

What the Detail Does Not Cover

A protection detail is a serious control, and a principal with a real threat profile should be using one. It covers an itinerary. The rest of your week is not an itinerary, which is where this sheet starts.

WHAT A DETAIL COVERS WELL

Start here, because the argument is not that professional protection is unnecessary. It is that its coverage has a shape, and knowing the shape is the only way to see what falls outside it.

- | Scheduled movement between known locations, planned in advance.
- | Public appearances, where the risk is anticipated and the environment can be read ahead of time.
- | Travel where an advance is possible and someone has walked the ground first.
- | A standing threat that is specific, named, and already known.
- | Visible deterrence, because a detail is seen, and being seen is itself a control.

THE HOURS IT DOES NOT

These are not gaps in a detail. They are hours outside the category a detail was built for, and every one of them is ordinary rather than exotic.

- | The hotel corridor at six in the morning.
- | The school run, and the twenty minutes either side of it.
- | The gym, the restaurant, the errand that was not on any schedule.
- | The ninety seconds before anyone else arrives, in any location at all.
- | Every hour a detail is not retained, which for most principals is most of them.
- | Protected family time: a date night, a school event, a vacation that exists precisely because nobody is working.

THE PEOPLE IT DOES NOT

Coverage tends to be scoped to the principal. The exposure rarely is, and this is the section that changes the most minds.

- | A spouse who moves independently and is more findable than you are.
- | Children whose schedule is fixed, public, and easy to learn from outside.
- | Household staff who hold keys, codes, and knowledge of when the house is empty.
- | A parent or dependent at a separate address.
- | The executive assistant, who holds the schedule and is exposed in every hour they are not standing next to you.

WHAT STAYS YOURS

What is left after the two sections above is the actual job. It is smaller than most people fear and larger than most people have addressed.

- | Reading a room and a street, which nobody can do on your behalf while you are standing in it.
 - | Leaving early, which is a decision only you can make and the one most often skipped.
 - | The physical capacity to move, and to keep moving, for the seconds before help exists.
 - | The household arrangements nobody has written down.
 - | Confidence, skill, and judgment under pressure, which improve with use and belong to you rather than to an arrangement.
 - | The standing you hold with your spouse and children, who know whether you are capable, and which cannot be retained.
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If your week has more uncovered hours in it than you expected, that is worth thirty minutes rather than a decision made alone. A Discovery Call is where the map gets drawn against your real schedule.

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