10 checks before you hire a security company in Florida

Print this page and take it to the meeting. Every check applies to any licensed agency in Florida, including FSO Guard. Write the answers down and compare providers side by side.

☐ **1 Class B agency license, verified**
Ask for the number, then check it yourself on the FDACS portal (fdacs.gov, Search for a Licensee): status active, name and address match the proposal.

☐ **2 Officer licenses: Class D, plus Class G if armed**
Class D means 40 hours of state-approved training; Class G adds 28 hours of firearms training and yearly requalification. Ask to see the license of the officer assigned to you.

☐ **3 Certificate of insurance before the first shift**
Florida requires at least 300,000 in general liability for a Class B license (s. 493.6110, F.S.); most clients require more. Get a certificate naming you as holder, with workers' compensation.

☐ **4 Who is actually on your site**
Own W-2 employees or subcontractors? Background check, drug screen, interview, site training? Fixed roster for long-term posts?

☐ **5 Supervision you can see**
Field supervisor visits and hours, electronic check-ins or tour scans, a 24/7 dispatch line answered by a person. Call it once before you sign.

☐ **6 The no-show plan, in writing**
How fast is a replacement dispatched, who covers the gap, how are you notified, are uncovered hours credited?

☐ **7 Post orders and reports**
Written post orders for your site; daily activity reports and immediate incident reports with time stamps and photos. Ask for samples from a comparable site.

☐ **8 The full price**
Overtime and holiday multipliers, short-notice surcharges, supervisor and vehicle fees, minimum shifts, cancellation terms, D or G rate. A quote far below the market means something is missing.

☐ **9 The contract**
Reasonable term, clear termination, defined service levels, no auto-renewal trap, trial period. Same legal entity on license, insurance and contract. Your reports and footage stay yours.

☐ **10 Fit, not just credentials**
References from clients like you; experience with your type of site; languages your residents and guests speak; how officers are dressed and equipped.

RED FLAGS: WALK AWAY

- No license number, or one that is not active on the FDACS portal
- Names on license, proposal and insurance do not match
- Vague or missing insurance certificate
- Cash only or a rate far below everyone else
- Officers from subcontractors you have never heard of
- No post orders, no sample reports, no supervisor to call
- Pressure to sign a long contract today, no trial period

FSO Guard Security Company · Hollywood, FL · 888.881.8099 · partnerships@fsoguard.us
Armed and unarmed officers, event security, executive protection, investigations. English · Español · Русский

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Sources: Chapter 493, Florida Statutes; FDACS Division of Licensing.