

Summary of Recommendations for the Formation of a Church Security Team

1. The written policy & procedures manual and all related forms come first. No manual = no security team. Do not attempt to form a security team without a written manual.
2. All members of the security team must be fully trained and must meet all other requirements before they can serve on the security team.
3. All applicable laws will be obeyed by church leadership and by security team members.
4. Training:
 - A. The security operations must focus strongly on preventative, *proactive* policies, procedures and actions that will reduce the number of *reactive* situations.
 - B. Armed members of the security team must be fully trained and possess an active concealed carry license. * +
 - C. Team members will be trained in the use of a weapon in a crowd. * +
 - D. Team members will be trained in the specific procedures & routines of the particular church they serve in.
 - E. Training in the protection of children & youth from abuse (including abuse reporting requirements). *
 - F. Predatory behavior training (training in how the mind of a predator works).
 - G. Use of communications equipment & knowledge of communications procedures.
5. Team members must:
 - A. agree to a full background check.
 - B. submit to the chain of command of the church and of the security team.**
 - C. be mentally & emotionally stable.
 - D. be physically capable.
 - E. not have certain impairments that could adversely affect his service on the team, such as addictions, personal crisis, powerful prescription medications, or any other impairment that could pose a danger to the well-being of others or himself.
 - F. have a detailed familiarity with the entire church complex, including surrounding land, parking, access doors, concealed rooms, fire & burglar alarms, locks & keys, use of rooms, schedules, etc., and have access to the details of the church calendar.
6. Scope of the team's responsibility must be determined. Recommended: Focus on security and not necessarily on medical emergencies, safety, risk management, cyber security, building & grounds needs/repairs/etc.
7. It is not necessary to have all team members armed; unarmed team members play a very important role on the team.
8. Team members must be active members of the church, and their membership must be in good standing.

* Must be a well-known and broadly accepted certified training program

+ For armed team members