



Certification *Profile*

With more than two decades of previous experience as a security police officer, U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph L. Rector, CPP, PCI, PSP,**

has built a substantial career in security.

“As a kid, I wanted to be a cop or a firefighter,” Rector reflects. “Then I had planned on joining the Air Force to be a pilot.” However, a vision problem eliminated him as a pilot candidate. He fell back on his childhood dreams. “I was particularly impressed with the Air Force Security Police; they were the sharpest and most professional,” says Rector. “I made up my mind then to be an Air Force ‘Cop.’”

Since then, Rector has furthered his knowledge and increased his standing in the security field by passing the Certified Protection Professional® (CPP), Professional Certified Investigator® (PCI), and Physical Security Professional® (PSP) examinations offered through ASIS International, as well as earning a variety of other professional credentialing.

“Most officers in the Air Force Security Forces will, over time, have very similar assignments and experiences. ASIS certification is one way to stand out in the pack,” said Rector. “Additionally, since 9-11, we are engaged with our civilian counterparts a lot more frequently and have employed contract guards on our installations. Certi-

fication helps bring you closer to your counterparts outside the perimeter fence in terms of understanding the latest trends in the industry.”

Rector—who is currently the chief of Security Forces Requirements Branch at Headquarters Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia—earned his CPP from ASIS in December 2003.

“The CPP is the gold standard in the industry,” said Rector, who, as noted, has since added the PCI and PSP credentials to his résumé in order to highlight the more detailed areas of expertise he has acquired over the years in the Air Force. “As security forces officers, we start out from day one in a position of leadership and are quickly exposed to the broad spectrum of security disciplines. This makes the board certification in security management ideal. Since we are also heavily involved in the physical security and law enforcement aspects at our installations, the PSP and PCI are valuable as well.”

Rector has been a member of ASIS since 2002 and has participated in several of the organization’s educational programs and certification initiatives. He has served on the ASIS Military Liaison Council since 2004, and previously served as the certification chair for the Greater San Antonio Chapter of ASIS ■

—By Chris Flynn, ASIS public relations manager