

# THE CHURCH GUARDIAN

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SHEEPDOG CHURCH SECURITY



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## TOP NEWS STORY

### Three People Dead in Texas Church Shooting

A man shot and killed two people during a church service on Sunday morning before two members of the church security team shot and killed him. The man had sat down in the sanctuary, then stood, pulled out a shotgun and started firing. The governor said that the incident was over within six seconds thanks to the quick response of the church's security team members. "Two of the parishioners who are volunteers on the security force drew their weapons and took out the killer immediately, saving untold number of lives," he said. The shooter is "relatively transient with roots to the area" and had been arrested multiple times in different municipalities.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

# TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

## Church Safety and Security Volunteer Academy Training Materials

**Slide Presentation:** The slides cover an incredibly wide range of information pertinent to creating, vetting, training and monitoring a Church Safety Team. Topics covered include Safety Ministry basics, patrol procedures, radio procedures, information to help you customize safety procedures for your church, how to respond to challenges, reviews and more.

**Instructor Guide:** The guide is designed to make imparting vital information to Church Safety Team members simple and as easy as possible. It provides vital information for instructors, including lesson walk-throughs. It is more than a supplement for the course itself – it's an essential tool to make an instructor's job easier while ensuring students receive the training necessary.

**Streaming Video:** In addition to the downloadable files, you get online access to our course videos for one year. They are great way to prepare yourself to teach the material and they can even be used in a classroom setting until you are more comfortable teaching.

CLICK THE IMAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION



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**”TO ENSURE THAT YOU DEVELOP A ROBUST SAFETY TEAM THROUGH EFFECTIVE TRAINING”**

# WEEKLY TEAM BRIEFING

## Holding the Fort: *Having What It Takes for Safety & Security*

So Israel lived in safety ...  
(Deuteronomy 33:28a).

The first December 2019 article was “Have a Safe and Secure Holiday.” It covered Church Safety during the Holiday Season. This was followed by a four-article series on equipment and supplies for a Church Safety Ministry. This could be taken as a suggestion of safety gifts for the church. Most of those described are available in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon. The articles are:

“Equip the Mind, Dress to Serve” (studying and dressing for safety),  
“Equip for Medical Response” (Ready for Medical Emergencies),  
“Equip to Rescue” (Aids for Evacuations), and  
“Equip to Defend” (Lethal and Less-than-Lethal Weapons).

### Action Points

Read “Have a Safe and Secure Holiday” and listen to the podcast. Safety should continue past New Year’s Day. Take a look around the church and at its programs and events. How

can these be made safer for everyone attending? Talk about it with other team members. Work to make your church a safe place to worship.

Read the “Equip” articles and listen to the podcasts. How well equipped are you and the church for safety and security? Take into consideration the specific needs of your congregation and the denomination or group it is a member of.

Expand and sharpen your mind for safety ministry work. Also continue renewing your mind by studying and meditating on God’s Word.

Does your church have the right equipment for responding to a medical emergency? How well trained are you and the team?

What if you need to evacuate the church? Are you ready to safely move infants, young children, and the mobility-impaired?

What if people sheltered in place for a storm and debris is blocking exits from the shelter? Can you get them out?

Are you ready to physically defend yourself or another person? Can you use a non-lethal weapon? Do you carry a firearm?

Do you know the federal, state, and local laws and regulations for all of your weapons and for use of force? If not, find out.

Do you have the necessary training and certification for the weapons, lethal and less-than-lethal, that you have? If not, try to get it.



# Have a Safe and Secure Holiday: Church Safety During the Holiday Season

BY WESLEY VAUGHN

## In the News

Birmingham, Alabama, December 25, 2018 - A Christmas house fire spread to an AME Zion church, making the building unusable. Thankfully, other worship bodies are providing space for the congregation while the church is being rebuilt.[1]

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and other locations, 2018 Christmas Season - A woman stole the Baby Jesus figurine from the nativity scene in the public square. This is only part of the trend of Christmas display thefts across the country. Many of these are at or in churches.[2]



Suffolk County, New York, December 24, 2018 - A woman walked into a church during the Christmas Eve service and stole an unattended purse. She was arrested after using credit cards from the stolen purse. She and her companion are charged with other thefts in the area. Now the church urges people "to safeguard their valuables and take other measures." [3]

Across America, December 2011-2015 - The US Consumer Product Safety Commission tracked visits to emergency rooms at a number of hospitals in a four-year period. Over 1,700 Christmas related injuries were documented. They included:

Falls from ladders, stools, chairs and tables while putting up or taking down decorations

Electric shocks, such as by grabbing metal fixtures while handling

*Pray that it may not happen in winter*

MARK 13:18

*She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet*

(PROVERBS 31:21)

*And many people came together in Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread ...*

2 CHRONICLES 30:13

*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy"*

JOHN 10:10



HAVE A SAFE AND SECURE HOLIDAY CONTINUED...

lights, etc.

Cuts while trimming trees with knives, box cutters, and a chain saw

Burns from candles, hot tools, cooking/baking, fireplaces, fire pits, etc.[4]

Quetta, Pakistan, December 17, 2017 - A church was attacked by suicide bombers a week before Christmas Eve, killing nine.[5]

A Time of Joy and Celebration

The Holiday Season, extending from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, is a time of joy and celebration for Christians and Jews. Both thank God for his protection and many blessings on Thanksgiving. Jews celebrate the cleansing and rededication of the Temple on Hanukkah. Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas. Ancients in northern lands celebrated the turn of seasons when days begin to grow longer.

Even in times of joy, there are things which can bring pain and sorrow, even in a church and among its members. Some are seasonal, weather-related. Some are everyday threats to our well-being. The activities of celebration can bring their own hazards. Then there are those who come to steal our possessions, our joy, or even our lives.

Protecting against Threats to Safety and Security

The key role of a Church Safety Ministry is to protect the church's members and guests. We try to do this in a way that does not interfere with the church's ministry unless absolutely necessary. This means that the Holiday Season is a time of extra work for the Safety Team in order to keep the flock safe and able to enjoy and be blessed by the programs and activities of the season.

As can be seen in the news stories, everyday threats to church safety and security continue, with added and special hazards. There is also added opportunity for ministry, to be a blessing to others.

The Beauty and Threats of Winter

Every season has its hazards. Fall is fire season in California and hurricane season in Florida. Spring is tornado season in most of the country. Winter is the season of snow and ice in northern states.

Winter has its beauty. There is a beauty to frost on windows and trees, freshly fallen snow, and the Northern Lights. We watch birds flock to feeders and follow animal tracks in the snow. There is also winter fun - sledding, skating, skiing, sleigh riding, snowmen, and snowball fights.

