



HIGHLY SKILLED EXECUTIVE SECURITY

International Company specialized in Corporate Risk, G4S, provides its elements with vital training to confront risk situations



Mónica Ramos / Staff Seguridad en América

G4S, an international company with presence in over 100 countries worldwide, focused on providing physical security, money and risk management, as well as technology solutions. Operating in Mexico for more than 30 years in it's continued dedication to train their members to meet the client's needs.

THE IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING

G4S employs over 75 thousand people in Latin America and the Caribbean, from which 3 thousand 600 alone reside and work in Mexico. One of their main goals is to standardize security techniques through training in each country they operate in.

"With no knowledge and no training there can be no positive reactions, knowledge is power, and the more training a person receives, the higher the possibilities of having a positive reaction and save the clients life", pointed out Nicolás Angenscheidt, Country Manager for G4S Mexico in an interview with Seguridad en América (SEA).

EXECUTIVE PROTECTION PROGRAM

In the search for professionalization that not only protects the client, but in consequence his security elements as well, the London based company carried out the "Self-defense and Evasive driving for Executive Protection Program" on the 16, 17 and 18 of May. One of the

objectives of this program was to standardize the training of all G4S elements to guarantee effective results.

"We are dedicated on homogenizing the best practices in executive security for people living in Mexico, people who travel or attend events, and in doing so collect and share these standards to reach the best process to provide a solid executive protection for all these types of activities", commented Bruce Wimmer, Senior Director of the firm along with one of the instructors managing the course in this occasion.

What is unique about this course is that it is based on risks, we observe and analyze to apply effective solutions and ensure the safety for our clients but not only that, a risk analysis is made to identify what type of security each client

would need. "We identify the risks, the threats and vulnerabilities to those threats in security, we close them up and then the judge them individually and plan situations for security solutions. This way we escalate measures that executives will need to confront those risks. That is the first part, that helps to understand the measures to take. The second part is: Yes, we are doing that (measuring risks) and what techniques will be implemented", said Wimmer.

The program is divided into 2 theoretical and one hands on classes; the latest was held in Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico, where strategies for avoiding vehicle detention were put to practice, because it's right in the middle of transport mobility that people find themselves the most vulnerable.

"Where are people most vulnerable? Most times it's when we are moving, between the office and the house, the house to the airport, to the hotel and again to the office. So we focus on providing that security, physical security through a variety of techniques within those locations, but we spend an great amount of time practicing, learning methods to protect people when they travel, when they are most vulnerable", explained Bruce Wimmer.

**OUR GOAL IS GENERAL
EXECUTIVE SECURITY, OF
COURSE DURING TRAVEL,
AVOID PROBLEMS AT ALL
COST**

RECOMENDATIONS WHEN FACED WITH A RISK SITUATION

In executive security we work with the most critical positions, fitted to an individual or group of people with leadership or position of significance, a more specific and vulnerable focus than for the average security guard. G4S continually provides in house programs that maintain that level and homogenization of its elements to react in the best possible way when facing a risk situation. The instructors described the recommendations when dealing with a risk situation: "Locate a 'safe zone' where you can, if necessary, pull over and keep someone safe and locate medical sites in case someone is injured", pointed out Robert Dodge, Executive Vice President of the firm, who also participates in the course. Risk assessment is a method that helps prevent conflicts and dangerous situations. "We will develop



our protection program to find those indicators and mitigate the threats. To dissuade, detect, delay and respond to that potential threat. This is why evaluation is vital and it aids in reducing our vulnerabilities", Dodge continued. Therefore, the need in this course to have theory to analyze, and the live practice for these techniques to avoid the risks or to face them, practice is the next step; however, the main objective focuses in trying to avoid the problems. "Our goal is general executive security, of course during travel, avoid problems at all cost. This is the main objective. If you can identify potential risks, then you have a chance to avoid them", clarified Wimmer.

TECHNOLOGY IN EXECUTIVE SECURITY

In the case of executive security, technology is important, from weather reports to panic buttons, radios, drones etc. However, it depends on the client if he or she agrees to acquire these tools. "We can bring all of that to the people on the ground and monitor in English or Spanish. It's vital and we will use those packages if the client supports us, if he is willing to pay for them, if he wishes complete security and if the threat merits it" commented Dodge. Finally, Nicolas Angenscheidt highlighted the commitment that G4S has not only to its clients, but to its team, as a certified and legal enterprise in Mexico, as well as pointing out the importance of these courses to professionalize its officials. "This is a beginning, an investment focused on our clients and that it will not be the only course, we will continue doing so to strive for excellence in our service", concluded the Country Manager. ■



Photos: Mónica Ramos / SEA