

TRAVELING ABROAD SAFELY

- SAFETY GUIDELINES BEFORE YOU TRAVEL -



INTRODUCTION

Rapid global expansion of business and international trade agreements have made it a requirement for corporate executives, government personnel and their support staff to travel in order to conduct business. Often this travel is to a location far from home, not only in distance but also in culture, attitudes and behaviors.

It is important to remember some key points when traveling abroad.

The existence of rules or laws is likely to be very different from what you are accustomed to. Being ignorant of the local laws and customs is no excuse for error. It can land you in compromised situation and get you in serious trouble.

It is always worth making the effort and devoting a little bit of time to get prepared and informed before you travel. It can and will, *de-risk your trip.*



KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING

If you are fortunate, you may be given ample warning of impending travel but often that is not the case. Regardless of the amount of time before you leave, there are a number of things you need to do before you book your flight or hotel room.

Find out as much information as you can about the country you are traveling to, as well as the countries you may travel through to get to your final destination.

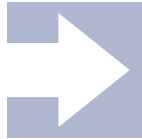


QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN RESEARCHING YOUR TRAVEL

- Where is this country located, and what are the neighbouring countries.
- Are there any ongoing conflicts or political issues between the countries you are going to and its neighbours.
- What type of government is in place in the country i.e.; democracy, military rule, principality, etc.
- Is there local unrest (political, economic, labour)
- What is the crime rate like in the country overall with particular focus on the cities you will visit. There may be a great discrepancy - the country may have an overall high crime rate but the city you will visit may be very safe.
- Do you require a visa to travel to your location or through other countries to get to your final destination.
- Are you required to show proof of medical vaccination. If so, what vaccinations do you need.
- What is the local currency and the exchange rate.
- Is there a Canadian Embassy or friendly embassy in the city you are traveling to.
- What is the address and phone number of the embassy.
- Who is head of the mission. His/Her name and contact information if possible.
- Communication: Cell phone use, Internet, Fax. What are the rules and what is the degree of service.

UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS

It is critically important to respect and follow the laws of the countries that you are going to visit. In many countries, following religious and cultural traditions and rules can be even more important. It is often difficult to find this information prior to arriving in the country but with some effort you can usually be well prepared.



DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND GET INFORMED

- The country's visitor web site can often be a good source of information.
- The embassy of the country in question may be able to send you some visitor information about local laws and customs.
- Speak to colleagues that may have traveled to this location in the past.
- If you have business contacts in the country ask them for some guidance.
- Be cautious when people say "It's no big deal. Don't worry about taking any special precautions." or "The people are so friendly, they all want to help you" or "I never had problems before" Do your own research and don't take people's word for it.
- Do not be that rude foreigner, find out the customs and show respect.

Being uninformed may land you in jail, or worse...



FINDING THE INFORMATION YOU NEED

A little work prior to your travel can make the difference between an uneventful trip and becoming a victim. There is no guarantee that planning will keep you safe, but not planning is like playing Russian Roulette with your safety and security.

The Internet makes finding information on your destination so much easier than years in the past, but it is important to obtain information from many different sources like the Internet, government information documents, friends, co-workers or security consultants.



DO YOUR RESEARCH

- Check the Government of Canada department of foreign affairs for travel alerts and warning on your planned destination and the countries you will travel through.
- Check the country's visitor web site for information on customs, laws, and overall information on the country. Remember that the government's often have a hand in the approved content on some of these websites so there may be a bias to the information.
- Check travel advisor web sites
- Check the CIA web site
- Check local news organizations daily web page to find out what is going on in the country and most important in the cities you plan to visit.
(In many countries news organizations are often highly censored)
- Speak to co-workers who have traveled to this location in the past, but remember this information is dated.
- Contact the people you are planning to meet for travel information. Again, you may need to treat this information as being somewhat biased.
- Consult with your company's security officer or security consultant; they will likely have contacts that they can draw on for more in-depth security information on your travel destination.
- Does your company have access to intelligence information from a third party organization specializing in intelligence and security issues? These organizations can provide their clients with very in-depth and up-to-date intelligence on the country in question. Make sure you have a report prior to making travel plans, and then again just prior to departure in order to ensure the most updated intelligence.
- GOOGLE the Dos and Don'ts in _____. You might be very surprised with what this very simple web search will help you find.

TRAVELING DAY

It can be quite stressful for some people on the day of travel, so making sure you have everything together and ready to go will make it less stressful. Stress and doing things at the last moment can cause errors and forgetting important things. Be organized and have everything done before travel day.