Along with the beauty and fun, winter has its hazards, such as blinding blizzards, and extreme cold (I got caught in a blizzard on the way to school when in First Grade). Roads and walking surfaces can be slick. Icy stairs can be terrifying to use. Limbs on those beautifully frosted trees can break off, damaging and injuring whatever and whoever is below. That pretty snow blanket on the roof can be too much weight and break the roof, endangering those inside. It may also slide off, hitting someone under the eaves or blocking an exit door. The cold itself is a threat with hypothermia, frozen water lines, and illnesses from crowding people inside. So how does a Safety Ministry deal with these threats?

Severe Weather

There may be times when church activities have to be cancelled or stopped because of weather conditions. This is where staying in tune with weather forecasts is critical. The Safety Team or the church office should have a good weather radio, such as the Midland - WR300, Deluxe NOAA Emergency Weather Alert Radio.[6] If road conditions are expected to be poor when people are coming to church, the activities can be cancelled or rescheduled to start later.

Sometimes a weather warning, such as for a blizzard, may come after a service or class has started, but when there is still enough time for people to get home if they leave soon, but the conditions will continue

## HAVE A SAFE AND SECURE HOLIDAY CONTINUED...

for a long time. Then the activity can be cut short and participants sent home.

Perhaps it's too late to send people home. Is the church ready to house them for a day or two?

### Walking and Driving Hazards

When people arrive at church in icy weather, the roads may have been cleared and treated. But how about the church's driveway and parking lot? Can they be plowed then salted or sanded in time? How about the outside walkways? The church should have salt on hand for treating them and have someone ready to do it, Safety Team members or a custodian.

If the church has vehicles, such as a van or bus, are they ready for winter? Change to winter tires. Put antifreeze in the coolant. Use winter-formula washer fluid. Be sure the cabin heating works.

### Snow Accumulation

Don't let snow on the roof pile up too high. It can be too much for the roof. Don't let sheets of snow slide off when people are around. Get snow to slide off before church members arrive.

Shovel paths to the doors from the parking lot.

### Extreme Cold

Freezing temperatures can cause hypothermia and frostbite. Be trained and ready to treat them. Have Safety Team members dress for the weather.

Watch for anyone who has difficulty walking up from the parking lot and be ready to help. Be alert for anyone who has fallen or collapsed outside. Heart attacks can be triggered by the stress of extreme cold, and someone who has fallen may freeze if not assisted.

### Heating Systems

We do not want the heat to fail when we need it the most, especially when the church is packed. Have the furnace checked before you need it. A furnace not maintained is also a fire risk.

### Fire Risks

Fire is a very real threat at Christmastime. Holiday activities can make it a greater risk. Here are some ways to avoid starting a fire at this time:

Keep flammable Christmas decorations away from heat sources. Besides heaters and candles, this also includes light bulbs, switches, and outlets. Do not overload electrical circuits.

Do not use extension cords too light for the equipment.

Do not run cords under mats and rugs. If you have to run cords across where people walk, use floor cord covers. They are available at hardware stores and on Amazon.

Don't let children use candles without adult supervision.

Practice fire safety in the church kitchen. Don't leave food on burners unattended.

Use extreme care with space heaters. Use only ones in good condition. Keep them away from combustible materials.

### Holiday Health Hazards

On holidays, especially Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve/Day, there are loads of home-cooked foods. Every year there are reports of food poisoning, and many cases not reported. Also, not everyone uses the same level of kitchen hygiene, so there is the possibility of food-borne illnesses. This is also complicated by point-of-source contamination for commercially produced foods. Members of the Safety Team (or Medical Response Team) should be alert for signs of food poisoning.

Associated with eating together is the possibility of choking on food. Be training in the Heimlich Maneuver and be ready to use it if someone is choking.

## HAVE A SAFE AND SECURE HOLIDAY CONTINUED...

Holiday decorations may include plants or plant parts which are toxic. Young children - even some adults - are prone to putting berries and leaves in their mouths. Plants toxic to humans include poinsettias and holly berries, among others.

### The "Grinches"

Not all grinchers are green. Some look and sound like the rest of us. Some may be among us. These are the ones who steal from the rest of us. Most are not motivated by stealing our joy, but settle for stealing money and things. But some do want to rob us of joy. Some even want to rob as many of us as they can of life itself. Let's divide the grinchers into thieves and spoilers.

### Thieves

Petty thieves only take a little at a time. The legal definition depends on state definitions - the value limit for petty theft. The purse thief in Suffolk County is an example. A petty thief looks for easy pickings - unattended valuables, coat pockets on the rack, the offering plate going by, an open purse, an unlocked car door, an office door left open. Urge members and visitors to be careful with their valuables. Lock the office door when leaving. Have a greeter and a Safety Team member look to the coat rack often enough to make pocket browsing seem risky. With extra money in the offerings and café receipts, guard against embezzlement (see the article "Access Control"[7]). Follow other safe cash practices.

### Spoilers

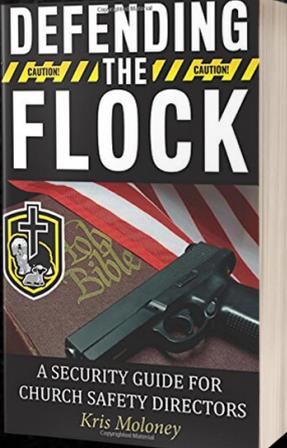
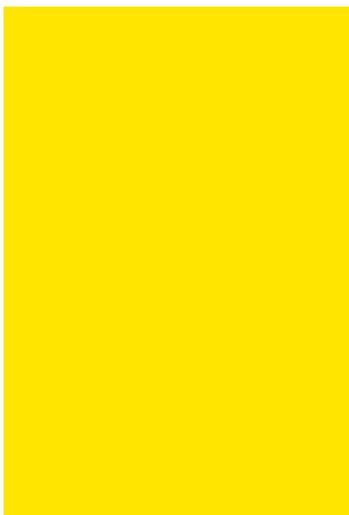
A common spoiler is vandalism. Persons with a grudge against God, Christians, or the church, often choose Christian holidays to vandalize churches, such as happened in San Antonio in 2017.[8]

For centuries, persecutors have chosen Christian holy days, such as Christmas and Easter, to harass, burn, or kill.[5][9][10] Be on extra alert at this target time of year with threat assessment and situational awareness. Also be ready to respond.

### Conclusion:

Safety Does Not Take a Holiday It's nice to take a holiday, to step back and relax. If you work in a school, factory, or office, you may get a paid day off (unfortunately, this is not generally true in retail). However, as anyone in law enforcement, firefighting, or the emergency room will affirm, safety and security do not take a holiday. In fact, holidays are their busiest times of the year. While we in church safety ministries enjoy the Holiday Season, we have more to look out for at this joyous time of year.

