



Economic Crime Council

Winter 2007-2008

Economic Crime Council Members

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Bill Wagner

IN THE NEWS

Member **Cynthia Hetherington's** new book, **Business Background Investigations: Tools and Techniques for Solution Driven Due Diligence**, was published by Facts on Demand Press.

Member **Jim Smith's** article, **Remain Vigilant against Copper Theft**, was featured in **Access Control and Security Systems** magazine.



On August 17, 2007, long time ASIS member **Ponno Kalastree** received the prestigious **Malcolm W. Thomson** award by the Council of International Investigators (CII) at their annual meeting held in Chicago. The award is given to the regional director who best exemplifies integrity, morals, and professionalism. Mr. Kalastree is the only CII member to ever receive this award twice (1997 and 2007). Mr. Kalastree is currently serving ASIS International as a member of the Economic Crime Council and as the Region 33 Vice President. Mr. Kalastree is the managing director for Mainguard International, a security consulting firm serving the Pan Pacific.

Mr. Kalastree is pictured above with Economic Council Chairman, Michael Osborne, CPP.



Ponno Kalastree (pictured in the middle of the above photo) was one of the featured speakers at **SECUREX-ASIA 2007**. This conference was founded in the Philippines in 1982 and today, 25 years from its inception, SECUREX-ASIA makes its way back to Manila to provide the platform which unifies the Asian private security community as the industry join forces regionally and with their law enforcement sector to combat crime and terrorism.

The theme of the **SECUREX-ASIA 2007 conference** – Security Industry's Concerns Then & Now was deliberated by eminent speakers and a participative audience of over 200 people on 21 & 22 November 2007 at the Sofitel Philippines Plaza in Manila.



The **Economic Crime Council** held a member meeting in conjunction with the **ASIS International Annual Seminar** in Las Vegas. The majority of council members participated in the meeting. Topics included projects and goals for 2008. Members are pictured in the above photo.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The ECC held its annual Economic Crime Roundtable at the US Secret Service Headquarters on November 14, 2007. The Roundtable is an educational forum in which various industry experts discuss emerging trends within the economic crime sector. This was the first year invitations were extended to ASIS members outside of the ECC. Representatives from three other councils attended. The feedback received was very positive.

Special Agent David Thompson of the Secret Service led off the Roundtable with a presentation concerning electronic and alternative currencies. SA Thompson explained how these alternative currency systems are being used to manipulate the laws of the United States and how terrorists/criminals are using these currencies to launder money.

Jim Murphy, Assistant Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) discussed the role FinCEN plays in preventing and detecting terrorist financing, money laundering, and other financial/economic crimes as well as the trends in the types of financial crimes being reporting.

Anne Wallace, Executive Director of the Identity Theft Assistance Center (ITAC) spoke on victim assistance concerning identity theft. ITAC is a cooperative initiative of the financial services industry started in 2004 to address and reduce the human and economic consequences of fraud and identity theft. Anne shared the successes and learnings of the organization.

Finally, the ECC's own Cynthia Hetherington, Managing Director of Corporate Investigative & Security Services for Aon Consulting, presented Web 2.0 for Economic Crime Fighters. This was an introduction to Social Networks, the ease in which a user can create, manipulate and disseminate information as well as a demonstration of how to use Web 2.0 and traditional Web sites to commit fraud.

Special thanks go to ECC member John Hartness and his administrative assistant, Jan Wilson, for making this year's Roundtable such a successful event.

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Council Chair

Mr. Michael W Osborne, CPP
Vice President, Investigations
Kreller Group
mosborne@kreller.com

Vice Chair

Mr. Jon D McDowall, PCI
Partner
Fraud Resource Group
jon@fraudresourcegroup.com

Senior Advisor:

Bruce Dean, JD, CPP, CFE
Principal Investigator
Fidelity Investments
bruce.dean@fmr.com

John Hartness
Security Officer
State Farm Bank
john.hartness.gbea@statefarm.com

Bill Wagner
Manager of Security and Safety
American Hotel Register
Company
bwagner@americanhotel.com

ASIS Council Vice President:

John E. Turey, CPP
Manager, Global Security
ITT
john.turey@itt.com

Cynthia Hetherington, MLS, MSM
Managing Director, Corporate
Strategic Intelligence Unit
Aon Consulting
Cynthia_hetherington@aon.com

R. A. (Andy) Wilson, CFE, CPP
Managing Director Wilson &
Turner Incorporated
raw@wilson-turner.com

Kimberly C. Wood, CMA, CFE
Manager of Investigation
Dow Chemical Company
kwood@dow.com

Members:

Joel Bartow
Director, Fraud Prevention and
Investigations
Sitel
joel.bartow@sitel.com

Ponno Kalastree, CII
Managing Director
Mainguard International (S) Pte
Ltd
p.kalastree@mainguard-
intl.com.sg

Government Members:

Tripp Brinkley
Postal Inspector/Program
Manager
U.S. Postal Inspection Service
TCBrinkley@uspis.gov

Fred Cantz, CPA, CFE
cantz@comcast.com

Michael Levin
Chief Security Officer
United Communications Group
mdlevin@usg.com

Stuart Tryon
U.S. Secret Service
stuart.tryon@uss.s.dhs.gov

George Curtis
Associate Professor
Economic Crime and Justice
Studies
Utica Collage
gcurtis@utica.edu

George H Millard
Police Chief and Professor
Sao Paulo Police Academy
millard@terra.com.br

Edmund "Bud" Miller, CPP
President
Efficient Research Solutions, Inc.
ersalexandria@msn.com

Daniel W. Draz, MS, CFE
Corporate Investigations Manager
TransUnion
ddraz@transunion.com

Karl Perman
Director of Security
Cardinal Health
karl.perman@cardinal.com

Peter Grant
Managing Director
C Risk International (Pty) Ltd
petergrant@criskinternational.com

James F. Smith II, MPA, CPP,
CFE
Director – Asset Protection
AT&T, Inc
js9598@att.com