



GUARDIAN SAFESCHOOL PROGRAM

# Improving Education through Improving Safety and Security

**A**s long as there are individuals who seek to terrorize and harm the most innocent amongst us, there will be a need for more effective security measures to protect our schools while simultaneously fostering an atmosphere that enables education to take place.

Critical Intervention Services (CIS) launched the CIS Guardian SafeSchool (GSS) Program in 2013. This unique Program is noted for its multidimensional and comprehensive approach to proactively managing risk and it immediately attracted national recognition from the school safety community. The Program also gained strong interest from private schools, where a single act of violence can irreparably harm their reputation long after the incident has ended.

## The CIS and Guardian Safe School Approach

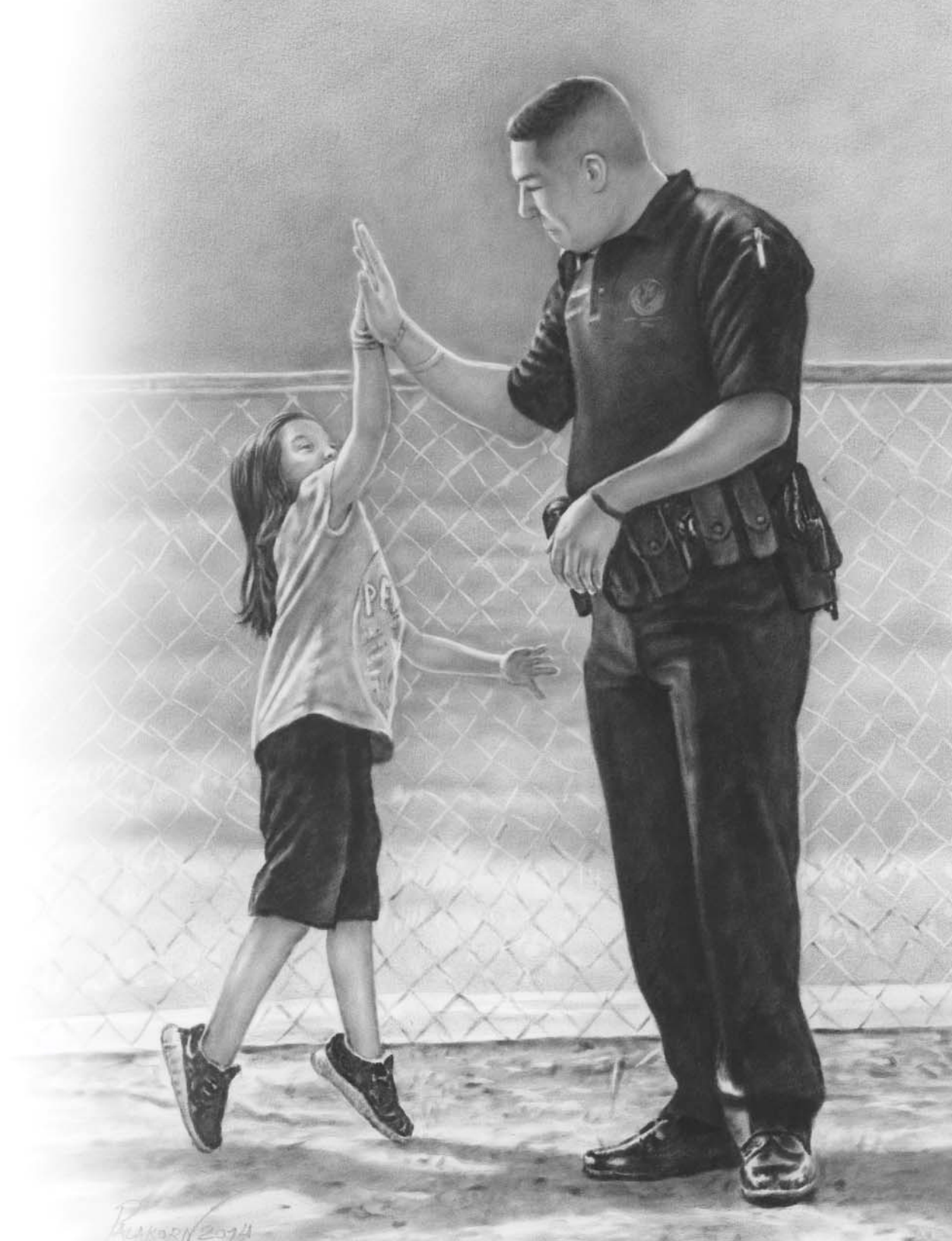
Solving problems, not watching them happen has been our mission since 1992. It's an approach that has enabled CIS to surpass traditional security companies by creating innovative and proactive strategies and programs that transform the safety of communities and school campuses, allowing them to focus on lifestyle, well-being and education.

