

What the Hostage Negotiator Knows:

The bank is Colonial Bank of America. It's a small but growing banking corporation. This is a smallish branch, and today is a weekday afternoon, so it probably wasn't very busy. No one on the outside has any specific idea how many hostages there are. Initially, the police are trying to contact bank officials to get an idea how many employees would be inside and other relevant information.

After half an hour, you can assume that you got information from bank officials:

The bank only had three employees scheduled for today: Martin / Marilyn Kirkwood, the branch manager, Eleanor Barnes, a bank teller, and Samuel / Susan Garcia, the security guard.

Martin / Marilyn has worked for the bank for over a decade. Eleanor is a more recent hire, only having been there a couple years. Samuel / Susan has worked for the bank since it first started, thirty years ago.

After forty-five minutes:

Martin / Marilyn was the key witness in an embezzlement trial in which Charles / Cecilia Laughton, the bank's VP (and child of a member of the board of trustees), was convicted. Charles / Cecilia claimed innocence throughout the trial, and implicated Martin / Marilyn Kirkwood. Charles / Cecilia was released from prison early for good behavior, about two months ago.

Eleanor, the teller, was formerly married to Ruben "Sketch" Barnes, a convicted felon.

If you get someone's name (in other data, above, or in a phone conversation), your researchers can return this information after about ten minutes:

Something brief about each character.