

# **ASIS** *The Informer* INTERNATIONAL

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**September 2020**



**Global Organization of Security Professionals.**

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## Jamaica Chapter, Chairman's Message

Warren Smith, CPP, PCI, PSP  
ASIS Council Member



The current executive of the chapter was elected on October 24, 2019 and the members of the Board Management Committee (BMC) were duly appointed and sworn in afterwards. We took office on January 1, 2020 and vowed to continue along the strategic plans that had been laid out for the growth and development of our chapter, members and associates.

Little did we know that within the first three months of the year, we would have been hit by the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. The effects started to be felt as early as March and discussions with our members confirmed that our industry had seen reductions between 50-90% of their usual business. Staff from all levels was being furloughed, given reduced hours or had their employment terminated due to the severity of the disruption in the local and international economies.

The restrictions imposed by the government forced us to postpone our annual awards banquet that had been scheduled for March 14, 2020 and even 5 months later, we are still unable to confirm the date due to the restrictions on travel and gatherings. We have tentatively set a date for November 28, 2020 and will be adjusting as required under the present circumstances. One of the goals for the 2020 administrative year is to double our membership to 200 but the financial situation facing our members cannot be understated. Even after successfully lobbying ASIS International for a reduction in their membership fees, some companies have been unable to subsidize the payment for their employees but with the tireless efforts led by our Membership Committee Chairperson, Courtney Wallace, CPP, PSP and the rest of the BMC, we have seen unprecedented growth, and have to-date accepted 53 new members since January 1, 2020. We are currently at 140 members and are convinced that our “Each one, bring one” membership drive will prove successful.

The pandemic has forced us to change how we as individuals and companies do business and changed the roles of front-line security personnel. Most companies have now incorporated temperature checks and personal sanitization into the role profile of their customer facing security officers. They have also been tasked with the enforcement of the rules regarding social distancing, mask wearing and to ensure the numbers do not exceed the legally allowed maximum.

The chapter has also been forced to change and embrace the available technology. We moved our monthly meetings to an online format using Zoom and have seen a 50% increase in member attendance. More of our members are now able to participate without the worry of travelling and

traffic. We have also used this online service to bridge the gap between our chapter and those in the region and have been fortunate enough to host ASIS President Godfried Hendriks, CPP; SRVP for Region 7 Marco Vega, CPP; RVP for Region 7B Willem Teuben, CPP and several chapter leaders from the Dominican Republic, The Bahamas and the Netherland Antilles Chapters.

We have also moved our annual PSP Study Course to an online platform allowing participants from around the globe to access the exam preparation program. We even offered a scholarship to each of the chapters falling under the purview of ARVP Capt. Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP and a member from both The Bahamas and the Dominican Republic are now in the study group.

The Jamaica Chapter has made regional and international representation a priority and this was to culminate in an even larger presence at the annual GSX conference scheduled for September 2020. The pandemic, however, has forced ASIS International to change the format from an expo to an online learning extravaganza and we eagerly anticipate the new paradigm. The chapter awarded its all-access pass for GSX+ to Courtney Wallace CPP, PSP and he will be joined by the many members who have already registered for the event.

After attending the ASIS Leadership Exchange in 2019 and 2020, the executive of the chapter did an evaluation of the chapter's performance and implemented a strategic plan to improve our operations and increase our representation regionally and internationally and as such we submitted applications for 5 awards and were successful in all 5.

The Chapter won the I.B. Hale Chapter of the Year Award and the Chapter Website of the Year Award for 2020. Immediate Past Chairman, Capt. Basil Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP won the coveted E.J. Criscuoli Jr., CPP Volunteer Leadership Award. ARVP Capt. Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP and Vice Chairman Wayne Ballen, CPP, PCI, PSP each won the PCB Regional Award for Achievement in recognition of their invaluable contribution towards the advancement of the ASIS security designations.

With these successes, we are looking forward to what the rest of the year has in store for us. The Jamaica Chapter will continue to weather the storm, adapt and come out of this pandemic stronger than before.



# *Congratulations*

We would like to congratulate our chapter members for winning the E. J. Criscuoli Jr., CPP Volunteer Leadership Award, the Chapter Website of the Year Award and the Professional Certification Board Regional Award for Achievement.