PREPARE THE FOLLOWING PRIOR TO LEAVING ON YOUR TRIP

- Leave a copy of your travel itinerary with a family member as well with a member of your company staff.
- Leave a copy of your passport with a family member, and take a copy of it with you but place it in a location other than where you carry the original passport. In the event that your passport is stolen or goes missing, you will still have a copy with you. This will make it easier when requesting assistance or if you require a new passport.
- Leave copies of your credit cards and important documents at home with a family member in the event they go missing as well.
- Carry some cash and identification in a location other than your wallet and passport. Should you be the victim of a robbery you will still have some ID and cash.
- Travel with some local currency if possible and in small denominations. It is also recommended to carry some US, and Euros in small bills. You may not want to use US dollars in some locations.
- Watch your reading material: Do not carry books or magazines that may offend people in the country you are visiting. Something as simple as a book title may be just what a customs or immigration officer needs to detain you for questioning.
- Pick a code word: have a code word with family members and company contacts that you can use in the event you are unable to talk freely or to express that you need help.
- Pack as lightly as you can. The more you carry, the more you stand out as a rich target. It is also more difficult to control a large number of bags as you move in and around the airport.
- Travel comfortably. If you are traveling for any great distance on a commercial flight, it is much healthier and draws less attention to yourself.
- Dress down as much as possible if you don't have to go directly to a meeting. Try to go to your hotel prior to any meetings.

MEDICATIONS AND VACCINATIONS

Make sure you have had all the required and suggested vaccinations for the country you are visiting, at least all health and safety requirement. You may be denied entry into a country if you cannot show proof that you have had all the proper vaccinations. If you have prescription medications travel with them in their original container with all the information clearly indicated on the outside of it. With Over-the counter medications check to make sure they are permitted in your destination country. Some countries prohibit medications with codeine in them. Being at the customs counter in a foreign country is not the place you want to be to deal with this type of issue. Its always a safe bet to get the best health care coverage you can obtain prior to departure.

PREPARE A SMALL MEDICAL KIT THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Aspirin, or Tylenol
- Antihistamine
- Gravol & Imodium
- Check with your doctor about traveling with a antibiotic like Cipro
- Bandages
- Sunscreen - if you are going to be outside in the heat and sun.
- An electrolyte replacement in the event you become dehydrated.



EXECUTIVE PLANE TRAVEL

Corporations will often have their executives travel on the company's private jet or charter jet to make it easier to get their executives to many countries around the world. This practice is used to save time, allow the executive and his or her team time to work on projects in private prior to arriving in the country of destination, as well as allowing them to arrive well rested. Corporate jets also allow them to visit multiple cities or countries with greater efficiency. This type of travel is generally the most secure method to transport executives, nonetheless, there still are concerns that need to be addressed.

All of the traditional concerns of international travel still apply even when traveling on a private jet.



ADDITIONALLY, THE FOLLOWING ISSUES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED:

- What is the range of the plane.
- What is the experience level of the flight crew.
- What is the background of the flight crew. Criminal records? Did they run drugs or guns when they were younger? Are they prohibited from flying to certain countries? Who did they work for prior to flying for you? Where and who are their loyalties with?
- In some locations the fuel for the plane might be of questionable quality. Are you able to test this fuel prior to it being loaded on the plane? There are small testers available to allow your pilots to test fuel prior to it being loaded.
- Are you able to secure the plane in the country you are going too.
- A security tape is available that can be used to assist in securing the plane. This will let the flight crew know if someone has gained access to key areas of the plane. There may be a need to hire a security company to watch over the plane while it is parked on the tarmac, and in some circumstances the plane may have to be secured at a different airport or country leaving the passengers behind without a plane to evacuate with in an emergency.
- What countries are you going to fly over to get to your final destination? Will they permit you to fly over their territory? Are they experiencing conflicts? What would happen if you had to make an emergency landing in these countries? Can you have a flight plan that will allow you to avoid these locations?
- Some countries will not permit you to come from some other country directly to theirs due to conflicts between them.

IN-FLIGHT MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

I recommend that all executive planes have in-flight and on-the-ground access to medical advice in the event that someone should become ill or injured either in flight or once on the ground.



CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS WHEN PREPARING YOUR PLAN FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES:

- Do you have access to in flight medical advice?
- Do you have equipment on board the flight to assist in making an informed medical decision on if you can keep flying to your final point of destination? There is a wide range of equipment that can be used by the in-flight crew to assist in making the decision to land or not. This type of medical equipment will allow the collection of critical medical data that can be downloaded via Internet or phone patch to a doctor for medical advice. There are also airline approved medical kits that will permit your crew to give medication based on advice from the doctor you are on the phone with or patched into.
- What will you do if your President or CEO is having a medical emergency?
- Which countries do you fly over? Are their security questions about these countries and if so, do you land in the questionable country or do you fly on to another country? Can you wait this event out?
- What are the medical capabilities of the country you are thinking of landing in? Some countries will not permit you to come from some other country directly to theirs due to conflicts between them.



AFTER YOU LAND

Unlike airports in North America, your options may not include FOBs (Flight Operation Bases). You will likely need a company to service your planes and your flight crew will be required to obtain services from a “fixer”. This is normal in many countries and these people can be excellent people to work with. They have contacts in the many areas of service that you will need including: fuel, catering, mechanical assistance, or other special services. These people are usually very professional with the service they provide, the flight crew needs to ask if there is a reliable ground support company once in the country.



OTHER QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Can you obtain quality fuel in the amount required in the country you are flying to or do you need to arrive with the fuel needed to get out again?
- Where is your flight crew staying? Can you contact them in the event have an emergency or if there is a change of plans, delayed departure, or if you wish to leave early?
- Do you have the ability to contact the flight crew directly? Be sure to have all hotel information for the pilots and crew.
- The crew should stay at a hotel that will allow them to get to the plane in short order if plans need to change. Book a quality hotel for your crew - you don't want your flight crew tired or sick because they stayed at a cheap hotel to save a few dollars. You want to ensure that your pilots are in top form when flying you!
- It is recommended that you have the plane fueled and ready to depart on short notice. This may require that the pilots pre-prepare flight plans to your next destination and also to an emergency evacuation country in the event that you have to leave quickly. Unforeseeable events such as natural disasters or political instability may require a rapid departure.

There are thousands of corporate flights that travel daily without issue. Keep in mind however, that when incidents do occur you may never hear about them. They are kept very quiet for a wide range of reasons, be they political, corporate security, or embarrassment.

Being prepared will reduce the likelihood of any serious safety concerns.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

There are a wide range of transportation options available in most countries. They can be as simple as a local taxi service or a lightly armored vehicle all the way up to the ultimate armored vehicle “The Beast” which is what has been chosen to transport the President of the United States of America.



CONSIDER WHAT TRANSPORTATION YOU WILL NEED

- Taxis offer the least amount of protection but can be viewed as somewhat covert since less attention will be drawn to you or the person of concern - you blend in.
- Light armored vehicles or ‘stick & stone’ (so-called as they will protect against things just like sticks and stones) will not be of any use against anything as great as a bullet. While it depends on the country you are attending and the environment you will be entering, this sort of vehicle may be all that is needed. The services of a protection officer should be considered when you use this level of vehicle.
- When traveling to higher risk countries, a more robust armored vehicle will be needed. These will protect against a wide range of weapons, and will normally be driven by a trained driver. It is recommended that if you require such a vehicle, you also hire a protection detail. A second security vehicle is usually required and is used to carry the protection detail and can act as a decoy vehicle in some circumstances. It will also be an emergency evacuation vehicle in the event your armored vehicle becomes disabled due to mechanical failure, an accident, or as a result of an attack.
- The hiring of a service to do your driving should be taken seriously. When hiring a service however, ensure that they are working for “you” and not an organized crime group. Be sure to hire professionals with a long list of references.



FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTEL

Arrangements should be made in advance for a car and driver so that once you have cleared customs and are out in the arrival area of the airport you will be able to leave quickly.



KNOWING YOUR DRIVER

- A code name should be used on the name plaque, not your name or the company name.
- When greeting the driver you should know his name and he should be able to confirm your real name to provide the final proof that he truly is your driver.
- If for any reason you feel hesitant about the driver consider taking another form of transportation to your hotel.
- Do not ever take a 'gypsy taxi', usually a 'gypsy taxi' driver will approach while you are still in the airport and offer to drive you to your destination for a cheaper fare. They are often very aggressive and may grab at your luggage to carry it for you. Be firm and use a loud voice to tell him to back away and that you don't want his help.
- Go to the proper taxi line and wait for a real taxi. Ask the attendant what the fare should be to your hotel and confirm this with the driver.
- Do not get into the taxi until your baggage is safe and secure in the vehicle.



TAXI SAFETY

- It is your taxi - do not permit the driver to allow others to share the taxi.
- Lock your door and, if possible, keep the window closed. Do not have briefcases or purses in clear view. Someone could come up to the vehicle at a red light or while you are stuck in traffic, break the window, and grab your bag. Be cautious if two people pull up next to the taxi on a motorcycle and seem to be paying an abnormal amount of attention to you and your bag.
- Be polite with your driver but be guarded with information. Let him think you have been to the city before and generally know your way around.
- Once arriving at the hotel do not let your guard down. Pay the taxi driver with small bills in the local currency, US dollars or Euros.

STAYING AT HOTELS

There are a variety of hotels to choose from at any location you travel to. Some may be tempted to look at the best value ones or the one closest to all the action. Don't jeopardize your safety for location or price.



KEY INFORMATION ABOUT HOTELS

- Stay at a 5 star (or better) hotel whenever possible. They are less likely to be in high risk areas, hotel security is usually of a higher standard, they know how to obtain services you may require (medical, embassy, etc.), and police will conduct more patrols in these areas.
- Keep control of your luggage. Do not permit anyone to take them at curb side. Once inside the hotel, you can let a bellman take them to your room after you have checked in but only if he will wait while you attend to your room.
- If the hotel clerk states your room number out loud at the desk, refuse the room, state why, and if necessary ask for a manager. This should not happen in higher-end hotels
- You should book a room on the 4th - 6th floor. Do not accept a room with another adjoining hotel room unless it is someone with your group.
- Scan the lobby while you check in and when waiting for the elevator. If you notice anyone that appears to be following you, turn and return to the front desk to delay going to your room.
- When you get to your room, spend some time getting to know the layout and ensuring that there are not issues or concerns. Call the front desk or operator to make sure the phone works, ask for the correct time.
- Make sure your door is locked with all locks available.
- Take five minutes to walk down to the ground level using the emergency exit. It will not take long, usually 8-10 sec. per floor when no one is in the stairwell. If there is a fire in the hotel you won't have to waste time looking for exits. Confirm all options for egress on your floor. You should exit right away in the event of a fire alarm. **DON'T WAIT**
- If you must leave your room in an emergency, always bring your hotel room key with you in the event you cannot make it down the exit stairwell and need to return to your hotel room. Advise the hotel operator if you are trapped in your room.
- You should have a personnel use travel smoke hood in your checked luggage along with a small bright flashlight to be used in an emergency.
- Women should also look at having a panic alarm with them that can be placed by their bed or in the washroom when they shower.

- Keep a list of emergency numbers within easy reach including: 911 or its alternative, hotel doctor, local hospital, and embassy.
- Use the hotel safe to secure items.
- Get to know your hotel including the lobby area, exits, and safe areas.
- Consider other safe locations close to your hotel as well as police stations, fire stations, and other higher end hotels.
- Ask the front desk staff for assistance with information or directions, not people on the street or those hanging around in the lobby of the hotel.
- Be very guarded in your conversations with others or on the phone.



LEAVING THE HOTEL

- When possible, travel in an armored vehicle but continue to ensure that doors are locked, and keep an eye on what is taking place outside and around the vehicle. Do not use this time to do paper work or answer emails.
- When you reach your destination, try to leave the vehicle only when situated underground or within a fenced area. If this is not possible, ask the driver exactly where you need to go before exiting the vehicle and then walk with purpose and a look of authority. Just as in nature, attackers will target the weak. Don't look weak!
- When in public areas avoid speaking about politics or religion. Do not go near any demonstrations or rallies.
- Try not to use money machines outside of your hotel. If you must, do not flash or count your cash in public.
- If you are out with a client or co-workers for a drink or you are seated alone in the hotel bar and a overly attractive woman/man expresses interest in you, ask yourself if you "are truly in his/her league" Be suspicious - criminals and corporate competition will use high end prostitutes to place you in a compromising position and collect photos that can prove very damaging.
- These individuals may also be used as a decoy – distracting you with activities in your room while an accomplice may be compromising your computer, cell phone, or blackberry with tracking software able to know everything that is typed, said, or read.
- These individuals or anyone else you become overly friendly with, might also be setting you up as the victim of a robbery, or kidnapping

DON'T BECOME A VICTIM, BE AWARE.

SAFETY WHEN YOU ARE THERE

Whether its a trip for business or pleasure everyone wants to see what life is like in the area they are visiting. Of course you want to go out and explore but play it safe and be aware of your surroundings, this is all new and not like what you are accustom to at home.



