



Jamaica Chapter # 74

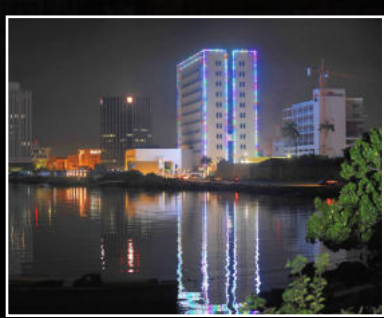
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The Informer

The Official Newsletter of ASIS Jamaica Chapter #74



“Keeping Stakeholders informed on best practices and promoting Industry Certification”



Safety and Security Considerations for High Rise Buildings

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“

We celebrate and salute Commodore Wemyss-Gorman on not only having broken the proverbial glass ceiling, in fact she has shattered it. She has taken her place at the head of the table and continues to pave the way.

Women in Security - Page 6

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Contents

Chairman's Report For ASIS Jamaica Chapter Annual General Meeting Held on 01 December, 2021	1
Safety and Security Considerations For High Rise Buildings	4
Women in Security	6
Caribbean Security & Resilience Awards	7
Executive Protection: An Evolving Business Opportunity for Jamaica's Private Security Industry	8
Anticipating, Identifying and Adapting to the Shifts in the Security Industry	9
Intrusion Detection System (IDS) Considerations for Residential Applications	10
Security Tips For The Season	11



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Chairman's Report

For ASIS Jamaica Chapter Annual General Meeting Held on 01 December, 2021

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



Chairman's Report



“

We made a presentation to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament on the National Identification System (NIDS).

”

Mr. Wayne Ballen,
Triple Crown – Mentorship Chairperson

Mr. Courtney Wallace, CPP, PSP,
Membership Chairperson

Mr. Javan Simpson, PCI, *Young Professional Liaison and Regional YP Representative*

Ms. Tracey-Anne Chung, *Women in Security Liaison*
Mr. Vivion Whitelock, *PSP – Placement Chairperson*

Mr. Andrew Witham, *Sergeant-At-Arms*

Fellow ASIS Members & Friends, it is my privilege to give account of my stewardship of this Chapter for 2021. I must acknowledge the immense support provided by the chapter executive:

Vice-Chair and Newsletter Editor,
Mr. Carlos Pipher, Triple Crown

Treasurer and Program Chair,
Capt. Basil Bewry, Triple Crown, and

Secretary, Mr. Jason Robinson, PSP

My gratitude also extends to a very active Business Management Committee:

Lt. Col. OJ Smiley, CPP, *Foundation Liaison*

Maj. Marlon Kennedy, *Military Liaison*

Maj. Andrew Lamb, *Council Liaison*

Capt. John Richards, *Triple Crown - Webmaster*

DSP Christopher Brown, PCI, *Law Enforcement Liaison*

Ms. Suzanne Scarlett, PSP, *Legislative Chairperson*

Mr. Michael Jackson,
Triple Crown – Certification Chairperson

Since the start of the year, we have held 9 chapter meetings, a chapter social, an Annual Awards Ceremony, a CPP Study Course, a PSP Study Course, the Roy Bordes 2-day Enterprise Security Risk Management (ESRM) Conference, all hosted virtually; a team from the Chapter participated in the ASIS Int'l Virtual Fitness challenge and came 15th place over all; a delegation from the chapter participated in a JDF Warrant Officers' Resettlement Forum in Up Park Camp, Kingston. We made a presentation to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament on the National Identification System (NIDS), we also sponsored and supported the HEART NSTA Trust Debating Competition. We can certainly boast an extremely productive 2021. The chapter was again awarded the I. B Hale Chapter of the Year. This confirms that our 2020 win was not merely a "Flash in the pan".

I must commend the significant work being done by our Webmaster, Newsletter Editor and YP Liaison and our technical partners, as far as the chapter website, newsletter, brand refresh and social media visibility are concerned. Our presence in the virtual space is on par with any other chapter worldwide, which undoubtedly led to us winning the inaugural ASIS Int'l Communications Award. Congratulations to the entire membership! You should all be very proud.