PCB Regional Award  
Capt. Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP  
Assistant Regional  
Vice President - Region 7B



E. J. Criscuoli Jr., CPP  
Volunteer Leadership of the Year Award  
Capt. Basil Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP  
Immediate Past Chairman



Chapter Website of the Year Award  
Capt. John Richards, CPP, PCI, PSP  
Chapter Webmaster



PCB Regional Award  
Wayne Ballen, CPP, PCI, PSP  
Vice Chairman

**The True Measure Of Any Security Program's Effectiveness Ultimately Begins With Recruiting The Best People And Equipping Them With The Best Training**

## “An Equal World is an Enabled World” – International Women’s Day 2020

Nichelle Duncan, PSP

Women in Security Liaison

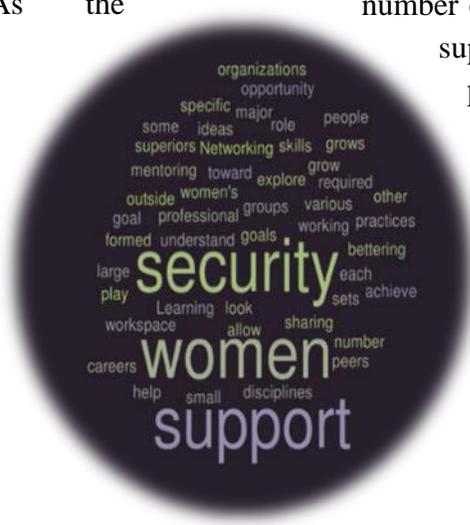
Security is by far one of the fastest growing industries as it relates to professional careers and because of this fast-paced industry, women are moving just as fast in filling several of the positions. As the Women in Security (WIS) Liaison for ASIS International Jamaica Chapter, I am committed to increasing the number of female members within the Chapter and to bring awareness to the members of the importance of women in the security.



Mind you, the female membership in security is low and consequently the industry itself is losing out on the benefits that women can bring. Research has indicated that the cost to the security industry has also been affected by the diminishing female participation. Notwithstanding, as more and more women are shattering the proverbial “glass ceiling” in the industry, we should seek to support and help each other in the various disciplines and practices of the security profession.

Authors within the security field have reviewed the numbers and explored the costs to the industry of diminished female participation. According to (Woods, 2016) “this has led to the conclusion that years, maybe decades, of experience has demonstrated that women, in uniform, in the boardroom, or in the computer lab, offer some unique skills that can increase productivity and reduce liability for companies in the security industry. Recognizing these opportunities and learning how to leverage them will be one of the industry’s key challenges moving forward”.

As the number of women in the security industry grows and women look to support and help each other in the various disciplines and practices of security. Large and small sub committees have been formed to achieve that common goal. Networking, mentoring, and support groups play a major role in uplifting the careers of women within the industry. Learning from peers and superiors, sharing ideas, and working towards common goals outside the workspace allows for opportunities to explore and understand the specific skills sets required to grow as a professional.



(Perry, 2016) shows that women need a “road map” that offers information about how to succeed in the security industry which is largely, a male-dominated field. One of the obstacles faced by women appears to be related to a general lack of information about the industry and knowledge about what careers are available. Education, professional certifications, and job experience are critical components of a successful security professional. It has been tested and proven that networking with like minds in the security industry and finding a mentor to help guide direction and negotiate career paths in the industry are also vital. Industry organizations like ASIS International and the International Foundation for Protection Officers (IFPO) offer professional certification and development as well as mentoring to help not just women, but everyone to succeed in the security profession.

Woods Andrew (2016): Women in the Security Profession: A Practical Guide for Career Development, *Opportunities and Obstacles for Women in Security*, p111-118

Perry, Marianna. CPP (2016): Women in the Security Profession: A Practical Guide for Career Development, *The future of Women in Security* p 253-262

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## Did You Know That?

- **Capt. John Richards, CPP, PCI, PSP** is currently the longest serving member of the Jamaica Chapter having joined ASIS on April 15, 1991
- **Suzanne Scarlett, PSP** is the longest serving female chapter member with 10 years’ service having joined on April 19, 2010
- **Warren Smith, CPP, PCI, PSP** was the first Jamaican to earn the PCI designation (December 2011)
- **Capt. Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP** became a Triple Certificant in only 2 years (2017-2019)
- **Carlos Pipher, CPP, PSP** was the only member from the Caribbean and Latin America that was a member of the CPP review panel convened at ASIS International HQ in 2019 to review the CPP body of knowledge.
- **Andrew Wynter** is the first Jamaican to be appointed an Assistant Regional Vice President (2006 – 2011) and a Regional Vice President (2012-2014)
- **Capt. Basil Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP** has held the CPP designation for 20 consecutive years having earned it on September 10, 2000
- ASIS Jamaica Chapter has recruited **53** members since the start of the year, a remarkable achievement in the presence of the COVID-19 pandemic



## Travel Security

A weekend get-away, vacation retreats, road trips or wellness adventures all carry their own risks. The thought of venturing into the unknown to experience a different culture or just having a relaxing break from the life's routine can be one of the most rewarding experiences. One thing most persons fail to think about while preparing for these trips or during the trip is their security. But why should you? You may ask. Let's look at some of the reasons why travel security should be a very important part of your travel plans and how to achieve it. Nowhere is completely safe and crime can occur at any time irrespective of the place. Being prepared can make the difference between avoiding an attack or surviving one.

Tania Rhoden, PSP



### Before the trip:

- Check the news for bulletins, weather, conflicts, or disease outbreaks
- Research your Resort destination
- Know where the closest police station and your embassy is located
- Find out if security is on the property, facility or beach
- Find out how safe is the neighbourhood
- Leave the bling at home
- Make digital copies of your travel documents
- Do not post on social media about your trip

### During the trip

- Don't keep everything together; separate money, ID cards and credit cards, keeping them together in your wallet can be devastating if your wallet gets stolen or misplaced.
- Don't keep anything of high value in the hotel safe, chances are that someone knows the code
- Don't solicit pan handlers

Don't post your pictures until you have returned from your trip  
Be careful of free wifi, they are not secure  
'Blend in persons', know when a tourist is in town based on style of dress and movements  
Use a phone that is not your regular phone  
Do not read emails or access bank information from unsecure servers  
Ask police or security officers for help/ directions  
Book taxis through the hotel  
Look out for pick pockets  
Keep your passport on your person

### **After the trip**

Delete all downloaded apps pertaining to your trip  
Delete all free wi-fi connections  
Change passwords for sites or emails that were used while on your trip.

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## **COVID-19 Has Brought Security Threats To The Fore**

**Carlos Pipher, CPP, PSP  
Secretary/ Newsletter Editor**

Businesses, institutions, corporations and individuals are now relying more heavily on Internet usage. With the increase in online activity, there is the risk of propriety information being compromised by hackers who will be actively phishing, sending malware to gain entry to protected information. Those mostly targeted are credit and debit card transactions, and identity theft.

Online banking transactions have increased due to the lockdown brought on by COVID-19, e.g., bill payment, transfers, remittance to accounts, account balances are also checked more frequently. This repeated online use makes users more vulnerable; now is a good time to change passwords and PIN, different passwords should be used for different platforms. A strong password is a combination of alphanumeric with symbols involving upper- and lower-case letters. Companies/institutions should seek the services of an ethical hacker to thoroughly check their IT platform in order to evaluate its security. Remember that there may be backdoors or other faults in the design that your IT specialists are unaware of.



Apart from a fire, the worst thing that can happen to a company is to lose proprietary information; for example, trade secrets and

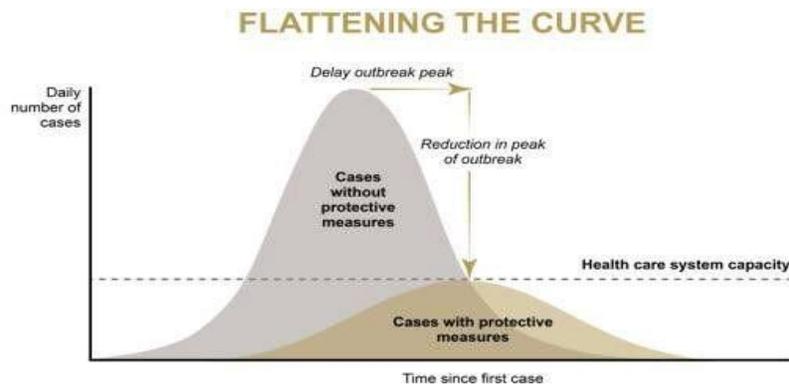
customer database. The consequence of this can lead to loss of business, loss of core business processes, loss of competitive advantage, and reputation damage.

