# VIRGINIA DCJS SECURITY OFFICER PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE




## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

https://virginiasecurity.examzify.com

**Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.**

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.**

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

# Table of Contents


Copyright ..... 1

Table of Contents ..... 2

Introduction ..... 3

How to Use This Guide ..... 4

Questions ..... 5

Answers ..... 8

Explanations ..... 10

Next Steps ..... 16


SAMPLE

# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

SAMPLE

# How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

### 1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

### 2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

### 3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

### 4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

### 5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

### 6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

SAMPLE

# Questions

SAMPLE

1. **What action should a security officer take if they observe suspicious behavior?**

   A. Ignore it and continue patrolling

   B. Approach the individual aggressively

   C. Document the behavior and report it to the supervisor

   D. Confront the individual without calling for backup

2. **What are the typical duties of a security officer?**

   A. Conducting criminal investigations

   B. Monitoring activities and responding to emergencies

   C. Providing legal advice

   D. Acting as a law enforcement officer

3. **What does the term 'site-specific training' refer to?**

   A. Generic training for all security personnel

   B. Training tailored to the specific needs and risks of a facility or location

   C. Online training modules that can be accessed anywhere

   D. Physical fitness training for security officers

4. **Why is it vital to document security incidents?**

   A. To provide evidence and facilitate investigations

   B. To keep a record of daily activities

   C. To report to upper management only

   D. To avoid any liability issues

5. **What is the primary purpose of incident reporting software in security operations?**

   A. To facilitate rapid communication among team members

   B. To streamline the documentation and management of security incidents

   C. To monitor employee productivity

   D. To enhance surveillance capabilities

SAMPLE

**6. What is a common method of communication for security officers?**

A. Cell phones

B. Two-way radios

C. Walkie-talkies only

D. Text messages

**7. What does "CCTV" stand for?**

A. Closed-Circuit Television

B. Central Communication Televisions

C. Covert Capture Technology Vision

D. Continuous Camera Tracking View

**8. How should a security officer deal with hostile individuals?**

A. Call for backup immediately

B. Remain calm, use de-escalation techniques, and seek help if necessary

C. Threaten them to ensure compliance

D. Ignore them to avoid escalation

**9. Why is it crucial for security officers to be familiar with emergency procedures?**

A. To minimize paperwork

B. To respond effectively to incidents such as fires or medical emergencies

C. To ensure compliance with local regulations

D. To train other officers

**10. What defines "reasonable suspicion" in a security context?**

A. A feeling based on intuition

B. A belief based on facts that a crime may occur

C. A vague assumption without evidence

D. Information gathered from social media

SAMPLE

# Answers

SAMPLE

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. A
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. B

SAMPLE

# Explanations

SAMPLE

## 1. What action should a security officer take if they observe suspicious behavior?

A. Ignore it and continue patrolling

B. Approach the individual aggressively

C. Document the behavior and report it to the supervisor

D. Confront the individual without calling for backup

*When a security officer observes suspicious behavior, the appropriate action is to document the behavior and report it to a supervisor. This approach ensures that the situation is handled professionally and safely. By documenting the details, the officer creates a record that may be critical for future investigations or for the supervisor to take further action. Reporting to a supervisor also allows for a more coordinated response, which might include involving law enforcement or increasing monitoring of the area. Choosing to ignore suspicious behavior can lead to escalating issues that might compromise safety or security. Approaching an individual aggressively can provoke confrontation and potentially pose a risk to the officer and others, while confronting an individual without backup is also dangerous, as it places the officer in a vulnerable situation without the necessary support. This makes documenting and reporting the behavior the most prudent and responsible course of action in maintaining safety and security.*

## 2. What are the typical duties of a security officer?

A. Conducting criminal investigations

B. Monitoring activities and responding to emergencies

C. Providing legal advice

D. Acting as a law enforcement officer

*Monitoring activities and responding to emergencies are core responsibilities of a security officer. This task involves keeping a vigilant eye on the premises to detect any suspicious behavior or activities that could pose a threat to the safety of individuals or property. A security officer's role includes patrolling certain areas, observing for any irregularities, and ensuring that all safety protocols are followed. In addition to monitoring, being prepared to respond to emergencies is crucial. This includes situations such as medical emergencies, fire alarms, or disturbances on the premises. A security officer is trained to act quickly and effectively, possibly involving alerting emergency services, guiding people to safety, or taking necessary actions to mitigate any immediate threats. The other options pertain to responsibilities that typically fall outside the scope of a security officer's role. Conducting criminal investigations is generally a law enforcement function, and providing legal advice or acting as a law enforcement officer would exceed the training and authority granted to a security officer. Their primary focus remains on maintaining a secure environment and addressing safety concerns proactively.*

SAMPLE

## 3. What does the term 'site-specific training' refer to?

A. Generic training for all security personnel

B. Training tailored to the specific needs and risks of a facility or location

C. Online training modules that can be accessed anywhere

D. Physical fitness training for security officers

*The term 'site-specific training' refers to training that is tailored to the specific needs, characteristics, and risks associated with a particular facility or location. This type of training is vital for security personnel as it prepares them to understand the unique aspects of their work environment, including potential threats, emergencies, procedures, and protocol that are specific to that site. Such tailored training enhances the effectiveness of security measures because officers learn to focus on the specific risks related to that particular setting, ensuring that they are well-equipped to handle situations that may arise in their designated areas. In contrast, generic training is more generalized and does not address the distinct variables of a specific site. Online training modules may provide useful information, but they often lack the focus on real-world application in a specific context. Physical fitness training is important for security personnel but does not encompass the comprehensive understanding of site dynamics and responsibilities necessary for their roles. Thus, site-specific training plays a crucial role in enhancing security personnel's preparedness and effectiveness in their specific environments.*

