



Executive Committee Member Bios

Arturo Mendez – Chair (2019 – Present)

Security Analyst, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Mr. Arturo Mendez serves as a Security Analyst with the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANYNJ) Office of the Chief Security Officer (CSO) Quality Assurance & Inspections (QAI). At PANYNJ, he is involved in all aspects of security assessments, audits, and inspections. Mr. Mendez has subject-matter expertise in the fields of industrial security and is board certified in security management by the American Society Industrial Security and designated a Certified Protection Professional (CPP).

Mr. Mendez served as Detective First Grade with the New York City Police Department (NYPD). He was previously assigned to the Detective Bureau, Counterterrorism Division, and Office of the Chief of Department, Deputy Commissioner of Community Affairs, Crime Prevention Section, Intelligence Division, and the Patrol Services Bureau. During the 22 years with the NYPD, he gained extensive experience in the fields of investigation, counterterrorism, risk assessment, and criminal/national intelligence. As a member of the NYPD Counterterrorism Division's (CTD), Mr. Mendez served as a senior critical infrastructure protection specialist for the New York Tri-State metropolitan area and senior-level instructor for various NYPD/CTD Regional Infrastructure Protection Center training programs.

Mr. Mendez was detailed from the NYPD to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Infrastructure Protection and the Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center conducting threat assessments, vulnerability assessments, and risk analysis of national critical infrastructure sites.

Mr. Mendez holds a B.S. in Police Science and M.S. in Protection Management from John Jay of Criminal Justice. In addition, he holds a M.S. in National Security and Public Safety from University of New Haven.

Mark Scott – Vice Chair (2019 – Present)

Critical Infrastructure Program Manager, District of Columbia

Mark Scott manages critical infrastructure programs and initiatives for the District of Columbia's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency. Mark's career spans over 40 years in risk management in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. His experience includes professional engagement in environmental regulation, hazardous materials risk management, and critical infrastructure security and resilience.

For the District of Columbia, Mark leads a program to strengthen protection and resilience of critical infrastructure in the Nation's capital against all hazards. The program focuses on improving understanding of risk across all infrastructure sectors, applying that knowledge to inform decision-making and resource allocation, and helping infrastructure owners and operators and District response agencies build capacity for security and resilience.

Mark has lived and worked in the Washington D.C. area since 2008, having previously resided in Charleston, West Virginia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He holds a Master's Degree in Planning from the University of Pittsburgh.



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Erik Avakian – Cybersecurity Working Group Chair

Chief Information Security Officer for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Erik was named Chief Information Security Officer for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 2010. He is responsible for the information security strategy, governance, technical standards, security policies, risk management, compliance, and cyber-incident response across the commonwealth. Prior to his appointment, Erik served as Deputy Chief Information Security Officer for the Commonwealth since 2007. Erik joined the Commonwealth in October 2005 as an IT consultant and technical architect for the Enterprise Security Auditing and Monitoring initiative. The tremendous success of the project helped Pennsylvania win the 2007 award for outstanding achievement in information technology by the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) and finalist recognition for the NASCIO 2008 Recognition Awards for Pennsylvania's Security Incident Response Process. Erik leads a highly successful group of information security professionals. In 2009, his team won the ISE Mid-Atlantic Project of the Year award for "Safeguarding Citizen Data" and in 2011 were the winners of the GovTech award for "Outstanding Leadership and Innovation". In 2015, Avakian was named by GovTech as one of the top 10 Influencers in Government. Erik received a Top 50 in CyberSecurity from StateScoop in 2018 and was recently named a Top 25 Doer, Dreamer & Driver from GovTech in 2019.

Erik has assembled a vast array of experience and expertise in areas of security strategy and design, architecture, risk assessment, policy, compliance, incident response and forensic investigations, and has led numerous enterprise initiatives in areas including intrusion detection, security information and event management, data protection, and automated incident response.

Erik holds numerous industry certifications including Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), Certified Information Security Auditor (CISA), and is a Certified Government Chief Information Officer (CGCIO). He is an Executive Board member for the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, a member of the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) Security & Privacy Committee, the Information Systems Audit and Control Association, and the Pennsylvania State Fusion Center.

Jim Battese – Partner Engagement Working Group Chair

Director of Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Mr. Battese was the Director, Public Safety for the Miami Nation and held that position 2001 to 2012, when he became the Director of Homeland Security/Counter Terrorism. The Miami Nation is located in Ottawa County, Oklahoma, with headquarters in Miami, Oklahoma. Mr. Battese also administrates the Nation's road program.

Mr. Battese was appointed to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Tribal Advisory Board by Governor Brad Henry and reappointed by Governor Fallin. Mr. Battese Chaired the City of Miami's Street Oversight Committee.

