

# ASIS SALUTES THE STATE GOVERNMENTAL SECURITY BUREAU OF THE N.J. STATE POLICE



Photo taken in front of Drumthwackett, the Official Governor's Residence, Princeton, NJ. Pictured from front to rear are Tpr. I Gregory L. Sanders, CPP; Sgt. Durwin Coppock, CPP; Sgt. Michael Travis, CPP; Tpr. II Ronald Drayton, CPP; and Tpr. I Darryl Beard, CPP.

**Why?:** In 1999, the Security Management Integrated Training Program was implemented by the State Governmental Security Bureau of the New Jersey State Police, in conjunction with the local chapter of ASIS (Northern New Jersey, Chapter #13) and the ASIS Council on Crime and Loss Prevention. This program teaches state troopers, police officers, retired police officers, and a limited number of the chapter's security practitioners the basic tenets and language of security. The CPP credential is embraced as an integral part of this five-week program, as it is viewed as a gauge of progress as well as the ultimate goal. The CPP exam is taken twice during the program, once as the mid-term exam at the conclusion of the course and again, if unsuccessful, as a final examination. However, the pass rate the first time has been so successful that only one program participant has had to return for the final. All who have completed the prescribed course thus far have achieved the prestigious designation of CPP.

**Background:** In 1998, after the Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police attended a meeting of the local chapter of ASIS and realized no troopers were members, he encouraged them to join. Greg Sanders took membership one step further by becoming the first New Jersey State Trooper to earn the CPP designation. Since that time, five more troopers have become CPPs. The goal for 2001 is to double that complement.

**Job Responsibility:** The 45 members of the State Governmental Security Bureau protect all state-owned or leased facilities comprising 75 properties in the state complex, 35,000 state employees, and several billion dollars in assets. They also provide executive protection for the Governor and the Governor's mansion. In addition, they manage 240 security guards located at the various government facilities, conduct security surveys, and monitor alarm systems. In short, these individuals are responsible for all aspects of security, and they have the power to make arrests.

**Reasons to Support the CPP Program:** The knowledge gained through pursuit of the CPP credential is recognized as a means to change the image of police officers in general, and specifically those wishing to transition into the private sector. As the corporate world has moved toward hiring individuals with management backgrounds instead of ex-policemen without security experience, the CPP program has provided a way to bridge the gap. Police officers with CPPs are acknowledged as understanding both the scope and language of security. Their image as well as their opportunities to transition into the private sector are therefore enhanced.

**Why State Troopers Pursue the CPP Designation:** The CPP provides professional recognition within the state government, as well as greater opportunity for specialized assignments and increased responsibility. For example, security of the Governor's mansion is managed by a CPP every day of the year. In addition, there is recognition among peers, plus the personal satisfaction of knowing that a major milestone has been achieved.

**How CPP Recognition Has Grown:** The CPP is rapidly becoming the standard for promotion within the State Governmental Security Bureau. As a strong proponent of the movement to change the image of police officers, the current Superintendent of Police supports the CPP program and has addressed several ASIS chapters during Law Enforcement Recognition Week.

**Potential Outreach of This Effort:** Not only have other units within the New Jersey State Police expressed interest in this initiative, but so have police departments from other states. In addition, there have been inquiries from corrections agencies throughout the country. This is a superb example of Operation Cooperation, whereby law enforcement and private security work together to form effective partnerships and is a model to be emulated!