Designed as a holistic and integrated system, the GSS Program significantly reduces risk by striving to prevent violent acts from occurring in the first place. And, in the event of such an act, the Program endeavors to reduce the level of damage that can occur through a set of proven protocols created to put student safety first.





GUARDIAN  
**SafeSchool**  
PROGRAM



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*While each CIS-protected school is unique, every one of our schools gains safety and protection improvements in eight key areas:*

1

## Risk Evaluation & Security Program Design

After completing an audit—in partnership with school administrators—of current security measures, operations and school culture, we propose a comprehensive security strategy that aims to prevent incidents of violence and reduce the impact of crisis events which can significantly damage a private school's good name.

2

## Physical Security Assessment & Guidance

We evaluate school physical security and identify key areas for improvement using an analytic approach based on the Estimate of Adversary Sequence Interruption (EASI) model developed by Sandia National Laboratories, the nation's premier science and engineering laboratory for national security and technology innovation.

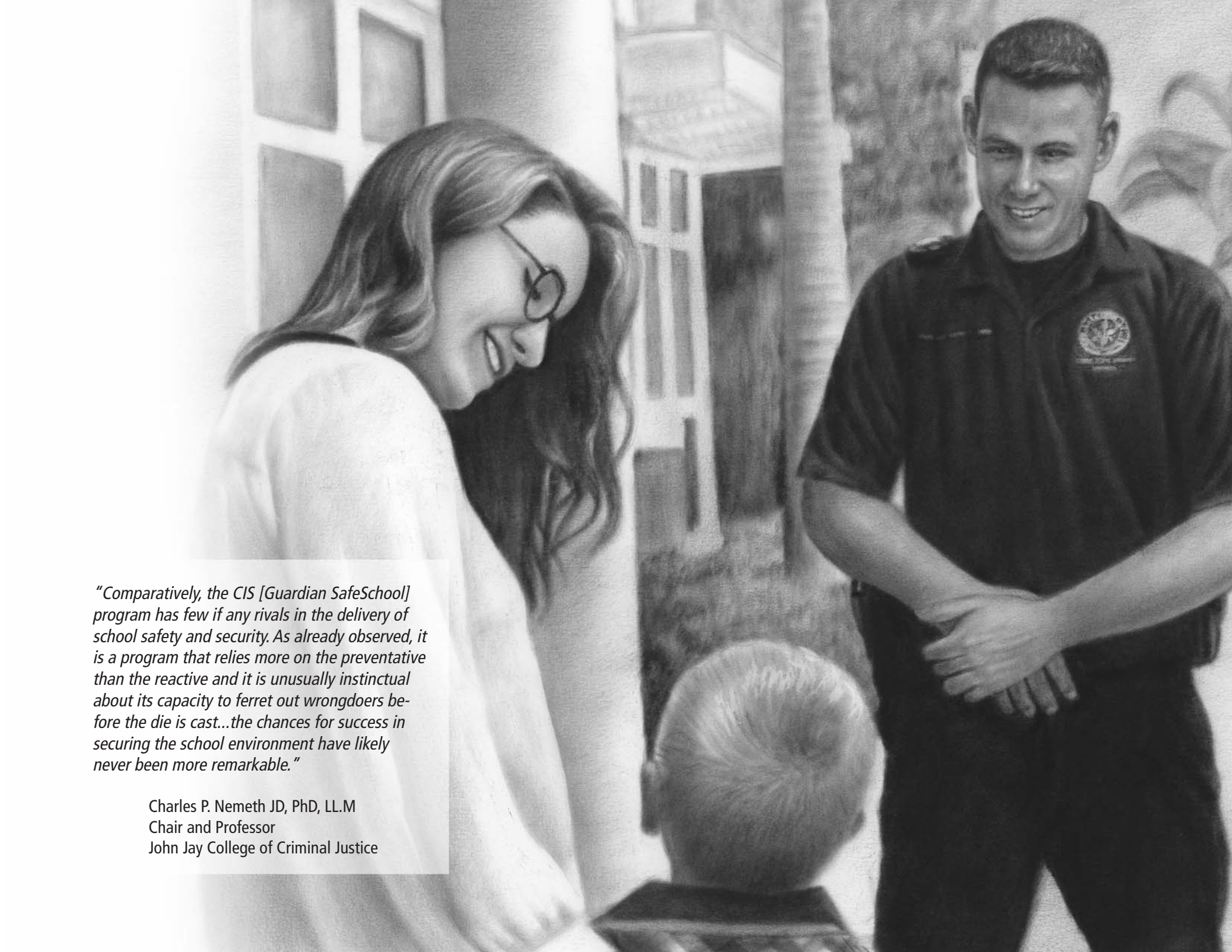
The key principles behind the EASI model are Detection, Delay, and Response. If one or more of these principles are missing or out of sync, it can create an opening for a tragedy to occur. In nearly every school attack perpetrated by an outsider, a major failure existed in one or more of these key principles.

