

October 2020

# THE CHURCH GUARDIAN

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM SHEEPDOG CHURCH SECURITY



## SECURITY

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### TOP NEWS STORY

#### DOVER-AREA CHURCH YOUTH LEADER INDICTED ON 89-COUNTS OF CHILD SEX ABUSE

John C. Sapp Jr., 34, been indicted on 89 charges after police say he had sexual relationships with two teenage girls who were members of a church youth group he'd been leading for the past three years. Sapp has been indicted on multiple charges, including continuous sexual abuse of a child, sexual abuse of a child by a person of trust, fourth-degree rape with a victim under the age of 18 and unlawful sexual contact.

Source: [CLICK HERE](#)

# TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

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## Safety Member Certification



The Certified Safety Member Course brings together industry leading training materials, including Security Team Fundamentals. This course includes essential information and training tools to help you develop a robust Church Safety Team and then train them to ensure your congregation enjoys protection at all times.

The Security Team Fundamentals course covers 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.

**This month (October), we are going to be offering a special deal on our Safety Member Certification which will include several bonuses and extras.**

**Keep a look out for a great deal!**

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**Click [here](#) to Learn  
More about  
the Certified Safety  
Member Course!**

**Click [here](#) to Learn  
More about the  
Sub-Course Security  
Team Fundamentals!**

# WEEKLY TEAM BRIEFING

## Learning the Fundamentals

### The Basics of Church Safety & Security

#### Church Safety & Security Training

In September, the traditional Back-to-School Month, we feature the *Sheepdog Church Security* training course [Security Team Fundamentals v4](#). The four weekly articles for this month are “What's My Role?” (Duties of a Safety Team Member), “On Call” (Responding to Emergencies), “On the Beat” (Patrolling and Monitoring), and “On the Record” (Reporting and Filing). Kris has a videocast and a podcast for each article.

#### *The First Course*

In most activities we must first learn the basics – the fundamentals. Military inductees go to Boot Camp. Rookie athletes attend Training Camp. New students have Orientation, as do new employees. Law enforcement officers must pass Police Academy. For *Church Safety Ministry*, this introductory training is [Security Team Fundamentals v4](#), especially the training bundles for classroom training when starting a new team or training groups of new members.

The subjects covered in the *Fundamentals* training course are Safety Ministry Basics, Patrol Procedures, Additional Safety Procedures, Responding to Challenges, Radio Procedures, and Forms and Reports

#### *Refresh & Update*

As time goes on, we need to review, refresh, and update the basics. *Sheepdog Church Security* recommends taking the *Fundamentals* course every two years. There is an [online course](#) for individual training, making a refresher course more accessible.

# Weekly Team Briefing Continued

## Action Points

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1. If you are starting or considering a *Safety Ministry* in your church, get the free download [Practical Steps to Start a Safety Ministry and a DIY Security Assessment](#) and watch Kris's [videocast](#).
2. If you have several recruits for a *Church Safety Team*, get the Training Bundle for *Security Team Fundamentals* and schedule a class (or classes). Have all of the *Safety Committee* members take this course too.
3. If you are a new *Safety Team* member, sign up for the *Security Team Fundamentals* class.
4. If you are due for a refresher, sign up for a scheduled class or take the online course.



# WHAT'S MY ROLE?

## Duties of a Safety Team Member

### IN THE NEWS

Greenwood, Arkansas, January 19, 2020 - The Greenwood Police Department announced it will be conducting extra patrols for churches. These will be on days and times when no church members are present.[2]

- ♦ *This provides some relief for a Church Safety Ministry, but the police can only do so much. When Safety Team members are there, they still need to patrol around the church, inside and outside.*

Campbells Creek, West Virginia, July 22, 2018 - The congregation of a church was safely evacuated after a fire broke out during a Sunday morning service.[3]

- ♦ *In a church, Safety Team members can inspect the church for fire safety, check the fire extinguishers, and watch out for fire hazards during regular patrols. They can also conduct fire drills and take the lead during a fire evacuation.*

Troy, New York, June 24, 2020 - A church in Troy was invaded by BLM protestors during the Sunday morning service. They disrupted the service and accosted church members, including mothers and young children. A video taken during the incident showed church security team members responding. According to a viewer, one team member appeared to touch a protestor. Police arrived to escort the intruders out.[4][5][6]

- ♦ *Safety Team members should be ready to respond to any situation.*

## Special Resource

Our special resource for this month is Practical Steps to Start a *Safety Ministry* and a *DIY Security Assessment*.<sup>[7]</sup> Click [here](#) to get the free download, and [here](#) to view Kris's videocast, *Steps to Starting a Safety Ministry*.<sup>[8]</sup> When you sign up for the download, you subscribe to receive future newsletters by email.

*1 Chronicles 12:32 - Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.*

*Members of the Tribe of Issachar are examples of understanding one's role.*

## A Role to Play

A role is the part one plays in a drama. It is also the part one plays in a family, at work or in school, in an organization, and in society in general. It's what we do and how we relate to others in the same setting. Everyone in a congregation has a role to play, whether he or she realizes it or not. This role depends upon your position in the church. This may be as just a regular attender or member. You may sing in the choir, play in the band, teach a class, counsel, preach, or be on a board. You may also be in the *Church Safety Ministry*.

### *Requirements for Church Safety Ministry Members*



Before considering the roles members of a *Church Safety Ministry* play, there are requirements which must be met. We divide these into general qualifications for deacons, specific qualifications for the *Safety Ministry*, and expectations and priorities. These are named in a recent article, but will be re-listed here, some with notes.

### General Qualifications

The general qualifications for deacons include members of a *Church Safety Ministry*.

It may surprise some people that persons concerned with safety and security are considered deacons, but look at what the first deacons were called to do in Acts 6:1-6 - they were distributing food to dependent widows and orphans in the church. This might not seem like a big deal for a church that had twelve pastors (the Apostles), more if you consider James, Jude, and Joseph Barsabbas. However, this was a really big congregation. Scholars estimate that by this time there were more than 10,000 members of the church in Jerusalem, perhaps even 15,000 to 20,000.\*

- ♦ *The Church began with 120 in the Upper Room on Pentecost (Acts 1:15). Before end of day, they had 3,000 more (2:41), and many were added later (2:47). After Peter and John healed the lame man at the Temple gate, about 5,000 became believers (4:4) with "multitudes" coming in daily (5:14).*

There were many widows and orphans to be served - a big job for just twelve-to-fifteen men. The first seven deacons are named in Acts, but that does not rule out more deacons added later. These seven are emphasized because Stephen, the first martyr, was one of them.

Although many deacons (like Stephen and Philip) also taught and preached, their primary duties were administrative, logistical, and menial -practical jobs - to let the pastors focus on their primary responsibilities. Today's deacons include those who visit the sick, administer charity, and manage church properties. This could include Sunday School bus drivers and church office personnel. When you consider the level of responsibility of Safety Ministry members, and that they are the face of the church to visitors and many members, it is only natural to expect that they would meet the qualifications for deacons.

**Paul says in 1 Timothy 3:1-12 and Titus 1:6-9 that a deacon must be:**

♦ **Above reproach**

*The deacon does not have disreputable actions or attitudes which reflect badly on the church. The Greek term means "blameless."*

♦ **Faithful to his or her spouse**

*The Greek word means "one-woman man" - your "One & Only" is to be your one and only - but does not exclude remarriage after widowhood.*

*This also implies that a single deacon is not promiscuous, "playing the field."*

♦ **Temperate (Self-controlled)**

♦ **Respectable**

*This is also translated "sensible" and "dignified."*

♦ **Hospitable**

*Literally, this means welcoming strangers, whether to your home or to the church. Hotels were rare then, so this could also mean being helpful and accommodating (within reason, of course).*

♦ **Able to teach**

*Do more than tell someone what to do or not do. Be ready to kindly explain why.*

♦ **Sober**

*More than not drunk or on drugs, it also means serious and observant.*

♦ **Not quarrelsome**

*Need we say more?*

## Specific Qualifications

There are qualifications required by a Church Safety Ministry. Here are four:

- ♦ Be a member and/or a regular attendee of the church.
- ♦ Be physically able to complete assigned tasks.

*Can you move around?*

*Can you lift certain loads?*

*Are you able to communicate clearly and understandably?*

- ♦ Be able to demonstrate good character, honesty, and integrity.

*This includes financial integrity.*

- ♦ Do not have disqualifying criminal convictions.

*This will be the subject of a background check.*

*Proverbs 1:5 - Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.*

*A worker (team member) should always be learning, following wise guidance to improve in his or her role of keeping the flock safe.*

## Expectations

Common advice for job seekers: *Whatever job you apply for, expect expectations.* Being a *Church Safety Team* member is no exception. The *Six Be's* are standards of ethics and conduct:

- ♦ **Be modest, honoring others above yourself.**
- ♦ **Be on time and perform all duties completely and correctly.**
- ♦ **Be an example for others.**

*You are an example - be a good one.*

- ♦ **Be faithful.**

*Be there when scheduled.*

- ♦ **Be wise.**
- ♦ **Be discrete.**

*There will be things you know which are to be kept confidential - not made public or told to the wrong persons.*

## Priorities

God made us creatures of choice. Life is choices. Not all choices are between good or bad. Often we have to choose among good, better, or best, or to determine what the highest priority is for that time and situation. There are five priorities for a *Church Safety Team* member:

1. Attend church services
2. Spend time with families
3. Participate in training
4. Serve during services
5. Serve at large events

Notice the top two priorities. The highest priority for those in the *Church Safety Ministry* is to be the people we should be. Our top boss is not the *Church Safety Director*. It is not the Pastor, the Bishop, or the denomination's General Superintendent. It is Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church. His top priority for us is our relationship with Him. Next to that is our relationship with our family. If we do not maintain these relationships, whatever else we do is just going through the motions.

## *Roles in a Church Safety Ministry*

Your role in a *Church Safety Ministry* depends on your position in the ministry. The three key parts of a *Safety Ministry* are the *Church Safety Committee*, the *Church Safety Director*, and the *Church Safety Team*.

*2 Timothy 2:15 - Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (KJV). Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth (ESV).*

*Paul encouraged Timothy to conscientiously fulfill his role as a Christian leader, doing his best.*

## Church Safety Committee

This is the governing board for the *Church Safety Ministry*. Its membership depends on the size and structure of the congregation. Ideally, this includes the Senior Pastor. In a very small church, this would include most of the church's governing board (such as Trustees, Elders, Overseers, etc.) and of the Board of Deacons (if they have one). In a larger church, the Safety Committee would include some from the governing and deacons' boards, but also have persons not on the other boards. Ideally, these would include people with experience in security, law enforcement, law, child protection, education, and medical response.

The *Safety Committee* sets the overall policies and procedures for the ministry. It conducts and evaluates risk assessments -including threat assessments. The *Safety Ministry* budget is worked out between the *Safety Committee* and the church's governing board. The committee also facilitates safety/security training for the volunteers and the staff. It is also the liaison between church leadership and the *Church Safety Director*.

## Church Safety Director

The *Church Safety Director* is selected by and responsible to the *Church Safety Committee*. He or she develops emergency response plans, implements policies, procures supplies (within the budget), leads the *Church Safety Team*, recruits and trains *Safety Team members*, and manages drills.

### Church Safety Team

Members of the Church Safety Team are the hands and feet of the Church Safety Ministry. To church members and visitors, they are the face of the Safety Ministry, and to some the face of the church. Here is a short list of some of their duties:

- ♦ Work under the supervision of the Church Safety Director
- ♦ Welcome visitors (in some congregations, greeters are members of the Safety Team), give directions when asked, assist when needed
- ♦ Conduct inspections for safety and security (fire safety, access control, walking hazards, etc.)
- ♦ Undergo initial and refresher training
- ♦ Patrol the premises
- ♦ Hold each other accountable for following procedures, correcting if needed
- ♦ Respond to emergencies

## Church Safety Team duties Continued:

- ♦ Avoid disruptions and violence through verbal de-escalation
- ♦ Monitor the facilities, both in-person and by monitoring surveillance cameras and alarms
- ♦ Maintain safety equipment and supplies

A larger church, especially a multi-campus congregation or one with a full schedule, may have Security Team Leaders. These are shift and facility leaders directly under the Church Safety Director. They are team members who are responsible for directing the team in their time and location.

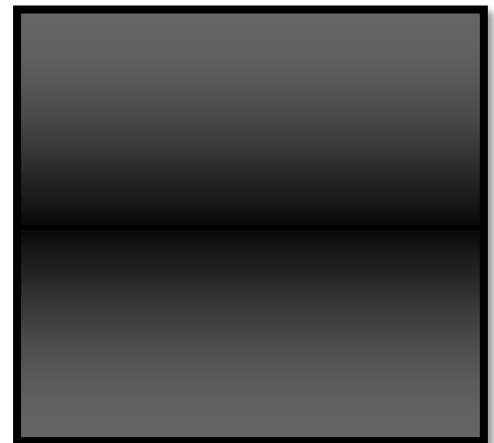
## Conclusion

If you are in a *Church Safety Ministry*, you have roles to play. You are a sheepdog, but also one of the sheep. You are both a leader and a follower. You can calm a disturbed individual and stop a violent attacker.

## There Is More

The other three articles in this four-part series are "On Call" (Responding to Emergencies), "On the Beat" (Patrolling and Monitoring), and "On the Record" (Reporting and Filing).

[Click Here for References](#)



# ON CALL

## Responding to Emergencies

### IN THE NEWS

Undisclosed location in USA, 2020 before February 19 - A natural gas company shut down one of its pipelines for a number of days after a ransomware attack. The attack came by way of an infected email. The attack was investigated by the *Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)* of the *Department of Homeland Security* and reported in E&E News. The news report says, "According to CISA, the facility lacked an emergency response plan that considered cyber-threats." [2]

- ◆ *Churches should include cybersecurity issues in their emergency plans.*

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, February 29, 2020 - A fight involving 35 persons started in the food court of a mall. Mall security responded, as well as local police, who arrested three teens. [3]

- ◆ *Church safety teams also need to be ready to respond to disturbances in the church or at church events.*

Charleston, South Carolina, April 19, 2020 - Lightning hit a church steeple on a Sunday afternoon, causing a fire. No one was in the building at the time. Responding firefighters limited the fire to the top of the steeple and brought it under control. [4]

- ◆ If this had happened during classes, a service, or an event, the Church Safety Team could have responded by directing an evacuation.

