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## Commentary

*by Michael Benson, WCCRC Vice President*

Since President Simpson is worn out from gallivanting around China this summer, I have been asked to fill in for her and provide some semi-presidential remarks. Let me start by encouraging everyone to attend the ASC meetings in Toronto, November 16-19. I'm sure Sally is hard at work planning a terrific WCCRC luncheon and business meeting for us. I did a very quick and informal search of the preliminary program on the ASC website and noted 10 sessions that were either devoted to or had papers concerning white-collar and corporate crime. In one of them, Peter Yeager and I are supposed to provide a review and assessment of corporate crime research along with a look toward the future.

I also wanted to draw everyone's attention to a recent NIJ publication that was adapted from a study of telemarketers by Neal Shover and Glenn S. Coffey. It appears in Issue No. 252, July 2005 of the NIJ Journal and is available on line from the NIJ website. The study reports on a series of interviews with 47 telemarketing offenders convicted of Federal crimes. It provides a fascinating glimpse into the lifestyle and mindset of telemarketers. Not surprisingly, Shover and Coffey find that telemarketers deny the guilty mind. Some things never change.

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## Member News

### Current Happenings

#### Consumer Fraud Website

Michael Benson is working on designing a website that will provide information on consumer fraud for the general public as well as law enforcement officials. The project is being undertaken under the auspices of the Ohio Service for Crime Opportunity Reduction (OSCOR), which is a program sponsored by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services. The consumer fraud website will pull together and make easily accessible information about consumer fraud – what it is, how to prevent it, what to do if you have been victimized, and what the latest scams are. Although there are a number of websites on consumer fraud sponsored by various federal and state law enforcement agencies, the new website will provide more detailed and user friendly instructions on how to avoid fraud victimization and what to do if you are victimized. The site will also have links to as many other sites on fraud as possible and to the latest research and news on fraud. The general idea is to create an online clearinghouse for information of consumer fraud and its prevention.

If any WCCRC members have information or research or news related to consumer fraud that would be appropriate for the website or any suggestions regarding its design and content, please get in touch with Mike Benson at [Michael.Benson@uc.edu](mailto:Michael.Benson@uc.edu).

#### Trusted Criminals, Third Edition

David Friedrichs is currently working on a third edition of *Trusted Criminals*, with a December 31, 2005 manuscript delivery date. Should you have any suggestions or comments, send them to him at [friedrichsd1@scranton.edu](mailto:friedrichsd1@scranton.edu).

#### Current Works: Gil Geis

Gil Geis has just completed a book, *White Collar and Corporate Crime*, to be published by Prentice Hall in the coming year. Also an upcoming article (with Mary Dodge) on doing research with white-collar offenders will appear in an a book edited by Richard Wright, to be published by Sage in London. Another article on corporate crime (with Joe DiMento) will be published in a book edited by Steve Tully (also with a London publisher). He is also currently working on an overall view of white-collar and environmental crime for a German encyclopedia edited by Hans Joachim Schneider.

**Upcoming Book: Digital Crime and Forensic Science in Cyberspace**

Warren Wylupski, along with co-authors David R. Champion (Slippery Rock University) and Zachary Grant (New Mexico Mounted Patrol), have a chapter under review, for inclusion in *Digital Crime and Forensic Science in Cyberspace*, Kanellis, Kanellis, Kiountouzis, and Martakos Editors. The authors looked at the current state of computer network security with respect to intrusion prevention, detection and response framed by the organization's security policy. Following is an abstract of the work:

One of the emerging issues in the field of digital crime and digital forensics is corporate preparedness in dealing with attacks on computer network security. Security attacks and breaches of an organization's computer network can result in the compromise of confidential data, loss of customer confidence, poor public relations, disruption of business, and severe financial loss. Furthermore, loss of organizational data can present a number of criminal threats, including extortion, blackmail, identity theft, technology theft, and even hazards to national security. This chapter first examines the preparedness and response of three southwestern companies to their own specific threats to corporate cyber-security. Secondly, this chapter suggests that by developing an effective security policy focusing on incident detection and response, a company can minimize the damage caused by these attacks, while simultaneously strengthening the existing system and forensic processes against future attacks. Advances in digital forensics and its supporting technology including intrusion detection, intrusion prevention and application control will be imperative to maintain network security in the future.

**Book Review: Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism**

Scott R. Senjo, JD, Ph.D. has recently studied and reviewed the new book: *Digital Crime and Digital Terrorism* (2006) by Robert W. Taylor, Tory J. Caeti, D. Kall Loper, Eric J. Fritsch, and John Liederbach. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall. 397 pages. His essay is under review at the journal, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*.

**Congratulations to Nikos Passas**

Professor Passas has been elected to the Board of Directors of the International Society of Criminology and has joined the editorial board of the journal of ASC's international division International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice. His current research initiatives include: a study of 50 countries' anti-corruption programs (UNDP); crime vulnerabilities in the trade of diamonds, gold, and tobacco (NIJ); a legislative guide for the implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption

(UNODC); illegal logging, money laundering, and financial crime (World Bank); and regulation of the remittance industry (World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank). Additional information may be obtained through his website:

[http://www.cj.neu.edu/faculty\\_and\\_staff/faculty\\_and\\_staff\\_listing/people.php?id=6212](http://www.cj.neu.edu/faculty_and_staff/faculty_and_staff_listing/people.php?id=6212).

## New Members

- Johnny H. Nhan, Graduate Student, University of California, Irvine

## Member Biographies

Paul von Hippel

Research Statistician

Ohio State University

Paul von Hippel, MAS, PhD, is a research statistician in the Ohio State University Department of Sociology. With coauthors Doug Downey and Beckett Broh, he won the 2005 William Waller Award for the best paper published in the Sociology of Education over the past three years. He has an emerging interest in fraud detection and control, and would be happy to discuss possible collaborations. Interested parties may reach him at [von-hippel.1@osu.edu](mailto:von-hippel.1@osu.edu).

Richard Brody

Associate Professor

University of South Florida

Dr. Richard G. Brody, CFE, CPA is an associate professor of accounting at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg. He teaches courses in the forensic accounting track of the MBA program (Fraud Examination, Internal Auditing and Investigations) and in the undergraduate program (Auditing, Internal Auditing). Rich is very involved in research and has published over 50 articles in areas such as fraud detection and prevention, judgment and decision making and corporate governance. Two recent publications were specifically related to the detection and prevention of fraud (*Fraud Magazine*, a publication of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners; *Internal Auditor*, a publication of the Institute of Internal Auditors). Rich has worked in both public and private accounting and is both a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Public Accountant.

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## Research Initiatives

### BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

The WCCRC functions as a valuable resource, connecting researchers in the field of white collar crime and aiding in the dissemination of important research. Along these lines, the WCCRC would like to regularly feature research that is currently being executed, has been accepted for publication, or has recently been published by WCCRC members.

### Articles

#### Recently Published

Meyers, M. & Rogers, M. (2004). Computer forensics: The need for standardization and certification within the U.S. court systems. *International Journal of Digital Evidence, Fall 2004, 3, 2.*

Passas, N. (2005). Formalizing the informal? Problems in the national and international regulation of hawala. In *Regulatory Frameworks for Hawala and Other Remittance Systems*, pp. 7-16. Washington, DC: IMF.

Passas, N. (2004). Law enforcement challenges in hawala-related investigations. *Journal of Financial Crime* 12: 112-9.

Passas, N. (2004). Secrets of the money trade: Understanding hawala and its role in the war on terror. *Northeastern University Magazine*: 10-2.

Passas, N. (2004). Third-party checks and indicators of abuse in cash letter activity. *SAR Activity Review*: 11-4.

Passas, N. (2004). Indicators of hawala operations and criminal abuse. *Journal of Money Laundering Control* 8: 168-72.

Rogers, M. (2005). The insider threat: Debunking the “wagon wheel” approach to information security. *Security Wire Digest, Vol 7, No. 17, March 3, 2005.*

Rogers, M. (2005). *How to outsmart today's fraud-minded social engineers.* White-Collar Crime Fighter, 7(3), March 2005, 3-5.