See link for references: <https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/have-a-safe-and-secure-holiday/>



**DEFENDING THE FLOCK**

A SECURITY GUIDE FOR CHURCH SAFETY DIRECTORS

Kris Moloney

**“A must have book for your church safety ministry.”**

**GET IT ON AMAZON**

# Equip the Mind, Dress to Serve: Equip to Serve

BY WESLEY VAUGHN

## In the News

Concerns about Security Guard Training - A 2015 Stateline article from the Pew Charitable Trusts reported that in many states security guards were barely trained and poorly supervised. This was in addition to lax screening of applicants.[2]

Is Personal Body Armor Effective? - In a PoliceOne article, Joel Shults, former Colorado Chief of Police, cites studies showing how law enforcement officers' lives have been saved by wearing body armor. This is true not only for armed attacks, but for vehicle crashes as well. Advances in materials and design have made body armor lighter, less bulky, and more comfortable, while still effective for most situations.[3]



A Tragic Case of Mistaken Identity - A shooter at a bar outside of Chicago was stopped and pinned down by a security guard. Police officers from a nearby town responded. One of the officers, mistaking the guard for the shooter, shot and killed him. According to the state police, the guard, who was wearing "plain black clothing," did not have any observable "markings readily identifying him as a Security Guard." He was holding a gun on the suspect.[4]

## Equipping the Mind

The Apostle Paul told Timothy, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved ..." (2 Tim. 2:15 ESV). "Do your best" is also rendered "Be diligent" (NASB and NKJV) and "Study" (KJV). In the Old Testament, Ezra set an example of studying (Ezra 7:10). Then in Romans 12:2, Paul says that we are to "be transformed by

*For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel*

EZRA 7:10

*"Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning"*

ILUKE 12:35

*Then he hurried to take the bandage away from his eyes, and the king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets*

1 KINGS 20:41



## EQUIP THE MIND CONTINUED...

the renewal of your mind" (emphasis mine).

If we are to be and do our best as members of a Church Safety Ministry, we must know what we are to do and how. This knowledge should also inform our attitudes. This means we are to listen, read, and study to equip our minds for safety & security. Sheepdog Church Security (SDCS) has several training courses. SDCS also urges us to get local training for medical response skills and self-defense.

### Books on Church Safety & Security

There is more from Sheepdog Church Security. Kris Moloney has written two books, *Defending the Flock: A Security Guide for Church Safety Directors*<sup>[5]</sup> and *Active Shooter Mitigation: A Training Guide for Houses of Worship*<sup>[6]</sup>. A book on Child Protection is in the works. These books cover the subjects of related training courses in more depth. They are available in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon.<sup>[1]</sup> More books will be made available as they are published.

Pending the writing and release of more books by Kris, we can look up and use other resources on areas of church safety. Some of these topics are verbal de-escalation, child protection, arson prevention, fire safety, self-defense, use-of-force laws, preparing for and responding to severe weather, and lifesaving methods. There are many articles online on these subjects, but there are also books available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Christian Books Distributor (CBD). Here is a short list of available books on Amazon and CBD (this is not a promotion of specific books, but examples of what's available):

*To Sleep with the Angels: The Story of a Fire*, by David Cowan and John Kuenster<sup>[7]</sup>

*Fire Safety Log Book*, by Crown Journals (Author)<sup>[8]</sup>

*Words of Power: A Guide for Ordinary People to Calm and De-Escalate Aggressive Individuals*, by Ellis Amdur<sup>[9]</sup>

*Verbal Judo: The Gentle Art of Persuasion, Updated Edition*, by George J. Thompson and Jerry B. Jenkins<sup>[10]</sup>

*Child Protection in the Church* by Roger Hitchings, Paul E. Brown, et al.<sup>[11]</sup>

*Safe Kids: Policies and Procedures for Protecting Children in the Church (Lifestream Resources)* by Blake Caldwell<sup>[12]</sup>

*Preventing Child Abuse: Creating a Safe Place, Edition 0004 Revised*, by Beth Swagman<sup>[13]</sup>

### Laws Applying to Church Safety & Security

Church Safety may involve confrontations and physical defense as we protect the flock. In some states, this also involves registration, licensing, training, and certification of volunteer safety and security team members. This is where we have to pay close attention not only to Federal laws and regulations, but more especially to state and local laws. Since these differ from state-to-state and locality-to-locality, we cannot simply go on what they are in other states or local jurisdictions, but on what they are in our own state and local jurisdiction. These laws cover citizen's arrest, use of force, and carrying and use of lethal and less-than-lethal weapons (especially firearms). States also have laws relating to child protection, including reporting of child abuse.

If you are on the Church Safety Committee or the board responsible for the church's property, it is important to know what the building codes (especially fire codes) are for your area.

Most resources on this topic will be found online. It is important to find up-to-date information, because you are subject to the law as it is now. Every year or so, laws change in one or more states, or their application has been refined by court decisions. These web pages will give you a view into laws relating to firearms and the use of force:

## EQUIP THE MIND CONTINUED...

Church Law & Tax: Q&A: Gun Laws and Church Security - Answers to questions about church security and firearms laws.[14]

U.S. & Texas LawShield: Defending Your Flock - This tells how firearms laws apply to places of worship in the featured state.[15]

NBCDFW: Texas law and firearms in churches - This news article from a Dallas area TV station gives the intent of legislators in changes to Texas law relating to the carrying of firearms in places of worship. [16]

### Spiritual Equipping

As members of a Christian ministry it is vital to equip ourselves spiritually. One of the qualifications for Safety Team members is that one be a member and a regular attendee of the church. The first Team Priority is "Attend church services." [17]

This is more than just being a church regular or member and attending services. It is important to have one's own personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It is also important to be growing in faith. There are resources available to equip you spiritually. The most important one is your Bible.

It also helps to have help in understanding the Bible. One resource is study Bibles with comments, explanations, and room to make your own notes. CBD has several study Bibles for sale.[18]

Very important in spiritual equipping are private and family devotions and prayer.

### Dress to Serve

Jesus told His disciples, "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning" (Luke 12:35). Part of our equipment for our work on a Church Safety Team is what we wear. Paul was referring to spiritual conflict when he said, "Put on the whole armor of God" (Ephesians 6:11ff), but some of the items named apply to what we put on as Guardians of the Flock. Three of these items are belt, shoes, and body armor. To these we add identification.

### Belt

For a Roman soldier in Paul's day, the belt held his sword and a few other items. It was also a wide belt, which may have served as a back brace. For the Safety Team member, a belt (other than the one holding pants) can hold the radio, CPR mask, sterile gloves, pepper spray, and (if armed) the firearm. The belt must be sturdy enough to hold these items and wide enough to not twist.

