

# ASIS *The Informer*

INTERNATIONAL™

JAMAICA CHAPTER # 74

[www.asisjchapter.org](http://www.asisjchapter.org)

Vol #10

March, 2021



## *Women in* **SECURITY**

*Making Strides in a Male Dominated Industry*

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# *Importance of* **SECURITY LIAISON**



**Maj. Owsald Smiley**  
ASIS Foundation Liaison

It is said that one of the most important force multipliers in the Industrial Security function is that of a good Liaison.

Security liaison comes in many forms, either formal or informal, internal and external, individual and organization. In all its forms, it will definitely allow a Security Service Provider to leverage the resources of others. In other words it will allow a security enterprise to do more with less. One security writer said that 'Effective Liaison allows a Security Organization to be more proactive in their focus, thus making them a greater value added asset to the organization'.

A Security Organization should allow and encourage their respective liaison to develop and maintain their own formal and informal contacts. This will foster and allow for personal and professional growth to whom this responsibility lies. Throughout the Caribbean and the world, there are large law enforcement agencies that may have security agents stationed world-wide with high-level access to officials with information. Many Security Directors in the corporate settings usually do not have that luxury. Therefore, for a Security Organization to be effective in assessing threats, gathering information and conducting investigations, a liaison must ensure to establish professional relationship in that community or environment.

These professional relationship should include but not limited to:

- **Law Enforcement Agencies**
- **Government Services**
- **Security Colleagues and associations such as ASIS International.**

Another reason why it is important to maintain good Security Liaison is that it allows for Public-Private Partnership between law enforcement and corporate security professionals. This of course is a key factor in fostering these critical relationships. Many foreign security and law enforcement agencies have special units set up to discuss topics such as Counterterrorism, Cyber Crime, Financial Crimes, Import/Export Issues and Organized Crime.

A liaison must therefore ensure to establish this connection with his/her counterparts to be effective and efficient. Maintaining these types of relationships will definitely aid in the prevention and reduction in security problems, such as illicit drugs, street gang violence, workplace violence and fraud.

Therefore, by working together, law enforcement agencies and corporate security professionals to include the legal community can be more effective in protecting assets, resolving incidents while preventing future crises.



# Ensuring Security within GATED COMMUNITIES



**Carlos Pipher, CPP, PCI, PSP**  
Vice Chairman/ Newsletter Editor

The prevalence of crime and the idea of a secure environment has pushed many developers towards building gated communities which are now highly sought by house buyers and tenants. There is no doubt that a secure feeling exists within gated communities or compounds. However, it requires a lot more than just a perimeter fence with a fancy entrance to be adequately safe and secure. The desired behavior should actually be designed into the built environment and then maintained by a home owners association or by professional security officers.

Architect Oscar Newman is credited for his pioneering work called 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' (CPTED). Newman's work focuses on place, design and space usage. A community can be designed to produce behavior that negates crime. Clearly defined walkways, social gathering areas, parking and play areas all contribute to proper conduct. Unwanted behavior can be made possible if the design allows for it, whereas proper conduct and behavior becomes natural in other communities because it was thought of in the design phase.

Boundaries/ territory should be demarked to define personal space, this is done through perimeter fencing, landscaping, plants and signage. The natural access should be controlled to prevent those who do not belong from getting in. Ideally, entrance approach to communities should be designed for visitor turnaround if access is denied.

