

## Vehicle and Traffic Safety at Your Property

When planning for the safety and security of a property, there are many things a security department may review. We all think to look at local crime statistics, the property's lighting levels, natural and manmade barriers surrounding the property, or even the types of businesses at your property and what type of crowd they will attract. One item some security departments will overlook is traffic safety.

What do you think of when asked about traffic safety? Do you think about traffic enforcement? Do you think about monitoring motorists to ensure that they are practicing safe driving skills?

Although it is not usually the responsibility of private security to enforce traffic laws, there are steps you can take to improve traffic safety at your property through strategic planning. The key is to evaluate your property's vulnerabilities and design solutions *before* they become serious problems. Being proactive is what Chesley Brown International is all about. Here are some things to consider and recommendations you can make to your clients based on your property's design:

- Evaluate the level of traffic or anticipated traffic and the widths of all your streets. One Chesley Brown property found some of its interior streets were too narrow to support heavy two-way traffic. It was found that turning some of these streets into one-way streets increased the ease of traffic flow and reduced accidents.
- If you have multiple stoplights on your property, assess their timing. You may find they are not working in-sync to promote easier traffic flow, and recommendations to proper authorities need to be made.
- Are there sufficient stop signs or stoplights? Are there higher risk intersections where these could be added?
- Do your parking structures have safety mirrors on the ramps to avoid vehicles turning blind corners?
- Are there any businesses or events that attract high levels of pedestrian traffic. If your property is prone to high levels of pedestrian traffic on weekends, it may become necessary to close some interior streets to vehicular traffic.
- Do you have a significant number of restaurants located in close proximity? If so, you may find they will receive frequent deliveries simultaneously. A traffic jam of delivery trucks can be a traffic nightmare,

so it may become necessary to designate specific areas for these delivery trucks.

- Are speed violators a problem? If so, it may be necessary to add speed bumps.
- One thing often overlooked is landscaping. Are there bushes or shrubbery obstructing the view of motorists? It happens more frequently than you might think.
- Is there a way for large delivery trucks to safely and easily access your property? Another Chesley Brown property found there was a design flaw in the property's construction making it difficult for larger trucks to enter and maneuver in and around the property. This resulted in several property damage reports from trucks damaging light poles, other vehicles, curbs, and landscaping. It became necessary to establish a route for delivery trucks marked with signage to lead them away from such obstacles.

These are just a few areas you may address with regards to your property. The solutions to traffic problems are simpler than you might think. You can work with your city officials to solve traffic issues. Most importantly, always stay a step ahead of the game. Be proactive and try to address concerns before you must react to them once they have become problems.