



## COURSEN SECURITY GROUP

Spencer Coursen is a nationally recognized threat management expert and best-selling author of [The Safety Trap](#) (St. Martin's Press, 2021.) He has an exceptional record of success in the assessment, management, and resolution of threats, conflict resolution, employee terminations, physical security assessments, expert witness testimony, policy authorship, protective intelligence, and vulnerability reduction.

Over the course of his diverse career, Mr. Coursen has planned, executed, and led close protection details for dignitaries, heads of state, boards of directors, CEOs, celebrities, media moguls, and public figures on more than 300 international trips to 163 different countries. He has extensive international exposure, including the provision of close protection and threat assessment to clients in high-risk environments throughout Africa, Asia, Central, and South America, Europe, and the Middle East.



**SPENCER COURSEN**  
THREAT MANAGEMENT EXPERT

In addition to his experience in leading close protection details, Mr. Coursen has extensive experience in developing systems and strategies to better assess and manage risks for clients, advising clients on the assessment, management, and profiling of potentially violent persons and situations, and maintaining a wide range of intra and interagency coordination.

After earning a B.A. in both psychology and sociology, Mr. Coursen served in the US Army, where he was a graduate of the U.S. Army Airborne School and the U.S. Army Ranger School. By the end of his Army career, Mr. Coursen had helped to plan and lead more than 80 combat missions throughout the Middle East, oftentimes working closely with the Australian Special Air Service, U.S. Special Forces, and agencies of the U.S. Government.

Upon separating from the Army with an honorable discharge, Mr. Coursen served with distinction as a State Department-sponsored and sworn Special Deputy United States Marshal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF.) In this role, he was directly responsible for the safety and security of two consecutive IMF Managing Directors and their executive management teams. These responsibilities included daily protective coverage, residential and headquarters security, and coordination with host government authorities for all domestic and international travel — including security site surveys, investigations into threats, and the securing of major events attended by world leaders (G7, G8, G20.)

Mr. Coursen was next the Deputy Director of the Protective Services Division at Gavin de Becker & Associates, where he worked closely with clients to design and execute services best suited to their specific needs. During this time, Mr. Coursen conducted and oversaw investigations into suspected criminal activity, asset loss, property damage, personal injury, and alleged employee misconduct. He was also responsible for determining the need and managing the design, procurement, and installation, of protective systems and strategies required at the residences and offices of clients.

With this extensive knowledge in hand, Mr. Coursen founded Coursen Security Group (CSG) a premier threat management firm based in Austin, Texas. CSG provides expert security assessment, consultation, and protective strategy to help organizations, public figures, and private families succeed in staying safe.

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THREAT MANAGEMENT EXPERT



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**SPENCER COURSEN** is a nationally recognized threat management expert, founder of **Coursen Security Group**, and best selling author of **THE SAFETY TRAP** (St. Martin's Press, 2021.) He has an exceptional record of success in the assessment, management, and resolution of threats, domestic and global security operations, asset protection, executive protection, investigations, policy authorship, protective strategy, and vulnerability reduction. Coursen's subject matter expertise has established him as the go-to solution for organizations, public figures, and private families managing their return to normalcy after a breach of safety.

- Threat Assessment
- Executive Protection
- Protective Intelligence
- Vulnerability Reduction
- Global Security Operations
- Expert Witness Testimony
- Litigation Support
- Policy Authorship
- Incident Management
- Crisis Management
- Red Teams
- Table Top Exercises
- Intelligence Collection
- Due-Diligence Investigations
- Physical Security Assessments

## **Threat Management Advisor, Consultant Strategist, Coursen Security Group**

**2012 - Present**

Coursen Security Group is a premier security consulting and threat management firm in Austin, TX providing threat assessment, expert witness and litigation support, protective intelligence, vulnerability reduction, and physical security audits to help reduce risk, prevent violence, and ensure the certainty of safety for everyone involved.

## **Deputy Director, Gavin de Becker & Assoc.**

**2009 - 2012**

Worked closely with high-net-worth and at-risk public figures to advise, coordinate, design, and implement protective safeguards at home, work, school, and travel both domestically and abroad. Provided protective coverage and oversaw operational support to at-risk clients during public appearances and special events.

## **Supervisory Special Agent, Special Deputy U.S. Marshal,**

**Executive Protection Unit, International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

**2004 -2009**

Coordinated, directed, and managed protective security operations for the IMF's executive management team. These responsibilities included daily protective coverage, residential security, and coordination with host government authorities for all domestic and international travel, including major events attended by world leaders.

