

# BREAKOUT SESSION II

12:45PM - 1:55PM

## H. WESLEY ODOM, JR.

President, *The Ackerman Group LLC*



## Secure Travel in an Increasingly Dangerous World

During this presentation, Mr. Odom will provide a number of commonsense, practical approaches to identify and mitigate risk when traveling away from home. He will begin with the trip planning process and provide recommendations for low-profile dress for travel. He will demonstrate tips to safely navigate through U.S. and overseas airports; as well as discuss the impact of recent terrorist attacks on airport security. He will offer suggestions on how to choose safe hotels and provide guidance on how to add more protection measures to a hotel room. He will provide an overview of the primary risks for travelers, including common street crime and ways to mitigate the risks of being victimized by pick-pockets, con artists, bag snatchers and armed muggers. Finally, Mr. Odom will review where the highest risks exist globally for terrorism and kidnapping for ransom and ways to lessen those risks.

**Wes Odom** joined The Ackerman Group in 1990, following a 15-year career in the CIA's Clandestine Services. At the CIA, he had specialized in foreign intelligence operations and counterterrorism and garnered extensive experience in technical surveillance. He had tours in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and served as an instructor in the Agency's operational training program. A fluent Spanish speaker, Wes attended Brigham Young University and holds a B.A. and M.A. from the University of West Florida. He served with a U.S. Navy Seabee battalion in Vietnam. He currently manages AG's Salt Lake City office.

