Securing Outdoor Events

Creating safer spaces including parks, festivals, parades, parking lots, splash pads, event venues, and more.

Contents

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A Guide to Safer Outdoor Events

Ensuring safety at an outdoor event requires meticulous planning and consideration of strategic and tactical factors.

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Layered Security

Layered security is an industry best practice when it comes to creating safe spaces. In outdoor spaces, creating these layers require additional considerations to protect event patrons, staff, and guests.

Best practices in layered security include:

KNOW YOUR PERIMETER
When it comes to protecting an outdoor space, you may have a well-defined area, or a large space with several open access points. Knowing where your event "begins and ends" is vital to being able to protect people in an around it. These perimeter considerations are impacted by:

- Urban, suburban, and rural settings
- Event time of day
- Event size
- Proximity to buildings, amenities, structures, etc.

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Layered Security

Your perimeter may include things like concessions, restrooms, or other facilities. Those amenities may be available to the general public or for private use by event attendees. These areas will need to be considered in your security plan as well.

Regardless of your event location, size, or amenities, you should plan to do the following to create a layered security approach:

☐ **ESTABLISH CLEAR ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS**

Whether you're looking to charge admission for your outdoor event or not, you should designate clear entryways and exit options for patrons. This will allow you to more easily control security and alleviate confusion by attendees.

☐ **DETERMINE GATING AND ACCESS CONTROL**

Your event may require controlled access, such as check-in or ticket purchase, which can include metal detectors, bag checks, or other means of screening for attendees.

☐ **PLAN AN INTERNAL SECURITY PRESENCE**

Your internal security presence may include security guards, surveillance cameras, or plainclothes security support.

☐ **LEVERAGE EXISTING SECURITY CAMERAS**

If the space you're using has existing outdoor security cameras, ensure someone is monitoring them, or leverage ZeroEyes 24/7 gun detection system to secure the space.

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Modeling & Planning

The best security solution is one that is thought out and even rehearsed, if possible. Events that involve outdoor spaces or a combination of location types can add complexity to planning.

COMPREHENSIVE RISK ASSESSMENT

Identify and evaluate potential threats, including theft, harassment, violence, and terrorism.

PACE PLANNING

Prepare for various scenarios with a PACE (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency) plan:

- Primary Plan: Your main security strategy.
- Alternate Plan: A secondary plan to implement if the primary plan fails.
- Contingency Plan: Additional measures to take if both the primary and alternate plans are compromised.
- Emergency Plan: A detailed protocol for worst-case scenarios, including evacuation routes and emergency responses.

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Modeling and Planning

ESCAPE ROUTE PLANNING

Ensure safe and efficient evacuation options for all attendees:

- **Evacuation Route Mapping:** Clearly define and mark evacuation routes to facilitate quick exits during an emergency.
- **Signage and Visibility:** Ensure all escape routes are prominently marked and easily visible to attendees.
- **Emergency Drills:** Conduct practice drills with your security team to ensure everyone knows their roles and responsibilities during an evacuation.

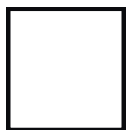## TRAINING AND SIMULATION DRILLS

Regular training ensures your team is prepared for any situation:

- **Comprehensive Security Training:** Provide thorough training in threat detection, crowd control, and emergency response.
- **Simulation Exercises:** Conduct regular drills to practice responses to various scenarios, ensuring your team is prepared for real-life situations.
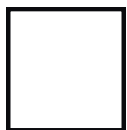
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③ Surveillance & Monitoring

Continued monitoring of interior and perimeter spaces for outdoor events is a necessary layer in a successful security plan.There are several ways to monitor spaces and technologies that support these efforts.

☐ **VISUAL GUN DETECTION TECHNOLOGY**

If your outdoor space has existing security cameras or you can install them at the perimeter or other areas, you may want to consider ZeroEyes visual gun detection technology.
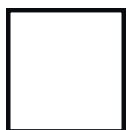
- Works with existing security cameras
- Human verified detections
- Works 24/7/365
- Respects privacy and prevents bias

☐ **DRONE SURVEILLANCE**

Depending on the type of event you are hosting, you may want to include drone surveillance, as it allows you to:

- Conduct aerial monitoring of large areas
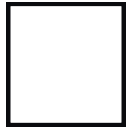- Allows real-time data transmission of your entire event space

☐ **THERMAL AND NIGHT VISION TECHNOLOGY**

If you're planning an event that spans evening and night time hours, you may want to equip your team with thermal or night vision tools that allow them to:

- Conduct low-light and night time surveillance
- Enhance daytime threat detection with thermal imaging to identify threats that are concealed or obstructed
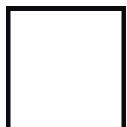
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GUARDS & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Leveraging guards, whether armed or unarmed, provides your event and outdoor space with a layer of immediately available response support.

Guards and law enforcement officials patrol the premises and often work best with layered technology solutions to extend their reach.

Provide guards security planning documentation maps of your space and expected patrol areas. You may want to consider advanced communication systems, including:

- **Reliable Radios and Headsets**: Equip your security team with high-quality communication devices to ensure clear and constant communication.
- **Central Command Center**: Establish a central hub where information is collected and decisions are made in real-time.

PLAINCLOTHES SECURITY PERSONNEL

Incorporate plainclothes security officers to enhance observational capabilities:

- **Undercover Monitoring:** Deploy plainclothes officers to blend into the crowd and discreetly observe for suspicious behavior.
- **De-Escalation Tactics:** These personnel can also help defuse potential conflicts without drawing attention.

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Access Control & Credentials

Gating access to your event can serve as a security measure as well as allow you to know who is in attendance through a registration or check-in process.

TICKET SALES

Selling event tickets in advance or at entry can allow you to collect fees and information about your attendees, and move them through a verification gate that collects or scans tickets.

Tickets may also be simply used as a gating and information gathering option if your event is free of charge.

LAYERED ACCESS

Use wristbands, badges, or other signifiers to differentiate access levels between different areas or to specific event options.

CREDENTIAL VERIFICATION

Require ID checks for attendees. If you are serving alcohol, this may also serve as validation for drinking age.

Emergency Response Integration

Coordinating with emergency response teams is critical in saving time and lives in the event of an emergency.

Collaborate closely with your local emergency service providers, and consider:

- **Dedicated Liaison Officers:** Appoint officers to coordinate with police, fire, and medical services.
- **Integrated Emergency Plans:** Share your security and emergency response plans with local authorities to ensure coordinated efforts during an incident.

Ensure a swift and effective response to emergencies:

- **ZeroEyes Gun Detection:** Proactively detects firearms and relays coordinates and information to authorities and first responders in as little as 3-5 seconds.
- **GPS Coordinates for Incident Reporting**: Equip security personnel with devices that provide precise location reporting.
- **First Responder Communication**: Integrate your communication systems with those of first responders for seamless coordination.
- **Automated Access Control**: Set up systems to automatically grant emergency vehicles access during a crisis.
- **Real-Time Video Sharing**: Enable the sharing of live video feeds with law enforcement to provide them with immediate situational awareness.

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GET IN TOUCH

See a Live Gun Detection Demonstration

Speak with a ZeroEyes specialist in your state.

BOOK YOUR DEMO

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