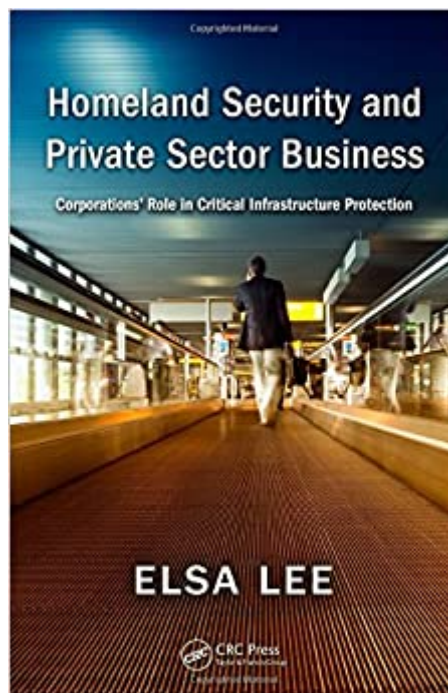




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Homeland Security And Private Sector Business: Corporations' Role In Critical Infrastructure Protection



Synopsis

The challenge in combating terrorism is not that any of us could die tomorrow in an attack, but that we cannot seem to perform the basic functions of diagnosing and treating the problem so that it is manageable. Given this, and because public and private sector partnerships are critical to the success of this management, Homeland Security and Private Sector Business:

Corporations' Role in Critical Infrastructure Protection identifies the role the private sector plays in securing our homeland and offers strategies to aid in the fight against national and international threats. Organized to take into consideration differing leadership and management styles, organizational cultural change barriers, and team dynamics, the information is structured to appeal to most adult learning styles, ensuring effective communication of critical messages. Using helpful case studies and exercises, the author presents invaluable instruction on how to establish, implement, and reinforce terrorism awareness and regulatory compliance with national critical infrastructure interests. Comprehensive in scope, the book reviews threat factors, risk mitigation, readiness plans, prevention approaches, human factors, and training methods. It concludes with insights into the limitations businesses must respect as they adjust to this new paradigm. A recognized expert in terrorism deterrence and counterintelligence methods, Elsa Lee brings her 28 years of experience in counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and counterespionage investigations to inform the discussion. Organizations which integrate her recommendations into their internal corporate strategies will not only contribute to Homeland Security efforts, but will also ultimately improve business continuity, resiliency, and operational and financial security for the corporation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Citing numerous sources, the author, a former counterintelligence agent with the U.S. Army, does a nice job of outlining the fundamentals of terrorism, DHS, threat methodology, risk mitigation, and preparation. Nearly 50 pages are devoted to human dynamics and organizational management, and the appendix provides a good example of a basic security plan for small business." —Erik Antons, CPP, PSP, in Security Management

Advantages SCI, El Segundo, California, USA

This volume is required reading for anyone in the counterintelligence and cyber security industry. Lee's expertise, as well as her easy style of imparting her knowledge from 20+ years in the industry is insightful and every reader will learn so much from her stories and recommendations.

I thought this book was absolutely excellent in the integration of security practices in business. The author clearly has an intimate and innate knowledge of the topic and the areas addressed.

Great book by a True American Patriot, this book is for everyone from security professionals to corporate executives. If you have not read it you are already at least one step behind.

It's estimated that approximately 85 percent of U.S. infrastructure is owned and operated by the private sector. The Department of Homeland Security considers sixteen sectors to be critical in order to sustain everyday life. Given that terrorism has reached U.S. soil, the author purports that a greater effort needs to be made by the private sector to partner with government and take responsibility for its common defense. Citing numerous sources, the author, a former counter-intelligence agent with the U.S. Army, does a nice job of outlining the fundamentals of terrorism, DHS, threat methodology, risk mitigation, and preparation. Nearly 50 pages are devoted to human dynamics and organizational management, topics with which the author seems comfortable and that a student or budding business owner might find interesting. The index provides a good example of a basic security plan for small business. Parts of the book could be improved upon. The author makes wide editorial comments that are dated and unwarranted such as "The private sector is uncertain about the steps that follow risk and

vulnerability assessments. One of the critical gaps of preparedness is that no one within infrastructure sectors seems to be performing trend analysis as a way to more effectively secure them or as a way of creating an early warning system to infrastructure threats. The government is not perfect but has its heart in the right place. There are factual flaws such as the claim that North Korea is a state sponsor of terrorism, a title rescinded in 2008. An overabundance of credit is given to the federal government for providing solutions and very little reference is made of the public-private relationships that existed before 9/11 such as ASIS International, the International Security Management Association, the Overseas Security Advisory Council, and numerous state and local community policing initiatives. Very little reference is made of successful information sharing initiatives that have grown since 9/11 such as the Domestic Security Alliance Council, InfraGard and joint public-private task forces. Based on the tone of much of the text, one would think that the private sector is resting on its laurels and expecting DHS to provide the majority of solutions. Those who have worked both sides of the public-private fence know that the opposite is usually the case. This book seems to be written for university students and entry-level practitioners and may not appeal to practitioners, instructors, or consultants.

Since September 11, 2001 the American Public has not had a clear understanding of "Homeland Security" and just what it means for the average citizen and business owner. Elsa Lee, in her first attempt, has hit "a home run!" Not only is the book well researched, but it is quite simply the best resource on this important subject. I found the context to be informative, persuasive, and topical. Not only does the writer provide a clear understanding of the need for a National Infrastructure Plan, but provides the reader with a clear blueprint for protecting all of America's resources at home and abroad. Hopefully, every university and college with a Homeland Security course will use this book as a major text to insure that all students obtain a grounded education on this important topic. It is also noteworthy that Ms. Lee realized the need to include a "training and exercises" appendix to be used by Homeland Security officials and First Responders in their tabletop and full blown contingency exercises. We certainly could have used it in the FBI during the 1990's.

Alfred J. Finch
FBI Legal Attache, Cairo (Retired)

This book is a thorough and highly readable dissertation on homeland security preparedness. Of particular interest to me is the chapter on developing and implementing terrorism readiness plans. Ms. Lee stresses communication and teamwork as the cornerstones of all emergency procedures,

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