



Safety Resource Guide:

Safety and Security Considerations for Ministries

We recommend that churches reach out to local authorities to help assess current risks in their area. In addition, congregants should be mindful to report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement. Now more than ever, developing a [disaster preparedness plan](#) is critical. This plan should include all potential incidents (weather, chemical spills, civil unrest, pandemics, etc.). Based on options for consideration provided by the [Department of Homeland Security](#), we offer the following links and information to help keep your congregation and property safe.

- [Faith Based Organization-Houses of Worship \(FBO-HOW\) resource page developed by CISA](#): This webpage provides a single point of entry to Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidance and resources designed to inform your security-based decisions. This continually updated page includes assessments, trainings, planning, exercises, and other materials focused on the mitigation of a wide range of man-made threats.
- [CISA Houses of Worship Security Self-Assessment Tool](#): This tool provides the building blocks for an effective safety, security and preparedness program; CISA recently released this helpful tool for houses of worship. This new resource provides the faith-based community with an easy to use assessment tool that produces a formatted report with resources which can be used to identify and address your facility's security concerns. Details and instructions for using the assessment can be found [here](#).
- [DHS Virtual Training Registration](#): A 90 day schedule of upcoming trainings. A FEMA Student Identification (SID) number and Password are required to apply. If you don't have a FEMA SID one can be obtained by going to: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/register>.
- [The Power of Hello Guide for Houses of Worship](#): All houses of worship support personnel can contribute greatly to enhancing security by understanding how to identify behavioral indicators and taking precautionary actions to safely mitigate the impacts of a potential attack.
- [CISA Personal Security Considerations Fact Sheet](#): This document encourages critical infrastructure owners and their personnel to remain vigilant and report suspicious behavior that individuals may exhibit in order to thwart an attack. It also contains several easily implementable security measures that can mitigate threats to personal safety.
- [CISA Insider Threat Mitigation Guide](#) is an evolution in the series of resources CISA makes available on insider threats. This guide accomplishes the objective in a scalable manner that considers the level of maturity and size of the organization. It also contains valuable measures for building and using effective threat management teams. Through a case study approach, this guide details an actionable framework for an effective insider threat mitigation program: Defining, Detecting and Identifying, Assessing, and then Managing the Threat.
- [CISA Security of Soft Targets and Crowded Places– Resource Guide](#): A key tool to raise awareness of the capabilities that are available to support risk mitigation. The guide provides an easy to use method to quickly find information on a wide range of free capabilities that can be incorporated into the security practices of organizations of all sizes.
- [Emergency Operations Plans for Houses of Worship](#): Many incidents occur with no warning; houses of worship should be developing and updating plans and procedures to ensure the safety and security of their congregations, staff, and facilities.
- [Securing Your House of Worship](#): Insurance Board partnered with the DHS to provide this webcast from CISA Protective Security Advisors.
- [Insurance Board Protecting Your Church During Civil Unrest](#): A document detailing safety considerations and protective measures to help secure your church.
- [Confronting Violence in Houses of Worship](#): Resource for identifying and addressing behaviors and activities that pose a threat.
- [DHS National Terrorism Advisory System](#): Stay current on terrorist threats through timely, detailed information and alerts.