Austin, Texas, December 20, 2018 - A customer experienced a heart attack while sitting in an automotive dealership's sales office. The salesman immediately ran out to get help. Two other employees came in and administered CPR until EMS arrived, saving the man's life. [5]

- ◆ Many lives have been saved in churches by Safety Team members administering CPR and/or using AEDs.

Reuben saves Joseph -

*But when Reuben heard [his brothers' plot], he rescued [Joseph] out of their hands*

*(Genesis 37:21).*

A call to rescue the oppressed -

*"Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked"*

*(Psalm 82:4).*

Peter urges us to be alert to danger -

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour*

*(1 Peter 5:8).*

## Special Resource

This month's special resource is *Practical Steps to Start a Safety Ministry* and a *DIY Security Assessment*.<sup>[6]</sup> To get this free download, click [here](#). You can also view Kris's videocast, *Steps to Starting a Safety Ministry*<sup>[7]</sup> by clicking [here](#). In signing up for the download, you subscribe to future newsletters by email.

## Ready to Respond

What is the most important thing we need to be ready to respond? Situational awareness. You can have all the strength, ability, knowledge, training, and equipment needed to respond, but the response itself depends on whether you are aware of the situation and the need to respond.

## Situational Awareness

Situational awareness is being aware of your surroundings, including changes. This begins with knowing what and who are in the 360° around you and the 180° over you (the 540° view). If you are on an upper level, this also includes what's below, making it the 720° perimeter.

Thanks to two-way radios, surveillance cameras, and alarms, a safety team member's awareness can extend across the entire church campus. Ideally, all of our senses are inputs for situational awareness. Some of the sensations alerting us to our environment are sounds, smells, temperature, and motion. For instance, if we feel a shaking, jolt, or tipping, there is a reason. Find out whether this is a threat or not. A shaking could be a heavy truck passing, an earthquake, or something else.

Abram rescues Lot -

*When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan (Genesis 14:14).*

Ebed-melech rescues Jeremiah -

*When Ebed-melech ... heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern, ... [he] said to the king, "My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet ..." (Jeremiah 38:7-9).*

## *The Color of Awareness*

Since 2001, Americans have become used to color-coded threat levels. These were adapted from the Cooper Awareness Color Code. This color code was derived for military use, but is applicable to self-defense and security. These colors are not levels of threat, but levels of awareness. Originally four colors (White, Yellow, Orange, Red), a fifth color (Black) was added by the US Marine Corps. Here are the Colors of Awareness as adapted to Church Safety & Security:

### **White - Totally Unaware**

This is a state of unpreparedness. If there is danger, by the time you're aware it could be too late to respond effectively. There is a time to relax, to zone out, but not when on Safety Team duty (or in public areas).

### **Yellow - Calm Awareness**

Your senses are in gear, paying attention. Your state of mind is, "Anything can happen."

### **Orange - Elevated Awareness**

This is like the dog with his ears up - there is something getting your attention. Maybe you heard a sound in the hall. Every sense is tuned to finding out what it is.

### **Red - Threat Identified**

You know of a specific threat (or potential threat). You are in "What if ..." mode. What you do depends on what the threat is and how it develops.

### **Black - Fight or Flight**

You are in it now! This is engagement or disengagement. In the military, you are in a fight. However, in church safety, you find a safe out, or you intervene. The response to a disrupter may be verbal de-escalation. To violence, the response is fight-or-flight.

**A Samaritan treats a robbery victim -**

*But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. 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 10:33-34).*

## Kinds of Emergencies

The kinds of emergencies are as varied as the threats we face, but they do fit into a few categories: Severe Weather, Fire Emergencies, Medical Emergencies, Missing Child, Disruptive Person, Suspicious Person, Robbery, Bomb Threats/Suspicious Package, Suspicious Substance, Active Killer, Cybersecurity Threat. (all but the first and last are discussed in the Fundamentals training course[1]). Those with training courses are noted in the footnotes.

### *Severe Weather and Other Natural Disasters*

Not all weather is bad, but there are damaging extremes, such as strong straight winds, extreme temperatures, drought, hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, excess snow, ice storms, blizzards, nor'easters, and lightning. Other natural disasters include landslides and sinkholes, wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. Be prepared to respond to the natural threats most likely to affect your church.[8]



### *Fire Emergencies*

Ever since people began living in buildings, there has been the danger of fire. Most fires are accidental. Some are caused by lightning or wildfires, many by arson. Fire is useful when contained and controlled, but when an uncontrolled fire starts in the church, it is an emergency requiring immediate response. It may be put out using a fire extinguisher. If it cannot be controlled and put out, the building must be evacuated. Some may need to be rescued and carried out. Be ready to properly respond.[9]

### *Medical Emergencies*

No matter how safe and healthful we make the church, there will be medical emergencies. These include injuries, heart attacks and strokes, choking, severe allergic reactions, wounds from an attack, heat stress (heat exhaustion and heat stroke), and cold stress (hypothermia and frostbite).

## *Missing Child*

What do you do if a child in the church is reported missing? How do you look for the child? To whom do you report it? Know what to do. This is covered in the *Security Team Fundamentals* training course.[1]

If child abuse is discovered in the church, there are specific ways of responding to it covered in the *SDCS* training course *Protecting Children from Abuse v4*. [10]



## *Disruptive Person*

Whether it begins with a disagreement or someone comes in angry, a disruption can happen, even in the church. Safety Team members must first try to calm the scene though verbal de-escalation.[11]

## *Suspicious Person*

There will be times when a person arouses your suspicion, or when someone reports a suspicious person. How do you handle this? First of all, "suspicious" means that you don't know or understand what the person is doing, so this calls for tact. Maybe the person is lost, or is tourist gawking. Perhaps they are looking for something they dropped. On the other hand, there could be mischief brewing. How do you safely find out? The *Security Team Fundamentals* course explains five action points:

- ♦ Assess the situation
- ♦ Call for back-up before investigating
- ♦ Make contact with the person
- ♦ Cover and assist as needed
- ♦ Be kind but alert

## *Robbery*

Different kinds of thievery can be going on then discovered, but armed robbery is an immediate emergency. Unless you see it coming, armed robbery takes you by surprise, so it pays to already know what to do.

A proactive response is best for all kinds of thievery/robbery, from embezzlement, to pilfering of loose items and cash, to burglary, to armed robbery. Try to keep items secure, encourage attenders and members to be careful, and control access. Condition your situational awareness to be alert to approaching strong-arm and armed robbers so you can take evasive and protective measures. If robbed, your first priority is safety. Lives are worth more than cash.

