

Federal Information Systems Security Educators Association

I Touch the Future, I Teach.

Crista McAuliffe

A Product of the  
National Information Assurance  
Training and Education Center  
Idaho State University

Computer Security

A Program for  
Federal Government  
*Functional  
Managers*

# Computer Security Is Everyone's Responsibility

Cooperation and support from all personnel is an  
essential key to a successful program



# FACT 1

**COMPUTERS ARE  
CRITICAL TO  
FULFILL YOUR  
AGENCY MISSION!**

## FACT 2

**THERE ARE DEFINED  
THREATS TO YOUR  
COMPUTER SYSTEM!**

FACT 3

**COMPUTER SYSTEMS  
ARE VULNERABLE!**

## FACT 4

**COMPUTER SECURITY  
IS ESSENTIAL TO  
PROTECT YOUR  
SENSITIVE  
AND  
CLASSIFIED  
INFORMATION!**

**FACT 5**

**COMPUTER  
SECURITY  
AWARENESS AND  
TRAINING  
PROGRAMS  
REDUCE RISK!**



# Management Responsibility

- Set Standards
- Assure User Training
- Develop Policies & Procedures
- Provide Knowledge/Enforce Regulations
- Provide Assistance
- Supervise
- Set the Example

# FIRST LINE SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Set a personal example while carrying out computer security policies and procedures.
- Provide computer security orientation/awareness to employees.
- Provide input to the AIS Security Plan.
- Review audit logs periodically.
- Provide password management and system access control for employees.
- Identify mission critical AISs/networks.
- Report security violations and incidents.
- Support and promote good security practices.

# Definitions

- INFOSEC
- COMSEC
- COMPUSEC

# INFOSEC Concerns

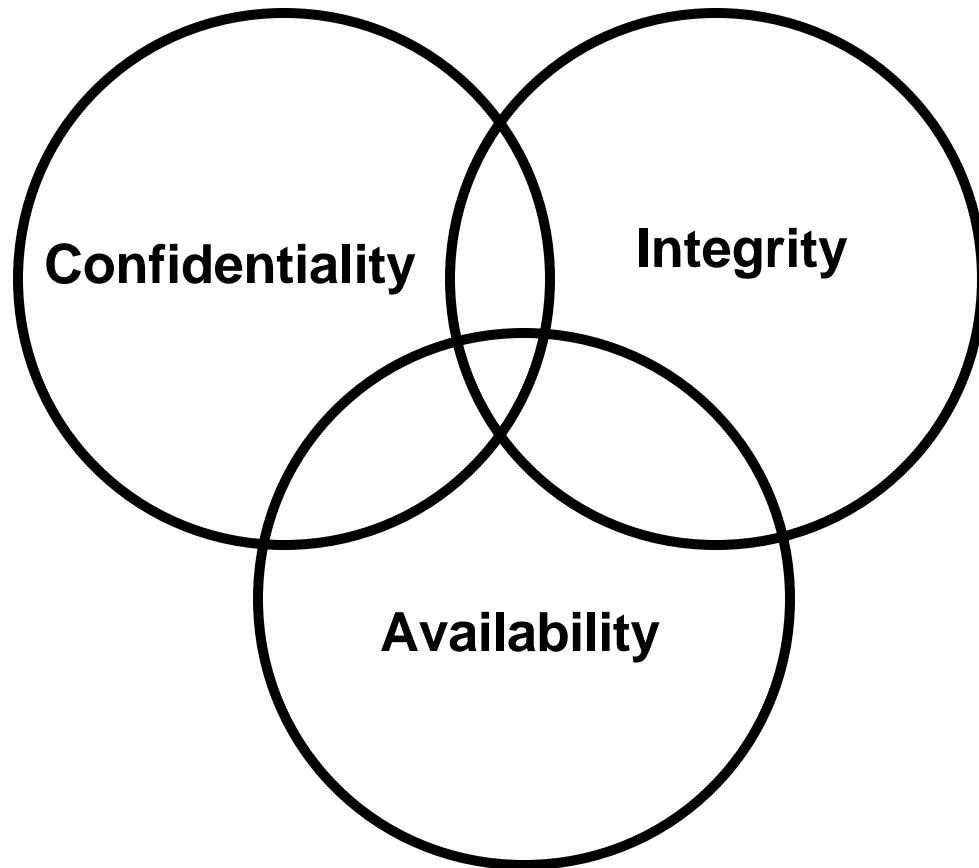
- Compromise
- Integrity

# More Definitions

- Sensitive Information
- Confidentiality
- Integrity
  - Store
  - Process
  - Transmit

# Current Issues

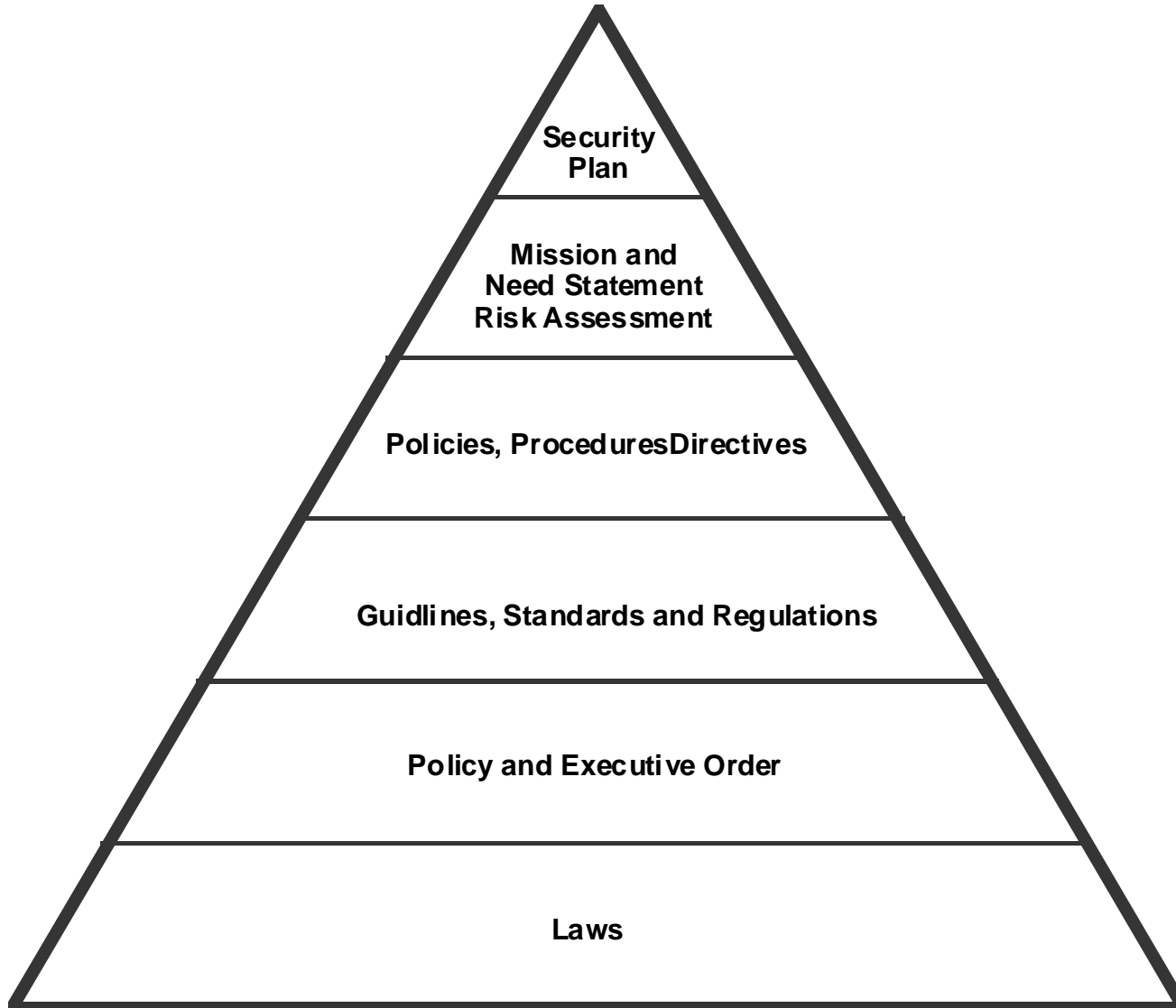
Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability



# Organizational Impact

- Compromise of Data
- Loss of Confidence in System
- Loss of Money
- Loss of Time
- Repair or Replacement of Equipment

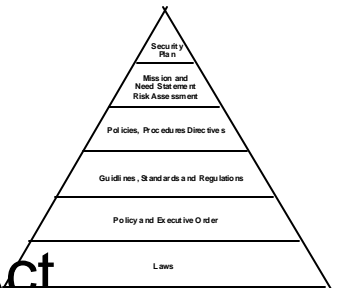
# Policy Pyramid





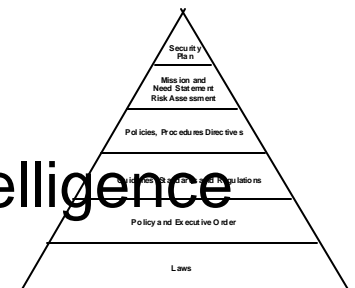
# Applicable Computer Security Statutes

- Public Law 97-255
  - Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act of 1987
- Public Law 98-473
  - Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984
- Public Law 99-474
  - Computer Fraud and Abuse Act
- Public Law 99-508
  - Interception or Disclosure of Wire, Oral or electronic Communications
- Public Law 100-235
  - Computer Security Act of 1987
- Public Law 100-503
  - Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act



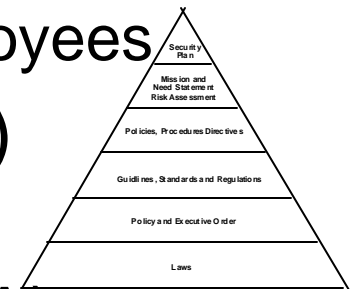
# Applicable Policy and Executive Orders

- OMB Circular A-130
  - Management of Federal Information Resources
- OMB Circular A-123 & 127
  - Internal Control/Financial Management Systems
- OMB Bulletin 89-22
  - Computer Matching and Privacy
- OMB Bulletin 90-08
  - Agency Security Plans
- Executive Order 12333
  - United States Intelligence Activities
- Executive Order 12356
  - National Security Information
- DCI Directive 1/16
  - Security Policy for Uniform Protection of Intelligence Processed in AIS's and Networks



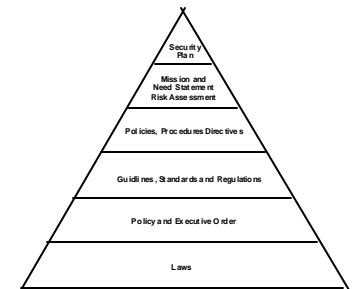
# Guidelines

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
  - Technical Publications, Training Assistance and Newsletter
- National Computer Security Center (NCSC)
  - Rainbow Series, Technical Reports
- Office of Personnel Management (OPM)
  - Training Requirements for all USG Employees
- Government Accounting Office (GAO)
  - Reports on AIS Deficiencies
- General Services Administration (GSA)
  - Provides Training Services for Users



# Agency and System Documentation

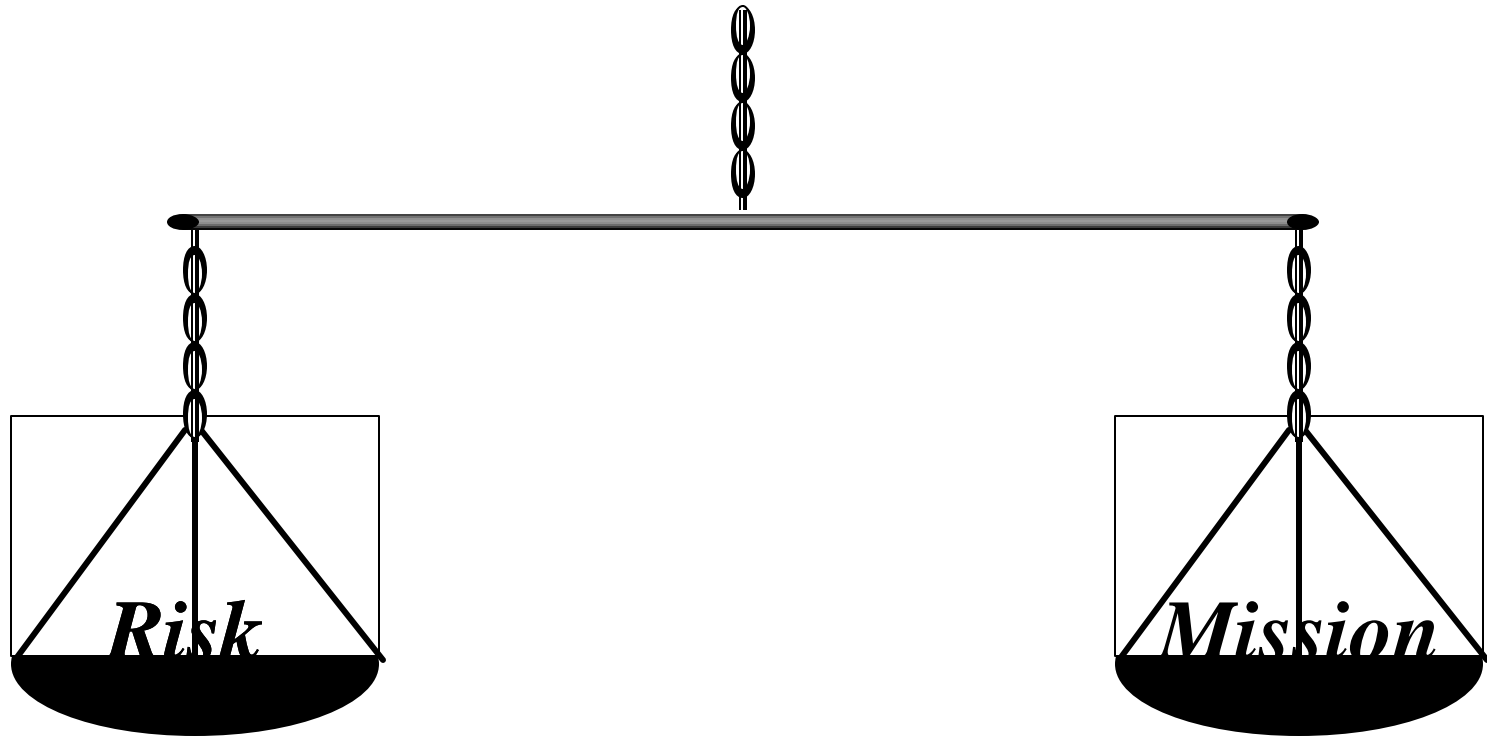
- Policies, Procedures, Guidelines
- Obtain These From Your Federal Agency
  - These are Agency-wide Computer Documents
  - They Will be Specific to Your Organization



# Risk Management

INFOSEC IS BASED ON RISK

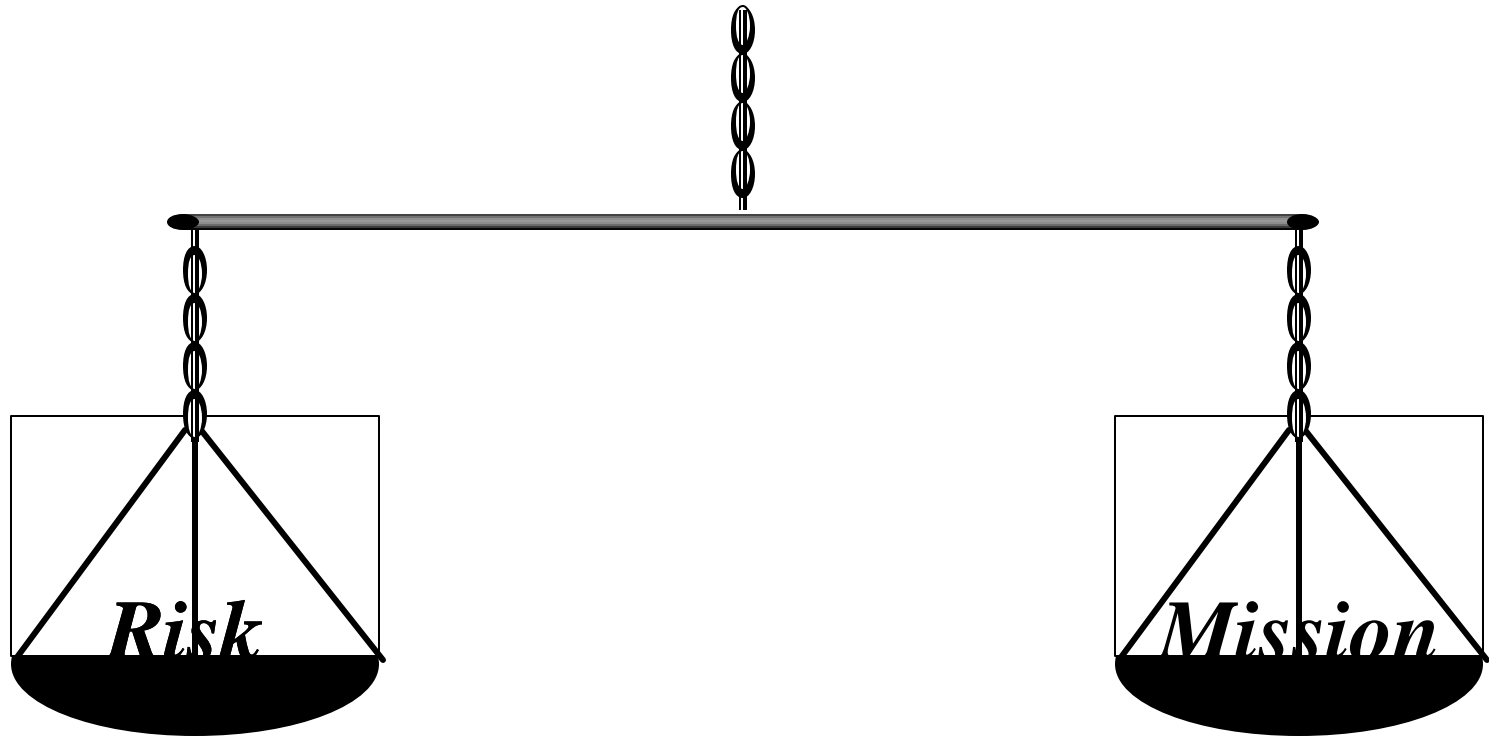
“You Cannot Protect Everything From Everybody



