

LUCIANO BENTENUTO
RETIRED CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Mr. Luciano Bentenuto, is a Criminologist by profession and graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor in Criminology after completing his collegiate degree at John Abbott College within the Police Technology Program. In addition, Mr. Bentenuto completed his certification as Primary Gang Specialist at the National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) in Chicago after having completed his field training with the gang unit in Los Angeles within the “CRASH – Community rebelling against street hoodlums” Program.

Mr. Bentenuto retired as the Chief Security Officer for the Courts Administration Service of Canada in January 2021, after over 34 years of service within the Public Service of Canada. In this role, he was responsible for ensuring the protection of the Members of the Courts, for the federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, Court Martial Appeals Court and the Tax Court of Canada, the staff and all facilities in which the courts sit throughout Canada. He was responsible for the Screening process for all employees of the Federal Courts working with the Human Resources Department to establish the key competencies and security requirements for all levels of employment to sustain the Judicial operations.

As a subject matter expert, Mr. Bentenuto was assigned to work with the Court Security Service of Ukraine to assist them in setting up the requirements for staff who were to be deployed within the re-organization of their judicial system, in Ukraine.

Throughout his career within the Ministry of Public Safety, especially within the realm of Federal Corrections he led national teams as Deputy Director of tactical Intelligence Operations he was responsible for the following portfolios: Organized Crime (Gangs), National Security cases, International Fugitives and Witness Protection Cases. He also held the position of Deputy Director within the Departmental Security Division, responsible for Emergency Management, Business Continuity Planning & the Security Awareness Program. Finally, Mr. Bentenuto was assigned the position of Deputy Director of Security Operations responsible, for the Use of Force portfolio, Escorts, Searching, Urinalysis, Drug Dog Detection Program, Perimeter Security, Dynamic Security, Use of restraints and Chemical agents.

During his tenure within the Federal Public Service, Mr. Bentenuto received the Exemplary Service Medal from the Governor General of Canada and the highest commendation Award from the Commissioner of The Correctional Service of Canada for his outstanding commitment with partners in the Criminal Justice System both nationally and internationally.

During his transition from the Federal Public Service to his tenure within the National Passenger Railway Service, Mr. Bentenuto worked for the Office of the Sgt-At-Arms and Corporate Security at the House of Commons. He is responsible for Security Projects and providing security services to the Members of Parliament, including Ministers.

Finally, since 2021, Mr. Bentenuto led the security services for the National Passenger Railway Service (VIA Rail Canada). As Special Director, Mr. Bentenuto put in place various security related programs and developed the security awareness program for over three thousand employees and developed the Intelligence Led Risk Management model to deal with issues such as the insider threat and internal personnel screening process, to mitigate risks inherent to the national critical infrastructures in Canada.

In the 40 years of Service, Mr. Bentenuto completed several specialized training programs, including Crisis Management, Hostage Negotiator and National Investigations (CSC), Criminal Intelligence (CISC), Expert Witness and National Security Awareness (RCMP) and Primary Gang Specialist (NGRI). He also represented Canada as a subject matter expert on matters related to Transnational Organized Crime at the Organization of Americas states (OAS) and the G8 Summit regarding Terrorism and Radicalization in Prisons.

Mr. Bentenuto is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Association Chiefs of Police. He is also a member of the International Chapter of the American Security Industry Specialist. Past Chair of the Railway Association Security Committee & member of the RAILPOL counterterrorism working group.

In addition to all of his professional commitments, Mr. Bentenuto is the past President of the Canadian Italian Business Professionals Association in Ottawa creating opportunities for Italian entrepreneurs and products to be valued within the Canadian market. He also leads the program with the Non-profit Association "Children Now" by focusing his energy on getting kids out of gangs and fighting violence for children while addressing issues such as bullying and intimidation. Mr. Bentenuto was also elected as the President of the Association of Professional Criminologists of Quebec before being assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Service of Canada as the National Manager for the Gangs portfolio in Canada.

Furthermore, Mr. Bentenuto's community service was recognized by Italy by awarding him the "Dean Martin Award" for his outstanding career dedicated to fighting transnational criminal organizations. In addition, the President of the Region of Abruzzo recently named Mr. Bentenuto World Ambassador for the Region of Abruzzo in Italy, in recognition of all the accolades received for his service to the Canadian Community, as the son of parents who both immigrated from Abruzzo to Canada.