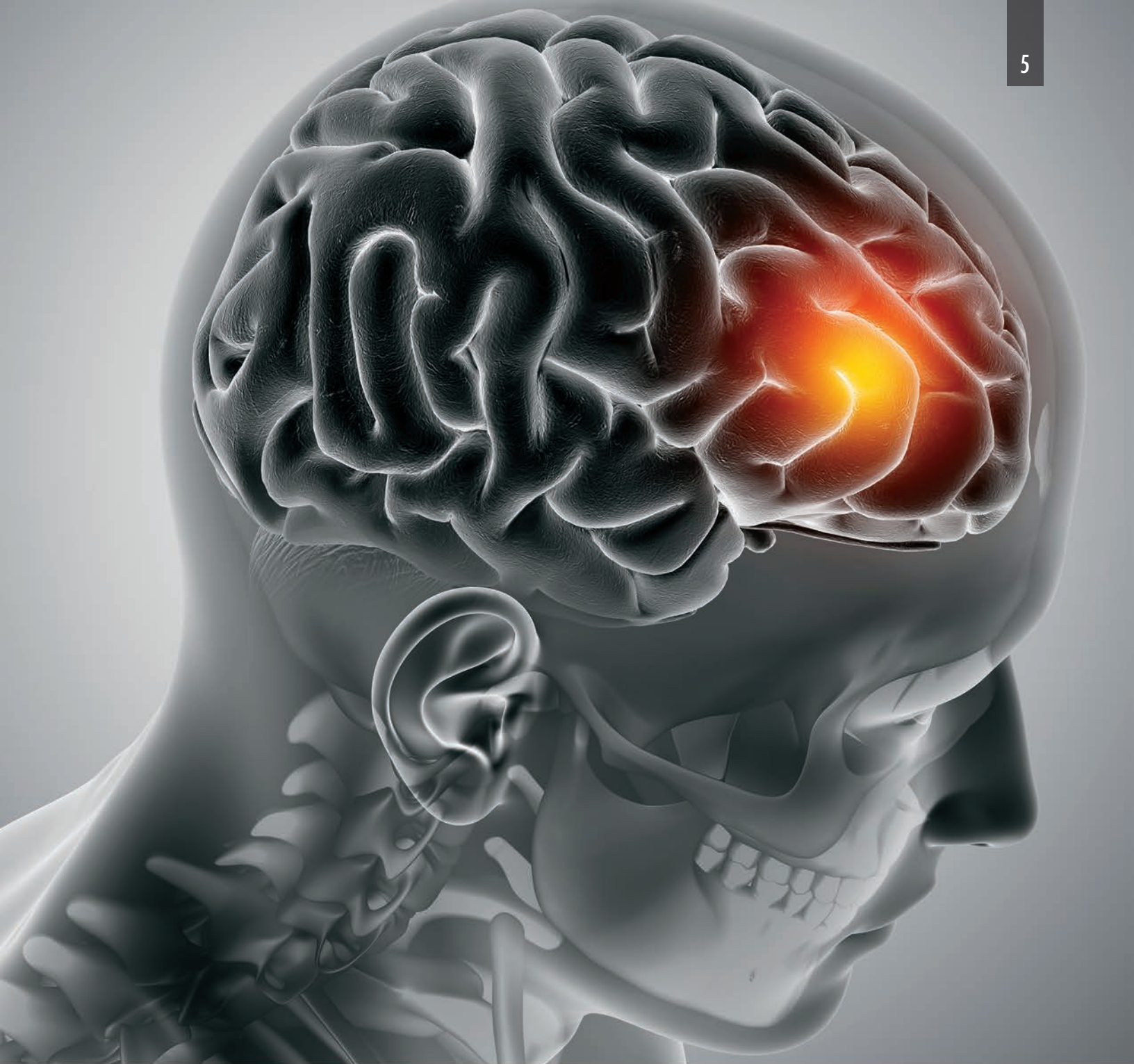


Natural surveillance is also very important, because it enables residents to clearly see theirs and neighbouring properties, this is a strong deterrent for individuals with malevolent intent. Overgrown plants and trees are an impediment to natural surveillance, keep plants at a height of 3 ft.

Proper lighting is another critical component to ensure safety, common areas should be properly illuminated which also aids natural surveillance. Different light sources produce different qualities of light. Metal halide provides over 20,000 hours and is accurate in identifying people, colour of vehicles and other details.

CCTV should be strategically placed to cover the entire development or compound to give the best field of view. Monitoring of cameras should be constant to allow for real time reaction, remember that the only purpose of a camera is to detect. Cameras need adequate light to see at night, also their position in relation to lamp sources should be taken into consideration to prevent clouding.





# *MENTAL HEALTH*

of Security Officers



in guard requirements in the modern era. I pointed out the great shift that now requires security officers to be more scholarly as opposed to being physically inclined. This means that there has to be a greater level of thinking that is applied to responses when incidents occur. Not many have realised how difficult it may be for the individual, if they are not in the correct frame of mind but are still expected to perform at an optimum level.

