

6. ENSURING SECURITY AT EVENTS



When events go well, it is often because the security is efficiently managed.

The Blackford Centre

INTRODUCTION

Security at an event involves a variety of risks. They include fire, stampedes, theft, stage collapse, electrocution, fights, injury from traffic incidents, and even a terrorist incident.

The kind of security you need depends on:

- the type of the event (a classical concert is different from a death metal gig)
- the size of the crowd (from 20 people to a 20,000 sports event)
- the characteristics of the venue (outdoor or indoor)
- method of entrance (how many doors and floors)

So, security must fit the event.

Keeping visitors safe and secure will prove you are worthy of your services and ensure that the event goes well.

An effective plan takes into account the type of the audience and adjusts security accordingly. However, despite all the necessary preparations, a threat can arise from anywhere in the crowd, and you must take this unpredictability into account.

WHAT KIND OF EVENTS REQUIRE SECURITY?

If the event is high-profile or held in a public venue, security may need to be tighter, especially if the area includes many entrances.

On the other hand, if the event is low profile and held on private property, security can be reduced and low key.

But you should be ready to deal with an unexpected threat, regardless of the event. These days even amusement parks and concerts are considered events where security is paramount.

THE OPERATIONS PLAN

You should always create an operations plan and a timeline.

Creating an effective security plan that keeps track of all the important parameters is the best way to prepare for an event. It will cover all aspects of the event, from when the doors open to getting everyone out without any problem.

The whole security team, including you, has to be briefed well in advance about the entire procedure and the potential threats. A sample Operations Plan is included in the bonus content on the portal. It includes a security operations plan.

NOW WATCH THIS VIDEO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhtE3uL_2XA



Tips for managing access to a wedding or other event

MANAGING ACCESS

It is important to control access into any event. This will keep out gatecrashers and unruly people. It will also reduce the health and safety risks associated with people being crushed or injured by vehicles.

You will need to ensure that intoxicated and troublesome people do not enter the event. Managing these people in a safe manner is another critical strategy you should consider, as you don't want outsiders to notice what is happening.

Experienced security guards know how to handle a problem discreetly without jeopardising the crowd's safety. You should also be prepared to address any issues when a celebrity or high profile person wants to leave the area. They have to be escorted safely outside the venue.

You will need to monitor the queue via a CCTV system, and ensure good communication between staff and visitors.

Every staff member has to be briefed on how to deal with potential problems and what to look for. Distinguish between public, backstage or private areas.

Every event should position guards in critical areas such as the entry gates to give an impression of safety. Accessing the site should be easy and efficient. Legitimate visitors should pass through without undue delay.

Gate crashers must be prevented at all costs. Security should place guards in critical entry points and ensure that the venue is fenced off from the outside world. You have to make it clear to the attendees that they will only pass if they have the necessary access passes/tickets.

NOW WATCH THIS VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykb2kfb4eiA>



How to conduct a search

DEALING WITH PROTESTS

High profile events may include protestors. People are more likely to be offended by a public figure than by a local artist or musician. Also, protestors prefer high profile events as they get more exposure.

For example, chatting with a group of protestors might resolve an issue more efficiently than trying to force them out of a venue.

While you should know how to handle different types of demonstrators, sometimes it is preferable to go with your instinct. However, read the following list of tips on how to manage protestors and try to understand its core strategies. You can then decide which of these strategies you will implement according to the situation.

The remainder of this module has been removed.

ASSIGNMENT 6

PROTECTING A POLITICIAN

Daan Flanders is a Dutch politician, known for his fiery speeches. He holds highly controversial views. He wants a ban on immigration, the death penalty for many crimes, and a ban on abortion.

It is 7pm on a Wednesday evening. You are a guard at a talk he is giving. He is about to go on stage, and you can see his supporters are chanting slogans and stamping on the floor with their feet.

Outside there is a protest with hundreds of people opposed to his views waving banners and shouting.

What might happen?

What are the risks?

What steps should you and your colleagues take to prevent problems?

What security should be in place?

Write 450 – 750 words.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET

If you send your assignment by post, attach this cover sheet. Please put your name and the date in the arrowed boxes. Then staple the sheet to your assignment, and send it to your tutor.

Your tutor will keep the lower section of this form, returning the top portion to you.

If you email your assignment, you don't need to send this form, but make sure you include your name and assignment number at the top of your work.

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