Mr. Battese was appointed to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's SLTTGCC (State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Coordinating Council) in 2007 and presently Chairs the council's Tribal & Territorial Working Group and the membership committee. He served as the Council's vice chair from 2011 to 2013.



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Mr. Battese was appointed to the FBI's CJIS advisory board's southern area working group by Director Muller and has been reappointed for several additional terms. He was appointed to the FBI's CJIS Tribal Tack Force in 2012.

After establishing the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Police Department. Mr. Battese served as its Chief of Police for five years. The Potawatomi Nation is located in Mayetta, Kansas. During this time period, Mr. Battese worked with the Kansas Legislation to obtain statutory state law enforcement status for Tribal Police. In 2003, Senate Bill 9 was enacted and gave law enforcement status to tribal police officers.

Mr. Battese held Special Agent positions in Kansas and Oklahoma with the Santa Fe Railway Police Department for 18 years. During Desert Storm, Mr. Battese was regularly assigned to the protection of military equipment shipments. He has extensive knowledge and experience in railroad operations.

Mr. Battese held Deputy Sheriff and Under-Sheriff Positions with the Jackson County Kansas Sheriff Department. He worked with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in clerical position in the Kansas City, Mo field office. Mr. Battese served in US Air Force as an aircraft mechanic and attended college in Kansas City, Missouri.

Paul Dean – Emergency Communication and Public Safety Issues Working Group Chair

Chief of Police/Executive Director of Public Safety and Vice President for Student and Academic Services for the University of New Hampshire

Paul H. Dean is the Chief of Police -Executive Director of Public Safety and Vice President for Student and Academic Services for the University of New Hampshire. Chief Dean is a 30 year veteran of law enforcement and holds a Master's of Science in Leadership and, Bachelors of Science with honors in Criminal Justice Management from Granite State College. He is a graduate of the 186th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA and The Babson College Command Officer Training program in Wellesley, MA.

Mr. Dean serves as an adjunct instructor for the Great Bay Community College-Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Program. Chief Dean Serves as an adjunct instructor for the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council, The New Hampshire Fire Academy, The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Homeland Security Program, as an instructor in terrorism and emergency management related issues.

Mr. Dean is the chairperson of the IACLEA Homeland Security & Domestic Preparedness Committee and is the co-author of the highly successful FEMA MGT 361 and 361(c) Managing Critical Incidents for Higher Education Institutions: A Multi-Disciplinary, Community Approach.

Mr. Dean is the President of the New Hampshire Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Association, Executive Board member of the NH Chiefs of Police-Strafford County Representative, Executive Board member of the NH Police Association, and Advisory Board member of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA.

Mr. Dean serves on numerous committees at the University of New Hampshire, to include the



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Student/Faculty/Staff Behavioral Intervention Team, Transportation Safety and Chairs the University Emergency Group.

Mark Dubina – Information Sharing Working Group Chair *Vice President of Security for Tampa Port Authority*

Mark Dubina is currently Vice President - Security at the Tampa Port Authority, Florida's largest commercial seaport. Mr. Dubina has over 36 years of sworn law enforcement experience in the State of Florida; with over 21 years combined law enforcement supervisory experience and security management experience. Mr. Dubina has extensive experience organizing and directing investigations, special events and security details. Mr. Dubina is a graduate of the Florida State University and has extensive additional specialized training.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Dubina served as the Chief of Investigations for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in Tampa, Fl. He has held investigative and supervisory positions in state law enforcement and began his career as a Sheriff's Deputy in Sarasota, Fl. Mr. Dubina is the former FDLE Regional Domestic Security Supervisor with responsibility for coordination with Federal, state and local agencies. He currently represents Florida Ports on the State of Florida Domestic Security Oversight Council and is a co-chair of the state and regional Critical Infrastructure Working Group. Mr. Dubina is also the current Chairman of the Florida Seaport Security Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Tampa Bay Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Ports Subcommittee, Vice Chair of the American Association of Port Authorities Security Sub-Committee, and Tampa Port Authority representative to the Area Maritime Security Executive Committee. Mr. Dubina represents the State of Florida on the Federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) State, Local, Territorial and Tribal Government Coordinating Council which advises DHS on matters related the domestic security needs of those governments. Mr. Dubina is a Certified Law Enforcement Instructor, a Certified Port Executive (CPE), Accredited Maritime Port Executive (AMPE) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). Mr. Dubina has severed on a number of law enforcement committees, and is a past President on the board of the Certified Fraud Examiners Tampa Bay Chapter.

