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## Local man publishes everyday security manual

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Jerrod Smelker

**GRAND BLANC** — Local resident Jerrod Smelker wants to create a safer world out there and has published an educational manual, “Vigilant in Today’s World”, that provides good information for readers— but cautions that you have to become aware first.

Unfortunately, according to the new author, most people are not only vulnerable to crime through lack of awareness, but also the mindset that “It won’t happen to me.” Despite the local police blotter, which only portrays a tiny slice of local crime, chances are good that we all have or will become a victim of some type of crime in our lifetime.

Smelker, a personal protection instructor, said he began to compile crime prevention information in 1998 and it has since evolved into his own training business. “I noticed a lot of my family and friends were coming to me for advice on this, and thought other people were probably looking for the same information,” he said.

Smelker indicated he has worked in criminal justice for 20 years and noticed through personal experience and news headlines that crime had been “ramping up for years and there are a lot of victims out there that may not have been victims if they had known this vital information.”

The book is for sale online at several websites, such as Amazon.com, as well as his own, [www.E6defense.com](http://www.E6defense.com), and may in the future be available in person at local book signings. He can also be contacted via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/evolution6defense/?fref=ts> .

Eventually, this edition will be one of five covering various aspects of personal protection, according to Smelker. “The nice thing is too, once all five are out you don’t necessarily have to start with the first volume,” he explained

Future editions will cover home security and additional information. “The book is a little bit different than most crime prevention books out there because some information is presented as bullet point data and other information is written in article format,” Smelker stated.

He worked on the book approximately “two years solid” as well as other writing, Smelker explained. Although not a native to the area, he moved here a few years ago to be with his fiancée’.

His plan is to get volume two published by the end of this summer, volume three, in the winter and 4-5 next year. “The biggest part of this is, one thing I see on day to day basis, is people aren’t aware of what’s going on around them and have a “Wont’ happen to me” mentality,” Smelker stated.

“Hopefully I can try to change that culture. People don’t need to be a victim if they are aware of certain things. I don’t think people educate themselves enough on those types of topics because of that mindset,” he added.

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