For members and guests who attended our monthly chapter meetings, they were served world-class

presentations by our suite of A-list guest speakers:

Senator Mathew Samuda, *Minister Without Portfolio, Ministry of National Security*

Major Basil Jarrett, *Communications Strategist and Chief Executive Officer of Artemis Consulting*

Miss Nicole Gordon, *Attorney-at-Law and Convenor of the Employment and Labour Law Subcommittee – Jamaica Bar Association*

Mrs. Pamela Hosein, CPP, *Chief Executive Officer of Amalgamated Security Services Limited and Chairman of the Port of Spain Chapter*

Major Karl Chambers, *CISSP, PMP – Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Diligent Security International Inc.*

Mr. Andrew Wynter, *Chief Executive Officer of the Passport, Immigration & Citizenship Agency*

Mr. Peter Hall, PCI, *Chief Operating Officer of MBJ Airports Limited*

Mr. Warren Vernon, Mr. Carlton Samuels and Miss Camika Facey, *National Identification System (NIDS) Project*

His Excellency Mr. Asif Anwar Ahmad, CMG, *British High Commissioner to Jamaica*

Our chapter's influence continues to grow within the region, with local chapter members featuring routinely as presenters on courses being run by other chapters. Special thanks to the following members for their contribution:

Capt. Basil Bewry, *Triple Crown*
 Capt. John Richards, *Triple Crown*
 Capt. Garth Gray, *Triple Crown*
 Mr. Carlos Pipher, *Triple Crown*
 Mr. Wayne Ballen, *Triple Crown*
 Mr. Selbourne Webb, CPP

In recent times the cooperation between regional chapters has also improved and we acknowledge the unwavering support of ARVP Lt. Col. Richardo Garcia, CPP of Trinidad as well as Mrs. Pamela Hosein, CPP, Chair of the Port of Spain Chapter who have been true partners to us during the past year. Lt. Col. Garcia has been such a supporter and partner to our chapter that I would like to propose that he be offered Honorary

Membership of the Jamaica Chapter; even for 2021! Financially, we were able to add almost \$2M JMD to the chapter's coffers, even in the face of the Pandemic. We currently have approximately \$4M JMD in the bank. We have recently engaged the services of a Chartered Accounting Firm to guide our application for charity status with Tax Administration Jamaica. Thanks to our Treasurer for his prudent management of our purse. From a philanthropic perspective, we were able to provide support to our brothers and sisters in St. Vincent and the Grenadines who suffered a series of volcanic eruptions as well as Haiti, who experienced a devastating earthquake. In each case, we donated the equivalent of US\$1,000.00 to the recovery effort in these countries. We also donated \$12,000 JMD to the annual Poppy Appeal in support of the Curphey Home for Veterans.

“ As I step down as ARVP and Chapter Chair at the end of the year, to make way for new leadership to take us even higher, I must once again express my gratitude for the support I received from the Executive. ”

In light of the foregoing, I would argue that our successes in 2021 are a testament to the health and robustness of our organization.

Having to pivot from a Banquet to a Ceremony to not dilute the excitement and engagement at our Awards Event, which served as a platform to celebrate the sterling contribution of the following stalwarts in the industry:

Mr. Charles Hayle (General Manager Guardsman)
 Mr. Glenford Henry (Sergeant of Police)
 Mr. Hopeton Pessoa (posthumously)

We also recognized the following Chapter members, who demonstrated noteworthy leadership and volunteerism during the year:

Mr. Vivion Whitelock PSP, *Member of the Quarter (Q1)*
 Mr. Javan Simpson, PCI, *Member of the Quarter (Q2)*
 Lt. Col. Oswald Smiley, CPP, *Member of the Quarter (Q3)*

The following members attained ASIS Int'l Board Certifications in 2021:

Mr. Javan Simpson, PCI
 Ms. Tania Rhoden CPP, PSP, *attained her CPP*

Lt. Col. Oswald Smiley, CPP
 Mr. Selbourne Webb, CPP
 Mr. Charles Chin Fah-En, CPP
 Mrs. Shanna Shirley, CPP, PSP, *attained her CPP*
 Ms. Nichelle Duncan, CPP, PSP, *attained her CPP*
 Mr. Richard Johnson, CPP, PCI, PSP, *attained his CPP*

Mr. Carlos Pipher, Triple Crown
 Mr. Wayne Ballen, Triple Crown
 Mrs. Shanna Shirley, CPP, PSP
 Mr. Selbourne Webb, CPP
 Mr. Otis Fender, PSP
 Mr. Lawrence Nelson, PSP

With the recent completion of the PSP Study Course, we are optimistic that we will have a few additional certified members before the end of the year.

