

# *Effectiveness of on-field security at sporting events*

**Mark G. Frank, Ph.D.**

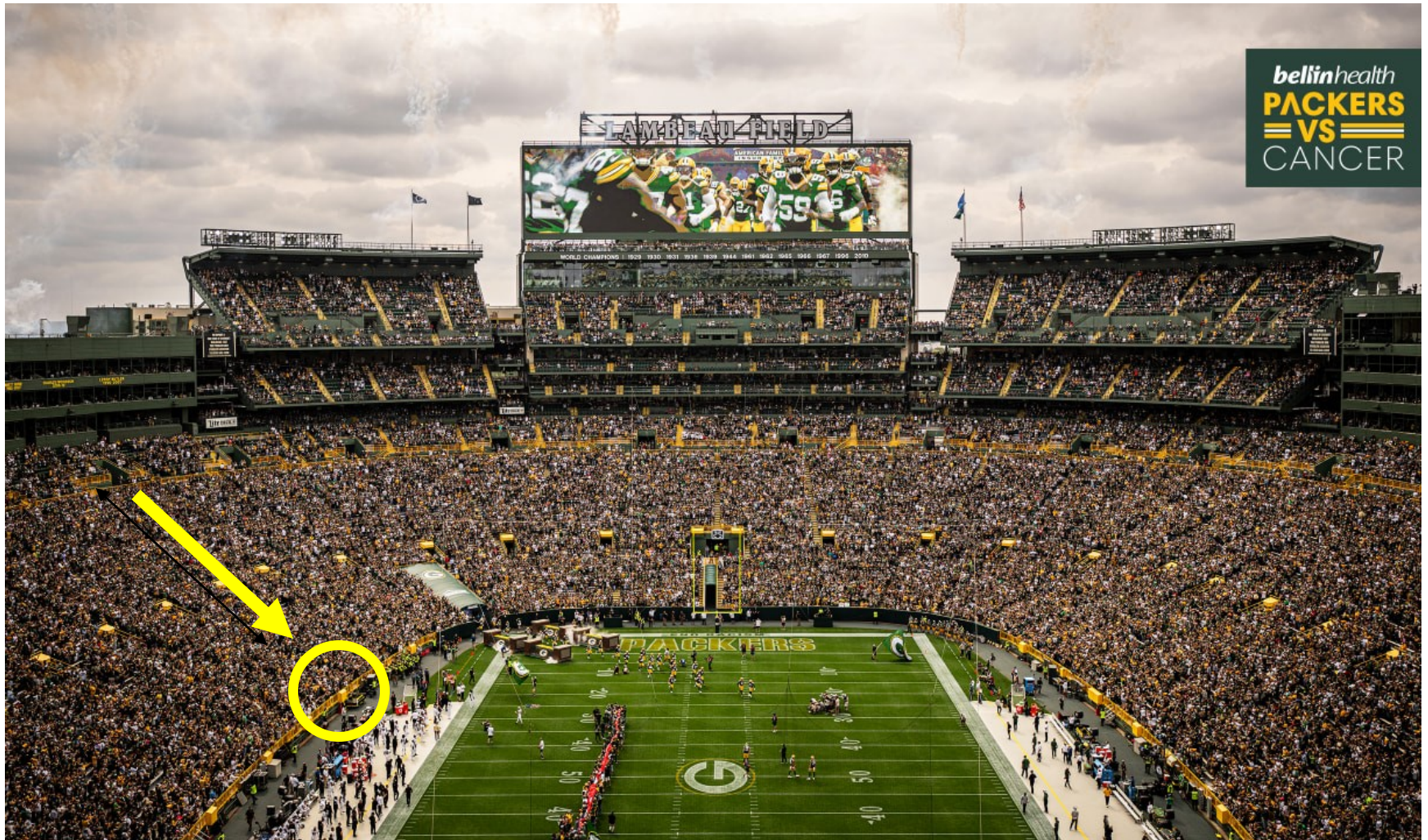
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*Presented to:*

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belinhealth  
**PACKERS**  
VS  
**CANCER**



**University at Buffalo** *The State University of New York*



What is the purpose of the security guard?

*DoD's 5 D's of perimeter security:*

Deterrence?

Detection?

Denial?

Delaying?

Defending/Defeating?

Threats:

Projectiles?

People on field?

Violence in the stands?

