

*When a victim has terminated the relationship, the abuser doesn't know where she lives anymore. But, he does know where she works.*

## **Keep your Workplace Safe**

*Awareness plus action equals prevention*

Intimate partner violence spilling over into the workplace costs American businesses an estimated three to four billion dollars a year in lost time and productivity. Join the ranks of organizations proactively implementing policies and procedures to prevent violence in the workplace.

In conjunction with Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse (CODA), Eugene Rugala, Senior Advisor to the Center for Personal Protection and Safety in Spokane, WA, is offering workplace violence prevention presentations to lowcountry businesses. A retired FBI profiler and past president of CODA's board of directors, Mr. Rugala is a recognized expert in the violence prevention field. He consults with businesses worldwide and is frequently interviewed by national news media.

According to Mr. Rugala, "Violence is evolutionary. It builds over time and is often preceded by behaviors which might suggest a propensity for future violence." Working from a mind-set of awareness, however, employees learn how to recognize "behaviors of concern" that can lead to violence.

Domestic violence is epidemic in our nation and has been dubbed South Carolina's number one crime by Attorney General Alan Wilson. Learn ways to keep this crime from spilling into your South Carolina workplace.

*An abuser presents a threat to the entire workforce, not just the victim.*

*"Murders at work by disgruntled employees occur much less frequently than other types of violence. It is the threats, harassment, domestic violence, physical and emotional abuse, stalking and intimidation that, if left unchecked, may result in more serious violent behavior. These are the behaviors that supervisors have to deal with every day."*

Eugene Rugala, "Workplace Violence: Issues in Response," FBI Report 2003

**To set up a presentation tailored for your business, contact CODA's community educator at 843-770-1074x225 or [communications@codabft.com](mailto:communications@codabft.com).**



*Workplace safety presentations are part of CODA's ongoing commitment to preventing violence through educational programs and partnerships with community organizations.*