



# ASIS Councils NEWSLETTER

LAW ENFORCEMENT LIAISON COUNCIL

July 2008



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**"ASIS Dynamics"**  
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## LELC: OPENING REMARKS

*From the Desk of Richard E. Chase, CPP Chairperson*



Advancing Security Worldwide™

ASIS LELC

### In Support of Effective Partnerships

### Understanding the Role of ASIS International's Law Enforcement Liaison Council

By Richard Chase  
The law enforcement and private security (LE-PS) communities represent a diversity of responsibilities, expertise, training, and resources.

Whatever our duties may be, we share a similar mission- to protect the nation we so proudly serve. We do this in many ways but most importantly, by preventing terrorism, preparing for natural and man-made disasters, and preventing and fighting crime so Americans can live their lives in safety. Although we have accomplished a great deal since September 11, 2001, the challenges ahead are enormous and only through the continued development of comprehensive and effective LE-PS partnerships can we ensure future success.

I began my law enforcement career over 25 years ago. First as a Border Patrol Agent assigned to protect our country's international borders, and later as a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). I have served in a number of leadership and executive positions over the years, however, one of my most enlightening experiences relates to my tenure as the Co-Chairperson of ASIS International's Law Enforcement Liaison Council (LELC). In this capacity, I have seen first hand the benefits of joint collaboration between the LE-PS sectors.

The following will serve to provide a brief summary of the both the challenges and the benefits of the LE-PS partnership model from the LELC perspective to include, a brief overview of the Council's efforts in promoting initiatives, projects, and programs designed to encourage effective LE-PS partnerships.

#### Partnerships in the Post 9-11 World

President Bush notes in the 2007 National Strategy for Homeland Security that it has been many years since the attacks of September 11, 2001, and "...we remain at war with adversaries who are committed to destroying our people, our freedom, and our way of life. As we face the dual challenges of preventing terrorist attacks in our homeland and strengthening our Nation's preparedness for both natural and man-made disasters, our most solemn duty is to protect the American people" (DHS, 2007, President's Letter). To this, I would also add the challenges of combating and preventing violent crime.

In this regard, governments, particularly those at the state and local level, will continue to play a prominent role. The private and non-profit sectors must also be full partners in these efforts. "As the country's principal providers of goods and services, and the owners or operators of approximately 85% of the Nation's critical infrastructure, businesses have both an interest in, and a responsibility for ensuring their own security" (DHS, 2007, p. 4).

Neither the public nor the private sectors possess the necessary resources to do the job alone. A few facts and figures will quickly reveal the great potential of a collaborative LE-PS 'team approach'. It is estimated that the private security sector is composed of approximately 90,000 organizations and 2 million practitioners. Combine this with public law enforcement that has approximately 17,784 departments composed of 797,000 officers and you too can see the great potential of partnerships (National Policy Summit, 2004). Furthermore, when we add this to the strength of our Fire and Emergency Management Services professionals and related organizations, it becomes readily apparent that the potential for success is greatly enhanced when framed by a multi-organizational approach that incorporates both public and private concerns.

Unfortunately, as the 2007 National Strategy for Homeland Security points out, significant challenges remain in our efforts to make America safer. For example:

"The War on Terror is a generational struggle, and our entire Nation must be engaged and prepared to participate in this effort; Although we have substantially improved our cooperation and partnership among all levels of government, private and non-profit sectors, communities, and individual citizens, we must continue to strengthen efforts to achieve full unity of effort through a stronger and further integrated national approach to homeland security; and

While our information sharing capabilities have improved significantly, substantial obstacles remain. We must continue to break down information barriers among Federal, state, local, and tribal partners, along with the private sector" (p. 6).

Although we can intellectually conceptualize the vital nature of partnerships in the post 9-11 world, there indeed continues to be barriers to effective partnering. The bad news is that one obstacle to creating effective partnerships appears to be a lack of trust between public law enforcement and the private security sector. Despite considerable discussion about partnerships and the need to work together, the level of trust is reported to be low. Research has revealed that "the two sectors often view each other as having separate goals and have even viewed each other as competitors" (BJA, 2005, p. 4). Old habits die hard. The Economist John Maynard Keynes stated that, "the biggest problem is not to let people accept new ideas, but to let them forget the old ones."

One of the major causes of a lack of trust is misinformation and misunderstanding. Often, neither public law enforcement, nor private security has an accurate understanding of what the other does or can do. As is the case with the majority of disputes, "*Communication*", the cornerstone in the exchange of information and ideas is the critical first step in establishing an effective relationship between two organizations. Although we all believe we are effective communicators, recall the observations of the great Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw who said that "the single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken

place.” Do not take for granted that communication has occurred, and remember that communication is what true leadership is all about.

With that said, there is a lot of great work being done throughout the country to formalize these critical relationships, and central to the role of the ASIS International’s Law Enforcement Liaison Council is to highlight such activities and bring them to the attention of our membership and LE-PS community at large.