A virtual threat is another tool that is used to embed a malware in a server or computer system. A program is surreptitiously installed on the network through a target computer. This control program will give commands to the devices on the network and, ultimately, the program controller is now monitoring your network. All of this would be unknown to the owner of the device or network users.

*This article was first published in the Jamaica Gleaner on Thursday June 18, 2020 (Letter of the day)*

## A Delicate Balancing Act

**Captain (Ret'd) Basil A. Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP  
Programs Chairperson**



Source: CDC

The Government of Jamaica has to-date done a commendable job in containing the spread of COVID-19 as evidenced by our relatively low infection, hospitalization and mortality rates. I also want to acknowledge the country's heavy dependence on tourism and recognize the delicate balance that they must strike in reopening up this sector of the economy whilst relaxing the provisions of the Disaster Risk Management Act. Whereas I am generally pleased with their reopening plans I, however, have some concerns with regards to its implementation.

Based on information on the JAMCOVID19 website, the only persons currently being tested are non-residents visiting Jamaica for either business purposes or tourists staying at hotels, villas and guesthouses within the resilient corridor who are deemed to be high risk. Non-residents staying with friends and/or families assessed as high risk are, however, required to schedule an appointment to be tested at a nearby testing facility. Non-residents assessed as low risk are therefore allowed to enter the island without being tested subject to either a Stay in Zone Order (read hotel etc.) or a Stay at Home Order for up to 14 days.

Among the constraints is a worldwide shortage of reagents to analyze the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests and the obvious challenges to scale up the process. The subsequent bottleneck has led to the delivery time of test results being greater than the average 5 -7 days stay of our tourists. Whereas the use of the global positioning system (GPS) tracking app to monitor our visitors' movement is a good idea, it has however not prevented tourists straying outside the resilient corridor or returning Jamaicans attending super-spreading events during their quarantine period.

The above situation is further compounded by the fact that of the approximately 1,400 individuals currently arriving at our airports each day roughly 85% are from the United States. It is also safe to assume that anyone undertaking non-essential travel at this time are risk-takers who either believe they are immune to the virus or downplay its impact. These are some of the same people being asked to make a full and honest declaration on a health questionnaire regarding their exposure to the Novel Coronavirus albeit that 50% of persons with the virus do not even know they have it.

With the number of COVID-19 cases spiking in the very states which account for most of the two million holders of Jamaican passports who each have a right of passage to the island, we can expect an increase in our case load. My fear is that, if the Government does not strike that happy balance, they may be exposing our front-line hotel workers to an unacceptable risk of infection especially those where home isolation is not a viable option. Not to mention the likely community spread overwhelming our limited intensive care and isolated bed facilities.

Rest assured if the mitigating measures being taken are not safe and sustainable, the damage to our tourism product caused by a resultant US travel advisory will be devastating. It is for the above-mentioned reason why I must ask what steps have been taken to scale up the number of PCR tests? What is our capacity to ramp up contact tracing and provide quarantine facilities? What is being done to clear-up the recently reported 2-3 week backlog of PCR tests and significantly reduce the turnaround time for test results? What measures are in place to screen asymptomatic carriers and what added protective measures does the resilient corridor enjoy?

There are no easy choices but the Government needs to maintain a delicate balance between protecting the health and well-being of its citizens and promoting economic recovery. It therefore behooves them to build up our containment capacity to meet the anticipated demand with the managed opening of our borders and to ideally target tourists from countries/ states that have clearly "flattened the curve". My main concern is that the apparent gaps in the Government's effort to reopen the tourism market and failure to carefully navigate this dilemma is likely to have the opposite effect and undo much of their otherwise good work.