Terrorism? (e.g, Ariana Grande/Manchester)

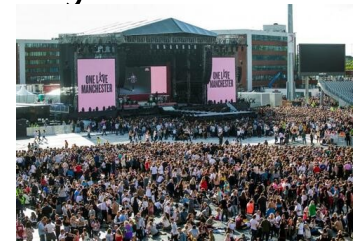
*How are these goals possible given the size of the stadium?*

Can we enhance human performance?



# So what? Who cares?

- **Mass gatherings always a potential target**
  - Terrorism as “theater”
    - A big motivator for the malevolent
- **How do we boost the effectiveness of security staff?**
  - Training? Screening?
  - Technology as an...
    - Adjunct? Substitute? Haystack-narrower?...
  - **Real-time technology that can alert human personnel to where to look, where to go, and to whom to apprehend**
- **Methods: Vision solutions to interact with humans**
  - Federal funding, cooperation by agencies (e.g., TSA, DoD)



# Pro's and Con's of on-field security staff

## ■ Pro: Active, dynamic physical presence

- Deterrence (*security theater – beats nothing*)
- Detect (*the malfasant*)
- Defend (*quick response*)
- Delay? Defeat?

## ■ Con: Limited training

- Specialized training exists
- Tie into technological advances

FindLaw.

Cardboard Cutout Cops Prevent Bike Theft in Boston

By Betty Wang, JD on August 14, 2013 | Last updated on March 21, 2019



# Research on effectiveness

- **Specialized groups that do well in distance judgment**
  - **US Secret Service** (64%; Ekman & O'Sullivan, 1991; 73%; Ekman, O'Sullivan, & Frank, 1999; 75%; O'Sullivan, Frank, Hurley, & Tiwana, 2009)
    - **Anomalous behavior in crowds**
  - **TSA Behavior Detection Officers**
    - *“DHS’s 2011 validation study compared the effectiveness of SPOT with a random selection of passengers and found that SPOT was between 4 and 52 times more likely to correctly identify a high-risk passenger than random selection, depending on which of the study’s outcome measures was used to define persons knowingly and intentionally trying to defeat the security process.” (GAO report GAO-14-159 p. 30)*
    - **Intentions:** 85% correct classifications (Frank et al., in prep)
  - **Proper training** (*being used in Mall of America; European Airports; and DoD force protection*).
  - **Inherently good observers** (“Wizards” - test and screen for them?)
- **Conclusion: Good human & “soft” skills exist, but...**

# Research on effectiveness - going forward!

## The role of technological adjuncts to the human

### □ Left of the boom

1. Intelligence to keep them away (*e.g., face recognition*)
2. Technology to detect at entry (*weapons, explosives*)
3. Crowd scan for anomalous behavior (*movements, locations upon which to train the human eyes*)



### □ Right of the boom

1. Projectile detection
2. Real-time signaling to human response personnel (*images of perpetrator, exact location*)
3. Apprehension advice (*armed? strategies, bystanders*)

### Needed:

**Real-time technology that can alert human personnel to where to look, where to go, and to whom to apprehend**

### - Cautions:

- SOP freeze (presents a static target for malevolent to find weaknesses)
- information fade from experts to front line personnel

# QUESTIONS?

Thank you!

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# Recruitment for Security Jobs



## Event Security - Gopher Football (Huntington Bank Stadium)

Best Crowd Management  
Minneapolis, MN

\$17.50 / hr  
Part-Time

Gopher **Football** (Huntington Bank Stadium) - **Security** Company:  
BESTCrowd Management Location: Huntington Bank Stadium Pay:  
\$17.50/ hr Job Type: Part-time Summary: Join the dedicated and  
professional ...

## How to Get a Job in NFL Security

Management jobs in pro football security will require a bachelor's degree and possibly a master's degree. To get a non-management job in National Football League security, these are the core qualifications that you will need:

1. You must be able to rapidly and effectively come to others' aid when emergencies arise.
2. You must be willing to work on the weekends, at night, and even on holidays. You must be at least 18 years old.
3. You must have an active phone line.
4. You must be able to qualify for a security guard license, in part due to your clean criminal record.
5. You must be able to quickly get information between the security office and clients – which means you need to have strong written and spoken English communication skills.
6. While you can sometimes acquire jobs and then get state-mandated training, it can improve your position to meet all state requirements prior to applying.

Beyond those basic criteria, it is also key to know the right people since thousands of people want these positions. By networking as much as you can and getting in front of NFL professionals, you are able to learn of opportunities that you would otherwise not. [Online sports professional networks](#) can be especially helpful.





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