Our assessment process includes an evaluation of physical security that identifies key areas for improvement, along with a cost-benefit analysis to help schools wisely use their resources. Schools also benefit from accessing such existing GSS Program infrastructure as the CIS 24-hour Operations Center.

3

## Procedural Evaluation & Improvement

We assess the school's current security procedures and crisis manual for issues related to security and liability. CIS then works with the school to revise its procedures and crisis manual to meet and exceed U.S. Department of Education best practices, providing schools with the knowledge needed to implement an effective and proactive security program that can stop school violence before it begins as well as take correct action if it occurs.



*"Comparatively, the CIS [Guardian SafeSchool] program has few if any rivals in the delivery of school safety and security. As already observed, it is a program that relies more on the preventative than the reactive and it is unusually instinctual about its capacity to ferret out wrongdoers before the die is cast...the chances for success in securing the school environment have likely never been more remarkable."*

Charles P. Nemeth JD, PhD, LL.M  
Chair and Professor  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice



# 4

## School Protection Officers (SPOs)

CIS School Protection Officers (SPOs) are carefully selected, experienced CIS protection officers who have been specially trained to protect schools against all threats, including targeted violence. School Protection Officers use the CIS Community & Character Based Protection Initiative (CCBPI) methodology in order to ensure that their presence affirms positive school climate and culture and does not cause a distraction. It is also the basis for preventative interaction, threat indicator detection, early threat intervention, and reinforcement of positive school culture. Other duties include conducting day-to-day security and safety activities, access control, visitor identification, and traffic management.

During emergencies, SPOs direct students and staff to safety as well as perform such tasks as verifying dangers, conducting bomb searches, and providing first aid during medical emergencies. In the event of a hostile incident, the SPO provides rapid on-site response to evacuate or shelter students and staff and, if needed, to actively halt an imminent threat before it escalates.



Under the CIS Guardian SafeSchool Program, emergency notifications only require one call from an internal extension to the CIS 24-hour Operations Center. The CIS Operations Center then handles all further communications (SPO dispatch, Police/Fire/EMS, public address announcements, SMS text messages to faculty and staff, etc.).

