

CHURCH SECURITY CHECKLIST



Establish a Security Team

- Recruit Volunteers: Identify and recruit members who are willing to be part of the security team.
- Background Checks: Conduct thorough background checks on all security team members.
- Training: Provide regular training on security protocols, emergency response, and conflict resolution.



Assess and Strengthen Building Security

- Entry Points: Limit and monitor the number of entry points into the building.
- Surveillance Systems: Install cameras at strategic locations to monitor church premises.
- Lighting: Ensure that all areas, especially entrances and parking lots, are well-lit.
- Alarm Systems: Install an effective alarm system that covers all potential entry points.



Develop Emergency Response Plans

- Evacuation Plan: Create and regularly update an evacuation plan, including routes and exits.
- Shelter-in-Place Procedures: Develop procedures for situations where evacuation is not safe.
- Communication Plan: Set up a system to communicate effectively with the congregation and emergency services during a crisis.



Implement Access Control Measures

- Key Control: Manage who has access to keys and electronic access codes.
- Visitor Identification: Implement a system to identify and track visitors during services and events.
- Bag Checks: Consider bag checks for larger gatherings or high-threat periods.



Regular Security Audits

- Safety Inspections: Conduct regular inspections to identify and mitigate risks.
- Security Training Reviews: Periodically review the effectiveness of the security training provided to the team.
- Equipment Checks: Regularly check the functionality of security equipment like cameras and alarms.



Community and Law Enforcement Engagement

- Local Police Partnership: Develop a relationship with local law enforcement for advice and rapid response.
- Community Awareness: Engage the church leadership in security measures through regular briefings or newsletters.
- Security Seminars: Host security awareness seminars to educate the congregation about personal and community safety.

Monitor and Respond to Threats

- Threat Assessment: Implement a system for assessing and responding to potential threats.
- Incident Reporting: Establish a clear procedure for reporting suspicious activities or security breaches.
- Regular Updates: Keep security protocols updated in response to new threats or after incidents.

Health and Safety Measures

- First Aid Training: Ensure that several team members or staff are trained in first aid and CPR.
- Medical Kits: Maintain well-stocked first aid kits that are easily accessible throughout the church. Stocked for multiple traumas.
- Sanitation: Implement protocols for maintaining cleanliness and sanitation, particularly during pandemics.

Cybersecurity Measures

- Data Protection: Protect sensitive information with strong cybersecurity measures.
- Software Updates: Keep all software up to date to protect against vulnerabilities.
- Cybersecurity Training: Educate staff and volunteers on recognizing phishing attempts and other cyber threats.

Child Safety Protocols

- Child Check-In/Check-Out System: Implement a secure system for children's programs to ensure their safety.
- Volunteer Screening: Screen all volunteers working with children for background issues.
- Safety Training: Provide specific training on child safety and emergency procedures.

