

Other BDFM titles ▾

Quick Links ▾



[Log in](#) | [Register](#) | [Subscribe to E-Edition](#)



Johannesburg Hi 22 C Low 9 C	Pretoria Hi 24 C Low 12 C	Bloemfontein Hi 26 C Low 4 C
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------------

[View more cities](#) | [View 7 day forecast](#)

[Home](#) | [Opinion & Analysis](#) | [Companies](#) | [Markets](#) | [Economy & Business](#) | [Mining](#) | [Management](#) | [Sport](#) | [Lifestyle](#) | [Tech](#)

[National News](#) | [World News](#) | [Business Education](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Mobile](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Weather](#)

News Headlines

[JSE ends positively on news of Massmart buyout](#) | [Business Day newspaper preview](#) | [Strike over wages imminent](#)

[Tools](#) ▾

## Kidnapping

Published: 2010/05/13 09:57:40 AM

Kidnapping seldom makes headlines, yet in SA almost seven people fall victim to the crime every day. It's also a crime on the rise, warns Wally Thom, a consultant at insurer Guardrisk's Allied Products & Services unit.

"Wealthy individuals or business executives and their families are increasingly being targeted for ransoms of between R100 000 and several million rand," says Thom.

In 2008/2009 the SA Police Service recorded a 9% increase in kidnappings to over 2 500, though Keith Marshall, a regional manager at insurer Chartis, says that if unreported cases had been included the actual number would probably have been far higher.

It is particularly "smaller scale" kidnappings that are not reported. These, Thom says, are common, and involve the kidnap of children from up-market schools and ransom demands of R20 000-R40 000. Parents generally prefer to pay and get their child back without calling in the police, Thom says.

Another form of kidnapping he says is now widespread in SA involves victims being driven to an ATM to withdraw cash, or being held while the criminals drive to an ATM to withdraw money.

Marshall says there are gangs in SA specialising in kidnapping, though they view themselves as professionals not intent on harming victims.

He adds that dealing with kidnapers is costly and complex, more so if the victim is working outside SA or on business at such a location.

As a solution, Chartis offers insurance that covers expenses and includes the services of Clayton Consultants, a US company specialising in dealing with situations such as kidnapping and extortion.

Marshall says Chartis is the only insurer offering kidnap cover directly in SA, though other insurers are able to provide similar cover through foreign underwriters such as Lloyd's of London.

The cost of cover varies with the risk involved, which includes where the insured person travels, says Marshall. As an example, he says that for a person based in SA, cover of R10m would incur an annual premium of about R25 000. He says Chartis is experiencing a notable increase in demand for kidnap cover.

### WHAT IT MEANS

Almost seven people a day are kidnap victims

Targets range from children to executives



Wally Thom

Currencies	Commodities	JSE Today
RAND/US\$	7.0087	▲ 0.70%
RAND/STERLING	11.3875	■ 0.00%
RAND/EURO	9.4265	▲ 0.04%
ZAR/AUD CALC	6.5582	■ 0.00%
EUR/USD CALC	0.7434	▼ 0.07%
GBP/USD	0.6300	▼ 0.39%

JSE data provided by INET. Markets Data delayed by 15 minutes.

Find Share

### Management Tip

“ Help the “Hero” learn to delegate: “Under pressure to perform, rookie managers often try to be the hero and do all the work themselves. This not only causes burn-out, but can make their neglected team disengage. Here are three tips for teaching a newbie leader how to push work down:

1. Emphasize the importance of delegation. Explain to your new manager that developing staff is as important as financial results. Giving others work is essential to his engagement and advancement.
2. Think small. Help him to break up complex projects into manageable chunks. Ask him to think about which tasks will play to his employee's strengths.
3. Lead by example. Trust and empower your rookie and he'll do the same with his team.”

” - Harvard Business Review and HBR.org

Post comment here (You must login first) [Login](#) | [Register](#)

Article Tools

Print Email

BOOKMARK

All comments are moderated and will be posted only if they are about the subject and are not abusive, vulgar and/or discriminatory



Featured Top Stories

National

- Less than 25% of judges are women
- Farmer debt higher as income dips
- Nzimande warns against 'liberal offensive'

Companies

- Wal-Mart deal with Massmart 'still five months off'
- Arc Telecoms targets gap in services tailored for small, medium business
- Dynamic Wealth to be reinstated, court orders

Economy & Business

- German consumer confidence hits 3-year high
- Rise in economic indicator eases fears
- SARS can attach pay, offenders warned

Motoring

- LAUNCH NEWS: A wolf at the bakkie door
- ROAD TEST: Low flying on the deck
- FUTURE MODELS: Cruzing into a new dimension

Tech

- US mounting 1st test of cyber-blitz response plan
- UAE sees BlackBerry issue solved before deadline
- Facebook's Zuckerberg gives \$100m to Newark

World

- S&P warning deepens Irish political, fiscal crisis
- Brazilian minister warns of 'currency war'
- Europe's central banks hold back on gold sales

Markets

- JSE opens weaker on global stocks
- Oil falls below \$76; US fuel supplies seen up
- Rand tracks euro for direction

Sport

- Euro powerhouses look to rediscover goal-scoring edge
- Hoskins avoids questions on performance of De Villiers
- Marseille's Deschamps excited about Chelsea return

Lifestyle

- Explore South African Tastes with Sydney Mahlaku
- RICHARD HASLOP: Crucial CD Collection
- GWEN ANSELL: Jazz



Editor's Picks

- Poachers hit SA 'due to big rhino population'

Most Read	Most Commented
1. Wits spotlight on 'racist' Google search function	
2. Rand back to R7.02 on JSE	
3. US retailer in R30bn bid for SA's Massmart	
4. SABC, Mokoetle in surprise mediation attempt	
5. Gold peaks, but SA miners losing out	

Services & Updates

Follow us on Twitter Top stories BusinessDay On your mobile	<b>Register for:</b> -Daily Newsletter -Article Comments -My Portfolio
---	---

- Subscribe to:**
- E-Edition
  - Print Publications
  - News Headlines (SMS BDNEWS to 31899)

Sponsored Links

**Greening Your Business**  
 Click here to register for free course

[Subscribe to E-Edition](#) | [Subscribe to Print Publication](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Register](#) | [SiteMap](#) | [NewsLetter](#)

[Financial Mail](#) | [Summit TV](#) | [Bignews](#) | [Netassets](#) | [I-Net Bridge](#) | [Business Media in Education](#) | [Pearson Plc](#) | [Avusa](#)

BDFM Publishers (Pty) Ltd disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, injury or expense however caused, arising from the use of or reliance upon, in any manner, the information provided through this service and does not warrant the truth, accuracy or completeness of the information provided.





Copyright © 2009 BDFM Publishers (Pty) Ltd. All Rights Reserved