## *Bomb Threats/Suspicious Package*



### **Suspicious Package**

What if you receive a bomb threat? What if a suspicious package is found or delivered?

*Bomb Threat* - take it seriously. It can be mailed in, left on a note (even made on a wall with a marker), or called in. Train the staff to contact the Safety Team immediately. If called in, the staffer answering the phone should ask a few questions (they are in the course).

Then the Safety Team can call 911, alert the Safety Team Leader, and look for the bomb.

Don't evacuate the building until the area outside has been checked. Be sure there's no one waiting to shoot people as they come out.

*Suspicious Package* - DO NOT TOUCH a suspicious package. It may be rigged to explode or release a hazardous material when moved. This may be a box, a bag, a backpack, or another container. If a FedEx or UPS box is not delivered by that company at their usual time, be careful. Bombs are made to look "normal." Train the staff to call 911 if a package is suspicious.

## *Suspicious Substance*

How many remember the Anthrax scare in 2001? Several people died from Anthrax sent in letters and packages. There were later attempts to poison people with ricin. Train anyone working in the office or handling incoming mail to not touch any unknown material coming out of an envelope or a package. Have them alert the Safety Team and call 911.

The earlier the response to an active shooter, the better. When the security team at the New Life Church in Colorado Springs heard of the Arvada shooting and knew the killer had connections to their church, they were on the watch for him. When he began shooting in the parking lot, they set up an ambush in the foyer. He was neutralized not long after coming in.[12]

Years later, in Nashville[13] and Sutherland Springs[14], the killers began their barrage outside and continued it when they came in with no one to stop them at the door. More recently, the killer was already in the church in White Settlement when he pulled out his weapon. He was stopped in about 6 seconds.

What made the difference in these rampages is the watchfulness and response of safety/security teams. In Colorado Springs, the killer was spotted outside. In White Settlement, he dressed and acted suspiciously, so the Safety Team kept their eyes on him. In Nashville, those inside were unaware that someone was shot outside, so they didn't close and lock the door right away. In Sutherland Springs, no one was guarding the door when the assailant began shooting out windows from outside. He then came in and killed 26.



Joshua comes to aid the Gibeonites -

*Then the five kings of the Amorites ... gathered their forces and ... encamped against Gibeon and made war against it. And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal, saying, "... Come up to us quickly and save us and help us ..." So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor (Joshua 10:5-7).*

In the training course, the responses to an active shooter are for the civilians and for the Safety Team.

### **Civilians -**

- ♦ Run
- ♦ Hide
- ♦ Fight.

### **Safety Team - Direct these three responses:**

- ♦ Lockdown
- ♦ Containment
- ♦ Engagement

Complete coverage of this subject is presented in the SDCS training course Active Shooter Response v4.[15]

## ***Cybersecurity Threat***

Cybersecurity is a concern not only for individuals, businesses, and government agencies, but also for churches. Recently, many organizations (such as a gas company[2]) have fallen prey to ransomware, which encrypts vital files until the victim pays the hacker to unlock the files.

Train all staff to follow cybersecurity safety measures. These measures are:

- ♦ Spotting and not responding to spam emails
- ♦ Using strong passwords and keeping them confidential
- ♦ Care in websites visited and knowing what to not click on
- ♦ Keeping anti-viral and anti-malware programs up-to-date
- ♦ Backing up church files to devices not permanently connected to the church's computer system.

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## Conclusion

Emergencies emerge, and we have to be ready to respond. Train to be ready, beginning with the *Sheepdog Church Security* training course *Security Team Fundamentals*.<sup>[1]</sup>

## There Is More

This is a four-part series. The other three articles are "What's My Role?" (Duties of a Safety Team Member), "On the Beat" (Patrolling and Monitoring), and "On the Record" (Reporting and Filing).

[Click Here for References](#)

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# LINES IN THE SAND

## Churches Dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Drawing Lines in the Sand

Many controversial situations come down to drawing lines in the sand. The question is where, when, and how the lines are drawn. This is nothing new. Early Christians, facing Roman persecution, literally drew lines in the sand. When Christians wanted to know if the person facing them was a Christian, they would draw an arc in the dust/dirt/sand with one foot. If the other person was also a Christian, they drew a second arc, completing the image of a fish (the Greek word for "fish" was an acronym of "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior").



*"Behold, I am sending you out  
as sheep in the midst of  
wolves, so be wise as  
serpents and innocent as  
doves" (Matthew 10:16).*

*To be safe in a world of  
"wolves" we need to be  
careful.*

Today, drawing a line in the sand means, "This far and no further." Across the United States, people are choosing whether and where to draw a line in complying with state and local authorities' directives related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bishops, pastors, and church elders are no exception. The issues vary according to the actual orders of the state and local governments, state and local severity, and the perspectives of church leaders. One priority threads its way through all of this - keeping people physically safe and healthy while still ministering to their spiritual health.

## Where Lines Are Drawn

Sun Valley, California, and Alpharetta, Georgia, August 2020 - Two nationally known and followed pastors on opposite sides of the country have come to opposite stances in dealing with state and local directives for dealing with the coronavirus. This reflects both the different orders of the two states (California vs Georgia) and the thinking of the two pastors (John MacArthur and Andy Stanley).

MacArthur's church had initially stopped holding in-person services when they were first banned by the California governor's orders. They live-streamed sermons and prayers. This was to have only been for several weeks. Then, after allowing services with small numbers of people, social distancing, and facial coverings, the state again closed in-person meetings and also banned singing and chanting. People began coming into the church to hear the preaching in person. MacArthur reviewed the situation, including the medical and scientific evidence, and decided to reopen the church to public worship. He concluded the threat was not as great as claimed, and not assembling together, as commanded in Scripture, was not justified. Additionally, the state deemed certain other gatherings (such as protests) essential, but not worship.

Meanwhile, in Georgia, Stanley's church suspended Sunday morning services through the end of the year. This decision considered the reported rates of COVID-19 infection in the Atlanta area and the difficulties of universities and public schools in trying to open. Stanley's greatest concern is not spreading the coronavirus.[1]

In California, MacArthur of Grace Community Church is not the only church leader to challenge the governor and local officials. Other prominent non-conforming pastors have been Jack Treiber of North Valley Baptist Church[2] and Ché Ahn of Harvest Rock Church and Harvest International Ministry.[3] However, as of September 9, North Valley has gone to drive-in services.

Other churches have followed Stanley's lead. A campus pastor of a multi-campus megachurch in Ohio says they can't conduct their services in-person while following the state's guidelines. At the same time, many smaller churches are holding services with every other pew blocked off or rows of seats placed six feet apart, requiring face coverings, and holding multiple services.

*Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17).*

*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God (Romans 13:1).*

*But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).*

♦ **We are to obey the government, but not when it requires us to disobey God.**

Holly Springs, Mississippi, May 20, 2020 - A church in Holly Springs which had defied the state's ban on in-person services was burned to the ground. The arsonist(s) spray-painted a message on the parking lot: "Bet you stay home now you hypokrites." [4]

Martinsburg, West Virginia, May 6, 2020 - The governor of West Virginia spoke about how churches could take measures to protect attenders from the current coronavirus. These measures are included in his "Safer at Home" plan. [5]

Springfield, Illinois, August 2020 - A church in Springfield installed Plexiglas® barriers between the pews for virus protection. According to the pastor, having these barriers will allow more people to attend services. He said that many do not have the internet at home, and therefore cannot benefit from livestreamed services. [6]

## Coping with COVID

We cannot deny that a virus has spread around the globe, that many have fallen ill, and that large numbers of these have died. However, in the United States the actual reported numbers of cases and deaths and the extent of government orders have become issues.

### *The Numbers*

Questions are raised about how many have actually contracted virus and how many deaths it has caused.

Testing for COVID-19 has been developing in availability, extent, and accuracy. This was preceded by the apocalyptic forecast of a UK computer model, which projected millions of deaths in North America. As more people were tested for the virus, some results were practically unbelievable, with some laboratories returning nearly 100% positive results. Auditing of tests showed far lower numbers. In many cases, testing machines and programs were at fault, so the numbers were revised. Nevertheless, some officials insisted on using the higher numbers.

As to deaths, most of the deceased had other health issues, making COVID a comorbidity rather than the primary cause of death. Nursing home patients had the highest percentage of deaths.

Also questioned by some is the effectiveness of face coverings, whether for protecting the user from others or protecting others from the user. In this light, authorities say to wear a mask in public unless you have a medical reason for not doing so - they do have some effectiveness, and the rule used here is "better safe than sorry."

## *Governmental Authority*

Also at issue is the reasonableness and constitutionality of orders issued by governors and mayors across the nation. As expected, this varies by state and locality, with the most extreme examples being California and New York City. South Dakota does not have any of the restrictions except in Sioux Falls (where it is by local officials). In many states, individuals and groups have challenged the constitutionality of their governors' orders.

## *Our Priority*

Nevertheless, a Church Safety Ministry is responsible for protecting the flock. Those who are most at risk understandably prefer safety and caution. How can a church protect its people from the virus and minister to their souls (their spiritual health) at the same time? In doing so, what problems may threaten the church in other ways?

Pandemic shutdowns have damaged economies in many places, and several small businesses have ceased to exist. People have been out of work, and many are just now returning to their jobs. This is taking a mental and emotional toll on large portions of our population. The stress has been increased by civil unrest. People need the spiritual help and guidance of the churches. This means that churches without in-person services and classes have to find other avenues of ministering to those in spiritual need.

*You are to distinguish between ... the unclean and the clean (Leviticus 10:10).*

*... the priest shall shut up the diseased person for seven days. And the priest shall examine him on the seventh day, and if in his eyes the disease is checked and the disease has not spread in the skin, then the priest shall shut him up for another seven days. And the priest shall examine him again on the seventh day ... (Leviticus 13:4b-6a).*

- ♦ **The Mosaic Law prescribed quarantine for those with certain infectious diseases.**

---

## Conclusion

As the coronavirus pandemic stretches on, protective restrictions by many states have continued past the originally-projected end dates or have been resumed. In most of the nation, churches can resume services while taking precautions. Meanwhile, the number of churches conducting online services has increased. Services can be held in two ways: in-person and at a distance. Each mode has its own benefits and challenges. In Part 2, we'll consider these in detail.

[Click Here for References](#)

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U.S. LawShield is a Legal Defense for Self-Defense Program. Their mission is to educate their members in self-defense law; empower them to handle critical, life-threatening situations with confidence; and protect them from potential injustices in the legal system after acts of self-defense.

The advertisement features a blue and red background with a white star pattern. On the left, the text "YOUR FREEDOM MATTERS" is written in large, white, bold letters. Below it, in smaller white text, is "The first concealed weapon legal defense program to truly provide Legal Defense for Self-Defense". At the bottom left, a red button with white text says "GET PROTECTED NOW". On the right, a person in a blue shirt and grey pants is shown from the waist down, holding a black handgun. Above the person's hand is the U.S. LawShield logo, which is a shield with a scale of justice and the text "U.S. LawShield".

**YOUR  
FREEDOM  
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defense program to truly provide  
Legal Defense for Self-Defense

**GET PROTECTED NOW**



# LINES IN THE SAND CONTINUED

## Churches Dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic

### IN THE NEWS

Atlanta, Georgia, May 23, 2020 - The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) issued a bulletin, "Considerations for Communities of Faith." In the introduction, the CDC notes, "This guidance is not intended to infringe on rights protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or any other federal law, including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA)." They go on to remind "State and local authorities" to take the First Amendment right to freedom of religion into consideration.[1]

Hopkins County, Kentucky, March 12-16, 2020 - Several people became ill with COVID-19 after attending revival meetings involving two Hopkins County churches. The revival began a day after the governor requested churches to not hold services or special events following infections in another county. Before the weekend, the Hopkins County Judge Executive had determined that there was no immediate risk since there had not been any reported cases in the county.[2]

Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, and the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area, 2020 - Food pantries operated by Nazarene churches in these areas have switched to drive-through distribution.[3]

Williamston, Michigan, May 2020 - The priest of a Catholic Church in Williamston has set up a drive-through confessional to meet the needs of parishioners during the pandemic. The booth is outdoors and the priest wears a mask.[4]

Royal Oak, Michigan, June 28, 2020 - A church's Sunday morning service on Zoom was interrupted by a non-member who yelled racial slurs.[5]

Fort Meyers, Florida, September 6, 2020 - A livestreamed Sunday morning service by a Fort Myers church was hacked by a racist heckler.[6]

Wake County, North Carolina, April 19, 2020 - A church near Raleigh began holding drive-in services. Congregants in their cars filled the parking lot. The platform was a farm flatbed trailer. Singing was accompanied by a guitar.[7]

Springfield, Illinois, August 2020 - A Springfield church installed Plexiglas® barriers between the pews to stop the coronavirus' spread. Many members cannot benefit from live streamed services because they do not have the internet at home, so these barriers let them attend in-person.[8]

## Keeping the Flock Safe from the Virus

As a sheepdog protects sheep, a Church Safety Ministry protects the congregation. Added to other threats to their safety and well-being is a contagious virus. Unlike ordinary flu viruses that come around every winter, this one began to increase again in the summer. Meanwhile, reported numbers are inconsistent, leading to speculation as to its extent and level of threat. A credible expert concluded that this is an engineered virus, but others hold that it came from animals. However, since it is a threat, it is prudent to protect people in the church from the virus.

A Church Safety Committee can work with church leadership in planning a church's COVID response. This will vary by location, depending on state requirements and local levels of cases.

*And [Aaron] stood between the dead and the living, and the plague was stopped. Now those who died in the plague were 14,700, besides those who died in the affair of Korah. And Aaron returned to Moses at the entrance of the tent of meeting, when the plague was stopped (Numbers 16:48-50).*

*The High Priest (Aaron) played a role in stopping a plague in Israel's camp.*

### *In-Person Safety*

California has banned all indoor meetings and services in high-risk counties. The governor has also banned singing and chanting at worship services. However, in most of the rest of the country, churches can meet indoors if they follow certain precautions. The most common measures are facial coverings (namely masks and face shields), social distancing, and sanitizing.