Two members were awarded scholarships this year:

Ms. Aldean Campbell,
ASIS Foundation's Accelerator Scholarship

The chapter currently boasts 18 CPPs, 13 PCIs and 33 PSPs. 14 members have more than one designation and 9 members are Triple Crowns, with Mr. Richard Johnson, CPP, PCI, PSP being the last addition to the club.

Mr. Vivion Whitelock, PSP,
Chapter Certification Study Course Scholarship

True to the experience of our Trinidadian counterparts, the implementation of the Internet-based Proctored option for sitting certification exams has hurt rather than helped us. Significantly fewer people have sat certifications exams since this test option has become available. With over 20 persons participating in Chapter-hosted study courses this year, only 4 have scheduled and sat exams, all of whom have been successful. In that regard, our chapter pass rate is 100% - 4 of 4. We are however hopeful that the success of the 4 and the 100% pass rate will encourage the others to take the leap of faith.

Notwithstanding a whopping 42 new members since the start of the year, we have yet to hit the 200-member target we have been aiming for. Our current active membership stands at 147. There is still time and we have a plan, so let's see how well we are able to do by 31 Dec 2021.

While the PSP Study Course has become a staple on the Chapter's annual calendar, we took the bold move of reintroducing a CPP Study Course, the last of which was held in 2007. Based on the interest, we have another CPP course slated for the first half of 2022.

Since joining the chapter in 2017, I have noticed a trend, whereby, a small team of dedicated volunteers are involved in the majority of chapter activities, with most members seemingly willing to sit on the sidelines. We cannot ignore the fact that there are names in this presentation which I have repeated several times. It is true of ASIS International that the more you put in, the more you get out. We encourage all members to get involved in the initiatives of the chapter; participate in the monthly meetings, educational initiatives and the sub-committees of the BMC. Submit articles for the newsletter and participate in the ASIS Connects Communities. You will be surprised to see how beneficial the experience will be, how much you will learn and the friends you will make.

We are grateful for the members who volunteered as faculty of our CPP and PSP study courses:

Lt. Col. Richardo Garcia, CPP (T&T)
 Lt. Col. Euken Mills, CPP
 Maj. Colin McCalla, CPP
 Capt. Basil Bewry, Triple Crown
 Capt. John Richards, Triple Crown
 Capt. Garth Gray, Triple Crown

As I step down as ARVP and Chapter Chair at the end of the year, to make way for new leadership to take us even higher, I must once again express my gratitude for the support I received from the Executive, BMC and wider membership throughout the year. I am honored to have served you and look to the future of the chapter with optimism; knowing that we will be in good; capable hands. **A rising tide raises all ships!**



**Have You Renewed
 Your 2022 ASIS Membership?**

RENEW TODAY



Photo courtesy of Jamaica Gleaner/"Fire fears heighten as Kingston skyline changes"



Safety and Security Considerations For High Rise Buildings

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

High rise structures pose security risks that are different from low rise structures.

The city of Kingston and some locations on our northern corridor have seen a dramatic increase in high rise structures with some being commercial spaces, others for the hotel industry and the majority designed for residential accommodation. Therefore, a large volume of people will occupy these buildings which will inevitably pose added safety and security risks. What constitutes a high rise building? (Craighead, 2003): Protection of Assets Manual 2011, *Applications* ASIS International, p 51 states that "a high rise structure is considered to be one that extends higher than the maximum reach of available firefighting equipment".

Fire poses the greatest risk to a high rise structure and thus increases the probability of loss of lives because of the inability to evacuate quickly due to the large size of the structure, the large volume of occupants, and the difficulty to respond and extinguish a fire that is out of reach of fire fighting equipment. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that security/property managers are well versed in safety and security issues that are applicable to a high rise structure.

First of all, one would expect that the applicable fire and building codes were factored in the design and then implemented. In most cases, security/property managers have the responsibility of safety and security, both of which have separate concerns that will have to be adequately addressed so as not to interfere with each other. Life safety measures are designed to ensure that all occupants are able to freely evacuate a building during a fire emergency whereas the aim of security is to prevent a perpetrator who has committed a crime from leaving the building.

