



## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

4th Quarter, 2015

*This Government Affairs and Public Policy Newsletter provides ASISPAC contributors with the latest information regarding the involvement of ASIS with Members of the U.S. Congress and the Department of Homeland Security.*

### HOMELAND SECURITY NEWS

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During the fourth quarter of 2015, ASIS continued its work to expand public-private partnerships with the federal government.

In October, ASIS participated in the New York Corporate Security Symposium at The Cooper Union in New York City. This is one in a series of field symposia being conducted around the country by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and state and local law enforcement agencies. New York City and State agencies were heavily involved in the presentation of this particular conference. Opening remarks were delivered by Congressman Peter T. King (R-2-NY), Chairman of the Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee of the House Committee on Homeland Security. Topics discussed during the Symposium included "Partnering to Combat the Evolving Threat Environment," "Cyber Threats," "Cyber Mitigation and Response," "Leveraging Social Media for Intelligence and Analysis," "Insider Threats," and "Security Analytics." ASIS has agreed to notify its chapters in areas where these symposia are being conducted to encourage attendance by private security professionals.

At the invitation of the FBI Director's Office, ASIS participated in a meeting at the Columbia University Law School to discuss the "Going Dark" issue involving the challenges to law enforcement created by the use of encrypted technology. This is the FBI's

### LEGISLATIVE NEWS (cont.)

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In late October, the bill finally was placed on the Senate Majority Leader's calendar for floor consideration and was passed by the Senate on October 27th by a vote of 74-21. While supporting its passage, ASIS continued to recommend enhanced liability protections, disclosure and antitrust safeguards, and anti-regulatory considerations that would give companies greater legal certainty when voluntarily monitoring information systems and sharing cyber threat indicators with public and private entities. The Senate rejected several amendments that would have weakened those protections.

On December 15, 2015, the House and Senate passed an omnibus appropriations package that includes CISA. The new law combines parts of three different cybersecurity information sharing bills previously passed by either the House or Senate in 2015 with strong bipartisan support, and was signed into law by President Obama on December 18, 2015.

CISA will provide much-needed protections for businesses who share cyber threat data with each other and with the federal government. This is a major accomplishment for ASIS and underscores the benefits of our partnerships with the business community and our work with Congress.

### 2015 ASISPAC COMMITTEE

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most important public policy issue. The meeting was attended by 25 law enforcement and technology company officials who were specifically selected to participate because of their influence on the issue and their importance to resolving it. The major interests of both sides were aired. Agreement was reached that a solution acceptable to both sides might be possible. More meetings will be held in hope of moving the sides closer and preventing legislation or any other type of forced solution.

Also during the fourth quarter, ASIS participated in a conference call with the DHS Private Sector Office regarding recent changes to the National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS). NTAS advisories communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed alerts to the public. A recent change to the system has included bulletins, in addition to alerts, to communicate critical terrorism information quickly to homeland security stakeholders and to the public.

## LEGISLATIVE NEWS

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ASIS continued to follow the developments of security-related legislation in the House and Senate during the final quarter of 2015.

Legislative efforts were focused on the passage of cybersecurity information sharing legislation by the House and Senate, a top policy priority of ASIS for many years. ASIS has been working with a coalition of business partners to support the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (CISA), S. 754, which had been stalled in the Senate after being passed by the Senate Intelligence Committee last March.

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ASISPAC would like to thank the following members for their continued service on the 2015 ASISPAC Committee: Marene Allison; Linda Florence, CPP; Geoff Craighead, CPP; Bob Hulshouser, CPP; Michael R. Cummings, CPP; Barbara A. Felker; and Jeffrey A. Slotnick, CPP, PSP.

## RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

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ASISPAC would like to thank the following members for their contributions during the fourth quarter of 2015:

### **Security Patron (\$250 to \$499)**

Stephen Amitay

### **Security Advocate (\$100 to \$249)**

Geoffrey T. Craighead, CPP

**For more information regarding this newsletter or how to contribute to ASISPAC, please contact Kristin Rubin at +1.703.518.1487 or [kristin.rubin@asisonline.org](mailto:kristin.rubin@asisonline.org). Click [here](#) to donate to ASISPAC online via the ASIS website.**

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***—President Theodore Roosevelt***

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