### **Masks -**

By now, masks are worn in public almost everywhere. In most states, employees, vendors, and customers are required to wear face coverings in retail stores. This is supposed to provide two-way protection. If the user sneezes or coughs, the mask should keep droplets (which could contain viruses) from spreading to other persons. On the other hand, if a COVID-infected person sneezes or coughs unmasked, a mask should stop the droplets from reaching the wearer.

Some individuals cannot wear masks because of breathing problems or other medical conditions. Face shields are recommended for them. One advantage a face shield has over a mask is that it also protects the eyes, while the mask covers only the mouth and nose. With or without a face shield, eyes are better protected by goggles.

## Social Distancing -

Social distancing is keeping a six-foot distance from persons not in your own household. How is this done in a church service? First of all, churches are designed to have people sitting close together, but when attendance in a service is less than half the seating capacity, there are notable empty spaces. A church can limit attendance to 50% by roping off every other pew. Although padded pews take longer to sanitize than hard surfaces, a church can make a quick turnaround by roping off the pews used in the first service, opening up the unused ones. At least one church has attached Plexiglas® barriers to the backs of its pews so they can seat more people.

Churches that use chairs can place the chairs six feet apart. A family can move their chairs in a row closer together. Chairs with vinyl or Naugahyde coverings can be quickly sanitized between services.

## Drive-in Services -

An early form of social distancing is drive-in services. The church sets up a platform high enough to be seen from cars in the parking lot. Parking attendants guide vehicles to their parking spaces with high-profile ones in the back and lower ones in the front. Music and speaking is broadcast either on a low-power AM information frequency or to receivers passed out to each car. Some localities initially banned drive-in services, but courts disagreed.

*... the priest shall shut up the diseased person for seven days. And the priest shall examine him on the seventh day, and if in his eyes the disease is checked and the disease has not spread in the skin, then the priest shall shut him up for another seven days. And the priest shall examine him again on the seventh day ... (Leviticus 13:4b-6a).*

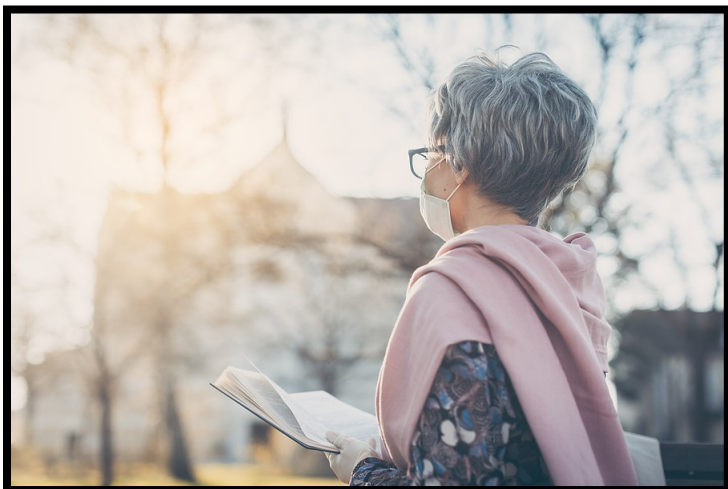
*Priests administered the Mosaic Law quarantines for certain infectious diseases.*

## Sanitizing -

Even without a pandemic, cleanliness is important to the health of members and guests in the church. More than seating is to be sanitized. A church should have people assigned to sanitize anything commonly touched, such as door handles and push plates, light switches, railings, door frames, counters and table tops, restrooms, desks, etc., when a service has ended. There should be enough time between services to do this.

An easily overlooked key item in sanitizing is the HVAC system. Air filters need to be changed often enough that air can still go through. HEPA filters are best for reducing viruses.

## *Serving at a Distance*



### **On the Air and on the Web -**

Before the pandemic, many churches were live streaming their services, while many others recorded the services (or just the sermons) for later posting as a podcasts or videocasts on their websites or Facebook pages. This was in addition to churches that broadcast services on television and radio.

After states posted restrictions on meetings, more churches began live-

streaming, and most services are available for replay. Without an in-person service, only the pastor and a worship team appeared on camera. One well-known congregation in the Dallas, Texas, area - which already live streamed - replayed services from the year before.

Common platforms for live services are YouTube and Facebook, which are free. There are other live streaming services, most requiring paid subscriptions. Some platforms are specifically tailored for religious services.

### **Zooming in -**

A number of churches are now holding online virtual services using virtual meeting platforms such as Zoom (the most used and best-known). Originally created for holding business meetings at a distance, these platforms let participants see and hear each other. They have been used effectively for online choirs, bands, and symphony orchestras, as well as online university classes. Thanks to coronavirus restrictions, these platforms are now used churches.

How do virtual meeting platforms operate? Invited participants sign in before the opening of the class or meeting. The screen is a mosaic of camera views. The users can see and hear each other, which is great for congregational singing, prayer requests, and testimonies. During messages and announcements, the moderator has the option of making only that speaker heard.

*"Flesh that touches any  
unclean thing shall not be  
eaten. It shall be burned up  
with fire"  
(Leviticus 7:19).*

*Food safety was (and is)  
important in preventing disease.*

## Horning in -

There are security issues with broadcasting over the Internet. Both live streaming and virtual meetings have been interrupted by hackers (taking over a Zoom meeting is called "Zoombombing"). A problem with business meetings and distance learning classes, it now is a problem with virtual religious services. Religion News Service (RNS) detailed a few examples and listed several others:

"A Shabbat service held via Zoom by a Bay Area synagogue was crashed by Nazis. A Unitarian Universalist church in Massachusetts saw a livestreamed service on YouTube deluged with dislikes. A livestreamed church service in Los Angeles was hacked and replaced with porn. A Zoom webinar last week with the People's Forum, an activist-oriented cultural space directed by theologian Claudia de la Cruz, was disrupted by a troll posting the n-word in the chat window repeatedly until administrators blocked him." [9]

Obviously, it's safer to break into a virtual or live-streamed service than to physically enter the building as a mass protest - expulsion and arrest are more remote. [10] However, there are measures which can be taken to make it less likely. Although Zoom has been faulted for insufficient security measures, there are steps a church can take to make their virtual meeting more secure, just as the church can improve its overall cyber security.

## Locking the Zoom Gate -

First of all, since a virtual meeting goes through the church's Internet connection, ordinary cyber security should be followed, including having up-to-date anti-virus programs, and not opening phishing emails nor clicking on unverified links.

As to the virtual meeting itself, KTVQ, a Montana TV news station, has good advice:

"Do not make meetings or classrooms public. In Zoom, there are two options to make a meeting private: require a meeting password or use the waiting room feature and control the admittance of guests.  
Do not share a link to a teleconference or classroom on an unrestricted publicly available social media post. Provide the link directly to specific people.  
Manage screensharing options. In Zoom, change screensharing to "Host Only."  
Ensure users are using the updated version of remote access/meeting applications. In January 2020, Zoom updated its software. In the security update, the teleconference software provider added passwords by default for meetings and disabled the ability to randomly scan for meetings to join.  
Lastly, ensure that your organization's telework policy or guide addresses requirements for physical and information security." [11]

## Scams -

During every crisis, there are folks who try to take advantage of people and organizations (including churches) through fraud. Carefully screen all communications as to who they are really from. Become expert at spotting and rejecting scams.