Therefore, operational tests ought to be conducted on smoke and heat detectors, sprinkler system and communications system to ensure that they are working effectively. Communication is vital for prompt notification of a fire emergency; this is usually by a one-way PA system connected to the fire annunciator. In concert with the above systems, fire drills should be conducted with occupants so that all are aware of the evacuation procedures in a fire emergency. A detailed emergency plan should be in place and address signage, escape routes, simple floor maps,

description of emergency systems and their operation and contact details of emergency staff. Important to remember is that a fire in a high rise building will have to be fought manually using the stand pipe system.

Security Considerations

High rise structures pose security risks that are different from low rise structures; they comprise multiple occupied floors which lead to high occupancy levels, they contain more personal property and there is an increased potential for theft. The stairwells which are mostly unused may be an ideal location for a crime to be committed, be it assault or a sexual offence.

The assets of the building are to be adequately protected from natural and manmade hazards, therefore effective security countermeasures that are enforced within the building will lessen the negative impact of a security related incident. However, safety and security may be in conflict if two perpetrators are acting together. For instance, their action could create a vulnerability at an egress point if one of the perpetrators with malicious intent activates a fire alarm on the 20th floor whilst the accomplice makes a rapid escape through the fail safe doors at street level. Installation of a motion sensor surveillance camera is an excellent countermeasure to aid in detection and should be strategically placed to cover very sensitive areas on the building such as the security operation

“ The human element is needed to monitor, gauge, recalibrate security systems, ensure compliance and most importantly to make decisions. ”

centre, the server room as well as all ingress and egress points and stairwells. In some cases a high rise building is located at curb side and because of this emphasis should be on point security as opposed to area security.

Further, there should not be a piecemeal approach to the installation of a video surveillance system. The functional requirements of a camera system should be the driving force with certain critical questions being addressed at the inception. What is the purpose of the system? What is to be viewed by the camera and what are the requirements for real time monitoring and recording? Additionally, the function of each camera may require a different field of view and so the main factors to be considered are target, activity and purpose.

Finally, the human element is needed to monitor, gauge, recalibrate security systems, ensure compliance and most importantly to make decisions. It is of paramount importance that the security team that is in place is competent in their specialty to execute the necessary functions which will aid life safety and security.

“ The assets of the building are to be adequately protected from natural and manmade hazards, therefore effective security countermeasures that are enforced within the building will lessen the negative impact of a security related incident. ”



Women in Security

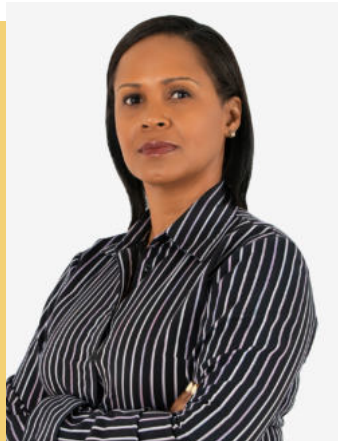
Tracey-Anne Chung, WIS Liaison

“A woman with a voice is, by definition, a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult.”

—Melinda Gates, philanthropist



Women in Security



“ We celebrate and salute Commodore Wemyss-Gorman on not only having broken the proverbial glass ceiling, in fact she has shattered it. ”

As we prepare to end yet another challenging year, let us take a moment to celebrate the wins for this year along with the reminders to take us through to the new year, laying the path as we navigate and advance in the ever-demanding security profession.

“A woman with a voice is, by definition, a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult.” —Melinda Gates, philanthropist



Earlier this year Pamela Hosein, CPP Director/CEO, Amalgamated Security Services was the guest presenter at one of our monthly chapter meetings. With over 30 years of experience in senior management positions in the private security industry and Chair of the ASIS International Port of Spain chapter, Ms.

Hosein graciously shared her thoughts on the topic “Women in Security - The Changing face in Leadership”. Below please find extracts of her presentation.

Women are naturally strong influencers, however only approximately 18% of women are in a position of empowerment. After throwing out that harrowing statistic she shared this nugget, Great leadership starts with self-leadership and self-leadership starts with self-discipline. Digesting this will take a moment

so as you do, (I recommend writing and framing) as it is indeed a powerful statement to live by, she reminds us as women, as professionals:

- **Do not let your weakness get in your way** – do not focus on weakness to the point of building on them, instead build on your strengths.
- **Be strategic** – you and your team should always work smarter and not harder.
- **Establish a standard** – communicate this standard to your employees or team members. The standard is not personal but is what needs to be done.
- **Not everything works for everyone** – change/adjust your approach when interacting or communicating with persons to match the personalities.
- **Establish personal KPIs** – (even if you are the boss) are you successful at your job? Are you meeting your deliverables?