### Shoes

Since we are not wearing shoes issued by the military or a security agency, we choose our own. There are three important considerations. First, they must have good traction. Leather soles (as on dress shoes) are notorious for being slick. Neoprene soles have good traction and are oil-resistant and puncture-resistant. Some sellers have dress shoes with safety soles. Second, they should be closed shoes which protect the feet from falling objects (such as a knife or screwdriver). Third, they need to be comfortable with good support for your arch. Size them correctly according the length of your arch.

### Body Armor

Metal breastplates or leather ones with embedded metal scales are not what we now wear. However, thanks to Kevlar, lightweight body armor is now available. This tougher version of nylon can resist bullets and knives. It can be worn beneath other clothing, making it inconspicuous. Although the chances of an active killer incident are slim, body armor can protect you in a spontaneous violent incident involving a firearm, knife, or other object. According to Joel Shults (in the news article above), it works.[3] Body armor is available on Amazon and other retail sites.

## EQUIP THE MIND CONTINUED...

### Identification

As members of the Safety Team, we need some kind of identification. This can be on our clothing if we are visible members. Unmarked members need some identification which they can put on or show when needed so those they are helping or confronting know their status.

The third news story above showed the importance of being immediately and conspicuously identifiable to law enforcement officers responding to a reported shooting. The guard near Chicago did not wear conspicuous identification. When police arrived at the church in Antioch, Tennessee, they found the usher holding the suspect at gunpoint. Fortunately someone said the shooter was on the floor.

DSM Safety Products has safety banners to identify various responders in an incident so police can know they are not the attackers (DSM means "Do Not Shoot"). One says, "SECURITY." For members of a Medical Response Team, they have one which says, "MEDICAL." The banner is in a belt pouch. We do not want to be casualties of mistaken identity.[19]

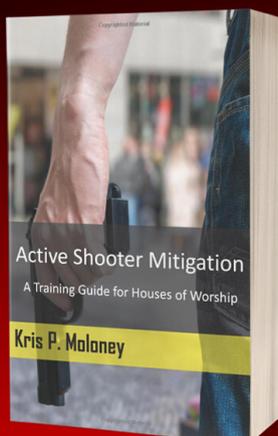
### Conclusion

We study and put on the right apparel to help us serve better and keep all of us safer.

### There is More

There are three other articles in this series: Equip for Medical Response, Equip to Communicate and to Rescue, and Equip to Defend.

See link for references: <https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/equip-the-mind-dress-to-serve/>



**SAFEGUARD YOUR CHURCH  
FROM VIOLENCE**

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON

# Equip for Medical Response: Equip to Serve

BY WESLEY VAUGHN

## In the News

St. Louis, Missouri, December 2017 - A man attending a Christmas program in a church suffered a heart attack. Four other persons present quickly responded. One of them ran to get the AED (one of four stationed on the church campus) and restarted the man's heart before the EMTs arrived from across the street.[2]

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 27, 2018 - A shooter entered a synagogue during Sabbath services and began shooting with a firearm. Eleven people were killed and more were wounded. Many survived because their bleeding was controlled by members and responding police who had taken "Stop the Bleed" training earlier that year.[3]



## Ready for Emergencies

Emergencies, by their very nature, are unplanned events. When there is a medical emergency in the church or during a church event, we need to be already ready. A life or lives may literally depend on it. This means both training and equipment & supplies.

Almost all medical response equipment requires some level of training. On the other hand, a well-trained and skilled responder may be able to make do with what is at hand in most situations, but there are cases where specific equipment and supplies are essential. In the news stories above, the church in St. Louis had well-placed AED's, and a person responding the heart attack knew where it was and how to use it. In Pittsburgh, responders used whatever they could to stop bleeding, but some of them had tourniquets or compression bandages.

*There is ... no  
medicine for your  
wound, no healing  
for you*

JEREMIAH 30:13

*Luke the beloved  
physician greets  
you ...*

COLOSSIANS 4:14

*(He went to him  
and bound up his  
wounds, pouring  
on oil and wine.  
Then he set him  
on his own animal  
and brought him  
to an inn and took  
care of him*

LUKE 10:34

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## EQUIP FOR MEDICAL RESPONSE CONTINUED...

### Keep on Hand

The Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon[1] has several items for medical response. These include nitrile exam gloves and a medical glove pouch, tourniquets and pressure bandages, airway tubes, a wall-mounted First Aid cabinet, a trauma duffel bag for first responders, an AED, and CPR masks. There are other recommended supplies not in the store, such as replacements for used items from the medic bag or the First Aid cabinet.

### Nitrile Exam Gloves

Go to the deli counter at your favorite supermarket, order sliced meats and cheese, then watch the clerk at work. He or she is wearing vinyl gloves. This is to prevent contamination of your food while handling it. They are protecting you.

If you have learned about blood-borne pathogens or body fluids, you come away knowing to "Handle with Caution." The first cautionary measure is "Wear gloves." Latex gloves are the best kind, as far as fit, durability, and flexibility are concerned. However, there are some people - responders and patients alike - who are allergic to latex. A common alternative to latex is vinyl. However, as many of us have experienced, vinyl gloves are very fragile. They tear easily, which may be forgivable in a deli, but is unacceptable in treating an injured person.

Nitrile is a type of synthetic rubber. It is better than vinyl and does not trigger latex allergies. The Safety Zone GNEP - 1P Nitrile Exam Gloves[4] are available in four sizes: Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large.

### Medical Glove Pouch

The LINE2design Latex Glove Pouch Red[5] holds two nitrile, vinyl, or latex gloves. Its 4" x 3" size fits easily into most pockets, keeping the gloves handy for the next emergency. The same brand also has a larger pouch to hold 6 gloves.

### Tourniquets

Tourniquets can be made from available items. However, if you are carrying one with you, there is no need to hunt for materials to use. The CAT Combat Application Tourniquet - GEN 7[6] is the official tourniquet of the U.S. Army. It is tightened by a windlass, which means you don't have to stay there holding it tight, but can move on to treat others. It has a place to write the time so you or another responder can see how long it has been on and relieve pressure before it has been too long. This makes it perfect for a mass casualty event.

### Pressure Bandages

In First Aid courses, we learn to put pressure on a bleeding cut with a gauze pad, with most of the pressure on the side from which the blood is coming. Pressure bandages are designed to keep the pressure on. This is for cuts and wounds which do not require a tourniquet. Sheepdog Church Security recommends the Emergency Pressure Bandage (Israeli Type) by Dynarex[7].

### Airway Tubes

Sometimes the person we are treating has trouble breathing, such as with a bad mouth injury. This calls for intubation. The Sheepdog Church Security Store has the Airway Kit - Nasopharyngeal Respiration Tubes by Moore Medical[8]. These go up through the nose and down through the throat to the windpipe (trachea). They come with a medical lubricant to ease insertion.