*This article was first published in the Jamaica Observer on Sunday July 19, 2020.*

## Corporate Jamaica is Missing Out

ARVP Capt. (Ret'd) Garth Gray CPP, PCI, PSP

Over the years, senior security positions in Jamaican companies have largely been reserved for retired Law Enforcement and Military Officers, without any further (security) qualifications. As a retired military Captain and the former Force Security Officer and Officer Commanding the Jamaica Defence Force Military Police Unit, I can speak of the huge difference between National Security, Military Tactics and Corporate or Industrial Security.

Having spent the better part of thirty years as a security practitioner, the pursuit and attainment of the Physical Security Professional (PSP) certification in 2017, Professionally Certified Investigator (PCI) certification in 2018 and the Certified Protection Professional (CPP) certification in 2019, has opened my eyes to a whole new world in security! As recently stated by a PSP student of mine, *“Since PSP, things we normally see and take for granted suddenly have new meaning.”*



Corporate Jamaica is missing out on significant opportunities in the form of improved security programs as well as substantial savings because their programs do not necessarily subscribe to a strategic security risk management approach.

Historically, security is seen as a cost centre, as this business unit does not traditionally bring in revenue. When the Chief Security Officer (CSO) becomes a trusted advisor to the senior executive, as well as the income earning business units and is able to influence strategic decisions, the organization will quickly appreciate the value the CSO brings.



Making the transition to a Board-Certified Security Professional as CSO, either by hiring such persons or by encouraging your existing CSOs to get certified, will undoubtedly over time, yield strong returns on investments (ROI) in the form of measurable cuts in the security spend, while improving the effectiveness of the security programs in the protection of both tangible and intangible company assets.

In most cases there is no metric to measure the savings or the ROI realized, because of this less value is sometimes placed on the department or the CSO by company executives. The C suite is not focused on assets that were not lost due to the security measures that are in place. We have a duty to highlight the awesome responsibility of CSO's, this is where the CPP course comes in.

## Perspective

**PSP**<sup>®</sup>  
Physical Security Professional  
Board Certified, ASIS International

“Since PSP Course, things we normally see and take for granted suddenly have new meaning.”  
- Otis Fender  
PSP Candidate

**ASIS**  
INTERNATIONAL

### **COVID-19 Impact, Is It Too Early To Assess Or Should We Make an Intelligent Guess?**

**DSP Christopher Brown, PCI  
ASIS Member**

The truth be told, we are still growing and groaning through the passage of this COVID pandemic. Although 20-20 is considered the best vision and we are experiencing this crisis in full sight, the effects to date have not been fully documented nor can be collated. None within or outside security, and neither of us here in Jamaica is able to harness a good grip of the challenges. Legislative frameworks have helped to curtailed movements and quite possibly limit offenders and victims from converging in the same public space. However, are children made safer because of the pandemic, as there have been increased reports of sexual related offenses!. The actus reus may have been thwarted for some crimes but certainly the mens rea of the crooked has run straight into the commission of another. Are homes and business establishments that once benefited from the eyes of the ever present public safer or are they more vulnerable?

There are however a number of positives as with all things before and all things to come. There are also downsides, that are often masked by the reduction of one element or set of activities. Notably, there have been reported significant decreases in crimes (the ones most talked about) but can this be sufficiently attributed to the pandemic or is the relationship spurious? Conversely, for the increased reports in those kinds of incidents, can we state without contradictions that these are as a result of the passage of the pandemic?

Criminal actors, and Law Enforcement practitioners have adapted in this period of crisis. Their goals have met with resistance particularly because of the unpredictable, unseen enemy in the midst. Both criminal actors and law enforcement practitioners have been afflicted and suffer losses. Active police presence in some areas has become virtual to reduce the likelihood of increasing the chances for infection. The criminal actors as well have gone virtual in thefts of online properties and cash, we suggest an equally responsive commitment to their cause.

Masked or unmasked, identification of a criminal suspect can pose a challenge, especially since identification is critical to many cases. However, whilst that might be the best evidence, secondary and circumstantial evidence exploited through trace evidence and technologies cannot be overlooked. Research will show that more criminal suspects are convicted based on the irrefutable circumstances in which they found themselves and or unable to satisfactorily explain their innocence. So what truly is the extent of the impact of COVID-19?