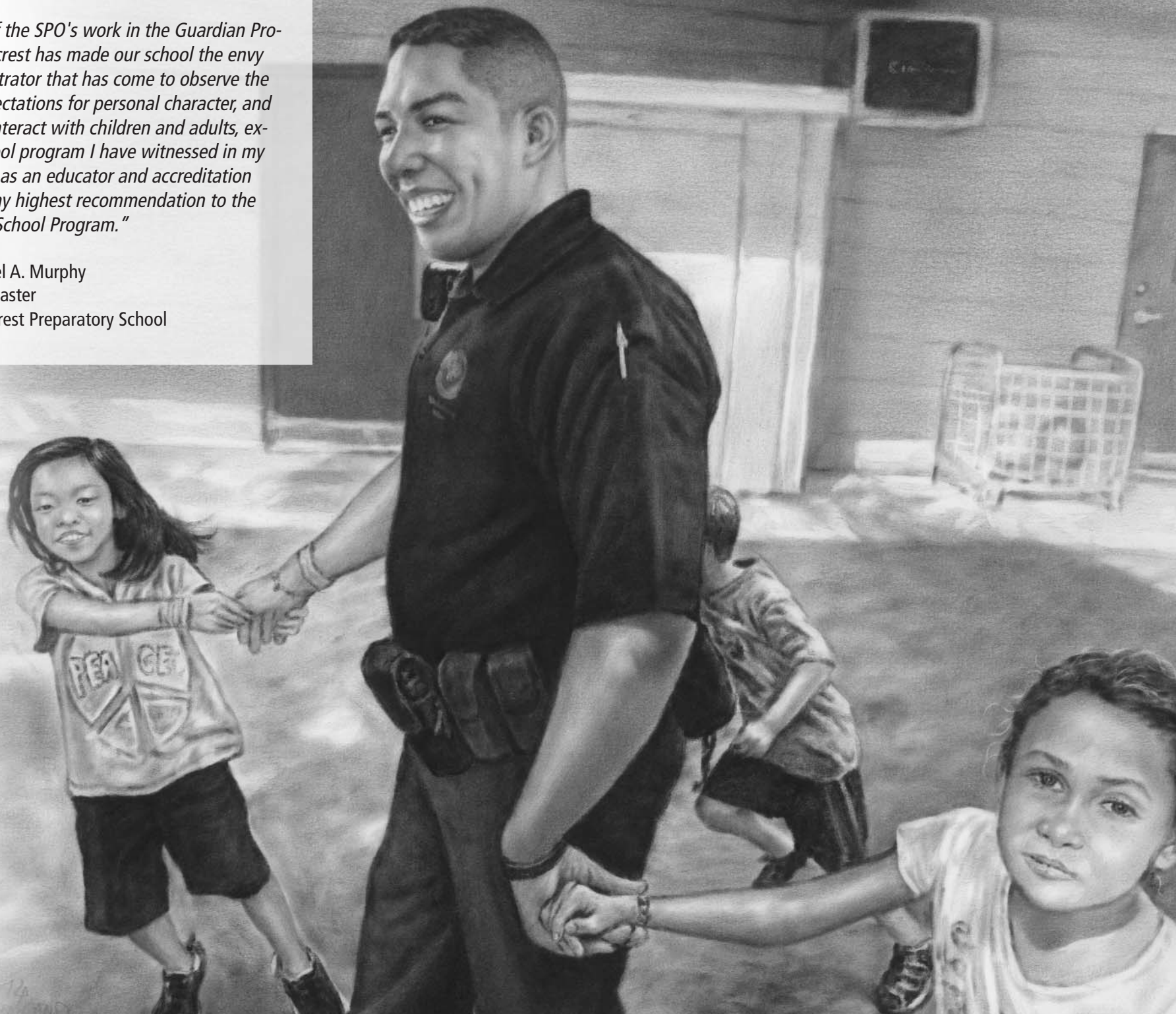
# 5

## Communications Support

Reliable and rapid alert communications and response coordination can produce a positive outcome in a crisis. Schools receiving the CIS School Protection Program obtain full emergency communications support from the CIS 24-hour Operations Center. During a crisis, school staff can call the Operations Center from the school's phones or a cell phone. The CIS Operator then manages all subsequent communication including SPO radio dispatch, police/EMS notification, public address announcements, and SMS text updates to staff and faculty.

*"The quality of the SPO's work in the Guardian Program at Shorecrest has made our school the envy of any administrator that has come to observe the program...Expectations for personal character, and the ability to interact with children and adults, exceeds any school program I have witnessed in my 43-year career as an educator and accreditation leader..I give my highest recommendation to the Guardian SafeSchool Program."*

Michael A. Murphy  
Headmaster  
Shorecrest Preparatory School



# 6

## Crisis Response Support

In addition to the assigned on-site SPOs, CIS provides a range of assistance both during and after a crisis. This includes rapid deployment of additional personnel to aid in such areas as providing reunification assistance, delivering logistical support, supplying an off-site location for crisis management activities, fielding calls from parents and the news media, and handling traffic control.

