



## News Release

### Leave a lasting legacy : Sponsors needed for major security industry research project

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – Naples, FL.

The [International Foundation for Protection Officers](#) (IFPO) is spearheading a major new study to deep dive into the role and scope of the 21st century security officer. To be undertaken by Perpetuity Research and supported by *Security* magazine, the study will provide a key reference point in the work of the frontline security officer.

Sandi Davies, Executive Director of the International Foundations suggests “This much-needed project seeks to gain a deeper understanding of the role and complexity of the modern-day security officer.”

From its beginnings with Pinkerton’s National Detective Agency in the mid-1850s, the scope of the security officer may be a mystery to some, remaining, as IFPO Board Member Emeritus Chris Hertig coined, [“The Forgotten Soldiers of the Invisible Empire.”](#)

Recent challenges such as the global pandemic, social upheaval and a steady decrease in law enforcement have continued to cloud the public’s perception of precisely what and how a security officer operates.

#### **But one point is for certain:**

This type of research, though vital, is severely lacking. In addition, with a marked increase in numbers of security officers, the impact of security officers on our daily lives is undeniable.

Perpetuity’s Dr. Martin Gill commented: “I am delighted that IFPO has taken the initiative to spearhead this study. It will fill an important gap and generate new insights on arguably the most crucial aspect of security work, and certainly the most visible - the work of the frontline officer.” Gill further added, “In this project we aim to understand how we optimize the benefits officers generate, not just to clients but to the public at large.”

*Security* magazine Editor-in-Chief Maggie Shein agreed with Gill that there exists a significant knowledge gap in the industry that must be filled.

“Such research will enable the entire industry to better prepare officers for duty now and into the future to do their jobs safely and effectively,” she said.

### **Consider the benefits of contributing to this groundbreaking endeavor:**

-  **Recognition:** Results of the report will be publicized in *Security* magazine and in the IFPO’s Insights newsletter and on social media. Acknowledgement in the final report.
-  **Connection:** Frequent progress updates will be issued, and a complimentary final report dispensed.
-  **Gratification:** Funds raised by sales of research will be donated to organizations that support families of fallen security officers.

### **Project phases:**

**1st Phase:** Conduct a review of previously published literature completed by researchers, governments and security industry practitioners that defines duties and tasks and task complexity. (Previous studies have often been narrowly focused.)

**2nd Phase:** Develop and conduct a survey of select English-speaking security officers from around the world.

**3rd Phase:** Conduct follow-up in-depth interviews with a subset of survey participants.

**4th Phase:** Survey and conduct in-depth interviews with security managers.

**Final Phase:** Detail the findings for IFPO.

### **Here is your chance:**

A project of this magnitude requires a high level of skill, time and effort on the part of its researchers. The total cost of the project is \$70,000, of which the IFPO has already contributed \$15,000.

Now it is time for you to step up and leave a lasting legacy.

**[To make a donation, click here.](#)**

**[For more information on the project, including an interview with Dr Gill, click here.](#)**

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