### First Aid Cabinet

A wall-mounted First Aid cabinet is a must for every business, school, or church. The SDCS Store has

## EQUIP FOR MEDICAL RESPONSE CONTINUED...

the Rapid Care First Aid Cabinet[9]. It comes in three sizes, with two, three, or four shelves. Each cabinet comes with supplies for First Aid for different numbers of people normally in the facility at any one time.

### Trauma Duffel Bag

If there is a severe injury or an off-site church event (such as a picnic), it pays to be able to take medical response supplies with you. The Sheepdog Church Security Store has the Ergodyne Arsenal 5215 Large Medic First Responder Trauma Duffel Bag[10]. It comes with a shoulder strap and dividers to organize the contents. First Aid supplies are not included.

### AED

One newer kind of medical response equipment is the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Most of us have seen hospital dramas on TV when a doctor placed two electrodes on a patient's chest and an assistant pressed a button. The patient's chest heaved and the heart restarted. If it didn't work the first time, they tried it again. They were using a defibrillator to stop a fluttering heart valve and return the heart to normal operation.

A few years ago, the process was automated with the development of the AED. Sensors tell the control chip when to discharge or the best results. Now it is simple enough that you do not have to be a doctor or nurse to use it. Kris Moloney's favorite is the Philips HeartStart Home AED Defibrillator[11]. It comes with a case. On the same page is the CPR Savers Lifesaver AED Trainer[12] for training in the use of an AED.

### CPR Masks

The American Heart Association and the American Red Cross have the goal of training as many people as possible in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). This used to be called mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to stimulate breathing. Now it is the chest compressions which are emphasized and the mouth-to-mouth breathing is de-emphasized. However, there may be times when compressions are not enough.

CPR masks were invented to protect both the responder and the patient during CPR. The 10pcs CPR Face Shield Mask Keychain Ring Emergency Kit[13] lets you keep one or more on you in case you need one.

### Other Supplies

Other supplies include small adhesive bandages (such as Band-Aids<sup>®</sup>), sterile gauze pads, adhesive tape, paper tape, scissors, tweezers, pain relievers, antiseptics, burn ointment, epinephrine injections (for anaphylaxis), ace bandages, instant ice, etc. Most of these are expendable (disposable) to prevent infections. Some of these have a shorter shelf life than others. They need to be replaced as they are used up or pass their stale dates.

### There Is More

Other articles in the Equip to Serve series are "Equip the Mind, Dress to Serve" (studying and dressing for safety), "Equip to Rescue" (Aids for Evacuations), and "Equip to Defend" (Lethal and Less-than-Lethal Weapons).

See link for references: <https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/equip-for-medical-repsonse/>

# Equip to Defend: Lethal and Less-Lethal Weapons

BY WESLEY VAUGHN

## In the News

Ava Missouri, Summer 2016 - Members of a congregation (including the police chief of a neighboring town) formed an armed Church Security Team when the pastor began receiving death threats. Team Members come with their conceal carry or open carry weapons.[2]

Lady Lake, Florida, June 15, 2019 - A police officer observed a barefoot man's strange behavior, including running across a church parking lot and hiding behind a wall. He refused orders to present himself to the officer and had to be tased to be brought into subjection.[3]

Pittsylvania County, Virginia, August 27, 2019 - Sheriff's deputies and



state police were searching for a suspect in the deaths of three persons when he ran out of the woods naked. After running at an officer and being pepper sprayed, he ran into a parking lot where he attacked an elderly church employee trying to enter a vehicle. An officer broke his hold with a baton. The suspect then ran toward a group of officers where he was tased and finally subdued.[4]

## More than Hands

As the sheepdogs of our churches, we are called upon to protect the flock. While this covers many areas of general safety, protection of children, and safeguarding the resources of God's ministries, it also involves, when needed, actual physical protection against several levels of violence, ranging from push and shove to deadly force. In many cases, unarmed defense is sufficient, but sometimes more than

*In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one*

EPHESIANS 6:16

*Of Zebulun 50,000 seasoned troops, equipped for battle with all the weapons of war, to help David with singleness of purpose*

1 CHRONICLES 12:33

*"But your servants will pass over, every man who is armed for war, before the Lord to battle, as my lord orders"*

NUMBERS 32:27

*[From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and coats of mail*

NEHEMIAH 4:16

*[And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God*

EPHESIANS 6:17

## EQUIP TO DEFEND CONTINUED...

hands are needed to defend ourselves and others.

### Tools of Defense

There are several defensive tools which we can use in a Church Safety Ministry. Four of them are in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon[1] and are marked {SDCS} in the following descriptions.

#### Access Denial Device

Full Size Lockdown Magnetic Strips {SDCS}[5] - This defensive tool is not used by Safety Team members unless they are in a classroom or office in a lockdown situation. These magnetic strips are used on steel door frames with doors set for key-only entry. They are placed over the strike plate so the door can be opened just by pulling or pushing on the handle. In a lockdown, remove the strip and close the door. Now it is locked.

#### Less-Lethal Weapons

UltraFire WF502B Traffic Control Wand LED Flashlight {SDCS}[6] - Yes. A flashlight can be used for defense. In darkness or dim light, it can reveal an intruder or an unarmed disruptive person. If the disruptive person takes a swing, the flashlight in your hand can make a solid parry. Intense light can also blind the disrupter, allowing you or the intended victim to move out of the way. Avoid causing serious injury - such as with a head blow - unless necessary. Such a move can bring legal liability.

SABRE Advanced Compact Pepper Spray with Clip {SDCS}[7] - Pepper spray is a common non-lethal weapon for self-defense, often carried by joggers and urban pedestrians. The oleoresin capsicum (pepper oil) can blur an assailant's vision and throw him or her into a coughing or sneezing fit.

This spray also has two kinds of tear gas to lengthen the time of the effect. It will give the defender time to get away or, if called for, restrain the offender. Of course, restraint constitutes citizen's arrest, and must meet the law's conditions for that. The use of pepper spray is regulated in many state and local jurisdictions, so check state and local laws before getting the spray.

VIPERTEK VTS-T03 Heavy Duty Rechargeable Stun Gun and LED Tactical Flashlight [8] - This is only one of the several models of stun guns sold on Amazon. These are contact devices. When on, the contacts deliver a stored electric charge which can overload the subject's nervous system. Tasers, on the other hand, can reach across a specified distance with two electrodes to deliver the charge. Like pepper spray, stun guns and tasers may be subject to regulation.

Batons, Kubatons, Tactical Pens, etc. - Batons can easily be wrongly used, so in many places training is required for carrying and using a baton. Closely related are coiled whips, which can be flicked out to deliver a blow in a second or two. Kubatons can be carried on key chains. Tactical pens are pens which can double as kubatons, etc. These are specifically addressed by the laws in some states, but are covered by concealed weapon regulations in most other states, such as in Ohio[9].

#### Lethal Weapons

Schrade SCHA3BS 7.3in High Carbon S.S. Assisted Opening Folding Knife {SDCS}[10] - This knife is in the SDCS Store as a utility tool for circumstances requiring cutting. However, it is also a potentially lethal weapon, and must be handled with the same caution. Unless you are skilled in knife throwing, this is a close-contact weapon with a range limited to the extent of your arm.

Handguns - When we refer to armed security personnel, we usually mean carrying firearms. In almost all cases of church security, the firearms carried are handguns. For church security, this is most often concealed carry. In a few places, safety/security team members may have open carry. Most weapons laws applicable to a Church Safety Ministry concern firearms. Always check the laws of your state and

## EQUIP TO DEFEND CONTINUED...

local jurisdiction for armed church security and firearms in general.

### Training

Church Security Safety Team members should receive training before possessing and carrying any weapons, lethal and non-lethal. This includes skills, safety, and laws.

In Minnesota, Sheepdog Church Security has partnered with Gun Permit Center (GPC)[11] for firearms training and certification[11a]. They also have a course for the Florida CCW permit.

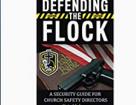
For those of us not in Minnesota or Florida, there is an additional advantage to the GPC website. Under "Resources" it has a page "How to Use Defensive (Pepper) Spray"[11b] and a "Reciprocity Map"[11c]. On the "Reciprocity Map" click on your state and it will bring up a page with the basic facts about its conceal carry laws and a list of the states with which it has reciprocity agreements. Also on the page is a link to that state's office for Concealed Carry Permits. Some states have a place to search for firearms instructors.

### There Is More

The three other articles in this series are "Equip the Mind, Dress to Serve" (studying and dressing for safety), "Equip to Rescue" (Aids for Evacuations), and "Equip for Medical Response" (Ready for Medical Emergencies).

See link for references: <https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/equip-to-defend/>



		<h2>RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY MINISTRIES</h2> <p>VISIT THE SDCS ONLINE STORE </p>
		
		

# CHURCH SECURITY ROLL CALL

WEEKLY TIPS AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CHURCH SECURITY TEAMS BASED ON THE RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE OF KRIS MOLONEY AND THE SHEEPDOG CHURCH SECURITY TEAM. HOSTED BY KRIS MOLONEY.



## **CSRC183: HAVE A SAFE & SECURE HOLIDAY**

The key role of a Church Safety Ministry is to protect the church's members and guests. We try to do this in a way that does not interfere with the church's ministry unless absolutely necessary. This means that the Holiday Season is a time of extra work for the Safety Team in order to keep the flock safe and able to enjoy and be blessed by the programs and activities of the season.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



## **CSRC184: EQUIP THE MIND**

If we are to be and do our best as members of a Church Safety Ministry, we must know what we are to do and how. This knowledge should also inform our attitudes. This means we are to listen, read, and study to equip our minds for safety & security.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



## **CSRC185: EQUIP FOR MEDICAL RESPONSE**

Emergencies, by their very nature, are unplanned events. When there is a medical emergency in the church or during a church event, we need to be already ready. A life or lives may literally depend on it. This means both training and equipment & supplies.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



## **CSRC186: EQUIP TO DEFEND**

As the sheepdogs of our churches, we are called upon to protect the flock. While this covers many areas of general safety, it also involves, when needed, actual physical protection against several levels of violence. In many cases, unarmed defense is sufficient, but sometimes more than hands are needed to defend ourselves and others.

[CLICK TO LISTEN](#)

**Equipped for Success**  
Recommended Essential Equipment  
A Resource of Sheepdog Church Security



**ABOUT SHEEPDOG CHURCH SECURITY**

Sheepdog Church Security serves the Church by providing training materials to part-time Church Safety / Security Officers. We give you the tools you need to provide reputable and realistic training to your Church Safety Team members without your having to spend hours researching and developing courses from scratch.

Our downloadable and customizable training materials were developed by painstakingly researching nationally recognized publications and consulting with experts in church safety, crime prevention, fire safety, pastoral protection, security, and a number of other fields of study. Our training materials are perfect for medium to small sized churches with limited resources.

Protect your church with our useful Safety Ministry Training Bundles.

[Visit our website here.](#)

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712 Maple Circle  
Belle Plaine, MN 56011  
612-470-7344 (call after 9pm)

**Equipment?**

Your Safety ministry will need a number of essential items to make the execution of its Safety Team's duties safer and more efficient.

Saying, "the sky is the limit," when it comes to the variety of tactical equipment available to Safety Ministries, is not an exaggeration. Just type, "tactical equipment for sale," into your favorite search engine and see what pops up.

To help you choose the right tools to get you started, we offer this quick overview. You can see options for each category [here](#) or search on the individual items recommended.

**Why is this the best equipment to start with?**

The following list is what we have found to be the bare minimum to equip your Safety Team. Quantities in each category will depend on factors such as available budget, number of Safety Team members active at any given time, and so forth.

- Two-way radios
- Tactical flashlights
- Medical gloves
- CPR masks
- Tourniquet
- Pepper-spray (if legal)

In the following sections we will talk about the rationale for each item listed.

**Two-way radios**

Over the air (OTA) communication is as old as history itself. Even wildlife uses OTA communication. When it comes to humans it started with yelling then (probably) followed this progression; runners, smoke signals, telegraph, telephone, radio, cell phone, satellite phone, and may end up with mental telepathy. Now what could possibly go wrong with that last option?

Why does your team need radios? Aren't you close enough to simply meet and communicate face-to-face?

- It is not always practical to meet in person. While on patrol, a Team member may call for help and be unable to leave their location.
- In a widespread emergency, cell phones and land lines can fail or become overloaded. As long as their batteries are charged, radios will work.
- Radio communications are instant and relatively secure.
- Radios can be used for larger events and for offsite activities.
- Radios are rugged and designed for use outdoors, unlike the typical cell phone.

The Midland GXT1050V4L 50 Channel GMRS Two-Way Radio has proven to be a reliable and durable radio. It has excellent range and is affordable.

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# FREE MONTHLY DOWNLOAD

## Equipped for Success: Essential Equipment for Safety Ministries

Your Safety Ministry will need a number of essential items to make the execution of its Safety Team's duties safer and more efficient. To help you choose the right tools to get you started, we offer this quick overview.

Protect God's People with Our Church Safety Resource [Free Download] To Get this Resource, Click the Picture (Link) and enter your Email Address. You will receive an email with a Download Button. Click the Button in the Email to Download the Safety Ministry Resource. (The Download is in PDF format.)

Kris

# MAIL CALL

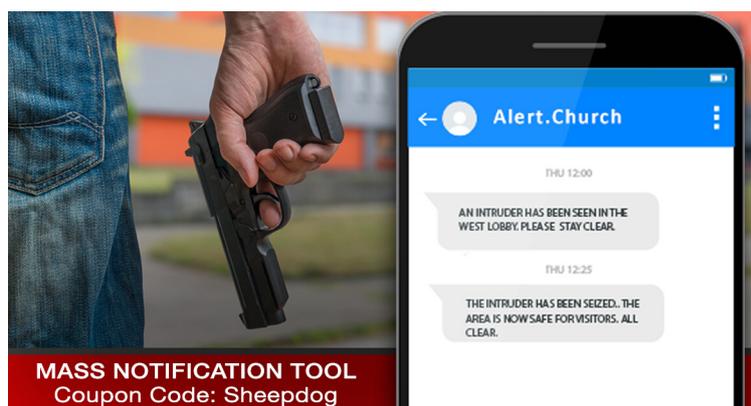
Messages from Sheepdogs across the country

**REV. JUAN P.**

I don't know if you get many responses from people about your newsletters. But, I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for putting together these newsletters and the podcasts. Both have continued to be valuable sources of relevant information. Thank you personally for what you are doing, please don't get discouraged. We will keep you and your in prayer.

**BRIAN W.**

Good information for churches starting a security team or for established teams continued training.



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# SHEEPDOG'S MONTHLY GUEST ARTICLE

## WHAT IS HIPPA?

*ARE CHURCH MEDICAL TEAMS SUBJECT TO HIPAA  
REQUIREMENTS?*

**BY TERRY BERRINGER, CRRN**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a group of federal laws concerning the privacy of health information. HIPAA includes a set of requirements, known collectively as the HIPAA Privacy Rule, that protects the privacy of an individual's personal health information.

When a member of the congregation has health issues, some members of the church body may step up and help that person out. Other members may ask for updates on their condition. These requests are well-intentioned, but they could put the ministry in an awkward position. On one hand, ministry workers may want to share information so friends can pray for one another. On the other, protecting members' privacy is a serious responsibility. Where do churches stand on HIPAA? There are several misconceptions about how privacy laws apply to ministries.

Do HIPPA rules apply to prayer lists?

Are pastoral counselors subject to these requirements?

What if a ministry has a professional counseling center?

Are church employee's health information protected by the rules?

You need to know and understand the law and follow any requirements that may apply to your ministry. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

*"On one hand, ministry workers may want to share information so friends can pray for one another. On the other, protecting members' privacy is a serious responsibility."*

## Covered Entities and Covered Transactions

As with all laws, understanding the meaning of a few definitions found within HIPAA is important. Let's look at some terms and definitions. The law applies to specific organizations, defined by HIPAA as covered entities. These entities include:

1. Health care providers that electronically transmit health information in connection with a HIPAA covered transaction. Health care providers are persons or organizations that furnish, bill or are paid for health care services in the normal course of business. A covered transaction includes the electronic transmission of health care claims, health care payments, health-plan enrollments, eligibility determinations or premium payments.
2. Health plans.
3. Health care clearinghouses (e.g., billing services).
4. Business associates of these entities.

Most ministries are not subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rule because they don't fit within the categories mentioned above making them unsubject to HIPAA's privacy requirements. However, if a ministry provides a health insurance plan for its



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employees, the ministry may have some obligations to its employees. Organizations that provide a self-funded and self-administered plan for fewer than 50 employees are exempt from HIPAA. If your ministry provides any health benefits, it's a good idea to consult with your health plan provider and your attorney for guidance concerning your HIPAA obligations.

## When is a Ministry Subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rule?

A ministry may be subject to HIPAA's privacy requirements when the ministry is a health care provider engaging in covered transactions (as described above).

Examples of ministry activities that are likely subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rule:

- A church camp operates a health clinic that electronically bills health insurance companies for patient services that camp-employed physicians have provided.
- A college employs licensed mental health practitioners for its professional counseling center. The center electronically bills health insurance companies for counseling

services it provides.

Examples of ministry activities that are not subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rule:

Some churches have volunteer or employed nurses who direct parish nursing or faith community nursing programs.

Some churches have medical response teams that care for injured people on property and do not bill or accept payment for those services.

Such services would not involve transactions that trigger HIPAA applicability.

A church's pastoral staff members, who are not licensed mental health practitioners, provide free counseling assistance to members and others.

The federal government has indicated that HIPAA is not applicable to clergy members who solely provide religious counseling.

A church places individuals' names on a prayer list that includes people who have health issues.

This activity does not make the ministry a health care provider for purposes of the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

Schools May Be Subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rule

If a school employs a health care provider that electronically transmits health care information subject to HIPAA requirements, the school also needs to comply with certain HIPAA requirements concerning the manner in which the information is transmitted. Even if HIPAA doesn't apply to its operations, a ministry does have a legal duty under state privacy laws to protect an individual's privacy. Some of these laws may be more stringent than HIPAA requirements.

And Remember...I AM NOT A LAWYER. Nor do I play one on TV. Consult an HR representative or legal counsel for exact details in your state.

How Can Ministries Manage the Risks Regarding Privacy Laws?

Ministries can manage the Risks regarding Privacy Laws if they are even thinking that they may need to by taking several steps to help them comply with HIPAA and state privacy laws:

1. Seek attorney input: Contact a locally licensed attorney, who is familiar with HIPAA, to determine how to comply with the law's requirements.

A knowledgeable attorney also can assist a ministry in understanding and following state and local laws related to privacy.

2. Insurance: Ministries that employ professional health care practitioners and licensed mental health providers should consider professional liability coverage options for their licensed practitioners and the ministry.

Some professional liability insurance policies provide coverage for HIPAA violations.

3. Obtain Consent: Although HIPAA doesn't likely apply to a most ministries' operations, there's nothing that prevents individuals from telling the congregation that they have a medical condition and would like to receive prayers. Some laws, however, prevent you

from telling the congregation on an individual's behalf. Therefore, obtain a person's written consent before disclosing personal information. While it could be as simple as asking someone: Would you like us to add you to the prayer list? or Would you mind if we shared this information with the congregation?; you have far greater legal protection if you obtain the person's consent in writing.

There has been a lot of hysteria about HIPAA over the last 20 years. It all comes down to common sense. But as Grandad always said...If Common Sense was Common, we wouldn't be having this conversation!

Can you go flaunting someone's medical information all over the place? Common sense says no!

Can you knowingly go into someone's medical records when you have no business looking at them and you did not treat the patient? Common sense says no!

Can you then share the name and medical information with someone else? Common sense says no!

Can you take pictures of a patient while on a call and send it as a text message to your buddies or post it on Facebook? Common sense says no!

Just remember: There is no need to live in fear when it comes to dealing with HIPAA. Just keep in mind it's best not to share, release or delve into someone's medical records if you don't need to.



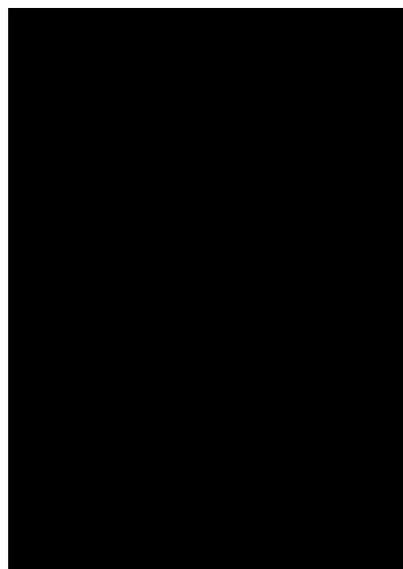
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# NEW CERTIFIED ONSITE INSTRUCTORS

***We are excited to announce that we have launched our Certified Sheepdog Instructor program! Our fully qualified instructors that can train your volunteers to serve on a Safety Team. AND, get them to the point of certification.***



WISCONSIN

## JEFFREY TOEPPE

My name is Jeffrey Toeppe, Chief Instructor and Owner of Personal Defense Training, LLC in Wisconsin. I'm a Certified NRA Instructor (Basics of Pistol Shooting, Personal Protection In the Home, Personal Protection Outside the Home), NRA Range Safety Officer, a Certified USCCA Instructor (Concealed Carry and Home Defense Fundamentals, Defensive Shooting Fundamentals Levels 1 & 2, Countering the Mass Shooter Threat, and Emergency First Aid Fundamentals), and a SABRE Certified Civilian Safety Awareness Academy and College Safety Awareness Instructor for OC (pepper) defensive spray. I've also had extensive training in Church safety and security from Sheepdog Church Security, Strategos, FEMA, Brotherhood Mutual Insurance, and other organizations. I'm a member and trainer of the Grace Church Safety Ministry Team and Racine Area Church Security Network (RACSN). I'm blessed to serve individuals, families, groups and Houses of Worship to equip them to protect what they love.

Website: <https://www.personal-defense-training.com/>

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## Sheepdog Seminars

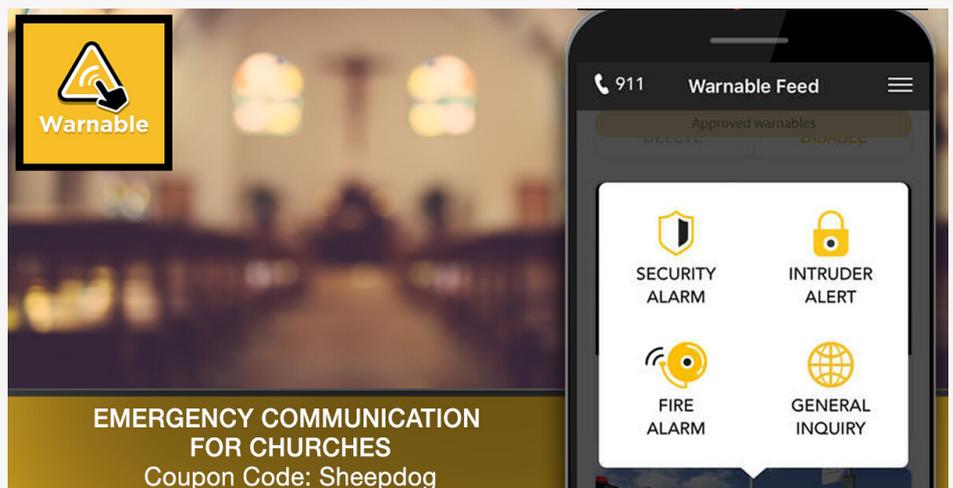
The Sheepdog Seminar is a response to the violence that reeks havoc in our world. It calls upon the defenders to take their stand. In a one day seminar it is impossible to impart all of the information that churches - and society as a whole - need in order to create a safe atmosphere for their communities. However, when you leave the Sheepdog Seminar, you will know exactly what you need to start doing.

# SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

Church Safety and Security Events

- **FORT WORTH, TX - JANUARY 26**
- **WICHITA FALLS, TX - FEBRUARY 8**
- **CLEVELAND, TN - FEBRUARY 28-29**
- **LEXINGTON, SC - MARCH 13-14**
- **SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, TX - APRIL 20-21**

*We are building a community of leaders who are called to protect the flock.*



# SHEEPDOG CORNER

*Hi Sheepdog,*

Have you heard about the 21-foot rule? It basically says that a person armed with a knife could close a 21-foot distance before the average person can draw their gun and fire. Well here is the rest of the story...

Force Science put this rule to the test, and they found some pretty amazing things. For one, an average adult can reach the speed of 13 miles per hour in just two to three steps. And the average time to lift a low-ready pistol is .87 seconds. So, what does all this mean in a real life and death situation? It means the 21-foot rule is too short. You need at least 27 feet to draw and shoot the target!

And don't forget, this assumes the one round you fire stops the threat. I'm a fairly good shot, but under extreme Do-or-Die stress, I'm not entirely convinced I would be 100% accurate, 100% of the time.

To be clear, I'm not telling you to shoot a knife wielding person when they get within 27 feet. Rather, I'm saying there are a lot of things to consider when faced with an armed aggressor.

My recommendation: Get to the Range. Practice your Draw from a concealed location or however you carry.

*Your Loyal Companion in Christ,  
Kris*



## SHEEPDOG CHURCH SECURITY

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712 Maple Circle  
Belle Plaine, MN  
56011

Phone/Fax/E-mail: Phone:

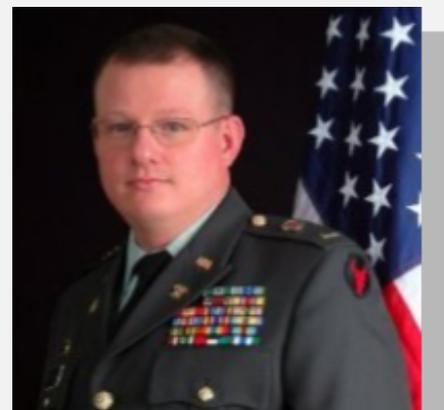
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Website:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/>



A Police Officer with over 15 years of experience and a retired Army Captain and Company Commander. He has certifications in Crime Prevention, Security Assessments, and the Crime Free Program. He also has a Bachelor's degree in Ministry and a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership.  
Kris P. Moloney