

**BOOK: WOMEN IN THE SECURITY PROFESSION--A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR CAREER[S].**

When we began publishing 45 years ago, security was one of the most masculine of vocations. However, like law enforcement, protection has grown to provide opportunities for women. Sandi J. Davies, exec. dir. of the Intl. Foundation for Protection Officers, has edited a book encompassing the contributions of 34 contributors on various aspects of female opportunity in the field.

According to the 2014 Security Industry Demographic Census, women comprise 7% of the workforce. In information security, women represent 11% of security practitioners according to (ISC)<sup>2</sup>. ASIS Intl. membership is 11% female, according to Maria F. Gonzalez, a contributor. From a challenging start, women now play a growing and necessary role in providing security services.

A book largely written by women is not intended solely for them. The other sex can learn a lot about career development from the contributors. A Q&A feature permits many contributors to write candidly about their experiences. Some repetitions occur--like the frequent mention of the value of certifications--but this provides emphasis and shouldn't deter a reader. Some observations:

- Vive la Différence! Marko Cabric argues that women are advantageous in contemporary security programs: "While in the past, security mostly relied on physical confrontation, security now concentrates on preventing an incident, stopping it in early phases, and recovering from a disaster. "Scientific findings provide physical evidence that supports the observations that men in general solve one problem at a time while women can focus on solving more problems at one time....Scientific results suggests that women currently hold the advantage in memory and especially episodic memory such as times, places, associated emotions, and other contextual who, what, when, where, why, and how knowledge that can be explicitly stated."
- What you need to thrive in cybersecurity. Felice Flake began in infosecurity taking the CompTIA Security1 course. The CISSP from (ISC)<sup>2</sup> and the ISACA CISM (Certified Information Security Manager) certification are advanced certifications. The CISM requires five or more years IT security mgmt. experience, reduced by two years with academic experience.
- Security and human rights. Isabelle Brissette, reflecting global concerns, reports that private companies are pushed to consider human rights with passage of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council 2011.
- Women in personal protection. The preferred terms for bodyguard these days are Close Personal Protection agent and Executive Protection Officer (EPO). Women have performed this work since Ancient Greece and Rome. Female EPOs are rare, but likely to make progress in the future.
- The joys and frustrations of entrepreneurship. Lisa J. Dolan describes 18 years of experience in operating a security biz. Federal and state "set aside status" contracts are attractive. In some the woman-owned contractor might be the prime, an equal partner, or a subcontractor to an established regional or national co. Subcontractors can face "a very expensive lesson" if they are prime partners don't pay them for an extended period of time. A tight payment agreement can help.

A changing work force. Women can have substantial leadership, conceptual, and mgmt. skills to bring to security. This book makes the pathway clear for vocational advancement. Pub. by: Butterworth-Heinemann, www.elsevier.com, 288 pp.; \$59.46.

**BRIEF.** Leave Turkey, suggests the US Dept. of State. Relatives of consulate staff have been ordered to depart due to extremism. What a tragic turn of events from this once staunch US ally!

Sincerely yours,



Robert McCrie  
Editor

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