The impact of COVID-19 and or any assessment at this juncture will be all conjecture. For how may one satisfactorily make a pronouncement on an ever evolving situation. Investigations and canvassing are still ongoing. The impact continues to be masked by many different shades of information and research. The effects of the pandemic are still being laid, and we must resolve ourselves to painstakingly document its passage as part of our later determination. The impact, if any, that is worthy of note, is that law enforcement practitioners are resilient and adaptable professionals. This will and shall be our eponym.

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## **A Record of Service**

**Narrative that accompanied Capt. (Ret'd) Basil Bewry, CPP, PCI, PSP nomination for the E, J, Criscuoli Jr., CPP Volunteer Leadership Award.**



Basil Anthony Bewry is a graduate of Wolmer's Boys' High School, the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and is the CEO of Forensic Polygraph Services. Unlike most, his earning of a Certified Protection Professional (CPP) on September 10, 2000 at the ASIS International Seminar & Exhibits Show in Orlando, Florida, actually predates his membership with ASIS International and credits his success to the late Donald Williams, CPP who at the time was the first and only Jamaican to be Board Certified in Security Management. Although Basil was a regular attendee at chapter meetings at the Liguanea Club and had served unofficially as Treasurer in 2004, it was not until April 15, 2005 that he eventually joined the American

Society for Industrial Security, (ASIS) as it was known then.

He evidently did a good job as Treasurer as in addition to being the recipient of the Chairman's Award at the Annual Awards Banquet on November 27, 2004 for his contribution to the local chapter, he was also elected Chapter Chairman at the AGM. As a result of the vim, vigor and vitality that he brought to this 30-year old organization, he was subsequently re-elected Chapter Chairman in 2006, 2007 and 2008 before handing over the mantle to Capt. John Richards, CPP, PSP in 2009 and 2010 and Andrew Wynter, CPP, PSP in 2011. During this hiatus, he however, continued to serve on the Board Management Committee (BMC) in one capacity or another. It was following the appointment of Andrew Wynter as Regional Vice President (RVP) in 2012, that Basil was once again elected Chairman a position he would hold until 2019.

As early as 2006 Capt. Bewry had introduced the chapter's CPP Study Course and the extremely popular PSP Study Course in 2007 which from 2013 has enjoyed pride of place on the chapter's training program. As a result of the PSP Study Course's 7 continuous years of operation this flagship program has been instrumental in enabling 43 persons to earn their Physical Security Professional (PSP) certification and has the enviable record of achieving a 60% success rate. Basil too benefitted from its scholarly presentations and credits it on him passing the PSP exam on May 2, 2015. Having previously earned his Professional Certified Investigator (PCI) designation on November 1, 2014, he became Jamaica's second Triple Certificant following John Richards who had achieved this noteworthy feat 6 months earlier.

Due to Basil's passion for improving the professionalism of the local security industry, the chapter has at present 11 CPPs, 12 PCIs, 30 PSPs and 7 Triple Certificants. With 35 of its members holding at least one board certification the chapter is considered one of the most decorated in ASIS International. In recognition for advancing the goals of their certification program, the Professional Certification Board of ASIS International awarded Capt. Bewry a Certificate of Appreciation at the Annual Seminar & Exhibits Show in Orlando, Florida on September 13, 2016. He was also the recipient of the 2018 Meritorious Service Award on September 24, 2018 for fostering a spirit of goodwill and professionalism within ASIS International.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the services of his long-standing Certification Chairperson, John Richards and the unwavering support of Ada Ausberry and Lisa Currie of the ASIS Certification Department. It was Ada who facilitated the hosting of the ASIS certification exams in Jamaica in 2006 and Lisa who saw to the upgrading of the Paper and Pencil Test (PPT) to the Internet Based Test (IBT) on May 4, 2019. "Although Basil can take credit for laying a sound foundation, however, he is the first to admit that he owes much of his success to a group of volunteer leaders led by Capt. Garth Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP and Wayne Ballen, CPP, PCI, PSP and known affectionately as his Dream Team".

It is said that success breeds success and under Basil's stewardship the number of persons joining the chapter has steadily grown from a membership of 46 in 2005 to 107 in 2019. With 41 new

members joining in 2017 alone the chapter enjoyed the singular distinction of having the highest percentage increase of all of the 234 chapters in ASIS International for that particular year. This was also matched in 2019 with 46 new members and coupled with a retention rate of 83%, the Jamaica Chapter became the largest chapter in Region 7B. Notwithstanding the deleterious impact that COVID-19 is having on people's lives and livelihood, the chapter continues to attract new talent and is currently 125 strong and growing. Capt. Bewry also takes pride in the fact that during his tenure the chapter has ceased to be seen as an "Old Males' Club" and had opened its doors to females and young professionals long before it became fashionable.

