

## MODULE 5 – WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

### LECTURE 4 – THE COMMUNITY POLICING DETECTIVE

OK, we're heading toward the end of the course now, only **one more module** to go after this one. We've been through several models of detectives spanning three centuries so far.

- In the **19th Century**, we visited the real-world Government Spy and Secretive Rogue, the Pinkerton private detective agency, and the fictional Classical Detective ideal.

- In the **20th Century**, we were introduced to the Inquisitor Detective, the Burns private detective agency, the Hard-boiled Classical Detective before World War II, and the Bureaucrat Detective and the fictional CSI Detective after the war. We also looked at the FBI and DEA struggles with the Government Spy model.

- And thus far in the **new millennium** (that's the **21<sup>st</sup> Century** – by now you should have locked into that), we've ended up with the Bureaucrat Detective in a rut and surrounded by the rising forces of forensics, CSI, technology and COMMUNITY POLICING. The Bureaucrat Detective was at a cross-roads; either stay the same – or **get off the pot**.

We couldn't say for sure in **which direction** they might go, though. So where do you think they should go, if anywhere? After all, POWERFUL TRAVELER, it is you and the rest of your "public citizen" cronies, who will ultimately decide.

Whoa! Before you can answer that, here's an idea - how about the concept of a "**COMMUNITY POLICING Detective?**"<sup>3</sup> **Flash, bang, Shazaaam!**

We already have a COMMUNITY POLICING Officer, and that seems to work well, right? So it is not too much of a **stretch to imagine** an evolution from the Bureaucrat Detective to a more modernized COMMUNITY POLICING Detective.

The Bureaucrat Detective has been around since the 1940s (longer than most of you, or even your parents, have been alive - but not me), so maybe it's about **time for a change**. I mean, don't change me, not quite yet, anyway. Just change the Bureaucrat Detective!

## OVERT CUIPDSC

This “new” **COMMUNITY POLICING Detective approach**. New? **Ha!** Review the nine Peelian Principles set forth earlier, 170 years or so back, if you haven’t already caught on to this, and see what you think. “History,” “doomed,” and all that. Anyway, this new approach might advocate the following:

The **COMMUNITY POLICING Officer** and **COMMUNITY POLICING Detective** would work together to **OVERTLY** collaborate with the community to prevent and detect crime before it occurs.

However, the **COMMUNITY POLICING Detective**, being the latest rendition of the “**cream of the crop**” as far as investigations goes, would also focus on **increasing public awareness** of the more insidious types and costs of crime **threats** and crimes already being committed in the community and **unknownst** to the public. The idea would be to improve the police/public relationship. In other words, to encourage the support and cooperation of the public (the largest source of crime info) in dealing with the police in an overt, legally sanctioned and publicly accepted way, to protect the public.

The **COMMUNITY POLICING Detective** could also **communicate the new scientific and technological** developments to the public and work with them on developing investigative strategies. So perhaps when they hear about what the feds are doing to – er, excuse me, I mean what they are doing “for” the public, they will be better informed and better prepared to deal with them. Anyway, it seems to me that the **COMMUNITY POLICING Detective** model is where we should be striving to go, rather than to just maintain the status quo for another sixty years, and waiting for the “**next big one.**”

I don’t know what purpose it serves to continue to have the **public remain ignorant** of the threats they face every day in their lives (ranging from terrorist threats and drive-by shootings to school massacres and serial murderers, serial rapists, and serial child molesters. Then they jump up when something happens and either complain that they’re not being protected one day, or that we’re spying on them the very next day. You know, that can be a real **downer** for all involved. I’m not sure it gets us very far ahead, either.

We do in fact have increasingly better research and reasonably reliable data programs that **can inform us** as to the amount and types of at least some kinds of crimes, and we have lots of other information that can really contribute to improving public safety and serving justice. And with the Internet and e-mail and **Twitter** and **Facebook**, and etc., etc., we’ve got all sorts of **new communications** channels. It just seems to me that most

people don't know about the threat and the costs of crime (don't forget the trillion bucks EVERY YEAR – did YOU know about that before starting this course?). Seems like we could use a friendly face and a trusted voice in the community to keep us generally aware of what's going on and how it can affect us both personally and money-wise, - and our neighbors, - and our community, - and our country.

