

Please join me in welcoming the Asset Protection & Risk Management team!

Over the last four months and under the leadership of Paul Jones, we have built out our newly fashioned Asset Protection & Risk Management team based at the RSC in Franklin, TN. The Asset Protection & Risk Management team is responsible for protecting all company assets, including our guests, employees, and our products.



Paul Jones
Director, Asset Protection & Risk Management

Paul joined the CKE team in February from Turning Point Justice where he was the Chief Operating Officer. He brings an incredible amount of experience in leadership roles in the Asset Protection field including serving as the Executive Director of Asset Protection for eBay/PayPal, Vice President of Asset Protection for The Retail Industry Leaders Association, and Senior Vice President of Asset Protection for Limited Brands.

Upon taking his new role, Paul relocated to Franklin, TN from Boca Raton, FL. Paul enjoys spending time with his family, binge watching Netflix, walking, and is a National USA Judo Coach.

Connie Nichols
Manager, Risk Management

Connie joined in March and she brings 24 years of risk management and insurance experience to the CKE team. Connie was most recently employed at Delek US Holdings, Inc. as Insurance Manager and prior to that she worked at SP Plus Corporation (formerly Central Parking) as Manager, Risk Management. She also has 15 years of experience working at the two largest insurance brokerage firms: Willis of Tennessee, Inc. and Marsh USA, Inc., respectively.



Connie earned her Bachelors of Science in Mathematics – Actuarial Science from Middle Tennessee State University. She lives in Nolensville, TN with her husband, 2 children and 2 dogs. Connie enjoys spending time with her family, volunteering, hiking, canoeing, cooking, and gardening.



Jill Johnson
Corporate Asset Protection Manager

Jill joined the CKE team in March from MAPCO Express and she has 23 years of experience in Asset Protection/Loss Prevention and Analysis. Jill received her Bachelor of Science in Economics from Troy University. She began her career in IT for Movie Gallery before transitioning over to Analysis and Loss Prevention. Jill has also worked for Central Parking/SP Plus in addition to contracting with multiple Fortune 500 companies to create loss control and franchisee compliance analytics.

Jill relocated to Tennessee from Alabama in December of 2016. She is the mother of two sons and is active in charity work with St Jude and the American Foundation for Suicide

Prevention, where she serves on the public policy committee for Middle Tennessee.

Matt Maheu
Corporate Asset Protection Manager – East Territory

Matt joined the CKE team in March and he will assist in the development, implementation and on-going review of company-wide programs to prevent loss and ensure the security of CKE's corporate and restaurant locations.

Matt joins us from Ulta Beauty Inc. where he served as an Area Loss Prevention Manager. Prior to Ulta, Matt has held leadership positions for other various retail chains and has served in both law enforcement and the United States Army during his last 20+ years of working in the protective services field.

Matt enjoys all things outdoors and is an avid hunter. Most of all, he enjoys spending quality time with his wife, children and grandchild.





Christopher Perry
Corporate Asset Protection Manager – West Territory

Chris joined the CKE team in April. Prior to his current position, Chris was the Loss Prevention and Safety Operations Manager for Charlotte Russe, a specialty women’s fashion retailer named after a famous French Desert. Chris comes from humble but proud beginnings. He started his retail career as a Seasonal Sales associate at Hot Topic where he ended up working for over 6 years. He worked his way up to store manager before he found his true calling in Loss Prevention and became their first internally promoted LP auditor. The rest is history.

Chris relocated to Spring Hill, TN from California, along with his girlfriend, dog, and cat. Chris enjoys reading, video games, and hiking.

Jennifer Taft
Manager, Safety Compliance

Jenn has been with CKE since 2014 in the role of Manager, Safety Compliance and we are pleased that she has made the transition with our new team.

Jenn’s responsibilities include designing and implementing programs & procedures to create a safe culture for restaurant and corporate employees.

Jenn earned her Bachelor of Arts in Communications from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Jenn enjoys traveling with her husband and spoiling their pup, Lola.



Will West
Asset Protection Coordinator

Will joined the CKE team in April and he has worked in the Asset Protection field for the past 8 years. He started working with Kmart as a part time associate while in school at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and he worked his way up to management. In addition to Kmart, Will has worked as an Asset Protection Manager for both Belk and Macy’s.

Will received his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Will lives in Murfreesboro with his wife and 2 dogs. Will enjoys traveling, kayaking, and hiking.





Jennifer Jenkins
Sr. Claims Coordinator

Jennifer joined the CKE team in April. Jennifer has 24 years of experience with Workers' Compensation and General Liability Claims for self-insureds, TPA's and insurance companies. She was most recently employed at Zurich North America as a Claims Specialist II and has also worked for Dollar General Corporation, and Brentwood Services Administrators, Inc.

Jennifer relocated to Nashville, Tennessee from Chicago, Illinois in 1987. She is happily married to her husband, Apostle Jenkins, and has three sons, two daughters and a grandchild on the way. She spends her time assisting in ministry, singing and taking care of her family.

Charles "Chase" Houghton
Asset Protection Specialist

Chase joined the CKE team in April. Prior to joining the CKE Restaurants team, Chase spent two years with Hudson Bay Company as a Sales Audit Coordinator and has worked in the asset protection field in various positions for companies such as Sears and Marriott. Chase graduated from Mississippi College in December 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration of Justice.

Chase relocated to Franklin, Tennessee by way of Jackson, Mississippi earlier this year. Chase enjoys sports and reading historical and political novels.



Maricela Zamora
Administrator, Asset Protection & Risk Management

Mari has been with CKE since 2014 and we are pleased that she will be taking on a new role with our team.

Mari's first job right out of high school was to support a local auto insurance agency, learning the ins and outs of customer service and administrative duties while the small business expanded their territory. She later moved to another small brokerage and helped the business owner expand into new markets before joining the CKE family in 2014 as a member of the Security Support Center. In 2016 Mari stepped into the Asset Protection Coordinator role for Smart Safes providing support to both field and corporate level teams.



She is a SoCal native but will be moving to Murfreesboro, TN with her boyfriend and kitties this summer. Mari is currently studying Biology and hopes to continue once the dust settles, and until then plans to fill her spare time with hiking, camping and listening to music.



Emily Erdmann
Asset Protection Investigator

Emily joined the CKE team in June. Emily started her career in loss prevention in 2014 as an Asset Protection trainer and was quickly promoted to a Regional Asset Protection manager with Regis Corporation. Her role was to not only support the regional team but, investigate salons for employee theft.

Emily is currently working on her Bachelors of Finance at the College of Charleston and has her Associates in Real Estate Management from Madison Area Technical College.

Emily is moving from Charleston, SC where she enjoys kayaking, paddle boarding, boating, beach days, bike rides and staying active as she is also a personal trainer.