

Close Protection & The Principal

The CPO cannot afford to be misled!

IT'S **HIM** HUMAN
INVESTIGATION
MANAGEMENT

Contents

Close Protection Officers cannot afford to be misled	3
Introduction	3
Mission	3
In the field.....	5
Vetting the team and the principal	6

Close Protection Officers cannot afford to be misled

Introduction

In this work, we stress the importance and re-iterate that *security success* depends on the *level of situational awareness* of the *decision-maker* on the ground and *reaction speed*. This is not about environmental situational awareness but other forms of situational awareness that are just as important.

Mission

Their mission at any stage be it when they are or not undercover is to gather all the truthful and reliable information. Critical thinking is required to think in-and-out of the box which is required to out-think and outsmart the perpetrator.

When the CPO cannot read the situation, the people-on-the-ground or a person of interest then they invite collateral damage. People do lie, hide information or volunteer information for their own agenda, be it, the principal, their entourage, the management of a venue, or the door security during an impulsive visit.

Furthermore, the principal may have an insider threat that they are unaware of, who could be a person scheming on their own or working in concert with others either voluntarily or under duress.

In the in-depth and wide-minded research of ¹Dr Gavriel Schneider (2005), he refers to the Close Protection Officer (CPO) possibly escorting the principal internationally and furthermore, working with counterparts abroad, subsequently, interacting or working with diverse cultures. Included in his research, the pays attention to various forms of communication that the CPO would be involved in, i.e., in the stages of planning, mission and de-briefing.

Furthermore, he stresses the importance of observation, awareness, and quick thinking. Having researched various CPO training companies and paying attention to the curriculum of others, we noted that all were failing in certain aspects whereas, the research paper of Dr Gavriel Schneider (2005) was most advanced.

¹ Dr Gavriel Schneider (2005)
<http://uir.unisa.ac.za/bitstream/handle/10500/734/dissertation.pdf>

The decision-making to plan and protect the principal begins at the stage of interviewing, whereas the CPO must establish the true situation. The Professional CPO uses HIM *Critical Situational Awareness Interviewing*.

The client in fact could not only be the principal but also their entourage, e.g. partners, kids, wife, etc. The CPO may ask questions related to the health of the client and inquire about issues that may negatively impact on the safeguarding of the principal.

The principal may not disclose their little secrets or other members of the entourage, e.g., the children not disclosing who they are in contact with or, what they are truly up to - that could impact on their protection. Therefore, it is vital to gather reliable, and all-the-information during the brief and to continuously monitor the truthful situation as issues could have been missed.

To read the complete-narrative or the people involved, then it is vital for the CPO to know that any form of bias expressed will display in their tone of voice and body language. This will impact on the Principal and their entourage that will *instinctively react* by shutting down or getting angry and therefore losing trust and respect in the CPO.

When protecting people of different cultures, it is paramount to be familiar with their cultural conduct and cultural behaviour. There are cultures that can talk to each other without others outside the culture not being aware.

A person of another culture may overreact if they are touched with the left-hand and therefore resist the CPO when the CPO is trying to pull them out of harms way. There are many other examples laid out in the HIM tool.

Furthermore, the client (principal) could be misinterpreted or be misunderstood which opens the door to possibilities that can *cause collateral damage in the field or even destroy the business relationship with the principle (client)*.

We need to take this further and make decisions on which members of the team are best and need to vet the team, whereas, it could be possible for CPO's to have an issue with the client if they are racist or bias in any way. For argument sake, let us say that the principal may be an extremist right or left-wing celebrity or a paedophile, then there may be team members that the issue and could cause a situation whereas the principal could experience collateral damage on purpose.

In the field

There are times that the CPO may need to do a **RECON** and doing such undercover. The issue is that people have no idea when others can read them while they are reading others. It is difficult to disguise certain ideas that express emotions such as moral code, religious belief or political affiliations. Therefore, the training method is done in such a way that embeds the knowledge over time by going through certain emotional stages to the point of being able to manage other people's emotions or concealing emotions

The pre-check of a venue or site by the CPO is a critical part of protection. They may need to interview the people on the site to vet and validate the security. Venues derive revenue by holding functions and may not provide all-the-information as they do not enjoy turning business away, therefore, the people on site may not provide accurate information to secure their financial return. The CPO needs to know the truth of the matter.

The impulsive visit. The principal may simply request a change in route at the last minute and drop by for an impulsive visit to a venue. The CPO needs to then interview the people manning the entrance, be it the guard or receptionist to validate the security. Within seconds they need to clarify the situation to decide. An example would be at a bar, whereas, the CPO, would need to know if there had been any issues in the bar that night, or did the guard turn away someone and that person promised to return with others. The site management may not want to lose the business and therefore, lie or hide information. It is vital to know the truth of the matter for obvious reasons.

For Professional development of the CPO. When it comes to situational awareness picking up on a highly volatile scenario, *quick decision-making is now in a stressful situation.* ²Dr Gavriel Schneider (May 2012) discusses when emotions of fear are predominant. Freeze, fight or flight are possible symptoms that naturally occur because of the neurochemistry of the person (³H. Stefan Bracha, 2004). The Security Personnel using HIM must be trained instinctively by following a specific learning curve and priming the neurochemistry. The HIM tool is built with a mixed media method and used daily for all reasons be it personal life and profession. Using such method will induce use the knowledge and skills into the subconscious that will consciously be used automatically.

² Dr Gavriel Schneider May 2012

³ ³ H Stefan Bracha

Vetting the team and the principal

Team members could lie or hide information. ‘ Over several years, I worked in the field of Executive Protection, operating in some 30 countries and your guide to cultural nuances is invaluable in that field of operations. *The HIM concepts very much enhance the ‘people’ aspects of this and on the occasions when I must interview candidates for security positions it will be an invaluable tool to bring to bear in determining any embellishment of skills or blatant lying.* ’Peter Constadine (Find in Peer Reviews).

MOST IMPORTANT THE PRINCIPAL: *When the principal has no idea of who or what is their true threat, then no-one can protect them. Knowing the X Factor (there may be something happening that the person is unaware of) can prepare the CPO and in failing such, could lead to collateral damage.*

Therefore, it is vital for the CPO to enlighten the Principal on situational awareness by providing a tool that CPO use to determine the true situation. This critical *situational interviewing* tool contains lie, deception detection and situational interviewing methods to determine their true situation so that they are not being misled by others. *The sharing of the skills will bond the CPO and the Principal through trust and respect.*

CPO - Provide the Client the HIM e-Connect Tool for them to discover their insider threat besides educating them on the skills that are mastered by CPO to bond by earning trust and respect

The easiest and most effective Critical Thinking Situational Awareness HIM Tool is available on [Human Investigation Management](#)

The information in this work could change from time to time because of the learning curve related to the active threat, the outcomes displayed and the learning experiences. If any person would like to suggest additions to this work, kindly contact the author of the document for consideration and acknowledgement. The booklets referred to in this work 'Security Operational and Protocol Guide for Managing CV-19' , Critical Thinking the X Factor in Criminology, Security and Risk (Vol3), Security and Criminology Investigation Management(Vol4), Critical Thinking in Investigation(Vol5) is authored by Juan Kirsten for [HIM](#) Human Investigation Management.

All rights ©® reserved Juan Kirsten 20/21