

HOLIDAY CRIME RUINS U.S. CORPORATIONS' PROFIT MARGINS

Former Supervisory Federal Agent Available to Discuss How Business Executives Overlook Internal Theft This Holiday Season

The holiday season is the most profitable time of year for many corporations, including retailers, but the unfortunate reality is that it is also the most likely time for employees to steal time, money and resources. Even the most ethical employees are more likely to commit theft during the holiday season because of economic hard times, a reduction in job security, long lines, and the desire but inability to provide friends and family the gifts they want most.

Thomas Martin, president of [Martin Investigative Services](#), has found that typically, 14 to 17 percent of employees steal from their employers. But due to current market conditions, this number has increased to 75 percent. Most employers don't realize how many of their employees are stealing time by reporting inaccurate hours worked, money or resources. The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners reports that a typical organization loses 5 percent of its annual revenue due to employee fraud, and that \$994 billion dollars are attributed annually to employee theft. These figures and other data from the 2012 Report to the Nations on Occupational Fraud and Abuse paint a clear picture of the challenges facing CEOs this holiday season.

Martin and his team of 650 former DEA, FBI, IRS and Secret Service supervisory agents who serve all 50 states and more than 60 foreign countries, can identify perpetrators and save companies millions of dollars this holiday season.

"In this economy, corporations are concerned with gaining the highest possible profit margin for the holiday season, yet they are overlooking internal theft that can cost them billions of dollars from Thanksgiving to Christmas," said Martin. "Employees are taking unreported long lunches, online shopping at work and using company time to prepare for the holidays. Business executives need to protect their companies by enforcing a clear zero-tolerance policy, establishing internal and external checks and balances, and knowing their margins while understanding that internal theft is a massive threat to all corporations."

Thomas Martin is available to address the following:

- How different types of employee theft go unnoticed, and what it means to the bottom line when it is discovered
- Red flags every corporate executive should look for to ensure employee theft is immediately identified and rectified
- How he and his team use the interview and interrogation of employees, developed by Thomas Martin himself for the U.S. Department of Justice, to identify thieves and encourage them to provide a full confession—typically within a few days of interfacing with employees
- Tips for corporations and retailers to reduce the frequency or eliminate employee theft

About Martin Investigative Services

Thomas G. Martin has more than 40 years of professional experience as a corporate security consultant and as a private investigator. A former supervisory federal agent with the Department of Justice, Martin has located hundreds of missing persons and runaways, and has worked with Fortune 500 and large private companies on matters of fraud, electronic eavesdropping and security risk analysis.

His expert commentaries and insights have been featured in *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Las Vegas Review-Journal* and the *Orange County Register*. Martin is the author of *"If You Only Knew,"* which educates consumers how to do their own entry-level investigations. The entire text of this book is published online at www.investigatorconfidential.com. For more information, visit www.martinpi.com.

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