# 7

## Threat Assessment Assistance

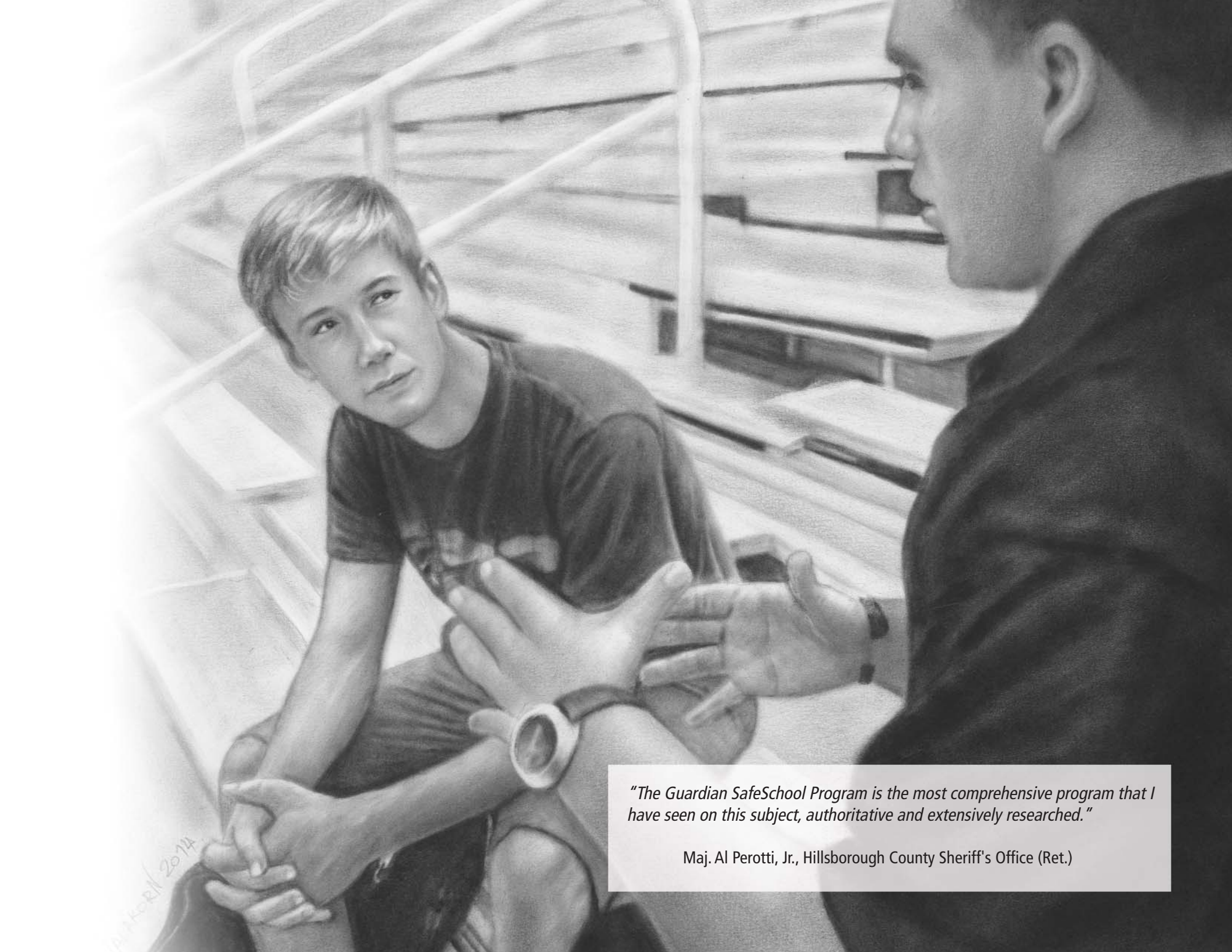
Acts of school violence often occur after certain patterns of communication or behaviors take place. When properly recognized and assessed, intervention can stop a crisis before it transpires. To ensure long-term safety across every school we work with, we created the CIS Student Threat Assessment and Management System (C-STAMS) to provide a standardized methodology for conducting threat assessments. Each school that chooses the Guardian SafeSchool Program receives a customized Student Threat Assessment System based on C-STAMS methodology. We then train and partner with school staff in its implementation.

# 8

## Faculty Training and Drill Supervision

When new programs are implemented and at the beginning of each new school year, CIS provides faculty training on threat awareness and reporting, and school crisis procedures. Additional specialized training is conducted for senior school administrators and threat assessment team members. CIS also designs and conducts drills for lockdowns, bomb threats and other scenarios, as well as evaluates the response of everyone involved.