Forthcoming

Beresford, A., Desilets, C., Haantz, S., Kane, J., & Wall, A. (in press). Intellectual property and white-collar crime: Report of issues, trends, and problems for future research. *Trends in Organized Crime*.

Publications/Conference Proceedings

Hoeschele, M. & Rogers, M. (2005). Detecting social engineering. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Digital Forensics, Feb 13-16, 2005, Orlando Florida: IFIP-11*.

Maimbo, S.M. & Passas, N. (2005). The regulation and supervision of informal funds systems. In S.M. Maimbo & D. Ratha, (Eds.). *Remittances: Development impact and future prospects*, (pp. 211-26). Washington DC: The World Bank.

Marsico, C. & Rogers, M. (2005). iPod forensics. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Digital Forensics, Feb 13-16, 2005, Orlando Florida: IFIP-11*.

Passas, N. (2004). *Informal value transfer systems, money laundering and terrorism*. Report to the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN), Washington D.C.; <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/grants/208301.pdf>.

Passas, N. & Goodwin, N. (eds.). (2004). *It's legal, but it ain't right: Harmful social consequences of legal industries*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Passas, N. (2004). *The trade in diamonds: Vulnerabilities for financial crime and terrorist finance*, FinCEN, US Treasury Department, Vienna, VA.

Passas, N. (2005). *Informal value transfer systems and criminal activities*. The Hague: WODC. Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands; <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/grants/208301.pdf>.

Passas, N. (with Maimbo S., Adams R., Aggarwal R.). (2005). *Migrant labor remittances in South Asia*. Washington, DC: The World Bank.

Rogers, M. (2005). The information technology insider risk. In H. Bigdoli (Ed.), *Information security handbook*. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Forthcoming

Rogers, M. (In Press). Compliance, regulations, and investigations. In Tipton & Krause (Eds.) *ISC2 common body of knowledge handbook*. New York, Auerbach.

Tillman, R.H. (2005). *Pump and dump: The rancid rules of the new economy*. Rutgers University Press. For more information:  
[http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/Pump\\_and\\_Dump\\_1156.html](http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/Pump_and_Dump_1156.html).

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## Calendar

Economic Crime Summit

Phoenix, AZ

November 8-9, 2005

<http://www.summit.nw3c.org>

American Society of Criminology

Toronto, Canada

November 15-19, 2005

Focus: *The Interdisciplinary Roots and Branches of Criminology*

<http://www.asc41.com/>

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## Events

With the upcoming annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, planning for the annual WCCRC ASC Luncheon is currently underway. The luncheon will be held Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>; final arrangements, including the meeting time and room assignment will be forwarded via the WCCRC listserv.

## NW3C Research Section

### Upcoming Research

The NW3C Research Section is in the process of conducting a follow-up to the National Public Survey on White Collar Crime, published in 2000. Contracted with the University of Virginia's Center for Survey Research for the administration of the survey, NW3C anticipates analyzing and disseminating the results later this year.

### Contact Us

The Research Section has recently changed offices. Any questions or correspondence may now be directed through our new contact information:

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Fairmont, WV 26554  
(877) 628-7674

John Kane	Research Manager	<a href="mailto:jkane@nw3c.org">jkane@nw3c.org</a>	x200	(304) 368-2867(f)
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Sandy Haantz	Research Assistant	<a href="mailto:shaantz@nw3c.org">shaantz@nw3c.org</a>	x241	(304) 368-2341(f)
Adrian Mascari	Research Assistant	<a href="mailto:amascari@nw3c.org">amascari@nw3c.org</a>	x238	(304) 368-2843(f)
April Wall	Research Assistant	<a href="mailto:awall@nw3c.org">awall@nw3c.org</a>	x239	(304) 368-2846(f)

### Editor's Note

The WCCRC Focus is a publication of the White Collar Crime Research Consortium (WCCRC). It welcomes articles and announcements relevant to individuals and organizations involved in white collar crime or related research. NW3C sponsors, funds, and coordinates the activities of the WCCRC. Please direct comments, suggestions, and materials concerning the newsletter to April Wall.

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