serve as the communication hub for Private Security Practitioners to access current preparedness information.
  - Provide links to the Fusion Center and other applicable preparedness sites through the DCJS website.

# Proposed Initiatives (Cont'd)

3. Create and house a new Private Security Specific Sector within the Critical Infrastructure Sub-Panel of the Secure Commonwealth Panel.
  - The Critical Infrastructure Sub-Panel is the principal author of the Commonwealth's CI/KR Plan. As such it coordinates sector specific plans. A Private Security Sector Plan would therefore be appropriately housed here.

# Conclusion

- The panel drew the following conclusions
  - Engagement
    - The Private Sector must be proactively engaged in the Commonwealth's CI/KR Plan.
    - Knowledge is power. The Private Security Sector must become an effective & reliable information source for Law Enforcement.
  - Exchange of Information
    - A mechanism must be established for the flow of relevant information between the Private Security Sector and the Commonwealth through the VSP Fusion Center.

# Conclusion (Cont'd)

- The Private Security Working Group strongly recommends that the Secure Commonwealth Panel adopt these recommendations for the following reasons:
  - The vast majority of the CI/KR facilities in the Commonwealth are protected by Private Security resources.
  - Private Security is a vast resource available to the Commonwealth in support of its Emergency Preparedness Program.

# Conclusion (Cont'd)

- The Department of Criminal Justice Services is the natural hub for the coordination and implementation of a Private Security Sector Program.
- Our recommendation can be easily implemented at no additional cost to the Commonwealth or the Private Sector.

# Secure Commonwealth Panel Recommended Actions

## Action #1

Approve the incorporation of the Seven Signs of the Terrorism into the Private Security Training Curriculum.

# Secure Commonwealth Panel Recommended Actions (Cont'd)

## Action #2

Designate the  
Department of Criminal Justice Services  
as the Sector Specific Agency to produce a  
Sector Specific Plan for Private Security.

# Secure Commonwealth Panel Recommended Actions (Cont'd)

## Action #3

Endorse the incorporation of the Private Security Sector within the Critical Infrastructure Sub Panel.