

Behind the Scenes at JVC- Part 1

From the JVC Crime Prevention office

Janet Lamont, JVC's crime analyst, starts each day the same way. She goes online and starts searching the internet for any information on jewellery crime in Canada. This may take several hours and is done every day, seven days a week.

Next a review of emails for any information from police or JVC members relating to incidents of jewellery crime.

Once she obtains the information, the work begins. In most situations information published in the news media does not contain all the details JVC needs to provide an alert or information to its members. JVC attempts to contact the victim and/or police to obtain further details. **It is important to note that in many situations police do not want a general alert sent out to the public and request JVC to distribute to Police Only.** Once permission is received from the police to release the information to all our membership, an alert is produced and sent by email to all the members that have an email address. A large number are still relying on fax to receive their alerts and still many receive it by Canada Post. These alerts, when received by our members in a timely manner, have proven very beneficial to our members. There have been several incidents where members have received an alert and within days, even hours, the criminal(s) has entered their store.

The information is then stored on a database in order to provide a statistical report each month which is uploaded to JVC's crime web site www.jewellerycrimecanada.ca for all to view. This statistical data is also used to produce a more detailed annual year-end report.

Often these reports generate inquiries from members, individuals, media and police which are handled by JVC's Executive Director, Phyllis Richard, JVC Director of Crime Prevention John Lamont, or JVC's crime analyst, Janet.

Throughout the year JVC's Director of Crime Prevention attends many crime seminars held by private industry or police in order to keep JVC familiar with any new crime that are being perpetrated against the jewellery industry. These seminars have proven valuable in developing new programs such as the "Police ONLY" database which gives police in Canada a one stop shopping centre for jewellery crime happening in Canada. As an example, officers investigating a crime in British Columbia can see if there are similar crimes happening in other provinces. This has proven useful in tracking organized crime gangs which travel frequently across Canada.

JVC's staff provide training articles for jewellers as well as videos, seminars and attend special events such as the Canadian jewellery trade shows.

JVC is also constantly seeking ways of training police in relation to jewellery crime. JVC, with assistance from our partner Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company, sent two officers, one from RCMP in British Columbia and one from York Police in Ontario, to a *Criminal Use of Diamonds* workshop in Edmonton. Here is some of what the officers had to say about the workshop:

"Thank you for the giving me the opportunity to attend the course. It was fantastic training and I will certainly be recommending it to my colleagues... Kelly (Ross) is a wealth of knowledge and I learned some great insight into jewellery crime and methods of evidence collection."

"Thank you very much for the training opportunity you had me attend. There were a number of things that that took from it that I wish had known years ago as there were a number of things that can be used by street level officers. There was a file today that I was able to look at and assist with regarding a watch and was able to push an officer in the right direction."

On a daily basis JVC is striving to fulfill our mandate to advance ethical practices, establish a level playing field for the Canadian jewellery and watch industry and provide crime prevention education for the trade. Next issue- *Behind the Scenes at JVC-Part 2*.

"The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand". (Vince Lombardi)

John Lamont, Director of Crime Prevention, JVC