## Securing Remote Services -

No matter what means you use to make worship services available to those who cannot attend, you must do what you can to make it secure. At the minimum, an intrusion into a remote church service is embarrassing - the discomfort and inconvenience go up from there. What the Church Safety Ministry can do is stress the importance of cyber security and inform church administrators on how to do it.

## Conclusion

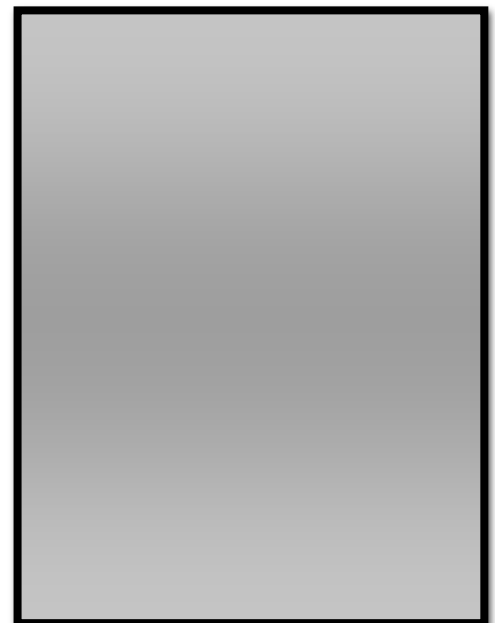
Keeping the church and its members safe during the pandemic is more than just stopping infections. It also includes stopping those who would take advantage of the pandemic to victimize the church. Draw a line in the sand barring not only the virus, but criminals as well.

[Click Here for References](#)



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# 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.



## Episode #223: What's My Role?

*In this episode of the Church Security Roll Call, we discuss the responsibilities of the Safety Committee, Safety Director and the Safety Team.*

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## Episode #224: On Call

*In this episode of the Church Security Roll Call, we discuss practical ways your Safety Team can practice Situational Awareness.*

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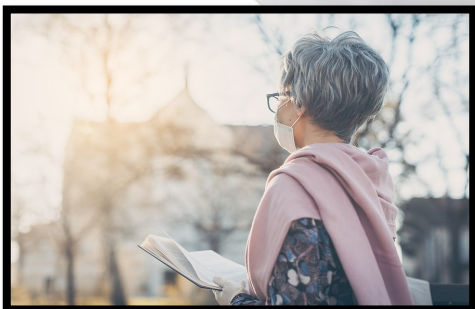


## Episode #225: Lines in the Sand—Part 1

*In this episode of the Church Security Roll Call, we discuss the Covid-19 pandemic and how it's affecting churches and their safety ministries.*

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## Episode #226: Lines in the Sand—Part 2

*In this episode of the Church Security Roll Call, we discuss how to protect your churches during the pandemic, when meeting in person and online.*

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**FREE DOWNLOAD**

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### **SAFETY MEMBER TRAINING RECORD**

This document is intended to keep track of a Team Member's training to ensure they remain up-to-date.

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.)

## **MAIL CALL**

Messages from Sheepdogs across the country

### **Brendan Sullivan**

"Thanks for all you do. I wanted to let you know your works is making a lot of difference out there! I used a lot of your information to apply for a FEMA grant to help get our Safety Ministry up and running at the Wilmington Church of Christ. Our grant was approved!"

### **Thomas Colson**

"I just wanted to say Thank You. I am a retired Marine. The way the training manuals are put together is outstanding. I bought the whole training package for Directors at the first of the year for to train my team."

### **Charles Behrens II**

"Your podcast and website have been very helpful in researching and developing a plan for a church security team. I just got your books as well. I love that you start your podcast with bible verses. "



# SHEEPDOG'S MONTHLY GUEST ARTICLE

## The Five Steps of Security Implementation

BY CODY BLOCKER C.P.S.

The overall task of implementing security improvements within your church can be overwhelming. Tackle this overwhelming task by solving one problem at a time. Here is a simple five-step process.

### **The Five L's of the Security Development Process:**

1. **Leadership:** (Heb. 13:17) Church leadership needs to approve the policies.
2. **Legal Counsel:** (Rom. 13:1-10) Policies must be lawfully compliant.
3. **Liability/Insurance:** (Matt. 25:14-30) Policies must be submitted to your insurance carrier.
4. **Law Enforcement:** (Prov. 19:20) Get professional advice from Law Enforcement.
5. **Let's go!/Implementation:** (Judges 7:5-6) Implementation of a team should include communication and training.

## **Step 1: Leadership Buy In**

The church leadership (elder board, deacon board etc.) must approve everything you are going to do. You would be surprised to know how many people I meet who are passionate about improving the security of their church, but their church leadership does not share their same vision.

If you find you are not on the same page with church leadership, talk it through and find out why. Talk to them and work WITH them to figure out how safety and security can fit in with the overall church's mission. Leadership sets the tone and culture of your church. Your security plan must fit into that.

If you are starting from scratch or don't have a background in security, begin by reaching out to law enforcement and local security experts to get their professional opinion. They can also share industry-best practices on what churches or similar organizations in your area are doing.

## **Step 2: Legal Counsel**

Present your plan to your church legal counsel or lawyer. They can be helpful to speak into the church's plans. They are familiar with state statutes and can be helpful in making sure your written policies are in compliance with state and local laws. Invite them to give you professional direction from their expertise.

Having unprofessional or poorly written procedures can create a liability for your church, which is the opposite of your goal. Get familiar with the state statutes that are relevant. Know why you are doing what you're doing and know what gives you the right to do what you're doing.

## **Step 3: Liability/Insurance**

Now that the legal issues are out of way, take the next step. Step 3 is to take your plan to your insurance company. Make sure your insurance carrier is aware of your plan and they give it to the appropriate department within your insurance company. Don't implement a large initiative that affects the safety of people in your congregation and not tell your insurance carrier. They are going to be one of the first entities notified when an emergency event occurs.

Invite them to speak into your plan and give you professional direction from their expertise. Take their advice and make sure your security plan and policies are compliant with your coverage. Make any necessary adjustments and make sure everyone is covered in the highest possible way for whatever it is that you are asking them to do.



## **Step 4: Law Enforcement**

Now you have your plan, it's approved by your church leadership, it is lawfully compliant, and is fully insured by your insurance provider. Take this plan to your local law enforcement agency and sit down with a law enforcement professional who can also give you advice.

Many agencies have some form of public relations department whose goal is to meet with organizations within the community. Ask their advice and make necessary modifications to your plan. When that bad day happens and a 911 call is made from your church, one of their officers will most likely be one of the first responders. Be proactive about developing the relationship between your church and them. They should be informed to the best of your ability of what the church's security plan is.