The role of a security officer is as challenging as that of a police officer or a soldier. However, the care that is taken to ensure that they are given professional assistance after suffering great trauma, is not on the list of company executives spending agenda. Few recognize that mental health does not always mirror itself in the individual becoming completely incoherent but may manifest through some subtle changes in their behavior, some may lash out.

In 2012, a security officer was working at a location in St. Catherine, in the night he was tied by gunmen and left in a water canal face down. Before that incident, that officer presented himself as extremely well-mannered, intelligent and was poised for growth within the industry. After the incident, he became angry, aggressive, unfocused and began smoking and drinking heavily. It was as if he had become someone else who felt that he had to be 'hard' to avoid anything like that happening to him again.

On 25th April 2019, Shane Dalling, CEO of the Firearm Licensing Authority, in a presentation to the ASIS Jamaica Chapter, insinuated that consideration would be given to the mental health status of firearm applicants and suggested the need to take a more proactive approach in identifying persons with possible mental health issues. This is a step in the right direction.

Many companies that are suffering from the effects of the current economic fallout caused by COVID-19, have yet to grasp the potential impact on their employees mental health. It is one thing for persons to be challenged financially, however, it is a whole new ball game when all of the cares of life seem to be thrown at you. Even the means that once provided a creative method of earning residual income, is just the filler between your last salary and your next.

It is my fervent wish that whoever reads this article and is in a position to influence change, should consider the factors raised and help to echo the need for an evolution in thinking that will help to strengthen the calls for greater attention to be paid to the mental health of our security officers.



# *Congratulations*

The Executive and Members of ASIS International –  
Jamaica Chapter proudly congratulates

**Javan Simpson, PCI**  
for his recent success in the  
Professional Certified Investigator Exam.



Become a Community member and be a part of the discussions on ASIS Connects. Gain valuable insights on trending and global topics.

Build your Security Knowledge and earn CPE's by accessing live and On-demand Webinars at [www.asisonline.org](http://www.asisonline.org)

**Mar 25** - Security Trends for 2021: The Smarter Return to Work

**Apr 06** – Exercising It All: Incorporating Crisis Management and Business Continuity into your Security Exercises

**Apr 21**- Advance Concepts in Business Continuity and Crisis Management

**Apr 28** –Achieving a Culture of Zero Violence: Leadership Strategies to Improve Healthcare Security Programs

2020 The Year of Convergence

Building Security: Protecting People and Property with Bulletproof Systems

An Integrated Approach to Threat Assessment and Management

The Best of GSX+ 2020: Insider Threat

## **ASIS** INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

The designated certification for the under mentioned members are up for renewal on the dates shown:

**May 31, 2021**

Ewan Sparkes, PSP

**November 30, 2021**

Carlos Pipher, CPP,

**November 30, 2021**

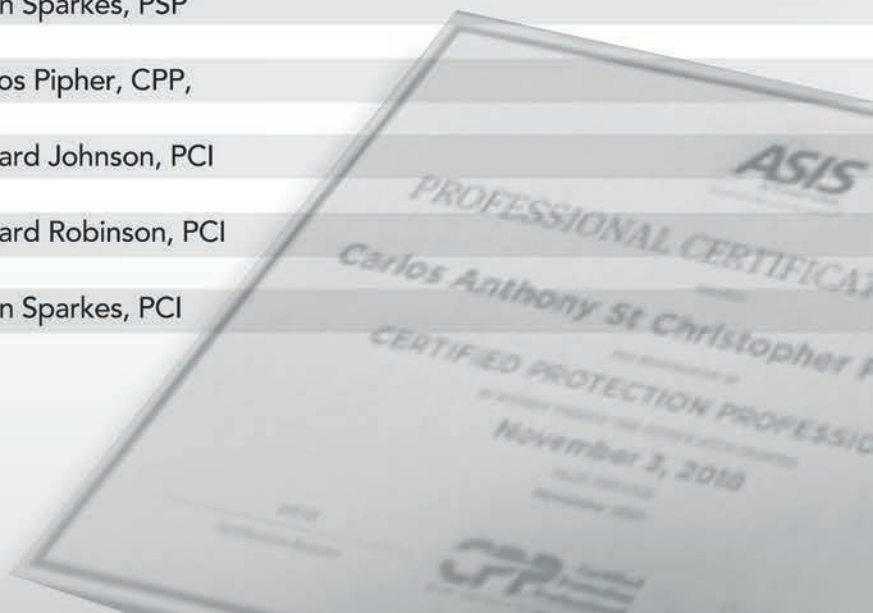
Richard Johnson, PCI

**November 30, 2021**

Richard Robinson, PCI

**November 30, 2021**

Ewan Sparkes, PCI





# Management of COVID-19 in an Airport Environment

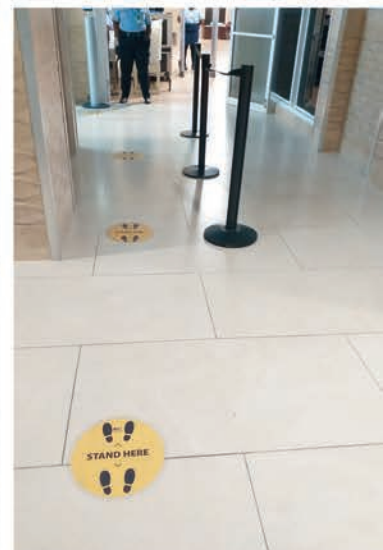
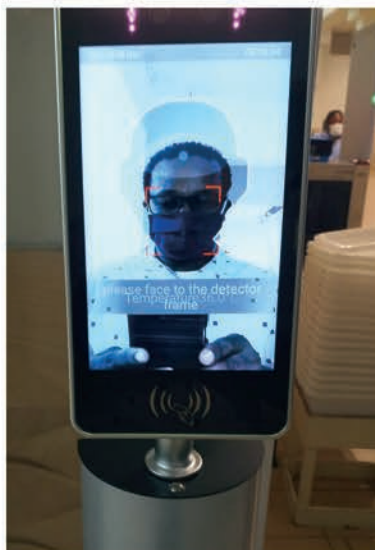
Aviation Security Assessor. Peter Hall, PCI.  
Guest speaker, February Chapter Meeting

Summarized by Vice Chairman/Newsletter  
Editor.

Many of us did not board an airplane in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Flights were few and potential travelers were afraid of contracting the virus in overcrowded airports and in close proximity in an aircraft cabin. We can only imagine the chaos and confusion that entails for airport staff, tenants and passengers in airports back then. With proper risk assessment followed by good management and excellent leadership any situation can be brought under control or to an acceptable level whereby confidence is regained, which will ultimately remove some of the fear factor.

Peter Hall, PCI told the attendees at the Chapter meeting that when Covid-19 pandemic arrived in Jamaica; The Airport Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) immediately formed a partnership with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) to plan a way forward, to look at existing resources so as to ascertain critical resources that would be needed based on the Covid-19 threat. A table top exercise was conducted in conjunction with the MoHW to delegate and allocate tasks/ responsibilities so as to avoid confusion and duplication of effort.

In March 2020, an emergency request was received to repatriate approximately over 2000 cruise ship passengers which eventually proved to be a logistical operation; passengers were not to be taken in the terminal or departure lounge. A special security program had to be written to outline the protocols for approval and to ensure success of this operation. We were now interfacing with a third entity, the Port Authority of Jamaica (PAJ) and there was no doubt that we were under the microscope of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and Federal Aviation Authority (FAA)







Borders were closed on March 26, 2020 but airports were not closed because cargo and repatriation flights had to be accommodated. This down time gave us the opportunity to liaise with MoHW to design and implement protocols to protect staff, tenants and passengers within the airport environment. Passengers are required to use the Jam Covid App to request approval for entry whilst non-Jamaicans were required to provide a negative Covid-19 test result. The program has since been fine-tuned with passengers now expected to virtually sign quarantine orders before approval is granted. This allowed for increase in throughput and avoids congestion within airport halls and ultimately reduced the number of nurses and health inspectors that were needed.