Finally, and a reminder, do not force it, you are a woman, you are a natural.

This year’s International Women’s Day theme was “Choose to Challenge”, and as we worked to create a more equal environment, championing and celebrating the achievements of other women and women in security, we proudly cheered the announcement of the Appointment (pending) of Commodore Antonette Wemyss-Gorman as the first female Chief of Defence Staff in the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF). Her elevation is not just a first for our country, in the nearly 60-year history of the force, or a first for the region, this appointment also makes her the only...let me say that again for those in the back ...the **only female** head of armed forces in the world at the time of writing and barring any appointments before her swearing in next January.

Her biography is one of many (female) firsts - she has been promoted to several strategic posts leading to this historic appointment. Her accomplishments and accolades are deserving of the rank (Rear Admiral) and position she will shortly hold.



We celebrate and salute Commodore Wemyss-Gorman on not only having broken the proverbial glass ceiling, in fact she has shattered it. She has taken her place at the head of the table and continues to pave the way and motivate women of all ages to strive towards their goals.

Women do have a way to go in having equal opportunities, but this year our voices have been heard and we continue to cheer and pursue this journey together. We remain stronger together.

Happy Holidays, a safe and prosperous new year to you and yours.



Capt. (Ret'd) Garth A Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP – Director of Operations at Guardsman Group Limited is one of the winners of the Caribbean Security & Resilience Award.

Captain (Ret'd) Garth A Gray, CPP, PCI, PSP has spent all his professional life in the security industry, spanning both the military and private sectors. Throughout those (almost 30) years, he has used his training and experiences to develop a deep understanding of both strategic and operational level security risk management.

A Certified Protection Professional (CPP), Professional Certified Investigator (PCI) and Physical Security Professional (PSP), he is Director of Operations for Guardsman Group Limited. He has designed strategic security risk management solutions for both private and public sector organisations in Jamaica.

He is passionate about volunteerism and professional education and has dedicated significant time and effort

working with the ASIS Jamaica Chapter to produce world-class online CPP and PSP Certification Review Courses, which have seen students from Jamaica, the Cayman Islands, Trinidad, St Vincent, The British Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic and The Bahamas.

Capt. Gray is a recipient of the 2020 ASIS Professional Certifications Board's Regional award for contribution toward the advancement of ASIS Security Designations. He is presently the Chairman of the Jamaica Chapter of ASIS and is also an Assistant Regional Vice President for ASIS Int'l Region 7B.

Capt. Gray believes 'A rising tide raises all ships' and as such works closely with the other regional leaders to continuously increase ASIS membership, engagement and certifications across all the chapters in the region. He is happily married to Lititia Myers-Gray and has one son, Alexander.

Executive Protection:

An Evolving Business Opportunity for Jamaica's Private Security Industry

Lt. Col. Oswald J Smiley, CPP, ASIS Foundation Liaison



Executive Protection



“ **The Secret Service did not undertake Executive Protection work until 1894, when it began informal, part-time protection of President Grover Cleveland.** ”

In a Gleaner article dated October 7, 2021 Jamaica's Minister of National Security made an announcement of a proposed policy shift that would revamp the Protective Services Division of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and redeploy approximately 515 officers to the front line of crime fighting. In another Gleaner article dated October 8, 2021, Jamaica's Chief Justice said that the decision to revamp the Protective Services Division of the Police Force and replace them with security guards is ill conceived.

The point made by the Chief Justice is one that must be taken into account. However, if one should look at the history of Executive Protection they would discover that political leaders have used bodyguards and special military details for protection throughout history. The modern history of executive protection began with the formation of the United States Secret Service in 1865. Protection Of Assets Manual 2011, *Security Management* ASIS International shows that; the Secret Service was originally established to investigate currency counterfeiting; the Secret Service did not undertake Executive Protection work until 1894, when it began informal, part-time protection of President Grover Cleveland.

Executive protection in its current, corporate sense - that is, practiced without the vast resources and law enforcement powers of government, can be considered to be a mid 20th century innovation which has evolved over the years. Interest in corporate executive

protection began to grow in earnest in the early 1990s because of a rise in all types of crime and the advent of workplace violence. Corporations began to see the value of providing their top executives with personal protection from their Executive Protection Specialist staff who are well trained through various EP programs.

