This book explains how suitability and security issues can be mitigated. Proper issue mitigation is not only critical to ultimately obtaining a clearance; in many cases it can result in the granting of an interim clearance and reduce the time it takes to get a final clearance. All 3 major federal personnel security programs are covered in this book with explanations of the procedures, investigations, and adjudicative standards. Sample SOR, LOD, NOPA, and affidavit forms, as well as reference materials, case citations, and rebuttal, hearing, and appeal instructions are included. The University of New Haven, CT adopted Federal Suitability and Security Clearances for use as a text in their graduate course, NSP 602--Personnel Security Programs in 2012.

I have been a Background Investigator since retiring from the military seven years ago. I have been in the cleared world for 27 years. As an investigator we are trained to look for specific information on each issue that may arise. This book clearly spells-out what people should expect in a background investigation and how we investigators work. I can guarantee that if you follow the steps William Henderson has provided in the book, you will undoubtedly find the process easier to deal with. As I followed along in the book, I too felt as if I was being trained all over again. Believe me when I tell you, this book is the single best source of information I have ever seen involving the clearance process. This book extended beyond the level of training investigators receive. I will definitely be sharing the word to my colleagues on this book. This book is a must read for all Facility Security
Officers, Security Managers, and anyone who is pursuing a clearance. The words in this book are not advice--they are fact. Superb work William!!

Wish I had this book back when I first went through the process. The security clearance process can be overwhelming and confusing. This book provides a step-by-step overview of what is entailed in the entire process from start to finish. Each of the areas of concern is explained in some detail and what can be done to respond to each issue that a person may run into. The info re: DOHA and adjudication is particular helpful if your file goes to DOHA. I think the appendices with examples of forms was great. I’d recommend this book to anyone.

I used to be a member of the JPAS helpdesk, which is the system used to hold security clearances. After leaving this post, I have helped many contractor and DoD FSO’s utilize the system. This book is an asset that all FSO’s should have. It carefully explains the entire process and what to do in the unfortunate event things get ‘STUCK’. All of the information present in this book is remarkably accurate and presented in an easy to understand way. If your job either requires you to manage clearances, or is dependent upon successfully obtaining a clearance, this book should be on your desk and the first place you go to for questions. Mr. Henderson has done an amazing job of putting everything together logically and this is an invaluable resource for navigating the clearance maze.

I represent people in applications, denials, and revocations of security clearances. Mr. Henderson’s books and his website are a great source of inspiration as well as specific guidance. He IS the expert he claims to be. Most cases revolve around mitigating a concern, rather than contesting the existence of the concern. Generally the investigators and the review processors get it right in identifying a concern. So in most denial/revocation cases the applicant has to "admit" the existence of the concern. That then squarely places the heavy burden on the applicant to Mitigate the concern. I recommend this book, as well as his other writings as a great starting place for individuals as well as security managers.

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