Having previously attended the John E. Reid & Associates Course in Advanced Investigative Interviews & Interrogation in Miami, Florida in 2001, Basil is particularly proud of having hosted their world renown courses in Jamaica on May 16 - 19, 2017 and June 3 - 6, 2019 which not only enabled over 140 persons to be trained in their investigative interviewing techniques but allowed the chapter to add over US\$13,600 to its bank accounts. This windfall allowed the chapter to register 24 persons to the Global Security Exchange in Chicago on September 8-12, 2019 and was by far our largest and most impactful delegation.

Among the things which Capt. Bewry attributes for the chapter's unqualified success has been his unrelenting drive to be relevant and structured, to highlight the positive and a willingness to try something new. As a result, he not only ensured that chapter meetings were hosted on the last Thursday of each month but arranged for high profile and interesting guest speakers. This in turn encouraged greater attendance and allowed certified members the opportunity to earn CPE credits. He has also sought to lead by example and made it his duty to being on time and has the distinction of having never missed a chapter meeting during his years as Chapter Chairman. He also leveraged the new technology by introducing Zoom for his BMC meeting in February 2019 and live streamed PSP classes via Wiz IQ in 2015 long before COVID-19.

Although the staging of the chapter's Annual Awards Banquet actually predates Basil's service, he however is responsible for raising the bar to that of a must attend social event where we not only recognize persons who have given yeoman service but celebrate security officers whose acts of bravery would have otherwise gone unheralded. Among the many distinguished guest speakers who have recently attended our banquet is the President of the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica, the Hon Howard Mitchell, OJ; the Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General Rocky Meade, CD. ADC, JP, PhD and the Director of Public Prosecution, Miss Paula Llewellyn, QC.

Another of his bold initiatives has been the chapter's Public Private Partnerships with the Private Security Regulation Authority (PSRA) and the country's premier training agency, HEART Trust. These relationships have been particularly fruitful and a source of much bragging rights. He was instrumental in bringing down ASIS International President, Jeff Spivey, CPP to be the key-note speaker at a 2-day Security Seminar in Kingston, Jamaica on March 27-28, 2006 that was

successfully staged by the chapter in conjunction with PSRA. He has also established an enviable rapport with Suzanne Scarlett, PSP of the HEART Trust which allowed the chapter to optimize its marketing dollars by providing the requisite knowledge based experts for 2 Active Shooter Forums and 2 National Debating Competitions on security related moots within the last 4 years and benefitted from media coverage and reach which we otherwise could not afford. It is as a direct result of our national exposure why the chapter was invited last year to have a seat on the country's Joint Interagency Operations Group (JIOG). This advisory body is tasked to bring together the multiple law enforcement agencies for greater intelligence sharing and security awareness.

The increased visibility of the chapter on the national scene has been achieved by Capt. Bewry's emphasis on promoting these hard-earned gains. In addition to embracing social networking sites such as WhatsApp and Telegram, he also oversaw the relaunching of our chapter website, [www.asisjchapter.org](http://www.asisjchapter.org) and the introduction of our newsletter which he named, "The Informer" in an effort to change the word's negative connotation. In addition to these platforms he still maintains a close and fraternal relation with the country's newspapers and the Security Management magazine so as to ensure that the chapter's achievements receive the widest possible coverage. Clearly his hard work, leadership and dedication has paid off as he was invited to speak at the Chapter Leaders' Open House on February 26, 2020 on the tips to hosting good chapter meetings and events.

Notwithstanding his 12 years at the helm of this august body had it not been for the introduction of term limits by ASIS President- Elect Godfried Hendriks, CPP, Basil was widely expected to serve a 9th consecutive term as he had shown no signs of slowing down. He, however, was the first to point out that the hallmark of a true leader is their ability to build institutional capacity and as such he was supremely confident that his successor, Warren Smith, CPP, PCI, PSP was more than capable of taking the chapter to even greater heights as evidenced by the fact that the chapter's membership has ballooned to 125 already. Basil like President Godfried believes that term limits are healthy for an organization and that regular turnover in leadership allows for more members to serve in a managerial capacity which in turn improves overall membership retention.

