

What Sets Sheepdog Sentinel Apart

Protecting the Flock. Equipping the Shepherd.

A Different Kind of Protection

Most security help offered to churches comes from the world of firearms training. Ranges, permit classes, and certification courses all teach the same thing in different forms: individual skill, sold one seat at a time. That skill matters, and a capable, well trained member is worth having. But a skilled shooter is not the same as a protected congregation.

Sheepdog Sentinel is a security consulting firm built for houses of worship. It does not sell range time or certifications. It builds **an accountable Safety and Security Team that operates inside a written plan**, with defined roles, clear rules of engagement, and a qualification standard tied to legal authority. Stated plainly a firearm is one tool in that system, and it is the smallest part. The hardest skill it trains is not putting rounds on a threat. It is the discrimination and restraint required to protect a sanctuary filled with the very people a team is sworn to guard.

The Difference at a Glance

Dimension	Most firearms training	Sheepdog Sentinel
What is provided	Range time, permits, and certifications, sold one course or seat at a time	A complete protection program: assessment, Emergency Operations and Protection Plan, roles, rules of engagement, BTAM, tabletop exercises, and qualification standards
Who it serves	The individual student	The congregation and its leadership
Engagement	One class or course at a time	A scoped engagement with ongoing support
What it is built on	Marksmanship and tactics	Twenty-five years of federal intelligence and special operations experience, applied to the church
Focus on the church	One offering among many, if it appears at all	The entire mission
Ongoing relationship	Repeat enrollment	Program management, annual reviews, and on-call advisory support

What Makes the Difference

Faith and operational credibility, together. Most security help for churches comes from one world or the other: a ministry background with no security depth, or a security background with no cultural understanding of the church. Sheepdog Sentinel brings both. Its frameworks are grounded in Scripture,

specifically Acts 20:28, and delivered with the rigor of an enterprise security program. It protects a congregation without turning a sanctuary into a fortress.

Consulting practice depth. Sheepdog Sentinel draws on insider-risk and behavioral-threat methodology used in corporate and regulated environments. Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management, intelligence capability development, and protective-culture design are enterprise competencies most local providers simply do not offer. Sheepdog Sentinel works at the level of the whole system, not only the individual skill.

A partnership, not a purchase. Faith communities value relationship over transaction. Sheepdog Sentinel is built for the long term, with program management, annual plan reviews, and on-call advisory support that keep a congregation ready as its people, facilities, and threats change. The relationship does not end when a document is delivered.

Intelligence tradecraft most providers cannot teach. Founder Dr. Josh Barrett, DSL gave twenty-five years to federal service, beginning as a Special Warfare Operator in the Navy and Marine Corps and then serving as a counterintelligence and human intelligence officer, with years dedicated to clandestine and covert operations. That experience becomes curriculum. Sheepdog Sentinel teaches surveillance detection, counter-surveillance, anti-terrorism and force protection, and the attack planning cycle, so a Safety Team learns to recognize an attack during its planning and surveillance phase, long before a weapon ever appears.

A Class Is Not a Program

A single class produces informed individuals for an afternoon. A program produces a written plan, defined roles, legal authority, and a team that has trained and rehearsed together. Many congregations have sent members to a class and still have no plan, no team roster, and no rules of engagement. Closing that gap is exactly what Sheepdog Sentinel does.

A class trains a person for an afternoon. A program builds the team and the plan that protect a congregation every week after.

A Complement to the Trainers You Trust

Sheepdog Sentinel is not a shooting range and does not try to be. Excellent ranges and firearms instructors sharpen the marksmanship of a Safety Team, and their work is valuable. Sheepdog Sentinel builds the plan, the roles, and the authority that turn capable individuals into an accountable team. The two fit together naturally. The firm welcomes partnerships with trainers, ranges, denominations, schools, and allied organizations who share the mission of protecting houses of worship, and it is glad to refer congregations to trusted training partners for the skills that belong on a range.

Start the Conversation

Every engagement begins with a complimentary consultation to understand a congregation, its current readiness, and its goals. There is no obligation and no one-size-fits-all answer. Sheepdog Sentinel works with congregations of every size, at every stage of readiness, and meets each one where it is.

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Vigilate ut alii vivant.