## **Step 5: Let's go!/Implementation**

Implementation has two primary components, communication and training. Training of the new plan is a key step that many churches overlook. You can't just print out a new manual and put it on the shelf and then expect everyone to automatically know it.

Finalize your plan, communicate it, train the plan, then re-evaluate the plan and make necessary modifications as necessary. It is good practice to review and update these plans at a minimum of once per year. Adapt and modify as needed.



**Cody Blocker C.P.S.**

[www.avoidthefight.com](http://www.avoidthefight.com)

Cody Blocker C.P.S. is a Certified Protection Specialist and an honor graduate of the esteemed Executive Security International. Cody worked as the Security Director of a large church in the Midwest for over ten years and currently works for a private security company. He has worked as an Executive Protection agent in the US and overseas. Cody has successfully introduced state legislation to improve concealed carry laws of his state. A founding member of the Midwest Church Security Coalition (MCSC), Cody served as its president for two years. He is a licensed Private Detective and a licensed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Cody is certified by the Nebraska State Patrol to teach Concealed Handgun Certification Courses to responsible citizens. He has trained and consulted with over 100 churches across the country in various security capacities. Cody has over twenty years of training in Japanese and Brazilian martial arts and is a boxing, mixed martial arts and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu competitor.

Cody's book *Protecting Your Church: Thoughts on Church Security and Leadership* is available on Amazon!  
[CLICK HERE](#) to check out his book!

# ONSITE INSTRUCTORS

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**JOSHUA COLEMAN**

**Location:** Cabot, Arkansas 72023

**Email:** [shepherdingsheepdogs@gmail.com](mailto:shepherdingsheepdogs@gmail.com)

**Phone:** [\(971\) 409-2425](tel:(971)409-2425)



**MICHAEL MERCER**

**Location:** South Windham, Maine 04082

**Website:** <https://michaelmercerconsulting.com>

**Email:** [michael@michaelmercerconsulting.com](mailto:michael@michaelmercerconsulting.com)

**Phone:** [\(207\) 699-8840](tel:(207)699-8840)



**BRIAN STOLT**

**Location:** Belle Plaine, Minnesota 56011

**Website:** <https://stolttacticaldefense.com/>

**Email:** [brian@stolttacticaldefense.com](mailto:brian@stolttacticaldefense.com)

**Phone:** [\(952\) 292-8758](tel:(952)292-8758)



**MICHAEL & DESERÉE KENNEY**

**Location:** Upper Deerfield Twp. New Jersey 08302

**Website:** <https://www.kenneyprotectiveagency.com/>

**Email:** [info@KenneyProtectiveAgency.com](mailto:info@KenneyProtectiveAgency.com)

**Phone:** [856-283-8481](tel:856-283-8481)



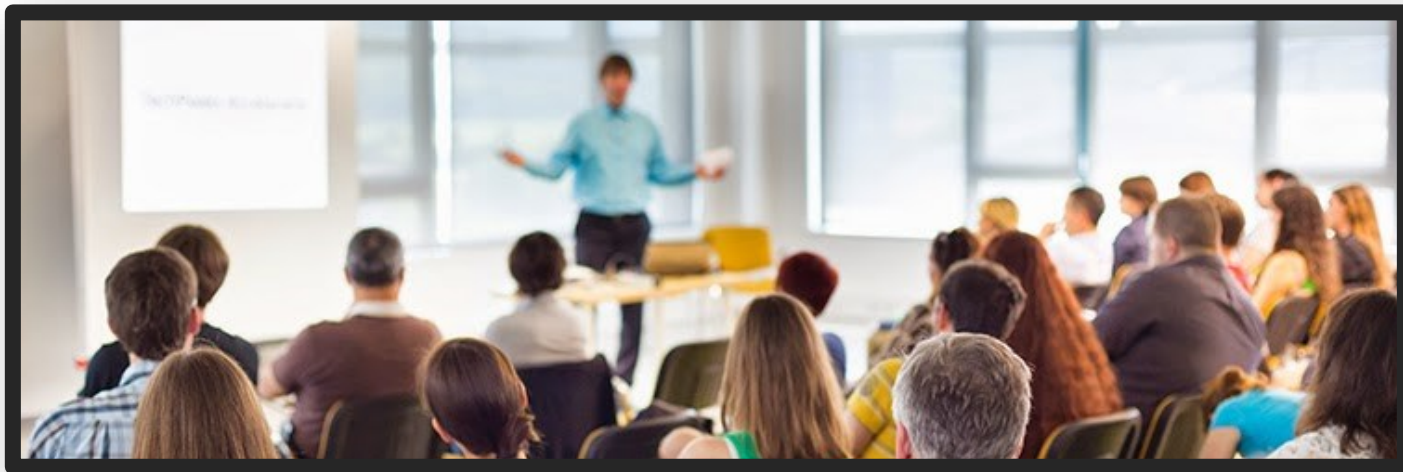
**JEFFREY TOEPPE**

**Location:** Racine, Wisconsin 53402

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

**Email:** [jeff@personal-defense-training.com](mailto:jeff@personal-defense-training.com)

**Phone:** [262-994-0242](tel:262-994-0242)



# SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

## PROTECT YOUR FLOCK SEMINAR

### WHAT TO EXPECT AT THIS SEMINAR

This seminar will be "hands-on," emphasizing the skills you need in order to be ready to respond to a crisis in your house of worship. Subjects include such topics as; Verbal De-Escalation, Recognizing the "clues" that indicate something may be wrong, Protecting the flock from sex crimes, Responding to an active attack, How to form a safety team at your church, Where to station team members during church and so much more...

DATE: October 24 (Saturday morning)

8:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

COST: \$30.00 PER PERSON

SPEAKER: [Retired Police Officer and Minister Jimmy Meeks](#)

LOCATION: [H20 Church](#)

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Seminar will be at the new location of H20 Church, located on south side of Ada.

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If you know of any other Church Safety Seminars or Conferences and would like to see them featured on the Church Guardian, Please Contact us via Email at

**KRIS@SHEEPDOGCHURCHSECURITY.NET**

# SHEEPDOG CORNER

*Hi Sheepdog,*

And just like that, we are back at it. People are starting to come back to church, and we are settling into our new normal. For a lot of us, this includes giving our time to the Safety Ministry.

It has been a while for us, so it is highly likely we all need to “sharpen the sword.” There are many threats to the Church and we need training. Or, at least, a really good review.

This next month (October), we are going to be offering a special deal on our Safety Member Certification which will include several bonuses and extras. I am really excited to make you and your team this offer. It is going to be the most helpful offer in our history.

And cannot tell you anymore, at this time. We are still working out some of the logistical details.

Stay tuned to your emails for more.

***Your Loyal Companion in Christ,***

***Kris P. Moloney***



**Address:**

**712 Maple Circle Belle Plaine, MN  
56011**

**Phone:**

**612-470-7364**

**E-Mail:**

**Kris@sheepdogchurchsecurity.net**

**Website:**

**[https://  
sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/#](https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/#)**



**A Police Officer with over 18 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**