The new policy direction announced by the Minister of National Security, and the concerns raised by the Chief Justice can be satisfied by the Private Security Industry. Qualified security companies now need to reposition themselves to satisfy the expected increase in demand for EP in the gaps identified. In an article dated September 23, 2021 by the Jamaica Observer, the Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of National Security said “private security is contributing to the downward trend in crime”. He further stated that the private security entities have become an integral part of the security landscape in Jamaica, providing a wide range of services that enhance the security of public places, residential areas, workplaces and critical infrastructure, thereby maintaining an environment conducive for business across all sectors. He also said “the industry is not only critical to advancing our national security interests, but also in supporting the country's economic growth and development”.

Executive protection is a business measure taken to preserve an organization. It is not a perquisite designed to pamper top officials; rather, where it is justified by a careful risk assessment, it is necessary to maintain the ability to operate and to preserve a high level of confidence that will eliminate questions about its competence and preparedness.



Anticipating, Identifying and Adapting to the Shifts in the Security Industry

Jason Robinson, PSP Secretary



Anticipating
Identifying



“While some security professionals are anticipating these changes and adapting quickly, others, not so much. This is unfortunate”

“It is not the strongest of species that survives, nor the most intelligent, it is the one most adaptable to change”

— Charles Darwin.

Who Moved My Cheese? An Amazing Way to Deal with Change in Your Work and in Your Life, written by Spencer Johnson is a motivational story which illustrates the various stages and complexities of anticipating change, identifying change, and adapting to change. The story outlines the daily lives of four characters, two mice—Sniff and Scurry, and two little people—Hem and Haw who went in pursuit of cheese which they eventually discovered at Cheese Station C. Each day the four characters would go to Station C and feast on the available cheese. For each character, the cheese meant their livelihood and ambitions. The mice, Sniff and Scurry, would rush out each day to the station to feast, while the little people would take their time as they believed the cheese would always be available when they got there. Over time, Sniff and Scurry identified that the cheese was depleting and started to make plans. Hem and Haw did not realize this. Eventually, the day came when the cheese was finished. Sniff and Scurry in anticipation of their resource being depleted went off in pursuit of new cheese and eventually found it. They did not hesitate. Hem and Haw however complained bitterly, WHO MOVED MY CHEESE! They were angry and hungry. Hem blamed everything and everyone for the missing cheese. Haw was discouraged and sat with Hem for a long time trying to convince him to go with him in

search of the cheese. He was afraid to go alone until he eventually accepted that he needed to overcome his fear or he would starve. At first, Haw was nervous but hopeful. He eventually found new cheese. Haw went back and tried to convince Hem that he found new cheese but Hem refused to leave his comfort zone.

This story demonstrates the complexity of the human mind—the hems and haws and the challenges associated with change whether personal or organizational. Sniff and Scurry represent those who will anticipate and move in the direction of change. They exhibit resilience! Hem and Haw are those who resist change and complain constantly. Although, some may eventually accept the change after initially resisting, there are those who may never move forward. This story is very relevant to us as security professionals. The Security Industry is evolving very rapidly. Greg Parker stated in the article: Six key shifts shaping the security industry that security is shifting from entry to occupancy, from buildings to people, from forensics to prevention, from cutting edge to good enough, from stuff to service, and from independent to integrated. He explains that security management is now occupancy and people focused rather than access control. The industry is technology-driven protecting employees, not just things, and having the ability to integrate with the non-security elements of a business.

While some security professionals are anticipating these changes and adapting quickly, others, not so much. This is unfortunate, because it is not a question of whether change is coming but it is already here. Accept it, adapt to it, monitor it and most of all enjoy it. Push past the hems or haws in your mind and sniff and scurry towards embracing a security industry that is relevant and resilient, or as Parker states in his article: an industry that is “not only about reducing risk, but also about enabling growth.”

References: Johnson, S. (1998). *Who moved my cheese?: An amazing way to deal with change in your work and in your life*. New York: Putnam. Parker, G. (2021) *Six key shifts shaping the security Industry*: <https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/96381-six-key-shifts-shaping-the-security-industry>



Intrusion Detection System (IDS) Considerations for Residential Applications



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

Within the Jamaican environment, intrusion detection systems for private residences are often designed by technicians. While these technicians may be very experienced and reasonably competent in installations, they may not be educated in the functions and principles of physical protection systems (PPS). My observation is that the systems tend to be generic and often do not take into consideration pertinent environmental factors or how the residence will be used. Invariably, after spending tens of thousands of dollars on an alarm system, residents either do not use the system at all or routinely bypass various zones, in order to live comfortably in their homes. Otherwise, residents use the system and are uncomfortable in their own homes.

