

Court Security Issues 2010

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Abstract

Since the 9/11 attack on our soil, protecting our nation's courts, from the Federal level to the local courts, has been an on-going exercise in patience and persistence. While all would agree that protection of our basic civil liberties should be done with an open pocketbook; court security is one of the first things to be cut when budgets are reduced. Information concerning the current state of protection available to our local courts, and the changes that have occurred to the unit since 9/11, as well as in response to the recent recession, was compiled through anonymous surveys from sheriff's offices from 47 of the 66 counties in the State of Florida. The results of this survey provides a snapshot in time of the current state of our courts security and importantly, an idea of the ground that will need to be crossed in order to protect the judicial system in an effective manner.