### The LELC

The LELC is part of ASIS International, a not-for-profit, professional organization that disseminates information and educational materials to enhance security knowledge, practice and performance. Founded in 1955, ASIS International operates as a research and educational organization. Currently, ASIS International has approximately 36,000 members, 204 chapters and 31 councils worldwide. It is the largest international organization promoting the effectiveness and productivity of the security industry and security professionals.

The LELC is a standing council composed of a broad range of both law enforcement and private security professionals. Our motto is “Working Together for a Safer Tomorrow.” Our mission is to foster and facilitate strategic alliances with essential stakeholders within the LE-PS community through the exchange of ideas and information such as the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Police Executive Research Forum, and the Major Cities Chiefs Association to name just a few.

The LELC lends active support to external partnership initiatives having broad application and high value to the security industry. For example, from a more programmatic perspective, the LELC supports the Safe City Program (SCP). SCP is a community-based initiative that unites businesses, residents, city officials, and law enforcement to develop and implement comprehensive crime reduction solutions in communities served by the Target Company and their business partners.

Michigan State University, along with the Department of Homeland Security’s Critical Incident Protocol program, represents another

program that the LELC not only supports, but fully endorses. This progressive program promotes the development of joint public and private sector emergency preparedness planning in response to critical incidents. Combined, these two programs alone are in over 60 communities nation-wide.

Other LELC offerings include a 4-hour transitional training seminar to aid in the successful transition of law enforcement managers into positions within the private security sector. To date, the program has been delivered to over 300 police officers with an additional seminar scheduled in New York City for 2009.

Lastly, and arguably, the Council’s most significant initiative involves our work with the IACP. An extensive out-reach initiative is underway to bring the senior leadership of ASIS International and the IACP together to discuss private and public partnerships. In the last few years, the door has been opened wider than ever before as we undertake significant measures to enhance the public and private relationship.

Due in large part to the efforts of the LELC and the IACP’s Public Sector Liaison Committee, these two powerhouses, representing both security and police professionals world-wide, are now strategically positioned to cooperatively provide the connectivity to encourage and sustain increased outreach and partnerships with public and private sector security providers.

The LELC recognizes that national security and fighting crime must be a responsibility shared across our entire nation. Our governments, community organizations, and businesses must be strong partners. In today’s dynamic and asymmetric threat environment, we must strive for a response based on engaged partnerships. While local law enforcement often possesses threat information regarding infrastructure, a collaborative relationship between both public and private security places vital information into the hands of the people who really need it. In order to effectively protect the Nation’s infrastructure, law enforcement and private security must work together because neither possesses the necessary resources to do so alone.

The LELC will continue to work tirelessly to overcome the barriers to effective LE-PS

partnerships because the stakes have never been greater.

### Conclusions

We have made great progress in confronting new challenges and refining our approach thanks in large part to the partnerships forged in the fires of the post 9-11 world. "America has responded courageously, with focus and clarity of purpose, and we are safer, stronger, and better prepared" (DHS, 2007, p. 53). However, it will take time and considerable work before we achieve all of our goals. Despite the difficult challenges ahead, we must continue to work collaboratively to protect our families and our communities.

It is with the future in mind that I am encouraged when thinking of the next generation of LE-PS professionals engaged in a collaborative approach to problem solving. Ultimately, it is these emerging security professionals who will be the *change agents* and leave behind the old ideas Keynes warned us about, and who will make future LE-PS partnerships even better than they are today.

ASIS International can provide the framework for effective partnerships - now and in the future by offering members a full range of educational programs and services. Membership benefits also include a subscription to the award-winning magazine *Security Management*, networking opportunities with security professionals, personal development, and access to the Information Resources Center. Take a moment to visit the ASIS International web site at <http://www.asisonline.org/> to read about the various councils and see for yourself the many benefits of active membership. It will become readily apparent that ASIS International leads the way for advanced and improved security performance.

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### References

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## **Business Executives for National Security "BENS"**

*James Brown, CPP Member LELC*

In an effort to find new areas of mutual interest and opportunity, the ASIS Law Enforcement Liaison Committee (LELC) contacted the Business Executives for National Security's (BENS) Washington, DC Metro area director, Steve Ewell, to establish a dialogue.

Founded in 1982, BENS is a non-political national organization that facilitates senior business executive's involvement into areas that may help find practical solutions to national security problems. "BENS has only one special interest: to help make America safe and secure."<sup>1</sup>

BENS has three major objectives:

Supporting sound business and spending practices in areas where the government and business work together. It is here that the private sector can offer best practices for quality and efficiency.

The second is transforming America's military to meet future challenges with the assistance of industry leaders in areas such as developing personnel, new technologies, and handling rapid change

The final objective is to assist in protecting the homeland particularly, in the area of community disaster preparedness. In this venue, senior business leaders provide assistance and insight to government leaders.

