

Certification *Profile*



For **Francine M. Staple, PSP**, security isn't just a career, it is a passion. The current acting security manager/port facility security officer (PFSO) for Jamaica-based Kingston Container Terminal Services readily and proudly admits to "eating, drinking, and sleeping security."

Staple was first introduced to security management as a profession when she was promoted to the position of port commander/location manager assigned to the Norman Manley International Airport in 2004. Self-described as a highly disciplined individual, Staple found herself immediately attracted to the dynamic nature of the work. She actively recruits like-minded professionals.

During a typical day, Staple routinely polices the terminal to ensure that risk-mitigation measures are adhered to, that security personnel are conducting their duties, and that other department heads are aware of any new security developments. The greatest professional challenge for Staple is educating others as to the importance of security measures implemented. "I continuously explain the necessity of implementing security measures and how it impacts each individual's safety," she says.

Staple achieved her certification goal in November 2009 by earning her Physical Security Professional® (PSP) credential; she was the first woman in Jamaica to do so.

"The PSP certification equips you with the knowledge that is required in the security industry today," observes Staple. She finds that the PSP credential lends credibility to her work and increases her confidence when speaking on security management and physical security matters affecting the terminal. Staples is also pursuing a master's degree in security and risk management.

Staple's employer was supportive of her pursuit of ASIS board certification. A new ASIS member, Staple takes every opportunity to share her certification experience with her own 15 employees, and now actively encourages others to follow her example. "As a manager, I will require all employees within the Security Division to acquire the PSP certification," confirms Staple.

Staple also supports other professionals who are preparing for the PSP examination. "I was overjoyed upon achieving my PSP credential. I now receive great satisfaction in teaching the subjects to other security professionals who will sit for the examination in the coming years."
—Profile by Leigh McGuire, ASIS marketing manager