Devices for home intrusion detection systems are usually limited to magnetic contacts, vibration sensors, exterior motion sensors, outdoor InfraRed (IR) beams and interior motion sensors. This suite of sensor types can do a lot, if creatively applied, but may not always fit the situation. A principle of system design is that the situation should determine the equipment, not the other way around. This means we should not force the standard device options to fit into the security needs of a building.

In the following lines, I hope to share a few observations, which should provide food for thought, when you contemplate installing an intrusion detection system or revamping one which does not quite meet your needs.

1. IDSs detect intrusions but do not delay or prevent them. Consider whether delay barriers such as burglar bars, security grade mesh or security rated windows are required.
2. Although best practice suggests adding devices to the outermost barrier, consider installing sensors on your grills (interior or exterior) if you would like to leave your windows open for ventilation. Placing magnetic contacts on your windows means you will either have to lock your windows, bypass those zones or not arm the system at all, if you wish to keep your windows open. Be aware that items may be fished from inside without triggering vibration sensors on grills. So if you leave your windows open, ensure valuables are not within view or reach.
3. High strength stainless steel security mesh could replace grills as well as traditional mosquito

mesh for the convenience of ventilation, while maintaining an insect and burglar free home. These delay barriers are suited for installing vibration sensors.

4. While continuous line detection is generally advised, determine what openings are exploitable versus only observable (such as upper floor windows which are inaccessible from outside) and apply security equipment to those that are exploitable. This approach may also save you money.
5. The placement of security control panels is often an issue as well. If they are placed in close proximity to perimeter windows, this makes them vulnerable to attack from outside. When inside, they are often easily accessible by house maids, handy men and the like, who could disable them.
6. For windows and doors which will require magnetic contacts, ensure they function properly, particularly that they can be properly locked, otherwise, you may have to bypass them in order to arm, leaving your home vulnerable. If hinges or locks are loose, the wind may cause rattling and hence nuisance alarms.
7. A point on malfunctions. Often the issue is environmental or related to the building/fixtures and not the alarm system itself. Ensure your

service provider is competent to troubleshoot and resolve your issues without expensive trial and error.

Intrusion detection systems can be a worthwhile investment to protect your home and family. If not competently designed and installed, they may create a false sense of security at best and at worst may actually compromise the security of your loved ones. You are encouraged to discuss the common issues described above with your service provider and ensure you are getting an effective system that enhances your safety and wellbeing.



Security Tips For The Season

Courtney Wallace, CPP, PSP, Membership Chairperson



When at home never leave your front or back door open if you are not able to monitor.



When leaving your home always check your surroundings for strange vehicles or persons.



If no one will be at home and you expect a stranger to come by, tell your neighbour and describe the person or persons.



Never dispose of packaging material in the garbage it will indicate that you have bought a particular item, this will attract thieves.



Never leave expensive gadgets or bags on your car seat when you are not in your motor vehicle, place them in the trunk.



Lock your car doors immediately after you get in the car.



When driving if another vehicle bumps you in lonely or isolated places, do not stop, drive to a populated area or the nearest Police Station.



Always bolt the ATM door when inside.



Never leave the ATM with cash in your hand, put it away before exiting.



Always check your surroundings when entering and exiting an ATM.



When an ATM is being serviced by security personnel, do not stay too close, because a robbery or shooting could occur.



Never enter your car or home if you suspect that it was breached, contact the police.

Have a blessed, holy and safe festive season.



Certify Your Security Team.

Our certification programs are created by and for security professionals—those at the front lines of protecting your employees, your assets, and your business. By encouraging your security team to earn ASIS certification, you will:

- ✓ Create a development pathway rooted in standards and guidelines.
- ✓ Elevate your organization's global reputation and credibility.
- ✓ Gain recognition for high standards among insurers, regulators, governments, the public, and clients.



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For their recent success in the Certified Protection Professional Exam



Season's Greetings

The Executive and the Business Management Committee of ASIS International-Jamaica Chapter wishes all Chapter members and their families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2022





Jamaica Chapter

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