Misty Robinson – Policy and Planning Working Group Chair *Senior Public Health Preparedness Planner for the City of Las Vegas (NV)*

A native of Dallas, Texas, Ms. Robinson received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a Master of Arts in international relations, both from the University of North Texas. Prior to joining the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) in 2006, Ms. Robinson gained experience in a variety of roles within emergency management as a regional planner in homeland security and criminal justice, as well as a grants monitor for the State Homeland Security Grant Program and state coordinator for the thirteen Texas cities who received the Metropolitan Medical Response System grant. Since joining the SNHD, Ms. Robinson has led the District's preparedness efforts through funding and guidance from the Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement, previously under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She develops plans for the Health District's response to all hazards, especially in response to public health emergencies and then conducts exercises and training to prepare the District for a real emergency. She has responded to multiple real events including the 2009-2010 H1N1 pandemic



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and the Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting.

As part of her responsibilities with the Health District, Ms. Robinson serves as a public health liaison to the Southern Nevada Counterterrorism Center and works there one day a week providing public health support to the fusion center. Ms. Robinson also supports the Las Vegas Urban Area BioWatch Program with the local planning component.

Debra Winsor – Regional Initiatives Working Group Chair

Deputy Director, Seattle Police Department, Washington State Fusion Center, Critical Infrastructure Section

Sgt. Debra Winsor, a native of the State of Washington, joined the Seattle Police Department in January 1991. She has been engaged in homeland security and critical infrastructure protection activities since March, 2002. Currently, she manages the Critical Infrastructure Section within the Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC).

Sgt. Winsor's current assignment to the WSFC as one of the supervisors began in June of 2008. She has worked to develop and implement the Critical Infrastructure & Key Resource (CIKR) Program at the Fusion Center.

Sgt. Winsor works closely with the State of Washington Military Department's Critical Infrastructure Protection Program and Pacific Northwest Economic Region to coordinate planning, prevention, and protection efforts. She serves in an advisory capacity to State and Regional Planning and Working Groups that have a critical infrastructure impact.

Matt Beaudry – Infrastructure Identification and Prioritization Working Group Chair

Section Manager, Utah Public-Private Partnership

Matt Beaudry manages the Utah Public-Private Partnership program (UP3), for the State of Utah Division of Emergency Management (DEM). Connecting Utah's private sector with emergency management is a primary objective of UP3. Critical Infrastructure (CI) resilience is an additional focus of the public-private partnerships that UP3 fosters between owners and operators (o/os) of Utah's Lifeline Infrastructure (LI) sectors.

As DEM's Private Sector Liaison, Matt facilitates working relationships between municipal, and county jurisdictions, and the businesses within their borders. Building operationally-oriented working relationships between public and private stakeholders is a key UP3 objective. Matt is the DEM liaison to the state fusion center, the Statewide Information Analysis Center (SIAC) and also serves as a critical infrastructure protection coordinator.

UP3 facilitates CI working groups such as the Lifeline Infrastructure Resilience Council (LIRC), a working group comprised of over 75 representatives from the largest o/os in Utah. This operationally-oriented group coordinates planning for response, restoration, and recovery, based on supply chain inter-dependencies with each other.



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UP3 hosted the Critical Infrastructure Resilience (CIR) Symposium in March 2016. The CIR Symposium hosted over 70 representatives from states and cities across the U.S., to share innovative ideas in CIR planning. The CIR Symposium was a forum for sharing ideas and needs some that have ultimately made it to the SLTTGCC and DHS this year.

UP3 also manages the Be Ready Business (BRB) preparedness outreach program. BRB provides a comprehensive suite of products that focus on business continuity and disaster recovery preparedness. The program facilitates forums throughout the state providing training from subject matter experts on topics of business preparedness to natural hazards and manmade/technological threats. As an outreach program BRB staff regularly present trainings and also partner in focused planning efforts with Utah's private sector.

Matt also teaches at Utah Valley University and prior to joining DEM, he finished a firefighting career as a Captain with Provo Fire and Rescue. He holds degrees in Communications, and Emergency Services Management, and is a certified Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) practitioner, assisting to develop and conduct exercises throughout the western United States.

Mike George – Grants Working Group Chair

Senior Strategic Planner, Texas Department of Public Safety/Office of Homeland Security

Mike George is the Senior Strategic Planner in the Texas Office of Homeland Security, responsible for coordinating multi-agency development of state strategy, plans, and policy for building and employing homeland security capabilities. Major focus areas for the office include the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan, Texas Homeland Security Council, risk and capability assessments, trend analysis, critical infrastructure protection initiatives, and homeland security exercises. He also leads a variety of law enforcement planning efforts for border security, counter gang, and terrorism response operations.

Mr. George served for over 20 years as an active duty infantry officer and strategist in the United States Army, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. His assignments included service with the Bush and Obama administrations as acting Senior Director of Preparedness Policy on the Homeland Security Council Staff, with US Northern Command as a homeland defense strategist and special assistant to the commander, and as an instructor teaching international relations and security studies in the Department of Social Sciences at West Point and the Basic Strategic Arts Program at the U.S. Army War College. A graduate of West Point, Mr. George also completed graduate study in political science at the University of Oxford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.