*"The Guardian SafeSchool Program is the most comprehensive program that I have seen on this subject, authoritative and extensively researched."*

Maj. Al Perotti, Jr., Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (Ret.)

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# Key Benefits of the Guardian SafeSchool Program

## 1. Significant risk reduction

- ❖ In contrast to public schools, one act of violence—or even a threat of violence—in a private school can produce devastating consequences: loss of enrollment, damaged reputation, and exposure to massive liability.
- ❖ The GSS Program works to stop violence before it happens and to reduce the effects if it does.

## 2. Enables educators to educate and not have to act as security professionals

- ❖ Teachers and administrators can devote their resources to teaching their students.
- ❖ This comprehensive, turn-key approach relieves your school administrators of the burden to research and author procedures, train staff, design physical security, manage security personnel, and conduct other security functions.

## 3. Low-cost access to major league resources

- ❖ Even the best-financed schools have difficulty funding the infrastructure needed for a first class security program.
- ❖ Under the GSS Program, your school can benefit from numerous advantages via our trained professionals and specialized infrastructure including the CIS 24-hour Operations Center, redundant communications systems, experienced trainers, expert assistance on security design and implementation, emergency support during crisis events, and more.

## 4. Powerful selling point for attracting new enrollments

- ❖ School violence is a significant concern for many parents today and can eclipse traditional priorities of scholastic excellence and culture.
- ❖ Through a professionally developed and comprehensive security program, your school can ensure its position in the top percentile of safest private schools.





# About Critical Intervention Services

Founded in 1992, CIS is an industry leader in developing and instituting innovative and effective solutions for security and intelligence-related challenges, especially those in complex risk environments.

The CIS Guardian SafeSchool Program is one example of the type of innovative and effective solutions that has earned CIS worldwide recognition from clients, news media, and academic research institutions. Following are some other highlights of our accomplishments over the past 22 years.

- ❖ In the early 1990's, **CIS pioneered a unique methodology for protecting communities.** The success of the program in reducing crime and increasing community quality of life has been extensively documented by police, news media, and academic institutions and is the central theme of two criminal justice textbooks.

Since 1994, CIS has successfully utilized its community-based methodology in over 1,000 communities representing all demographics. In 2014, CIS was awarded a contract by MetroWest in Orlando to create the first Prevention Agency in the US in a community of over 45,000 residents and businesses.

- ❖ **In 2004, CIS created the Anti-Terrorism Officer (ATO) division for the specialized mission of protecting domestic critical infrastructure.** In 2005, the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) hailed the ATO Division as *"...a model for critical infrastructure protection."*

The CIS ATO training program has also been adopted and presented to security organizations worldwide and was the basis for the new Anti-Terrorism and Facility Security Program at the Baghdad Police College.

- ❖ As experts in the field of managing targeted violence risks, **CIS has provided protection for numerous high profile individuals**, including Glenn Beck, Senator Bob Dole, civil rights leaders Rosa Parks and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Paula Zahn, Sally Jesse Raphael, Emeril Lagasse, and numerous other actors and entertainers.

- ❖ **CIS subject matter experts have provided training around the world on matters related to security and managing risks of targeted violence.**

- ❖ To ensure integrity of our operations, **CIS was the first security agency in the southern US to implement a formal internal affairs investigation process** managed by the CIS Office of Risk Management and Professional Standards. Other examples of unique CIS quality controls include our 300-page Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) manual, mandatory SOP testing, internal leadership and professional development training, and report auditing process for client liability management.

- ❖ **The success of our unique and innovative approaches to security problems have gained us worldwide recognition** through media outlets including The Wall Street Journal, ABC World News Tonight, BBC, CNN, Fox News Network, The Detroit News, Spiegel Television, and every news affiliate in the Tampa Bay area. CIS staff members also frequently provide expert commentary for news organizations (and expert witness testimony) on matters related to school security, urban crime, targeted violence, and terrorism.

CIS' unique methods and operational philosophy has been studied and recognized by numerous criminal justice and government "think tanks" such as the Independent Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and the US GAO. Multiple CIS staff members are also advisory board members and instructors for multiple universities.





CRITICAL INTERVENTION SERVICES

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

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