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U.S. Air Force Security Forces Pursue ASIS International's Certified Protection Professional (CPP) Designation

More than 1,000 could become CPPs—Board Certified in Security Management

Alexandria, VA (Jan. 12, 2004) – The U.S. Air Force Security Forces Directorate and ASIS International (ASIS) announced today a professional affiliation that, beginning in fiscal year 2004 (October), will eventually become “perpetual,” says Brig. Gen. Jim Shames, Director of Security Forces. The reason for the alliance is the Certified Protection Professional (CPP) designation—the security profession’s highest recognition of its practitioners. Over time, says Shames, more than 1,000 officers, senior non-commissioned officers, and civilians (GS-9 and above) will have the opportunity to earn the CPP.

The Air Force, seeking to enhance the professional development of its security forces people, decided upon the CPP certification because it:

- Provides senior commanders people with an assured level of expertise in the security profession from the top down
- Encourages more innovation in security practices
- Will round out senior-level professional development
- Will better qualify security leaders for top posts
- Will make the AF Security Forces development compatible with industry counterparts

A board comprised of senior members of Security Forces leadership, a Force Development Team, will be responsible for managing the Air Force’s CPP program, and for determining who should apply and when the best time is, developmentally, for a person to consider trying to earn the designation.

“The prerequisite for Air Force officers is ten years security experience; an advanced degree; and completion of other military training and education to be eligible for the CPP screening,” Shames says. “It’s strictly voluntary,” reports Shames, “but having a CPP prepares you better for senior security positions in the Air Force.”

(more)

ASIS has been administering the CPP program for 27 years. Those who hold it have demonstrated knowledge in the areas of security solutions and best business practices through an intensive qualification and testing program. The CPP examination is a broad-based test in seven domains identified as the major areas involved in security management: security management, investigations, legal aspects, personnel security, physical security, protection of sensitive information, and emergency management.

ASIS International is the preeminent organization for security professionals, with more than 33,000 members worldwide. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics. ASIS also advocates the role and value of the security management profession to business, the media, government entities, and the public. By providing members and the security community with access to a full range of programs and services, and by publishing the industry's number one magazine — *Security Management* — ASIS leads the way for advanced and improved security performance.

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