

# Safe Places: Protecting Places of Worship from Violence and Crime

**Live-Stream Interactive Class**

**November 2, 2023 | 8:00am - 4:00pm, Central**

According to FBI statistics, acts of crime and violence targeting places of worship occur somewhere in America every single day. To fulfill their mission, however, places of worship must be open and inviting spaces that seek to draw all people to them.

**How can places of worship perform their missions while providing the most safety possible to the people who enter?** This course provides practical "nuts and bolts" information for clergy and staff of churches, temples, synagogues, and mosques. This information will give attendees the tools they need to make their places of worship a safer place. This course provides crucial information on realistic and sensible steps to **improve safety and security while never losing sight of the mission of the institution.** It was designed with sensitivity to the diverse needs and resources of houses of worship of all sizes - from small churches to large churches or cathedrals - realizing each has different needs.

This course will explain the nature and motives for criminal offending at places of worship and will address proven techniques for protective building structures and reducing the likelihood of victimization. **Attendees will be provided with useful tools to take with them in order to assess their own safety issues and train their staff and volunteers in light of their unique security needs.**

*\$250 for the first  
attendee,*

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*\$125 per additional  
attendee* info@DolanConsultingGroup.com • 919-805-3020

**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

# Safe Places: Protecting Places of Worship from Violence and Crime

## Attendees of this course will develop knowledge in the areas of:

- ▶ Lessons learned from critical incidents at places of worship
- ▶ What motivates individuals to strike at places of worship
- ▶ Best practices and policies regarding the physical security of buildings and persons
- ▶ How to plan and prepare for a potential critical incident
- ▶ How to conduct a security assessment of your own building
- ▶ How to make your place of worship the safest, yet welcoming, place your resources and circumstances can permit

## Who should attend:

- ▶ Clergy, Pastors, Church leaders, and staff
- ▶ Children's ministry
- ▶ School and daycare staff
- ▶ Security team leaders
- ▶ Law enforcement officers of all ranks
- ▶ First responders
- ▶ Elected officials and community leaders



### Richard R. Johnson, Ph.D.

#### DCG Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Richard Johnson is a trainer with the Dolan Consulting Group, LLC (DCG) who has a wealth of experience working in the criminal justice field and serving in churches of various sizes. His criminal justice field experience includes having served as a military police officer with the U.S. Air Force, as a probation officer with the Illinois 16th Judicial Circuit, as a trooper with the Indiana State Police. He has taught as a criminal justice professor at multiple universities, teaching numerous courses related to crime, crime prevention, and policing.

Dr. Johnson's knowledge of the inner workings of churches is extensive. He grew up in a church environment with his father, and several other extended family members, serving as lay ministers. In adulthood, he has continuously been an active member in the churches he attends, having served as an usher, preschool-aged childcare worker, board member, and small group leader. Dr. Johnson has been a volunteer for churches with congregations ranging in size from 300 to 3,000 members, and served on the oversight board for a small church plant involving about a dozen families. In addition to these experiences, Dr. Johnson gained further insights through his wife who has served for 14 years as a pastoral staff member at large churches in the Milwaukee, Atlanta, and Chicago areas.

Dr. Johnson holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and public policy from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) at Indiana University, a master's degree in criminology from Indiana State University, and a doctorate in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati. To date, he has authored more than 50 articles in peer-reviewed research journals and a dozen articles in magazines regarding various criminal justice topics.

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