Examples of BENS success include a major involvement in *developing the process* for closing obsolete military bases. This enabled local governments to put the closed facilities to productive work and saved billions of dollars in tax money. It also had a significant role in supporting the Cooperative Threat Program for dismantling Russian nuclear weapons. Business executive experience was instrumental in the development of a five-year Pentagon business plan that was made available to Congress, as it was pressing Congress to streamline and improve its oversight of the Department of Homeland Security. BENS continues to work in the sensitive areas of port security, cyber and energy security, and terrorism finance tracking.

Recently BENS assisted with organizing private sector resources to get materials and supplies to the disaster workers and victims of last year's horrendous wild fires in California.

For an insight into what BENS is about, consider their guiding principles for accepting items for the policy agenda:

*What is the relative importance of this issue to American security?*

*Is there a likely BENS niche in which our members have credible expertise?*

*Are we likely to find dabble solutions?*

*Can we assemble adequate resources to work the issue?<sup>2</sup>*

Conversely, BENS does not take positions on military projects, weapons systems, or strategy, or defense related spending, believing these are the domain of elected representatives and professional military leadership.

ASIS International™ has a strong relationship with BENS in several areas of mutual concern and shared effort. A number of ASIS councils, such as the Defense and Intelligence or Military Liaison would likely have more interaction with BENS than the LELC. While any future involvement with the LELC and BENS would likely be limited, BENS is a potential resource of which all ASIS members should be aware.

(1)www.BENS.org, (2) ibid

1 [www.BENS.org](http://www.BENS.org)

2 ibid

## **National Energy Security Professionals – A Canadian Connection**

*Perry Kuzma, Member LELC*

When it comes to oil and gas in Canada; Calgary, Alberta is the headquarter base for many domestic and international companies. Alberta is an oil-rich province and is a major driver of both the Alberta and Canadian economies. The vast majority of companies have a Corporate Security Department usually comprised of former members of the law enforcement, military and/or intelligence communities. Several years ago, these Calgary members formed an informal group called the National Energy Security

Professionals (NESP). To establish some meeting guidelines, by-laws were created as was the following NESP mission statement: NESP is to establish and maintain a national body of security professionals within the energy sector to freely exchange information and knowledge, within the security disciplines for the purpose of enhancing professional standards. Translated, the purpose of NESP was to provide a forum where security professionals from the energy sector can meet, discuss issues of mutual interest, seek advice and exchange information with the understanding that it is done with strict confidentiality.

It also became clear that serving members of the municipal police service (Calgary Police Service), the federal police service (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) and the federal intelligence agency (Canadian Security Intelligence Section) should be invited to join as associate members. This would open the lines for an ongoing timely communication exchange and serve the professional interests of all involved. It was decided that one member of each organization could join NESP.

The relationship that eventually evolved was one of trust wherein discreet inquiries resulted in timely assistance from law enforcement in sensitive investigations, national security checks, identification of criminal trends, risks, and threats facing the oil and gas industry. Conversely, NESP members provided an immediate contact and resource base to the authorities to assist in whatever area of concern there may be to law enforcement. NESP members also shared their security concerns and identified opportunities where the oil and gas industry could partner with law enforcement to improve the safety and security of not only industry employees, but the communities they operate in as well.

Currently there are approximately forty NESP members who participate in monthly half day meeting sessions. A guest speaker is invited and usually presents on topics that are relevant to the energy and/or security industry. Most members also belong to ASIS which interacts with the larger Calgary security industry base.

Following 9/11, and in effort to be proactive, the Alberta Government drafted an Alberta Counter Terrorism Management Plan to protect the province's critical infrastructure. The key components of this plan were to create the following:

- a capability to establish a level of threat for Alberta;
- a cross-sector standardized capability to identify critical infrastructure in Alberta;
- an integrated process to assist both the private and public sectors to understand and establish appropriate levels of security precautions based on the level of threat; and
- an emergency notification system which can advise all partners of changes in level of terrorist threat, and which can assist in preparation activities.

In support of the "Plan", a newly created unit called the Security Information Management Team - later re-named the Alberta Security and Strategic Intelligence Support Team (ASSIST), emerged to bridge the information/intelligence gap between industry, the public and Alberta law enforcement agencies. ASSIST quickly realized the importance of joining the NESP group and now regularly attends meetings; obtaining information and distributing reports relating to threats, suspicious persons/vehicles, protests and demonstrations, anti-government issues and issues of general security to the NESP membership.

At the federal level, the Energy Infrastructure Protection Division of Natural Resources Canada partnered with many NESP members and sponsored several of them in obtaining a Level II Secret security clearance with the Government of Canada. This has allowed the opportunity for the security cleared NESP members to attend Ottawa twice a year to receive a classified energy industry security briefing supplied by the RCMP and CSIS.

NESP has provided their membership with a venue to share confidential information and security best practices at a time where their companies are fiercely competing for the next "gusher." Not only are proprietary security practices checked at the door, the inclusion of law enforcement, government and intelligence agencies have contributed to a cooperative partnership wherein everyone's professional interests are well served.

Articles published are the opinion of the author and not necessarily that of ASIS International or Law Enforcement Liaison Council.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!**

**REMEMBER**

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54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SEMINAR & EXHIBITS  
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