

Certification Profile

Michael F. Mullarkey, CPP, PSP

Michael F. Mullarkey, CPP, PSP, knew from a young age that law enforcement was his chosen career. Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, he became a policeman there in 1971. It was not an easy time to wear a policeman's uniform in that area, where incidents such as the firebombing of a corner police booth were commonplace. During his year with the Newark Police Department, Mullarkey says he "saw more action" than he would during the rest of his 24-year career.

Mullarkey retired as a captain from the Brick Township Police Department in 1996. After spending several years as a social worker and a Boy Scouts of America district executive, Mullarkey became head of security for International Flavors and Fragrances of Dayton, New Jersey. However, because experienced people were needed in the aftermath of 9-11, says Mullarkey, "I got back into law enforcement." Mullarkey was required to be retrained at the police academy, "which, at 54 wasn't impossible but also no walk on the beach," he recalls.

Mullarkey is currently an inspector for the

Federal Protective Service (FPS), which is part of Homeland Security's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. "It's sort of like being a military police officer," he says. His team has jurisdiction in all of Lower Manhattan. "We work to protect all federally owned or leased buildings there," he states.

Mullarkey passed the Certified Protection Professional (CPP) exam in 2000, understanding that it would help his career in private security. He says he jumped at the chance to earn the Physical Security Professional (PSP) certification. "Everything that you learn getting a PSP is basically on my job description," he explains. "I need to be capable of doing a full security assessment, make recommendations as to how to improve whatever vulnerabilities are found, and then assist and oversee whatever needs to be done. That's exactly what the PSP trains you to do." CPP and PSP candidates who wish to discuss the benefits of the certifications are invited to contact Mullarkey at michaelmullarkey@yahoo.com.
—Vicki Contavespi, ASIS public relations manager

