

MetroWest

Private Security *Explained*

Security officers in Florida must be licensed and applicants must attend a 40-hour training course to apply for the state's "D" security license. Security officers interested in working as an armed security officer must complete an additional 28 hours of firearms training. After receiving these licenses, security officer are governed by Florida Statute 493.

In general, security guards act as a deterrent. Their job is to prevent a crime from happening by proactively watching for suspicious behavior, mitigating risks as they appear and contacting the proper authorities when an incident occurs. Simply put, security guards keep people, property and other valuable assets safe and secure

Top 5 General Responsibilities of Private Security

Visual Deterrent

Criminals are far less likely to perpetrate a crime such as theft, vandalism or a physical assault when there is a security guard present. The mere presence of security personnel will stop would-be burglars, muggers and shoplifters from attempting to cause harm to people or property.

Identifying suspicious behavior

While your employees are busy doing their jobs, criminals could be at work doing their jobs. Businesses benefit greatly from having a dedicated team keeping watch and identifying irregular and suspicious behavior. Business owners cannot expect their employees to have the skills to identify when something isn't right. Security guards have the training and expertise to identify when there is a smell, sound or sight that is abnormal and needs attention.

Contacting and communicating with the authorities

In the unfortunate event of an emergency situation, security guards act as a knowledgeable resource and point of contact for the authorities. Security guards are trained to observe and gather the information that fire or law enforcement authorities need to do their jobs. Security guards act as partners with business owners, police and fire services.

Monitoring access to properties

One of the most prevalent threats for businesses is unauthorized access to a property. Hospitals, construction sites, schools and other high-profile organizations understand the need for vigilant monitoring of their entrances and exits. Security guards can check credentials and maintain logs of visitors, vendors and employees.

Taking action in emergency situations

Security guards have the skills and training to respond to any emergency as it arises. As a dedicated watchful eye, security personnel are often the first to know about a security situation and the first to act. They can assist in evacuations and other serious security events.

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