

# Security Training

## FOR CHURCH MEETINGS AND EVENTS

This handout is intended to assist stake presidencies and bishoprics in providing security training for adult ward members. Youth and children should not be included in security training. These recommendations are meant to increase the general security knowledge of Church members, thus increasing their safety at church. Great care should be taken to avoid creating fear or encouraging individual members to feel they should “police” Church meetings. (For more information, see the document “Security Guidelines for Church Meetings and Events” [Presiding Bishopric letter, Oct. 10, 2019].)

### Preventative Practices and General Awareness

- Avoid being alone in a Church building. Women and youth in particular should avoid this.
- Report suspicious persons in or around Church buildings to priesthood leaders or the police.
- Do not approach suspicious persons alone.
- If a person’s behavior becomes disorderly or unacceptable, calmly invite him or her to stop the behavior or leave the property.
- If a disorderly person refuses to leave, contact priesthood leaders. If necessary, evacuate patrons from the affected meeting room and call police.
- Do not attempt to physically remove a disorderly person.
- Know the location of fire pulls and exits, and know how to lock exterior doors.

### Responding to an Armed Intruder

- If an armed intruder demands valuables, comply immediately.
- Do not resist. Material possessions can be replaced; lives cannot.

### Responding to an Active Shooter

If an active shooter enters Church property, all present should do one of the following: run, hide, or fight.

**Run.** Flee immediately if a safe path is available. Move quickly, and don’t draw unwanted attention. Adults should assist youth and children.

**Hide.** If running isn’t possible, find a place to hide. Close doors and barricade them if possible. Turn out lights, stay quiet, silence cell phones, and stay low to the floor.

**Fight.** As a last resort, if running or hiding isn’t an option, fight with any available weapons. If others are present, attack the assailant in unison.

*This information is provided by the Church Security Department.  
Please refer questions to local leaders.*

THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS