

CRIMINAL JUSTICE **ETHICS**

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Chapter 8: Ethics in Corrections:
Guarding Ethically

4 EDITION

Theory
and
Practice

The Experience of Guarding

- Number of authors have pointed to common characteristics in those choosing career in corrections
- About one-third of guards interviewed by Lombardo (1989) explained most dissatisfying parts of job were danger and mental tension
- Guards often experience personal challenges from inmates
- Concern for security and order cause guards to be suspicious of any events that interrupt prison routines
- One tenet of guard work taught to new recruits is need to maintain social distance from inmates (Crouch & Marquart, 1980)
- Also concerned about lack of understanding from administration and inmates

Guarding Ethically

- Modern era of corrections brought ethical standards for corrections officers and management
- Specific rules prohibit corruption in form of personal gifts, personal privileges and conflicts of interest
- Staff also obligated to report corrupt or unethical behavior
- Commentators also have opinions on ethical behavior of correctional officers:
 - George A. Vose Jr. (as cited in Carroll, 1998)
 - Contends that in order for offenders to learn to become responsible citizens, they must be treated civilly by guards