*Risk = Threat X Vulnerability —  
Security*

# Computer Security

The Key Question  
“How Much”



*The Balancing Act*

# Risk Management

- Risk Management is:
  - A systematic method to analyze security risks and bring in cost effective safeguards to reduce risk
  - Cost-benefit: Have to "sell" it to management
  - Risk Management in simpler terms:
    - 1. Decide what you need to protect.
    - 2. Decide what you need to protect it from.
    - 3. Decide how to protect it.

# Steps In Risk Management Process

- Form a risk management team
  - One from EDP/ADP/IRM/etc.
  - User who knows what they can lose
  - Could be formal or informal
  - Depends on size of organization
- Identify and value the assets
- Identify potential threats (what could happen)
- Determine likelihood of occurrence of threats
- Calculate the exposures (the vulnerable areas and their values)
- Introduce safeguards
  - for largest exposure first
  - only when benefit exceeds cost



# TREATS TO COMPUTER SYSTEMS

- Threats By People
  - Unintentional Employee Action 50-60%
  - Intentional Employee Action 15-20%
  - Outside Actions 1- 3%
- Physical & Environmental Threats
  - Fire Damage 10-15%
  - Water Damage 5-10%
  - Electrical Fluctuations
  - Other 5-10%

# Technical Vulnerabilities

- Trap Door
- Time Bomb
- Trojan Horse
- Mouse Trap
- Virus

# PC Vulnerabilities

- Population Increasing
- Portability
- Physical Accessibility
- Lack of Built-in Security
- Multiple Operators
- Nature of Data Handled
- Compactness of media
- User Education
- Local Area Networks
- Growth of Computer Crime
- Virus Infections
- Mechanisms

# Hardware Concerns

- Access
- Theft
- Environmental considerations
- Media protection
- Media declassification/destruction
- Lack of built in security mechanisms
- Electromagnetic emanations (TEMPEST)
- Hardware modifications
- Hardware attacks

# Software Concerns

- Viruses, unauthorized changes to programming code, backups not made, program errors
- Errors, inadequacies, backup system software
- Software not inventoried or controlled, Software Publisher's Association
- Worms along network -  
Morris/Cornell/INTERNET case
- Check all disks before using. Use of scanner or detector
- Problem of correct software use

# Computer Viruses

- Self Propagating Routine That Can Have Destructive Properties

# Sources of Virus Infection

- Bulletin boards
- Pirated software
- Shareware
- Public domain software
- Commercial software packages
- Networks
- Sabotage by employees, terrorists, crackers, or spies