Peter Hall, PCI cited a 2020 Harvard study which concluded that airports offer a low risk of contracting Covid-19 because of the robust protocols that are in place. Simple things such as wearing of face masks, hand sanitizing and social distancing will make a world of difference. Prevention measures included minimizing the number of persons entering the airport, compulsory wearing of face masks in all areas, hand washing stations, installation of temperature scanners, plexiglass at all counters, sanitization to all areas. Further, work shifts were adjusted to limit the number of employees at work stations.

Near Field Communication technology was introduced to validate passports, boarding passes and installation of automated doors were all measures aimed at restricting handling and touching by users within airports. Luggage bins are



sanitized immediately after each use by cleaning reps that are at locations.

Based on the robust measures and protocols that are in place; travellers should feel a lot safer while inside our airports. MBI along with our partners are urging everyone to obey the protocols at all times so that all users will be safe from Covid-19.





Winners of the 2020 I. B. Hale Chapter of the Year Award,  
2020 Chapter Website of the Year Award  
and the 2021 Roy Bordes Scholarship

will be hosting its

## VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 commencing at 7.00pm EST  
via Zoom Link : [shorturl.at/xKPQ1](https://shorturl.at/xKPQ1)

GUEST SPEAKER



His Excellency Asif Anwar Ahmad, CMG  
British High Commissioner



## PHYSICAL SECURITY PROFESSIONAL

(PSP) VIRTUAL STUDY COURSE

July 27 to November 11, 2021  
30 Recorded Live Sessions held on  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
(6.00pm – 9.00pm)

### Course Fee:

ASIS Members - J\$105,000  
Non-Members - J\$120,000

### Early Bird Registration

From April 1 to June 30, 2021  
20% Discount for Course Fees  
Paid in full by June 30, 2021

Online Registration Available at  
<https://form.jotform.com/210934871012853>

### Benefits

Highly Experienced Faculty ✓  
Interactive Learning ✓  
Tips and Tools ✓  
Progressive Assessments ✓  
Flexible Credit Terms ✓  
Proven Track Record ✓



ASIS International -Jamaica Chapter  
will be hosting  
a Two-day Virtual Summit on

## ENTERPRISE SECURITY RISK MANAGEMENT

A holistic approach to managing  
all security risks

July 20th – 21st, 2021







# Challenges of Transforming from In-Person to the Virtual Environment

**Capt. (Retd) Basil Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP**  
Treasurer & Program Chairperson

Earlier this year I was asked by ASIS International to speak at the Leadership Exchange on “What makes a meaningful program in a virtual environment?”. Although I could have spoken for well over an hour on the proposition. The challenge however, was to cover the salient points in the 20 minutes allocated on January 27, 2021. This format, with your indulgence, will allow me ample time to fully address the following key points of my presentation:

- How have we transformed from a typical in-person event experience into the virtual format?
- Have we discovered any new partners during this time?
- How have we thought “outside the box” to engage members and
- What tips or advice would we give to a Chapter that is exploring, or has yet to try a virtual program?

## **How have we transformed from a typical in-person event experience into the virtual format?**

Prior to COVID-19 the Jamaica Chapter routinely live streamed its meetings on Facebook Live but this initiative was not well received because it was treated as an appendage, so the pandemic proved to be a God send as it forced us to abandon the blended approach and to focus fully on the virtual format. Our

first step was to select Zoom due to its enhanced features, user-friendly tools and the generally good media hype it had been getting.

Whereas the in-person meetings had restricted us to locally based talent, the virtual format meant that the world was now our oyster. Through the good work of ARVP Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP we were able to secure top draw speakers such as ASIS President Godfried Hendriks, CPP and SRVP Marco Vega, CPP as well as other internationally recognized subject matter experts. This, not surprisingly, resulted in the doubling of our meeting attendance from 30 to an average of 70 participants. With our increased numbers the challenge has been to chair the meetings so as to keep them within 2 hours.

