



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

New York City Chapter Newsletter

December 2023

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow NYC Chapter Members! Happy Holidays from ASSP! As we conclude this year and enter 2024 I am thrilled about the Chapter engagement and looking forward to continued success in this coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the goals completed thus far for the 2023-2024 Chapter year:

1. Funded the NYC Chapter Scholarship that was created with the ASSP Foundation to support the Foundation causes.
The NYC Chapter contributed \$4,000 to the ASSP Foundation to further the safety profession!
2. Launched quarterly newsletters and expanded continuing education credit opportunities to increase diversity in membership engagement from fields including Risk Management, Legal, Hospitality, Security, Construction, etc.
3. Partnered with other Chapters, Common Interest Groups and Organizations to promote professional collaboration and cross-functional networking.

NYC Chapter Leadership will continue to lead the charge in developing and implementing chapter goals and adding "Value" to you, the members.

Thank you for your continued engagement with ASSP! Wishing you all a safe and joyous season!

Nikhailia Morgan-Irving





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2024 Upcoming NYC Chapter Meetings and Events

January 2024

Security Services Technical Meeting
1/16/24 at 12pm **(Virtual)**

Holiday Networking Event
Time/Place **(In-person)**: TBD

February 2024

PALMS Update
Date/Time **(Virtual)**: Details TBD

March 2024

Long Island Chapter Joint Meeting
Date/Time: Details TBD

Check out our website for Updates! <https://www.nyc.assp.org/>

Keep up to date with ASSP [For the Media \(assp.org\)](https://www.assp.org/)



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NYC Chapter Welcomes New members!

ASSP Student Members – CONGRATULATIONS!

Each year in May and December, ASSP student members who graduate are automatically enrolled in one free year of full membership with the society. The following students graduated and joined the chapter as members.

Brian Hartin Gustavo McClain Ryan Porter
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Additional members who joined NYC ASSP since September 2023

Justis Austin Dwayne Barnaby Patrick Donovan Luke Ferguson Nicola Frasca Eduard Hila Xin Wei Liu Jermaine Lynch Chandradatt Mahabir Busayo Ogunmodede Olubukola Oreofe Sean Ryan Gordon Webb	Ron Andrew Mark Duntemann Edward Garcia Diolvis Germosen Christopher Parungao Sunlei Yang Craig Headley Abhishek Parida Joseph Santamaria Brucw Santos Bill Schone Snehal Shinde
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DECEMBER IS NATIONAL IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH

December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. The holidays are approaching and during this time, the roadways are particularly dangerous. More accidents occur due to alcohol or drug related crashes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 10,000 lives are lost annually. Let's prioritize safety on the roads and work together to prevent impaired driving.

What is impaired driving?

- Impaired driving refers to operating a vehicle while under the influence of a substance, such as alcohol, drugs or other substances that hinder a driver's ability to safely control the vehicle.
- Even a single drink can lead to impaired driving, causing a decline in visual function, mental judgement and motor skills. Nearly 30% of all traffic crash fatalities in the U.S. involve drunk drivers with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher.
- Driving under the influence of drugs can cause drowsiness, dizziness and inability to focus. The use of two or more drugs at the same time including alcohol, can amplify impairment.

Warning Signs of Impaired Driver

- Accelerating or decelerating quickly
- Tailgating
- Stopping without cause or erratic braking
- Drifting in and out of traffic lanes
- Responding slowly to traffic signals
- Swerving
- Driving into opposing traffic on the wrong side of the road

What can we do to prevent impaired driving accidents and be safe on the roads?

- **Personal responsibility:** Before that first drink, have a plan in place. Do not drive after drink or while under the influence of drugs.
 - Designate a driver.
 - Use a taxi or ride-share service.
 - Arrange for an overnight stay at a friend's home.
 - <https://www.nhtsa.gov/ways-get-home-safely>
- If you see an employee or co-worker acting unusual or are in a vehicle with an employee/co-worker driving who seems to be under the influence, ask them to stop the vehicle or prevent them from driving. Take the keys.
- **Beyond alcohol:** Remember that drugs (including opioids and some over-the-counter medicines) can also impair driving. Even factors like fatigue and stress can affect your ability to drive safely.
- **Educate:** A national campaign aims to educate Americans about impairment starting with the very first drink.



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Additional Resources

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/drive-sober-campaign-launch-winter-2023#:~:text=Impaired%20driving%20prevention%20technology%20is,with%20the%20principles%20of%20a>

<https://www.nsc.org/road/safety-topics/impaired-driving>

WINTER WEATHER HAZARDS AND MITIGATION

The winter is upon us and so are the hazards related to wintery weather. The most common hazards are cold stress, and slips, trips and falls among others leading to loss of time, injuries and illnesses. Here we will explore ways to recognize and mitigate such hazards.

Slips, Trips and Falls - Accumulation of snow and ice on walking and working surfaces such as walkways, site entrances, parking lots, scaffold platforms, skylights, stairs, and lifts are major contributing factors of slips, trips and falls during the winter.

These incidents are clearly preventable. Planning is critical. Before snow or ice begins to accumulate, plan on what equipment and materials including staff will be needed for the removal of snow and ice accumulation prior and during the work shift. In addition to maintaining walking and working surfaces clear and dry, some precautions that can be taken include: the wearing of insulated and water-resistant boots with good rubber treads, and taking short steps and at a slower pace when walking on surfaces covered with snow or ice.

What is cold stress? It's when your body can no longer maintain its normal core temperature of 98.6 degrees and drops to less than 95 degrees. Contributing factors are cold temperature, high and cold wind, dampness, and water. Types of cold stress are:

Hypothermia - *body temperature significantly drops causing shivering, lack of coordination, mental confusion, unable to walk or stand.* Any wet clothing must be removed and replaced with dry clothes and warm the area(s). In more severe cases where there is confusion, reduced breathing, irregular or difficult to find pulse do not move the worker and call 911.

Frostbite – when body tissues freeze, numbness, and pale, gray, or blistered skin. Frostbite normally affects the face, ears, fingers, and toes. Call 911, and if help is delayed immerse the area in warm (not hot) water.

Trench Foot – results from feet being wet for too long causing itching, blisters, or tingling. Trench foot led to approximately 75,000 deaths in the British and 2,000 in the American forces during WWI. Affected area(s) should be cleaned, soaked in warm water, and wrapped in dry cloth bandages/socks; seek medical treatment if symptoms persist.



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Preventive Measures—Employers should:

1. **Train** workers to recognize the hazards/symptoms and prevention. (OSHA standards 29CFR1926.21 Safety Training and Education; 1926.503 Training Requirements, other OSHA related training standards and the General Duty Clause 5(a)(1))
2. **Plan for and Provide** controls ensuring walking and working surfaces are maintained in a clean a safe condition, installation of guardrails, personal protective equipment, radiant heaters, monitoring workers who are at risk of cold stress, frequent breaks in warm areas, etc. (OSHA standards 29CFR1926.25, 1926.28, 1926.95, 1926.500 and the General Duty Clause 5(a)(1); and the New York City Building Code Chapter 33.



For assistance or more information visit [osha.gov](https://www.osha.gov), [bls.gov](https://www.bls.gov), [nih.gov](https://www.nih.gov), [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov), and [cpwr.com](https://www.cpwr.com)

[Winter Weather - Cold Stress | Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(osha.gov\)](#)

[CPWR Working in Cold Weather](#)