



**Title:** Training the Church Security Team

**Speaker:** Richard Odenthal

*“Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God and set a watch against day and night, because of them.” (Nehemiah 4:9)*

Once it is determined that a “Security Team” is necessary (I believe it is necessary in every church) a process begins that includes critical decisions. These decisions must be made at the highest level of the organization and only after prayer and discussion with knowledgeable individuals.

- What is the mission of the team?
- What is the composition of the team?
- What is the selection process?

Once the team is constituted, the team leadership must make an assessment of the capabilities of the team and then build a training program. Training should be designed to utilize the skills of the most proficient team members while building the skills of the least skilled members.

**Introduction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Why \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

A. We \_\_\_\_\_ like we \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Training establishes a \_\_\_\_\_ from which:

Response can be designed.

Weaknesses may be exposed.

May require reevaluation of team composition

May require reevaluation of team mission

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## 2. What training is \_\_\_\_\_ ?

### A. Situational \_\_\_\_\_

Threat recognition—threats come in a variety of types including:

- Fire
- Haz-Mat spills
- Active shooter incidents
- Medical emergencies
- Weather events
- Domestic violence

### B. \_\_\_\_\_ Analysis

Uses of existing terrain

- Buildings
- Micro terrain
- Parking lots
- Streets

### C. First Responder \_\_\_\_\_

Response time and type

- Police
- Fire
- Medical

**Final Thoughts:** As church leaders we have an obligation to our church members and visitors to ensure that the church is as safe as possible. None of us can guarantee complete safety but we can take steps to mitigate against those threats that commonly occur in our area. Be prudent in establishing any security team and take care to “vet” anyone who proposes to, “train” your staff. Seek counsel from those you trust before exposing your staff and church to, “trainers” who may or may not understand your specific needs.

**Conclusion:** \_\_\_\_\_

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