

A lifelong interest in and commitment to law enforcement led Robert O'Block, PhD, to create B.O.S.S. – Business Owners Supporting Sheriffs. Founded in 2010, the organization encourages business leaders nationwide to build a community partnership program in their own communities to help address challenges faced by local sheriff's offices due to a decrease in funding resources. Dr. O'Block, who pioneered a number of organizations, including the American College of Forensic Examiners International (ACFEI), began his involvement in law enforcement at age 19 as a police dispatcher. He remained active as either a full-time employee or a volunteer with law enforcement agencies while earning advanced degrees and teaching criminal justice at the college level.

After leaving academia to form his own entrepreneurial business, Management Executives, Inc., Dr. Robert O'Block attended an extensive basic law enforcement-training program where he saw firsthand the results of budget cuts. That insight prompted him to develop and trademark the B.O.S.S. program, making it available across the country with no membership fees. B.O.S.S. chapters consist of an advisory board that establishes a bank account for the receipt of funds, earned primarily through donations and fundraising efforts. The community partnership brings together business owners and civic leaders to support the mission of the organization. Use of a variety of fundraising strategies raises money to fill funding gaps at the local sheriff's office.