

Houses of Worship Security Working Group Charter

Security management, crime prevention and emergency planning are just a few of the areas that are of growing importance for applying proper risk management principles to houses of worship. During a security briefing a former Secretary of State identified faith based organizations as being in the top five at risk sectors in the world.

This working group is a cross council collaboration involving councils where various aspects of houses of worship and faith based organizations security are coordinated. The four main goals of this working group are:

- Creation of a houses of worship security resource guide
- Implementation of a one-day stand-alone or pre-seminar houses of worship security educational program
- Recruitment of additional security professionals that work in this sector to join that ASIS membership base
- Determination if a stand-alone houses of worship security council should be formed

The resource guide will be designed for use by full-time security professionals in this industry, full time security professionals in other industries that may also be serving their own house of worship in a part-time or volunteer capacity and other houses of worship staff members that may not have a dedicated security professional on staff in a full-time, part-time or volunteer capacity. The content of the guide will not be the recreation of already developed works in this area. The guide will be a compilation of the various resources that are already available.

The summary for the educational program is as follows:

NATIONAL POLLS ON THE LIKELINESS OF TERRORIST THREATS LISTS HOUSES OF WORSHIP IN THE TOP FIVE! This cross council seminar will bring together security professionals with a wide variety of backgrounds related to houses of worship security. The seminar will focus on the planning, design, and implementation of security operations and advanced technologies for cross-denominational places of worship. Additionally, it will provide the latest information on identifying threats, vulnerabilities and risks inherent to protecting houses of worship and all congregations. Specific topics will include security management, crime prevention and emergency planning.

Working Group Members:

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Crisis Management and Business Continuity Council Chair

Houses of Worship Security Working Group Chair

Les Cole

Crime and Loss Prevention Council Chair

Houses of Worship Security Working Group Vice Chair

James Williams

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Houses of Worship Security Working Group Educational Program Vice Chair

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Fire and Life Safety Council Chair

Houses of Worship Security Working Group Educational Program Committee Member

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Houses of Worship Security Working Group Membership Committee Chair

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Houses of Worship Security Working Group Member

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