WHILE YOU ARE OUT ON THE TOWN

- Place your wallet in the front pocket of your pants to make it more difficult to be pick-pocketed.
- Be cautious of beggars, they are often pickpockets and usually work as a team with others. A mother and child, a few old ladies – they might all be working as team to distract you and relieve you of your valuables.
- Be cautious if approached by people claiming to be plainclothes police officers wanting to check your money for counterfeit bills. Insist on trying to get a uniformed police officer to confirm who they are or have them call a uniformed police officer to the scene.
- If you are robbed, do not give chase. Thieves will often work in gangs and will usually have others close by who might have weapons, knives, or guns. They are at a distinct advantage on their 'home turf'.
- Almost all cities are really "a tale of two cities" a comfortable, safe area during the day can easily become an incredibly unsafe and frightening area after dark. Be cautious and speak to the hotel staff before venturing out at night.
- There is safety in numbers, but there is a limit to this thinking. Even when in a group, pay attention to what is going on around you, do not let your group lose touch with what and who is around your group. Be cautious of your actions; loud, boisterous, and obnoxious behavior may bring unwanted attention to your group.
- If you are alone or in a group and are confronted by a group of thugs, make every attempt to evacuate the area, do not become aggressive, but do try to present a strong posture. The gang/ thugs will react much like animals in the wild and look for weakness on your part. Despite prodding, or pushing, do not react aggressively. Do whatever is necessary to leave the area. It may be necessary to yell 'police' or 'fire' to draw attention to your plight. At some point you may have to surrender your money and jewelry to save your life.
- Your group of 4-5 people may be harassed by a group of as few as two people - this is a probing exercise. The main gang would likely be watching and waiting in order to rob our beat you.

HOTEL FIRES

In the event of a fire alarm in your hotel, don't wait for instructions from the hotel on what to do, leave your room as soon as you can safely and make your way to the emergency exit.



IF THE FIRE ALARM GOES OFF IN YOUR HOTEL

- Get moving, the fire department will not come to rescue you like in the movies, their first job in a high-rise fire is to put the fire out, not rescue.
- Have your wallet, passport, room key and flashlight with you. If you have an escape hood bring that as well.
- It will take on average 7-10 seconds to descend a flight of stairs with no one else in the stairwell. Once other people start entering the stairwell your evacuation will be slowed. This risk at this point is slow moving people be they handicapped or elderly will cause bottle necks and slow everyones exit.
- It is far better to have exited the hotel quickly on a false alarm than be stranded in your hotel room in a real fire.



TERRORIST ATTACKS

Right now somewhere in the world someone is planning a Terrorist attack with no regard to who the victims will be. Woman, children and/or other innocent people, they are all part of the plot “to create absolute terror”. They want to cause wide spread destruction and death to their perceived enemies and to bring attention to their grievances. Many of these terrorist who are so commitment to their end goals truly believe that in their death, they will become martyrs to the cause and are by this very nature, very difficult to stop during an attack.

No one wants to walk around in this world being in a constant state of fear and afraid to go anywhere or do anything in their lives. Thats why it is important to have a plan to deal with emergencies that may come up. Whether a natural disaster, a fire in your home or the remote chance you end up in a horrifying incident like a terrorist attack.

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

Taking a few minutes to learn where exits are in your hotel, lobby or restaurant will be handy if you are faced with an emergency situation. You need to do something and getting as far away from the attack should be your only goal, there is no time to stop and help the wounded, this can be done once the threat is gone. In most cases you shouldn't shelter or hide in place, this is what many of the victims of the attacks at the Turkish airport and Mumbai attacks did and were shot like fish in a barrel.

It is all about creating time and distance from the attackers and yourself. Getting out of the area of attack should be your main goal. If you need to stop at some point to re-group your thoughts that is to be expected but only do so after you have created distance. Only stop for the least amount of time possible, remember to take a deep breathe as it will help you to think clearly and to fight tunnel vision. An attack at an airport is no different, you need to run as far and fast as you can, even if this means going out onto the airport grounds like people did in a Florida airport attack.

If Running is just not an option and you must hide, try to create layers, like behind a door to a room, than in a closet in that room and behind clothing in that closet. This is only an example, not all situations will afford you these options but hopefully you get the point, if the bad guy does not see you he may just may move on. Normally they will not waste time doing a in-depth search at the onset of an attack.

If you have the misfortune of coming face to face with the attacker and can no long run or hide, “FIGHT” and fight with all you have in you, fight to stay alive because that is what you are doing. If you do over power your attacker, don't stop fighting till its clear you have disabled him enough so that you can run and escape to safety.