Now this will probably all go over like a lead balloon in a downdraft when the **Bureaucrat Detectives** find out about this. They are already overworked and overwhelmed with their current caseloads, as we pointed out earlier.

In fact, come to think of it, they have **always been that way** for over 60 years now. **Hmmm.**

Load 'em up with work, reduce their flexibility, cut their budgets, rake 'em over the coals in the press, and then nitpick 'em into inertia in court with all sorts of picayune legal minutiae – they'll be **too busy digging their own hole** to give us any more trouble for a while, eh?

**Hmmm**, sounds like a 60-year old plan to **constrain investigators** that worked pretty well so far, for some people.

But the problem is, we (as in you and me and our families) have a bit **more to worry about** now than the **coppers**.

In light of the **local, national and international threats** that have been thrust upon us regarding terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and with the forensic and technology changes looming ahead, something's gonna give.

It won't be easy, and it may not be pretty, but we're **going into the future** whether we like it or not. And we are either going to repeat the same mistakes of the past (We've had a lot of practice at doing that – oh, did I mention that before?) or we're gonna have to try something different.

### **THE BOSTON MARATHON BOMBERS AND THE INFORM-AND-ALERT BUNNY**

Let's just think for a moment about the recent **2013 Boston Marathon Bombing** incident.<sup>115</sup> The Tsarnevs are a Muslim family that moved to the US from an area near Chechnya, Russia, which is a well-known terrorist area. One of the young men in the family named Tamerlan traveled back to Chechnya for a visit and then returned to the US. The Russian authorities notified the US of the travel, and the FBI interviewed Tamerlan

and several members of his family about that travel. Subsequently, Tamerlan and his younger brother Dzhokhar were reported to have exploded two bombs at the Boston Marathon in April 2013, killing three people and injuring over 250 others. Tamerlan was killed during the ensuing investigation, and Dzhokhar is currently in custody awaiting trial.

So should the **FBI** have **spied on the perps** even more than they did, in order to prevent and catch them? But we don't like that, do we? So, as the alternative, how did the victims like the bombing? Don't you think they wished the feds had been more aggressive? Yeah, but there were so few victims, and there's trade-offs on things like this. It's like a **collateral damage** thing, you know? Ah, I see, but what if I told you that you would be the next victim? **Ha, fat chance** I would know that. And so it goes.

Do we think the cops (the **COMMUNITY POLICING Officers?**) in the perps's neighborhood areas during the PLAN phase of their crime should have "**paid more attention** to them (spied on them, maybe with drones or bugs, or in mosques)? Like the Secretive Rogues did? Or maybe used stool pigeons and snitches, and interrogated them like the Inquisitor Detectives? But we didn't like that kind of "**waterboarding,**" did we?

Or should we just continue to rely on detectives to push the speed limits a little harder, and close our eyes to the things they do until somebody complains too much, and then act all outraged and **miffy**, and further constrain them? Yeah, stop them from doing what we want them to do, but only when we hear about it. Would that work? My head is starting to bang again.

Do we think maybe that well-informed and alert **neighbors and friends** should have been on the lookout for the bombers' **nefarious** preparation activities? That works sometimes, but not always – like in 9/11, my animal-torturing neighbor, and the Boston Marathon bombing.

But who was supposed to inform and alert them – the "**Inform-and-Alert Bunny, maybe?**"

Or do we say "**never mind,**" again, "**macht's nichts,**" again, and just let them go blow up people, again? They're **gonna** investigate the "case" afterwards, aren't they? It probably won't be you or me next time. Will it? **Nah**, what are the chances? It'll probably be somebody else we don't even know. Yeah, like that's OK, isn't it?

Anyway, my favorite show is gonna start on TV in a few minutes, and I have to go watch it. So **which of the above options do you choose?** The FBI spying, the local police spying, the weird bunny, or the **fuggedaboutit**

attitude? You know where we are. You are no longer ignorant of your past! You know where we are going. Which future do you want?

Is it OK for just the coppers to stand up to answer the call? What about you – will you stand up? Will you take responsibility or repeat history? **Will you CHOOSE?** Or will you just suffer? Because my watch is over, and you are on the line, whether you know it or not. Now excuse me a moment, please. I think I see my afternoon **mint julep** being served over there at my retirement lounge chair on the beach.