# Preventing Virus Infections

- Boot floppy based systems using a specific clearly labeled boot diskette
- Never boot a hard disk system from an unprotected diskette
- Never use untested software (test off line or on a single purpose dedicated system)
- Backup files and programs, securely store and routinely check for infection
- Minimize software sharing within the organization
- Prohibit use of unapproved software from any source
- Educate users to watch for changes in patterns of system activity
- Install virus detection software



# Data Concerns

- Boot floppy based systems using a specific clearly labeled boot diskette
- Never boot a hard disk system from an unprotected diskette
- Never use untested software (test off line or on a single purpose dedicated system)
- Backup files and programs, securely store and routinely check for infection
- Minimize software sharing within the organization
- Prohibit use of unapproved software from any source
- Educate users to watch for changes in patterns of system activity
- Install virus detection software

# Levels of Data

- DoD
  - Level I - Classified
  - Level II - Unclassified Sensitive
  - Level III - Unclassified
- Civilian Agencies
  - Level 1 - Low Sensitivity/Criticality
  - Level 2 - Medium Sensitivity/Criticality
  - Level 3 - High Sensitivity/Criticality - confidential
  - Level 4 - Extremely High Sensitivity/Criticality & Classified

# Applying Common Sense

- Sophisticated security systems can fail if common sense is not used.
- Examples:
  - Fancy lock on computer room door, door propped open
  - List of instructions not secure
  - User ID, password taped to monitor
  - Password obvious (for example, person's name)
  - References not checked when hiring
  - Confidential diskettes left out in open

- APPLYING COMMON SENSE COSTS

# Penetration and Countermeasure

- Access sensitive information
  - Encryption
- Features not used
  - Implement protection
- Implied Sharing Capabilities
  - Parameters Check user supplied
- Line disconnect
  - Hang up
- Carelessness Employee
  - Training
- Passwords
  - Proper Management
- Repetition
  - Hang up & Notify
- Leakage
  - Shielding, Encryption
- Waste
  - Destroy

# Passwords

- The Use of Passwords Should Follow These Guidelines
- No repeat guesses
- Log unsuccessful attempts
- Review log
- Never write down sensitive combinations
- Hard to guess passwords
- Change frequently
- Easy to recall, hard to guess
- Don't disclose

# Physical Access Controls

- Restricted access
- Signs, locked doors, etc.
- Solid doors
- ID cards and badges
- Computer controlled access cards
- Access log
- Closed-circuit TV
- Procedures re: unauthorized person

# INFOSEC Life Cycle Management

- Life Cycle Phases



**Design and Development**

**Fabrication and Production**

**Acquisition Test and Evaluation**

**Shipping and Delivery**

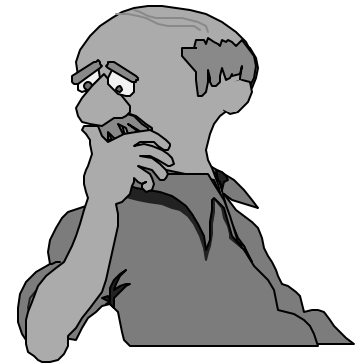
**Operations**

**Maintenance**

**Obsolescence and Removal**

# Disaster Recovery

PRIOR PLANNING PREVENTS POOR  
PERFORMANCE





# Contingency Planning

- Three major topics in contingency planning
- Backups and Procedures
  - How often?
  - Backup what?
- Catastrophe Planning
  - Making the plan
  - Disaster stages
  - Contents of plan
- Security in Backup

# Items in Contingency Plan

- Emergency Response Team List
- Secure Storage Site
- Complete Archive Backup
- Current Complete Backup
- Current Incremental Data Backups
- Hardware Backups and Tests
- TESTING
- Insurance and Financial Matters

# Resources and \$\$\$

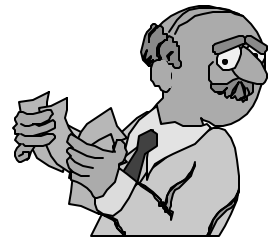
Our Security Mission Still Must Be Met With Ever Decreasing Budgets



