

Certification *Profile*



Lisa Dolan, CPP, is president of Securit, a private investigations firm located in Flushing, New York, and licensed

in seven states and Washington, D.C. Dolan started the company in 1997 as a product-safety company. “I developed an accident reconstruction kit and safety kits and manufactured them and sold them to the U.S. Postal Service and many private-sector trucking companies,” Dolan explains. “In 2001, I partnered with Lisa Spena Garcia and later with Joe Garcia, and we changed our core competency from product to service-based.”

Dolan’s day typically begins at 5 a.m. After a trip to the gym, she arrives at the office by 8 a.m. “I scour the federal postings and forecast contract opportunities for our pipeline,” Dolan says. “I review all investigations and criminal background checks before [reports] are disseminated to the clients. Both my partner and I can be found at our respective desks long after the sun has set reviewing the challenges of the day and strategizing for the future.”

Dolan sees her role as part educator. “Security challenges come in the form of educating new clients, most especially in a down economy,” she says. “It can sometimes be an arduous task trying to educate clients on the nexus between a thorough preemployment check and their potential exposure.”

Offering clients a different way to view security is part of the process. They learn not to view it as a necessary evil. With that new perspective comes “collaboration and

team effort, which results in ownership of the security plan implemented and constructive input on both sides of the table,” says Dolan.

Dolan has been in security—in one form or another—for more than 25 years. “Prior to starting Securit, I worked in the legal field as an investigator,” she says. “Before that, I attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City and did internships at Rikers Island,” one of the city’s largest jail facilities.

An ASIS member for five years, Dolan credits Professional Certification Board Member Christina M. S. Duffey, CPP, for inspiring her to earn her Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) designation. “I met Christina in 2005 in an event in Washington, D.C.,” Dolan recalls. “She handed me her card, and I saw it had CPP after her name. I had been thinking about doing this but made many excuses when it came time to actually bite the bullet,” Dolan states. “After speaking with Christina and continuing our friendship after that event, her encouragement and passion of the certification is what motivated me. We now sit together on the ASIS Private Security Services Council, and I always tell her that she was my...motivation in getting me to consider the CPP certification.”

Dolan feels that the certification has been an asset in her business dealings. “Many of our private-sector clients retain our services because of this certification and the breadth of knowledge that comes with it,” she says.

—*Profile by Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager*