

# CRAIG W. KOWALSKI

Law enforcement professional with more than 27 years of experience in conducting, coordinating and directing various types of criminal and administrative investigations. Expansive knowledge of school safety and security.

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Emergency Preparedness • School Security • Professional Standards • Investigations • Financial Crimes • Insider Threats • Violent Criminal Gangs • Budget Management • Policy Development • Problem Solving • Collaboration • Certified Instructor • Incident Command • Personnel Security • Security Assessment • Project Management • Safety Training

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Major, Police Operations and Investigations, Broward County Public Schools, Special Investigative Unit - September 2008 to July 2009 and 2016 to Present**

- Responsible for supporting and assisting the Chief, Special Investigative Unit in his responsibilities and act as his designee as needed for the sixth largest school district in the nation with over 275,000 students
- Responsible for the supervision of detectives, school safety coordinator, building security personnel, console viewers and security clearance staff, to include giving direction and guidance
- Responsible for communicating and working effectively with district, Office of School Performance and Accountability, school/district administrators, community stakeholders, law enforcement and community agencies to coordinate investigations and promoting school safety
- Responsible for coordinating the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program, which includes contract development with fourteen law enforcement agencies and program management
- Responsible for overseeing the Resident on Campus Security (ROCS) Program, which includes contract development with all stakeholders and program management
- Responsible for the resolution of complaints involving employees, students, parents, community members and vendors

**Acting Chief, Broward County Public Schools, Special Investigative Unit – June 2009 to March 2010 and June 2016 to October 2016**

- Responsible for supporting safety and security of over 271,000 students in 236 schools and education centers within the nation's sixth largest public school system
- Responsible for ensuring the integrity of a workforce consisting of over 32,000 employees
- Responsible for the supervision of all employees of the Special Investigative Unit, to include, all sworn personnel
- Responsible for the resolution of complaints involving employees, students, parents, community members and vendors
- Responsible for representing the school district in all matters related to employee discipline and termination before the Division of Administrative Hearings
- Responsible for serving as the liaison with Professional Practices Services and the education Practices Commission, State Department of Education and law enforcement agencies at all levels
- Responsible for providing training to district and school administrators related to employee assessment, employee due process rights and related rules, regulations and statutes

**Detective, Broward County Public Schools, Special Investigative Unit – April 2001 to September 2008 and June 2016 to October 2016**

- Assigned to the Security Clearance Office to supervise daily operations (June 2015 – June 2016)
- Assigned to the Special Response Team and to the Security Clearance Office to supervise daily operations (November 2014 – June 2015)
- Assigned to the Security Clearance Office to supervise daily operations (July 2010 – November 2014)
- Transition of newly selected Executive Director (Chief) to administrative role (March 2010 – July 2010)
- Responsible for process development and implementation of background screening procedures of all stakeholders, such as, staff, vendors and volunteers
- Responsible for the direct supervision of security clearance staff
- Responsible for direct supervision of building security staff
- Responsible for fingerprint contract implementation and management
- Responsible for process development of fund recapture for fingerprint retention/resubmissions
- Responsible for personnel investigations as assigned
- Responsible for background security checks on employees, vendors and volunteers within a School District that employs approximately 39,000 and has approximately over 5,500 vendors applicants and approximately 6,000 volunteers
- Responsible for screening approximately 16,000 applicant background checks that include employees, volunteers, mentors and vendors

**Detective, Parkland Public Safety Department – January 1994 to January 1996 and June 2000 to April 2001**

- Responsible for investigations to be followed up to conclusion, normally culminating in the identification, arrest, and prosecution of both juvenile and adult offenders
- Responsible for all civil forfeiture proceedings and coordination of these proceedings with the Broward Sheriff's Office Legal Affairs Department that resulted in seized assets/funds
- Responsible for the analysis of all criminal activity and proper deployment of resources
- Responsible for all background investigations on newly hired public safety officers
- Responsible for serving as the department representative to the Broward Sheriff's Office as a Multi-Agency Gang Task Force member
- Responsible for serving as the Internal Affairs detective for the department

**School Resource Officer, Parkland Public Safety Department – June 1997 to June 2000**

- Responsible for investigations of all juvenile crime occurring on a campus of approximately 3,000 students
- Responsible for investigations of juvenile crime occurring within the city limits
- Responsible for supervising officers responding to emergency situations occurring on campus
- Responsible for instructing school classes regarding career opportunities, safety issues, laws, driver's education, city ordinances and other related subjects

- Responsible for increasing the level of trust and communication between school officials, students, business owners, the state attorney's office and the public safety department
- Responsible for establishing a Business Partnership between Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and the Parkland Public Safety Department
- Responsible for meeting with members of the department to exchange information
- Responsible for all communication between the school district and the Parkland Public Safety Department

**Public Safety Officer, Parkland Public Safety Department – September 1991 to April 2001**

- Assigned as Officer in Charge responsible for supervising public safety officers assigned to a shift (January 1996 – June 1997)
- Responsible for performance evaluations of officers participating in the Field Training program
- Responsible for performing as the Incident Commander to supervise and coordinate scenes involving fires
- Responsible for reviewing and approving police reports, citations, traffic crash reports, daily activity logs and other reports submitted
- Responsible for training new officers
- Responsible for the protection of life and property,
- Responsible for the prevention of crime
- Responsible for the apprehension of criminals
- Responsible for the enforcement of laws and ordinances
- Responsible for the extinguishing and preventing of fires

**SIGNIFICANT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

- Broward Schools Police Officer of the Year - 2011
- Parkland Public Safety Officer of the Year - 2000

**EDUCATION AND LICENSING**

Master of Public Administration, Barry University, Miami Shores, FL  
 Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL  
 Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice, Broward Community College, Davie, FL  
 Instructor Certification: State of Florida Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Training  
 Law Enforcement Certification: State of Florida Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Training