Following the successful staging of GSX+ we too decided to host a Virtual Awards Ceremony during our Annual General Meeting where we recognised several unsung heroes in the security profession and selected our 2019 Chapter Member of the Year. An event that would have normally taken 2-3 hours to host and at least US\$8,000 to finance, was held in 30 minutes for a fraction of the price. The nomination and election of our Chapter Officers were also done online with a 55% voter turnout. Under the old electoral system, we would have been happy if 25% of our members had participated.



### **Have we discovered any new partners during this time?**

Success has a way of breeding success and no doubt as a result of our increased visibility the Chapter teamed up with the Jamaica Association of Private Pharmacy Owners and hosted a 4-hour Security Webinar which not only had 155 persons in attendance but allowed us to interface with business people in urgent need of our services. As a consequence, we are now looking at partnering with other allied professional bodies that cater for HR Managers, Chartered Accountants as well as our Chambers of Commerce and Service Clubs.

Our pride and joy, however, continues to be our Chapter run PSP and CPP Study Courses which were successfully transformed to the virtual format without any feared fallout. Our recently completed PSP course on Microsoft Teams had a truly Caribbean flavour as we saw participants from the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, and the Dominican Republic enrolling. We are also currently running a 120-hour CPP course with a similar level of enthusiasm which is scheduled to end on June 1, 2021.

Many of our newly found friends and followers are now converts, as in 2020 alone the Chapter attracted a record 66 new members and retained 82% of our existing ones. Not only did we end the year with 154 members and a 44% increase in membership growth, we also had the enviable distinction of being the second largest Chapter in the Caribbean and Central America; not bad for an island state with less than 3 million inhabitants.

This singular achievement in the midst of a pandemic would not have been possible without the inspired leadership of our Immediate Past Chairman Warren Smith, CPP, PCI, PSP as from the onset of COVID-19 he only saw opportunities where many saw obstacles. Mindful that a few of our members were suffering from loss of income, he advocated for a reduction in membership and re-engagement fees which was readily accepted by ASIS HQ.

### **How have we thought “outside the box” to engage members?**

Among the creative ideas that we have initiated are those coming from our Young Professionals Liaisons and Women-In-Security. One such proposal required each member to provide a photograph and a short bio of their experiences with ASIS International in order to drive traffic on our social media platforms. We also intend to use their images, with their permission of course, as the face of the Chapter. We are exploring a virtual performance by a popular Jamaican reggae

artist at the virtual security conference on Enterprise Security Risk Management (ESRM), in response to the Chapter’s recent awarding of the Roy Bordes Educational Grant.

An area that is often neglected is the work of our predecessors which we sought to address with the relaunching of a scholarship to memorialize Donald Williams, CPP who was a pioneer in the Security Industry, a former Chairman of the Jamaica Chapter and had the distinction of being the sole Jamaican recipient of the CPP designation from 1983 to 2000. Based on the premium that Donald placed on education and training, this scholarship which was assigned to a member with less than 6 months’ service, took the form of a fully-funded placement on our CPP Study Course and valued at US\$750.

### **What tips or advice would we give to a Chapter that is exploring, or has yet to try a virtual program?**

My simple advice would be to stop procrastinating and embrace the virtual program as the benefits far outweigh the disadvantages. The resultant savings has allowed us to reduce the cost of our training programs to our internal and external customers. It has also improved our image and standing not only locally but on the global stage.

We also recommend that you treat the eligibility requirements for the ASIS Foundation Awards & Scholarships as your “Road Map for Success” as in 2020 alone the Jamaica Chapter was the recipient of the I. B. Hale Chapter of Year Award and the Chapter Website of the Year Award whilst two of our stalwart members were recipients of the Professional Certification Board (PCB) Regional Award of Appreciation for advancing the goals of the ASIS certification program and yours truly was the winner of the E.J. Criscuoli Jr., CPP Volunteer Leadership of the Year Award.

As our ARVP and newly elected Chapter Chairman Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP is fond of saying, “A rising tide lifts all ships” and given the value proposition enjoyed by being a member of ASIS, one could be forgiven for believing that the Jamaica Chapter is riding the crest of a wave. Notwithstanding our accomplishments, we must however remain hungry and humble-hearted, and avoid believing the stories that magnify our strengths while minimizing our weaknesses.

***For information on ASIS International -Jamaica Chapter  
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