**Today**

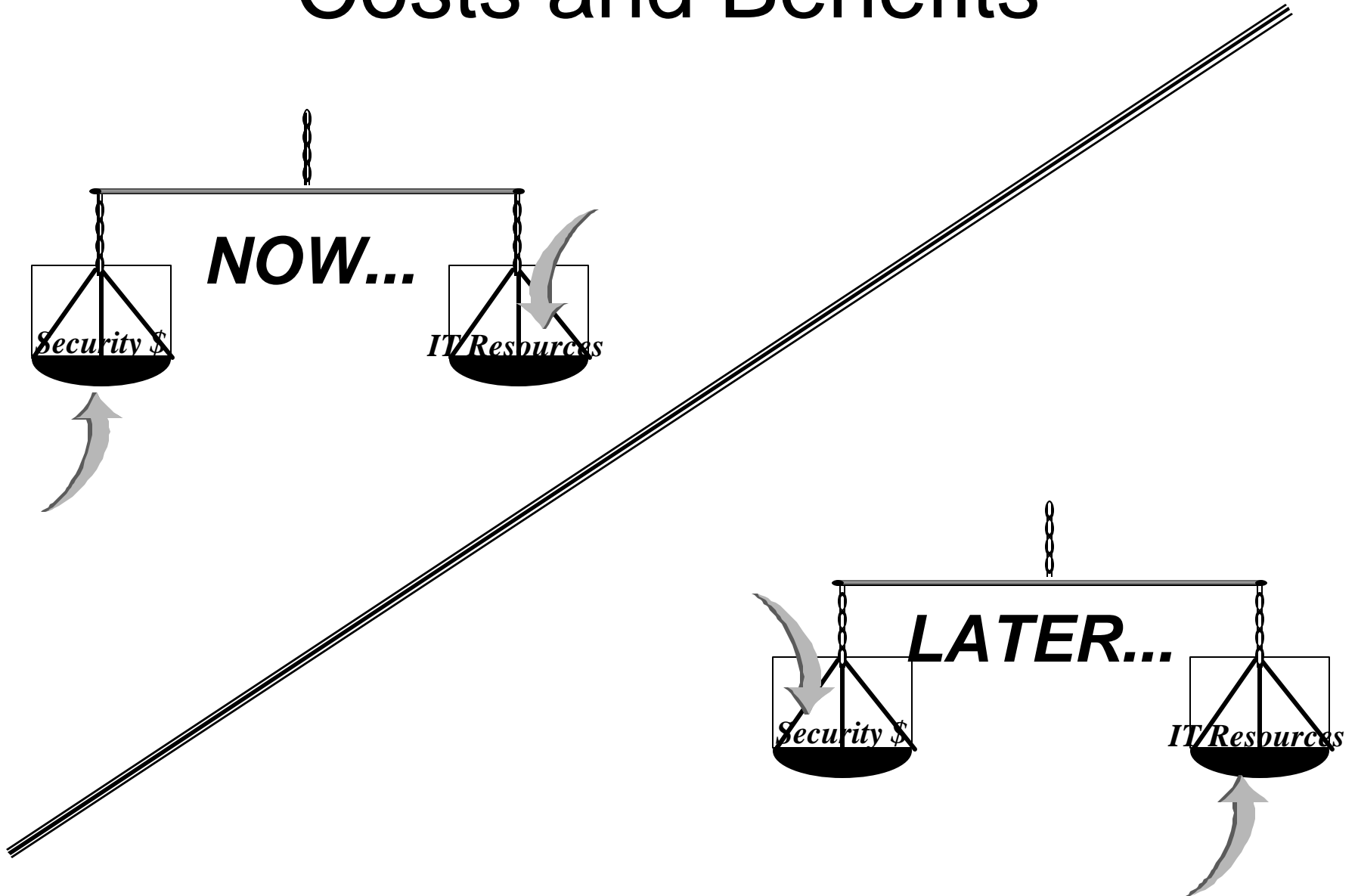


**Tomorrow**



**Next Year**

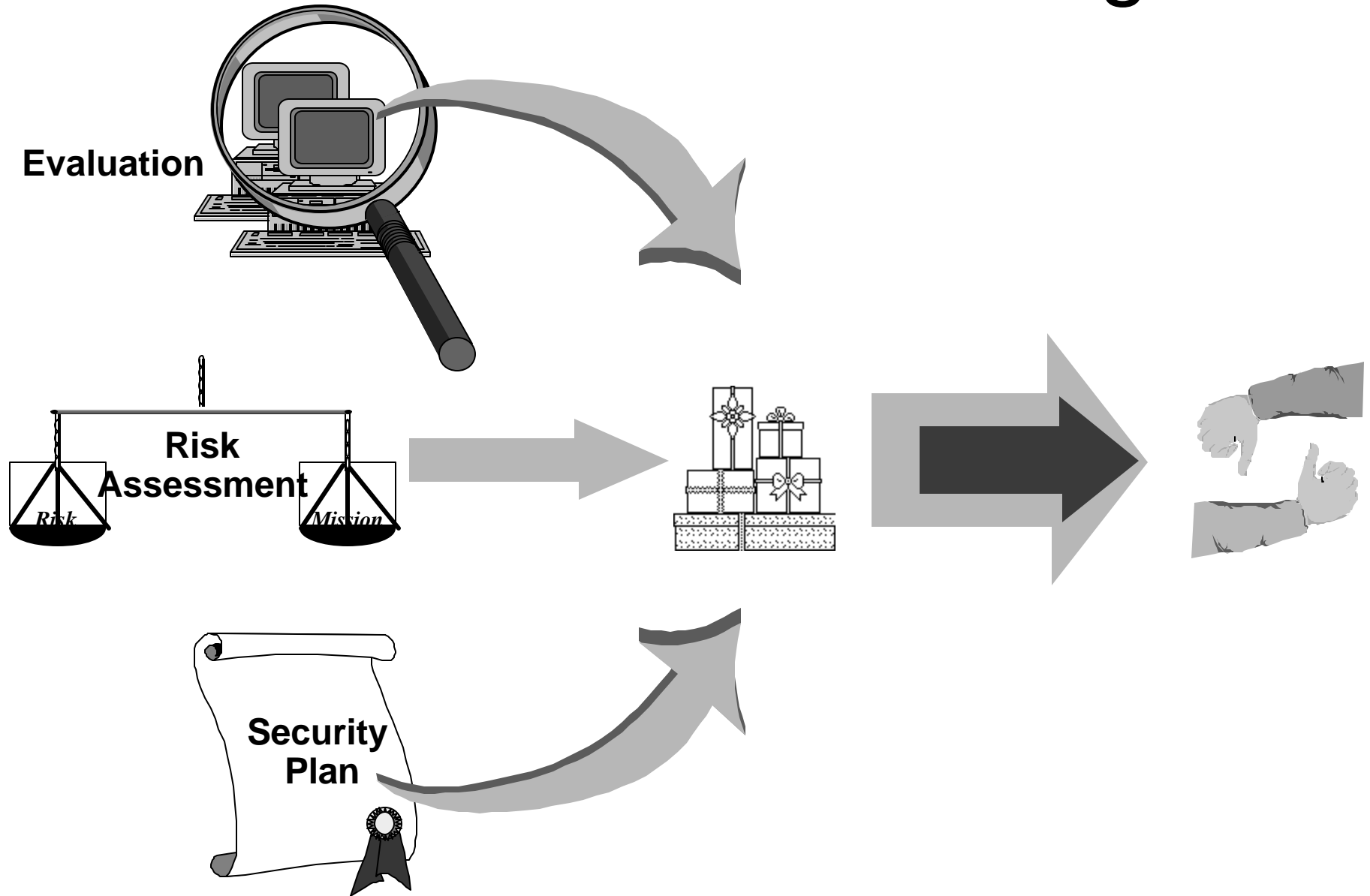
# Costs and Benefits



# AIS Accreditation

- Supported by:
  - Certification
  - Risk Management Process
- Reviewed every three years or upon major modification

# The Certification Package



# Why Use a LAN

- Cost
- Reliability
- Distribution of Work
- Expendability
- Flexibility

# Metropolitan Area Network (MAN)

- Moves Information Between Buildings
- Also Called a “Campus Network”



# Wide Area Network (WAN)

- An Integrated Voice/Data Network Which Links Metropolitan Networks
- Often Uses Established Common-Carrier Lines



# Network Vulnerabilities

- Access by unauthorized individuals
- Lack of physical control
- General lack of monitoring/auditing features
- Identification and control of dial-in-users
- Failure to backup critical data
- Sensitive to outside interference
- Virus infection

# Role of Systems Security Officer (SSO)

- Administer the data security function
- Give service to management to make proper security easy
- In small environment, system manager may do the SSO duties
- Important to designate someone as being responsible and accountable for security and control