IF THERE IS AN ATTACK

- Run away from the area as fast as you can
- Do not stop and hide, get as far away as possible
- Try to take a deep breathe to think logically and keep moving
- Think of your escape routes before in case of such an emergency
- Don't be a hero and try to take the attacker down, fight only if its the last option you have
- Don't worry about luggage or any personal belongings they will just slow you down

YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING, DOING NOTHING WILL GET YOU KILLED!

CLOSE PROTECTION DETAIL

In these challenging times of high threat levels around the world due to the criminal element or terrorist groups, the corporate executive or representative of a government agency is a prime target. Often an individual may be singled out for attack not for who he is, but for what he may represent: the corporate world, wealth, a different religious or political view, or his/her country of origin. The need for a close protection person or detail has grown in importance for many corporate and government travelers.

If the President or CEO of a company were to become the victim of violence or a hostage-taking, what impact would it have on the operations of a company or its stock value?

Not all incidents may be violent in nature. Anything that may cause embarrassment to a corporation could be used by those who want to destabilize a company. It is not uncommon for key executives to be under surveillance in order to acquire embarrassing or illegal activity to be used as leverage. As a result, a growing number of corporations are providing security details for their chief executives and other staff when they travel for work.



When someone talks about the need to have close protection, many people envision a large number of big burly Secret Service types pushing people around as they walk down hallways of the hotel or out on the streets. This could be nothing further from the truth.

A good C.P. officer will blend into his or her environment, often looking and dressing no different than the client and coming across more as an assistant or co-worker than a so called bodyguard. His job is to look for threats be they hostile or just a dangerous situation that could cause you to be hurt or embarrassed.

The main thing to remember is he has a “Plan”, he knows where the exits are, he knows how to get you safely to your planned destination. In the event something terrible should happen he is there to try his best to protect you from harm.

There are times and countries where you may need more robust protection, this usually involves armed protect and armour vehicles and could also mean having uniformed police escort to and from some locations. When this type of protection is recommended it normally is for good reason as the threat is high and very real.

A good close protection officer has an extensive background, be it from a protective unit in a police force, or the military. Often they bring other skills such as advance medical training. They are well prepared and know the sites to be visited, the best routes to your meeting locations, and to the hospital in the event of a medical incident. consist of one close protection officer and maybe an advance person who is at the next location to make sure your arrival is safe. They could also be working in an overwatch capacity, which means they just watching from a distance, providing space yet are still being very observant to any possible threats and act to keep you safe. Overwatch protection are often deployed so they can determine if you the client, are being watched or followed.





KEY ASPECTS OF AN EFFECTIVE CLOSE PROTECTION DETAIL

- They must be discreet and protect the confidentiality of all that they might be told or overhear
- Good 'close protection' is more than just being a bodyguard, it includes conducting a proper site survey of locations to be visited, route planning, and motorcade composition, roles and function
- Their duty is to try to lower the risk to the client by conducting a proper advance of the locations to be visited, acquiring timely intelligence and providing a safe environment
- They need to be present, act and look professional and be fully engaged in their duty
- Need to be able to move the protected person safely to and from any location without drawing unwanted attention to the person being protected by being pushy, rude, or demanding.
- Avoid being intrusive in the life and business of the protected person. They are not meant to judge or comment they are there to protect
- They should be highly trained with proper documented proof of training in First Aid, Self-Defense and in all other aspects of close protection
- Have an extensive range of experience and references that can be contacted
- No criminal record and be physically fit
- They need to be fully engaged in the planning of your protection and committed to successful outcomes

IN CONCLUSION...

Over the years, I have often heard things like:

“We’ve been there before and we didn’t have any problems the last time, so why should this time be any different?”

“It is a safe country; it’s not like its Afghanistan.”

“We will only be there for one night, so there is nothing to worry about...”

Remember no two moments in time are the same. You may have been lucky last time and you may be again, but how long will your luck last? Are you really prepared to manage that risk? What will that risk really look like?

The person most responsible for your safety and security is YOU. There may be others involved in the planning and delivery of your protection but if you fail to follow their advice or fail to follow the safe practices of knowing your environment, engaging in the planning of your trip, and acting with safety in mind, then you are increasing your likelihood of becoming a victim.

Your actions or lack thereof will determine the outcome.

BE AWARE, BE SAFE



WOODLAND

SECURITY CONSULTING

GERARD MINTO

President

TEL: 613-741-4774 | CELL: 613-854-4833

MINTOGERARD@YAHOO.CA