



WHITE PAPER

COURTHOUSE VULNERABILITY

Immediate Reaction To A Threat: *Deter and Prevent*

Deter, Detect, Delay, Defend.

Creating the most effective video camera systems which provide the highest level of protection for building occupants and property across sectors and industries

Facial recognition is quickly becoming the most advanced biometrics authentication technology. Blue Line developed First Line Software from the ground up, providing the highest accuracy and ease of integration in the field today.



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ESTABLISHING BEST PRACTICE FOR PROTECTING YOUR COURTHOUSE, JUDGES, VISITORS, SECURITY, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

“We are living in a time when threats against judges and acts of violence in courthouses and courtrooms are occurring throughout the country with greater frequency than ever before. By their very nature, courthouse operations entail a heightened degree of risk.” (Trends in Courts, Steven Swenson, Center for Judicial and Executive Security).

Most courthouse environments experience issues with potentially violent people. Often, they are known prior to a violent act because of overt threats to attorneys, judges, victims, or law enforcement. Other threats to a courthouse can be categorized as a terminated employee, or a domestic situation involving a violent boyfriend or spouse of a female employee. Courts struggle with an efficient manner to recognize and address these potentially dangerous people, especially after time has lapsed from their initial confrontation or disturbance. In some cases, these people come back for another court appearance and the security personnel have no idea they have returned.

Milan courthouse shooting leaves three dead including judge

“The security of a courthouse like Milan could be improved by using facial recognition, and may have averted this shooting. In St. Louis, MO, a similar case from 2014 started a pilot project.”

This form of 2FA makes us much harder for imposters to replicate or steal the variables as they must steal the authenticating hardware and replicate the biometrics that are specifically unique to that person and get the two authenticators to match.

Strengthening security protocols at courthouses begins in the prevention and reaction to a threat. The entrances to a courthouse provide a funnel for security personnel to assure a subject known to be potentially violent is immediately addressed and monitored. Unfortunately, relying on a human response for recognition and prevention is very inefficient.



After deployment in 2014, St. Louis Sheriff Michael Guzy noted about the Blue Line Technology system, “this software is the 21st century version of a wanted poster.”

Blue Line Technology has developed a unique facial recognition software to greatly assist courthouse security personnel in identifying a potentially violent person. Deployed at the courthouse entrance, typically on a magnetometer, a Blue Line surveillance camera views all entries looking for predetermined faces. People are entered into the First Line database after a subject has been identified as potentially violent by security. Photos of threats can be entered into the database by a high definition photo (camera, cellphone), captured from the video of an entrance, or obtained from law enforcement or domestic violence victims. Once a face has been entered, the First Line software immediately goes to work, continuously looking only for the designated threats. Instant recognition events happen before the dangerous subject even passes through the magnetometer, which allows the security officers to immediately address the threat. A reaction protocol is predetermined, and may include a more thorough search of the person, a security escort while in the building, or exclusion from the premises. Emails and text messaging allow for additional personnel to be notified immediately. A second stream of video can also be monitored remotely from a special operations center if needed. If there is more than one Blue Line system deployed in an agency, all the units can be immediately synchronized to share a new threat.

The Blue Line Technology solution has additional value as a significant deterrent to those who may consider an act of violence. Signage of the use of facial recognition and the capturing of video and an image of people entering are a natural barrier to those considering a criminal act. The Blue Line Technology software was designed for ease of use and strict administrative control. Typically, security personnel cannot conduct data entries, use the internet, or in any way disrupt the processing. When a threat is identified, the administrator or their designee has sole discretion for an entry, and they will have the responsibility of setting the response protocol the security personnel will immediately receive on their monitor(s). The system can be used as a standalone process, or can be seamlessly secured and included in the courthouse network.



Members of the Blue Line Technology senior team have over 120 years in law enforcement and security consulting expertise. Major Joseph Spiess, Senior Partner at Blue Line Technology and a former Major with the St. Louis Police Metropolitan Department, conducts training events on the prevention of workplace violence incidents in businesses and schools.



2 women, gunman killed in Delaware courthouse shooting

By Ashley Fantz, CNN

Major Spiess has emphasized that early detection of a potentially violent person greatly increases the odds of mitigating or preventing an act before it happens. Having the First Line software deployed at a courthouse allows the security personnel immediate intervention and reaction strategies. Major Spiess affirms, matched with courthouse security personnel, this innovative facial recognition technology creates a much safer and secure courthouse environment capable of averting a workplace violence incident.

Blue Line Technology's solution for significantly improving courthouse security is an affordable and easily adoptable solution. Partnered with security personnel, Blue Line Technology provides the best opportunity to protect any courthouse facility.