Certification *Profile*

Robin C. Brown, CPP, PCI, PSP, a Vietnam-era U.S. Air Force veteran, joined the FBI in 1975 and spent the next 23 years investigating a wide variety of crimes nationally and abroad. After retiring from the Bureau, Brown went into corporate security management and consulting. In 2004, the University of Colorado in Denver hired him to lead the security design of its new medical campus, with three hospitals, six medical schools, and many thousands of square feet of research space.

As director of electronic security, Brown designs access control, alarm, and CCTV systems and procedures for the protection of intellectual property. He works with architects and engineers to ensure that building design supports security doctrine, conforms with crime prevention through environmental design, and enhances the safety of students, faculty, and staff. He conducts surveys to contrast practice with policy.

Brown supervises a staff of 12. "A typical day is consumed with policy development, security surveys, installations, and maintenance and repairs," Brown says. "We also work closely with the University Police Department to ensure the safety of students and staff and of property and research."

He enjoys his work in security management. "It's an excellent career path for those who enjoy people, have a technical underpinning, a sense of three-dimensional problem-solving, and for those [who] can do more with less," Brown says.

During his more than 10 years with ASIS, Brown has been an active chapter member. "Chapter service in various roles such as certification tutoring and networking in the regional security industries has developed resources that have helped the university, my department, and me personally," he says.

Brown is a believer in professional certification. In addition to having earned all three ASIS certifications, making him one of only 21 triple certificants, he is also a CFI (Certified Fire Inspector) and a CIPM (Certified Institutional Protection Manager). He also has a masters in security management from the University of Leicester, England.

"The CPP [earned in 2002] was obtained for credibility as the security chief in a company," he explains. "The PSP [2005] reflects a great deal of what I do now and so it too was appropriate for credibility. The PCI [2007] was also important because Colorado and many states do not credential or license private investigators. That certification helps me in my private work. They all help me teach the chapter certification courses we offer for free each year to members."

Brown has seen certification become more important in hiring decisions over the years. "I have had two chief-level positions that required the CPP certification for consideration," he says. "That means that the professional credentials for our industry are now base-line definitions of minimal qualifications for upper leadership."

—Profile by Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager