



U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

**United States  
Secret Service**

# Press Release

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## **U.S. SECRET SERVICE HOSTS 2004 CRIMINAL RESEARCH SPECIALIST CONFERENCE**

(Chicago, IL) – On Wednesday and Thursday, March 3 – 4, 2004, the United States Secret Service will host analysts from local, state and federal law enforcement, as well as private industry, at the 2004 Criminal Research Specialist Conference “Building Partnerships in Analysis.”

In an era that demands partnerships among law enforcement and private industry, this conference will focus on opening the lines of communication between criminal and intelligence analysts working on the prevention and detection of criminal activity and counter-terrorism investigations.

“This forum is important because it highlights the significance of the relationship forged between the public and private sectors to combat crime through analysis and research,” said U.S. Secret Service Director W. Ralph Basham. “We’re fortunate to have law enforcement and representatives from the private sector here together: to learn from the experts and to chart a course for the future of criminal information analysis.”

Representatives from a wide range of government agencies, U.S. Attorney’s Offices and financial sector companies will have the opportunity at the conference to both reinforce and establish partnerships within the analytical community. Featured speakers include Secret Service Director Basham and Bill Kurtis, host of A&E’s *Investigative Reports*.

Well known for protecting the nation’s leaders, the U.S. Secret Service is also responsible for protecting America’s financial infrastructure. Secret Service criminal research specialists serve as the agency’s resident analytical experts, performing complex research relating to investigative and protective intelligence cases. Using the latest technology, as well as time-proven techniques, to track and analyze cases, these specialists develop comprehensive portfolios on targets of ongoing investigations and spot emerging crime trends by using relational databases to analyze clusters of information.

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“The law enforcement community as a whole finds great value in the analysis that criminal researchers bring,” Director Basham said. “Criminal research specialists work largely behind the scenes to provide the critical forensic links, intelligence analysis, and the investigative expertise to coordinate ongoing investigations.”

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*EDITOR'S NOTE: For questions concerning this release, please contact the United States Secret Service Office of Government and Public Affairs at 202-406-5708. If you are interested in covering portions of the conference, please contact the Secret Service's Chicago Field Office at 312-353-5431.*