



## BRIEF OF THE DAY:

### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS: A VITAL PART OF SCHOOL SAFETY

PREVENTION GOALS	COLLABORATION	INFORMATION SHARING	THREAT RECOGNITION	RISK MANAGEMENT	INTERVENTION
DETER					
DETECT					
PREVENT			X		
ELIMINATE THREATS					

#### CONTEXT:

School Resource Officers (SRO's) play a very important role in the safety of our schools. Collaboration between schools and law enforcement is a major step to increasing school security and preventing acts of terrorism or violence within schools.

Some prevention and safety roles the SRO can play are:

- Direct and assist with school safety assessments.
- Participate in planning meetings to discuss safety issues and to contribute thoughts on the security of the school.
- The SRO should be aware of prevention programs and help choose programs that will suit the needs of the school and community.
- SRO's should build a good rapport with students.

SRO's keep school administrators up to date on issues related to violence and gang activity in the community. SRO's may serve as a deterrent to those wishing to inflict violence on the school, while the SRO also offers a sense of security to school staff, students and parents.

#### Sources

Resource officers keep schools safe, build rapport with students

<http://www.newschief.com/article/20100822/NEWS/8225030/1021/news01?Title=Resource-officers-keep-schools-safe-build-rapport-with-students>

#### Prevention Relevance

School Resource Officers place a police presence in schools and possibly deter acts of terrorism or violence in the school.

### **Prevention Techniques**

By being a positive role model, the SRO may serve as a deterrent to students who might want to commit an act of violence against the school, school personnel, or fellow students.

### **Prevention Thought**

**Collaboration:** How do School Resource Officers in your community collaborate with your agency to keep schools safe and secure?

## **IPS CONTACT INFORMATION:**

The Institute for Preventive Strategies is a national service of the Center for Rural Development, a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Somerset Kentucky.

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