Please read the following carefully and feel free to call us if we have not answered your question here. Our phone number is 1-866-573-3999 or call Henry Morgenstern on 305-401-6906. Henry has accompanied every group that has been to Israel since 2005 and can answer any question you may have.

**General: What differentiates the trip from all the other groups taking people to Israel?**

The SSI program is based on what Homeland Security has said it needs to know about how to safeguard a wide variety of venues: schools, infrastructure, public safety, malls and retail, Government buildings, VIP protection and more. This was researched by SSI. A number of programs have tried to copy the SSI program with no success: we are the only company that has taken 11 missions in the last two years, far exceeding any other group - profit or non-profit.

In addition, we do not provide a dog and pony show, nor is this politically based or nationally determined to benefit Israel. The only beneficiaries are you, the participant, coming back with better know-how and therefore better able to protect our nation - The USA.

Also, as far as we know, this is the only program to have been approved for funding by the DHS.

In 2011, we changed the content of the program. This was in response to big advances that have been made in the US in the intervening years. As an example, instead of studying about Suicide Bombers we concentrate on the impact of groups like Hezbollah that carry out these atrocities and learn their modus operandi. Everyone today knows what an IED or a Suicide Bomber is but can usually learn a lot about the groups that carry out these attacks.

**1. How do I finance this trip?**

SSI’s Homeland Security Training in Israel has been approved by the Department of Homeland Security. However, getting funds from Homeland Security is less easy than it looks. First of all, a private company can not help you get these funds. You have to go through your State Administrative Agent and approach the SAA through your local Homeland Security liaison.

Other sources of funding have been through JTTF, UASI and even second dollar funds and Police Training budgets. A few people have had local churches or synagogues sponsor them. Where there is a will, there is a way and if you are determined to come you can find some financing for a very worthwhile Homeland Security Experience.

If you are in the Private sector, there are no grants and you or your company must pay for the trip.

**2. What is the price and what does it include?**

The price of the training is currently $3100. This includes everything but NOT THE AIRFARE FROM your city to Israel and back. There are no hidden costs. The trip includes everything: full transportation in Israel, Hotels, three meals a day( all top quality restaurants) and a shared room in the Hotel as well as all the training. The only money you will need is for souvenir and gift
There are supplements for single rooms.

There is an optional tour that is the only extra charge. Currently this is $120.00 dollars. On Friday, the tour sets out and this is a special program for a full day but you are not required to join this.

3. Who is this for - Can I go?

The study missions is designed to give Security professionals and First Responders a hands on look at how Israel has minimized attacks against its people effectively. This is intended for serious professionals or advanced students of Homeland Security policy and practices. In order to be approved, you should be attached to an agency, hold a job in the private security sector or be enrolled in a Post Graduate Homeland Security study program. If you do not fit the description, please call our office and discuss this with the Coordinator for the Israel Homeland Security Training mission.

4. Can I get credits for my Study in Israel?

St. Leo University provides the college credits for this course. For more information regarding St. Leo's criminal justice program and the cost of the credits please call us. There are academic requirements that you must fulfill in addition to taking the course.

5. Do I need a Visa and when should I get my passport?

You do not need a Visa to visit Israel. You only need a valid passport. Passports should be applied for a minimum of two months before departure at the latest. However, if you need to get one sooner, the State Department has a program that allows you to get the passport in a much shorter time period but does cost money. Please visit the website of the US Department of State for up to date information. YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE VALID FOR SIX MONTHS AFTER YOU LEAVE ISRAEL. Please check with us if there are any doubts.

6. How do I guarantee myself a place?

The sooner you send in your application the better for you. Sending in your application does not require immediate payment or oblige to undertake the trip. However, when we reach 25 participants we can not take more. The participants that can attend are those that get their application first. Since there is no financial commitment we suggest that you get this in as soon as possible.

7. Do I pay Sales tax?

If you are not a Florida resident, you must only pay the price - there is no sales tax. Florida residents should contact the SSI office for more information.

8. What do we do?

This is a hands-on Homeland Security training trip. Daily visits – sometimes up to 4 per day – are conducted with the people actually responsible for the homeland security of Israel. We have extremely high-level briefings from some of Israel’s top security advisors. Around these visits there are visits with the Israel Police, lecturers from agencies such as the Shin Bet and more.

9. Where do we stay?
We will notify you by e-mail of the exact hotel you are staying, of the kind of clothes you need to bring for the particular season you are going, when to buy your inter City tickets and more. Please read all emails from SSI carefully, after you have registered for the trip.

**10. What is the breakdown of costs for the trip?**

Please call or download the Funding Document for up to date and detailed breakdowns.

**11. Have people from what agencies attended?**

Please visit our web site to see our client list or call the SSI offices for further information. We post real testimonials on the website from some of the more nearly 400 people that have gone with us.

**12. Can I speak to someone that has attended?**

We will gladly supply you with the names of past participants. Please call our offices for references.

**13. Who do we meet when we are there?**

SSI is very well respected with the major security services (police, Israel Security Agency and corporate security directors) and gains access that is truly amazing. Briefings on the security of any given facility are always held with the people responsible.

**14. Can I take my weapon?**

No, you are not allowed to carry any weapons especially when flying, entering the country and of course when visiting secure facilities. However, the trip is always accompanied by an armed PSD professional.

**15. Is it safe?**

Israel is an extremely safe country. In the last few years there were only three incidents of terror. However, crime rates are much lower than in the West. The biggest surprise that people have is how safe Israel is. All our groups, men and women alike feel very safe going out at night and visiting the country.

**16. Can I get a refund for the cost of my trip?**

The refund policy is as follows:

1. Your money can be refunded up to 45 days before departure. A $500.00 fee for processing will be deducted from the amount to cover expenses related to processing your payment. The balance will be refunded. There are NO REFUNDS after passing the 45 day mark before the trip. SSI strongly suggests you obtain travel insurance. (See next question)

**17. Should I get travel insurance and how much does it cost?**

SSI provides a minimal policy which covers emergency evacuation. However, we suggest you obtain travelers and health insurance from Access America. This insurance can help, under
certain circumstances, to obtain some of the trip costs back if you should cancel for one of the reasons covered under the policy.

18. When should I buy my tickets to Israel?

**NOT UNTIL WE ADVISE YOU IN WRITING TO DO SO.** This is usually about 60 to 45 days before departure leaving you plenty of time to get your tickets.

19. Are there any hidden fees or costs?

There are absolutely no hidden costs or other charges for this training.

20. Will I be doing physical/ tactical training?

No. This is a Homeland Security trip and not tactical training.