## **Airborne Ranger, US Army (82ND ABN 1/505 PIR)**

**1999 - 2004**

Responsible for the health, welfare, and tactical deployment of a light infantry squad on combat patrols and operations. (Afghanistan /OEF)

**Association of Threat Assessment Professionals** (ATAPWorldwide.org) – Member / Advisor

**IPSB** -- International Protective Security Board ([ips-board.org](http://ips-board.org)) -- Member / Advisor

**ASIS** - American Society for Industrial Security (ASISonline.org) – Member

**Becky's Fund** (BeckysFund.org) – Threat Management Advisor (pro bono) and "Men of Code" Mentor

**West Chester University - Dual BA - Psychology and Sociology (1999)**



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## **Spencer Coursen — Depositions As An Expert Witness to Date**

Mr. Coursen has previously testified in:

1. Cause # DC-19-13178; Vanessa Gonzales vs XTC Cabaret (Dallas) Inc., RCI Holdings, Inc., Front-Line Protective Services, Inc. & GALT II LP, a Dallas County, Texas lawsuit;



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## Coursen Security Group – 2023 – Book of Business (Overview)

### **50% Full Spectrum Security Audits | Red Teams**

Conducting in-person security audits of an organization's policies, procedures, and practices in order to identify the favorable findings, critical concerns, and priority recommendations, to help decision-makers better ensure the certainty of safety and security for everyone involved.

### **20% Expert Witness and Litigation Support**

Retained as a consulting and/or expert witness to both plaintiff and defense counsel where the industry standards and recognized of best practices of the security and protective professions are a factor in premises liability and negligent security cases.

### **15% Threat Management and Vulnerability Reduction**

Advising and managing clients on the most appropriate course of action on how to return to normalcy after a breach of safety.

### **10% IRS 132 Audits**

Conducting audits on a corporate security program to determine if the provisions of protection provided to the CEO (and in some cases other C-suite executives) meet the standards as outlined by the Internal Revenue Service as being in response to a legitimate security threat or as part of a compensation package, a perk, or a benefit.

### **5% Public Appearances, Speaking Engagements, and Corporate Events**

As a best selling author of The Safety Trap Spencer Coursen is a featured author with the Macmillan Speakers Bureau.



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## AUTHORED / QUOTED ARTICLES & MEDIA APPEARANCES

### **The Safety Trap / Media:**

<https://www.thesafetytrap.com/media>

### **"Kendall Jenner: Security Expert Explains How She Can Protect Herself After Scary Home Invasion"**

<https://hollywoodlife.com/2021/04/04/kendall-jenner-security-protect-home-invasion-interview/>

### **Nancy Grace does a deep-dive into Kyle Rittenhouse case: 'How did that happen?'**

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/kyle-rittenhouse-nancy-grace-fox-nation-special-self-defense>

### **FOX 7 Discussion: Examining school safety**

<https://www.fox7austin.com/news/fox-7-discussion-examining-school-safety>

### **Airborne Ranger's 5 Tips for Veterans Looking Break into PERSEC/OPSEC**

<https://www.military.com/veteran-jobs/security-clearance-jobs/5-tips-for-breaking-into-the-security-industry.html>

### **Travis County DA's office now has panel to vet expert witnesses**

<https://www.kxan.com/news/crime/travis-county-das-office-now-has-panel-to-vet-expert-witnesses/>

### **Five myths about State Department travel warnings**

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/advice/2016/01/18/state-department-travel-alert-warning/78637736/>

### **People Are Stealing Halloween Decorations. Here's How To Respond**

<https://news.yahoo.com/people-stealing-halloween-decorations-heres-225012462.html?>



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## AUTHORED / QUOTED ARTICLES & MEDIA APPEARANCES (CONTINUED)

**Spencer Coursen | Can You Survive This Podcast? w/ Clint Emerson**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6rAclgZ11A>

**Podcast #820: Escape the Safety Trap | The Art of Manliness**

<https://www.artofmanliness.com/skills/outdoor-survival/podcast-820-escape-the-safety-trap/>

**Is America Still Secure? | Spencer Coursen | 5/10/21**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Slim6MoSaF4>

**Managing Violence Podcast Episode 94: The Safety Trap with Spencer Coursen**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skYC7ngO-hU>

**Nobody Told Me! (Spencer Coursen, Author, The Safety Trap)**

<https://sites.libsyn.com/438741/spencer-coursen-that-we-actually-feel-the-safest-when-we-are-in-the-most-danger>

**Book Review: "The Safety Trap" by Spencer Coursen (SOFREP)**

<https://sofrep.com/news/book-review-the-safety-trap-by-spencer-coursen/>

**SOFREP Radio: Spencer Coursen, Author of "Safety Trap"**

<https://sofrep.com/sofrep-radio/episode-568-spencer-coursen-author-of-safety-trap-and-professional-security-expert/>

**Round Rock ISD implements new safety and security protocols**

<https://www.fox7austin.com/news/round-rock-isd-school-safety-security-protocols>

**From the US Military to Actor to Threat Management: Spencer Coursen**

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/from-us-military-to-actor-to-threat-management-spencer/id1464565197?i=1000514401701>