For those of you who had a tinge of mixed feelings with the change in leadership, he has been quick to share a quote from Omar Khayyam which says, "The moving finger writes and having writ moves on, nor all thy piety nor wit shall lure it back to cancel half a line, nor all thy tears wash out a word of it." As an alumnus of RMA Sandhurst and Wolmer's Boys' School, he can unreservedly say that he has exemplified their mottos of "Serve to Lead" and "Age Quod Agis" (do what you are doing: concentrate on the task at hand). Needless to say, Capt. Bewry has not gone far as he continues to serve on the BMC as the chapter's Program Chairperson.

## Private Security Resilience Post COVID-19

Jason Jones  
ASIS Member

It is the year 2020 A.D. A year that some would believe to have flying cars holographic imaging projectors and weapons that no longer discharge solid projectiles but instead particle beams capable of instant destruction on a massive scale. “Sorry to disappoint” said 2020 but “I have other plans”. Never would we guess that this would be the year that significant destruction would come. We did not plan for this we never had it on the agenda. We have fought battles like this in the past with casualties of course but we always had an answer, it may have taken some time but in 2020, we have had an answer for everything that has been thrown at us including dealing with our current enemy. The Novel Coronavirus Disease or COVID-19 for short is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered Coronavirus. It is our new year’s gift of tragedy and we can only speculate as to when we will conquer the virus.

Many industries have felt the grueling effects of this disease and the private security industry is no exception. It is true that because of the outbreak private security is being called to ‘arms’ to join the frontline in this fight. After all, industry members are always on the frontline protecting people and assets. We have had to use our training, people oriented skills and tactics in different ways. We now have been tasked to protect people and environments from themselves, something not so novel and not in line with our usual task. With that said, how do we go from what we know, to how to effectively and efficiently deal with this now new normal and staying resilient post COVID-19. The answer to this is far from simple, however, there are quite a few things that must change and now is the time to be proactive.

We must start with fully training our staff to handle COVID-19 explaining in detail from a medical perspective as well as how we manage it as individuals and as a group. We obviously had no time to do this. We must constantly keep abreast of the disease and with lots of dynamism. Studying our clients from early as they deal with a new normal and be there to guide them accordingly thus allowing them to have more belief in their partnerships with us and allowing for the free flow of communication and implementation of strategies is of paramount importance. Business operations will change significantly we in the Private Security industry must be able to match those changes and be pillars of strength through the chaos. Our clients must have us as their “Go To” resource for battle.

Logistically, changes will be made on the fly as the status quo is in constant shift. We should be taking the time now if we have not done so already to assess our staff and truly see who are more suited and for what roles. One wrong move in this fickle environment will be costly. These assessments will involve numerous operational switches to our deployment both at individual client locations and across multiple locations owned and operated by one client. How we look at the equipment we currently use and the equipment needed for the long term is another deciding

factor in our resilience post COVID-19. We must invest wisely, a mask for example is an addition to the list of items that we need to supply for our staff, and if we purchase the wrong ones in a hurry it might cost lives. Do we now need face shields, special gloves, hand sanitizers and other equipment to accompany our personnel without appearing to be offensive in working environments that do not even require our staff to wear jackets? However, from a customer retention management standpoint it may be the difference between keeping and losing a contract. If our clients see us taking our business seriously in the fight against COVID-19 they will have no choice but to take us seriously.

Vehicles used to transport staff and or clients should undergo frequent thorough sanitization. We should also communicate how often we clean our vehicles so that our clients and staff are always COVID-19 free once in our care, you will be surprised how new business can be acquired by stating this simple fact. Customer service will have to be even more on point. We are now required to be more understanding, sensitive, calm and collective. One thing is for sure, once we continue to cover our faces with masks our speech, diction and ability to show a smile through our eyes will be appreciated by those we interface. Post COVID-19 will not be easy, but we have never known easy in the private security industry. For our own survival and as providers of security to those who need it most we must **WORK TOGETHER** and become resilient.



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# Convergence

