



Mobile Phone Theft

We were asked to investigate the loss/theft of new mobile phones being stored in a locked room at the client's regional offices. We quickly established who had legitimate access to this room and were also able to eliminate the vast majority of keyholders.

A plan of action was recommended to the client, which was simple and cost effective and would provide photographic proof of dishonesty. The client also required that any offenders caught stealing mobile phones or any other items, must be prosecuted.

A number of covert high definition CCTV cameras were positioned around the room and in the main office and were remotely monitored by the investigation team. After three days we knew the identity of the thief (a contract cleaner). We decided that the most efficient way to deal with her was to have her arrested, on site with stolen property in her possession. We had substantial evidence of her removing mobile phones from sealed boxes and placing them in her apron on the previous 3-day surveillance.

One evening and in company with two police officers we attended the office complex and the suspect was pointed out to the Police. Before we could identify ourselves to her and explain why the Police were there, she stated, "I have not done anything wrong - I have not stolen any mobile phones".

She was arrested and taken into custody. A number of mobile phones were recovered from her home address which were returned to our client. Her partner was also arrested and charged with Receiving stolen property. She pleaded guilty to theft at Magistrate's Court.