## 4. Why is it vital to document security incidents?

A. To provide evidence and facilitate investigations

B. To keep a record of daily activities

C. To report to upper management only

D. To avoid any liability issues

*Documenting security incidents is crucial because it serves as a foundational piece for providing evidence that can be used during investigations. When an incident occurs, having a detailed record allows security personnel and management to review what happened, assess the effectiveness of the response, and determine if any policies or procedures need to be revised or improved. This documentation can also play a key role in legal proceedings should they arise, as it provides a chronological account of events, actions taken, and individuals involved. In contrast, while keeping a record of daily activities and reporting to upper management can be important, they do not capture the investigative and legal implications tied specifically to security incidents. Furthermore, merely avoiding liability issues is a part of the broader context of documenting security incidents but does not encompass the full scope of why documentation is vital. Proper documentation aids in accountability, learning from incidents, and enhancing future security measures by analyzing past events.*

SAMPLE

## 5. What is the primary purpose of incident reporting software in security operations?

A. To facilitate rapid communication among team members

B. To streamline the documentation and management of security incidents

C. To monitor employee productivity

D. To enhance surveillance capabilities

*The primary purpose of incident reporting software in security operations is to streamline the documentation and management of security incidents. This software enables security personnel to efficiently record detailed information about incidents as they occur, ensuring that all relevant data is captured accurately and promptly. By centralizing this information, the software aids in analyzing patterns of incidents, improving response strategies, and ensuring compliance with reporting regulations. Good incident reporting software not only captures data but also organizes it in a way that makes it easy to retrieve and review, which is critical for operational assessments, legal purposes, and future prevention strategies. It serves as a vital tool for enhancing the overall effectiveness of security operations by enabling a systematic approach to incident management. While rapid communication among team members is important during incidents, the core function of incident reporting software goes beyond communication; it focuses on documentation and analysis. Monitoring employee productivity and enhancing surveillance capabilities pertain to different aspects of security operations and are not the primary focus of incident reporting tools.*

## 6. What is a common method of communication for security officers?

A. Cell phones

B. Two-way radios

C. Walkie-talkies only

D. Text messages

*Two-way radios are a common method of communication for security officers due to their reliability and effectiveness in real-time communication across various distances, especially in situations where immediate response is necessary. They allow for instant communication without the delay inherent in making phone calls or sending text messages. While cell phones are also utilized by security personnel for communication, they may not be practical in all situations, particularly in environments where keeping hands free is essential or where phone signals may be unreliable. Text messages can introduce delays and do not facilitate immediate back-and-forth conversation as effectively as radios do. Although walkie-talkies can be seen as a subset of two-way radios, relying solely on walkie-talkies may limit communication capabilities when more advanced options are available. Therefore, two-way radios stand out as the most effective and commonly used method among security officers.*

SAMPLE

## 7. What does "CCTV" stand for?

A. Closed-Circuit Television

B. Central Communication Televisions

C. Covert Capture Technology Vision

D. Continuous Camera Tracking View

*CCTV stands for Closed-Circuit Television, which refers to a system of video cameras used for surveillance and security purposes. Unlike traditional television broadcasts that transmit signals openly and can be received by anyone with a TV, closed-circuit television transmits its signal to a limited number of monitors, often as part of a private surveillance system. This characteristic enhances security by preventing unauthorized viewing of the transmitted footage, making CCTV an essential tool in various settings such as businesses, public spaces, and private properties. The other options do not correctly capture the essence of CCTV. "Central Communication Televisions" suggests a broader, more communal form of television that doesn't align with the private nature of CCTV. "Covert Capture Technology Vision" introduces terms that imply a secretive aspect, which is not a primary function of CCTV systems, as they are generally visible as part of security measures. "Continuous Camera Tracking View" inaccurately describes CCTV systems, as they can track and monitor but are not exclusively defined by continuous tracking; different systems may have varying functionalities.*

## 8. How should a security officer deal with hostile individuals?

A. Call for backup immediately

B. Remain calm, use de-escalation techniques, and seek help if necessary

C. Threaten them to ensure compliance

D. Ignore them to avoid escalation

*Dealing with hostile individuals is a critical situation that requires a composed and strategic approach. Remaining calm is essential because it helps to defuse tension and prevent further escalation of hostility. By utilizing de-escalation techniques, a security officer can communicate effectively and reduce the likelihood of conflict. These techniques often include using a calm and non-threatening tone, active listening, and providing space to the individual, which can help to reassure and stabilize the situation. In instances where the individual remains aggressive or the situation worsens, seeking help from colleagues or law enforcement is prudent. This ensures that the officer is not alone in managing the threat and that adequate support is available should the situation escalate beyond verbal confrontation. Overall, this comprehensive approach prioritizes safety while addressing the immediate needs of the situation effectively.*

SAMPLE

## 9. Why is it crucial for security officers to be familiar with emergency procedures?

A. To minimize paperwork

B. To respond effectively to incidents such as fires or medical emergencies

C. To ensure compliance with local regulations

D. To train other officers

*Familiarity with emergency procedures is essential for security officers primarily because it enables them to respond effectively to incidents such as fires or medical emergencies. In emergency situations, time is of the essence, and a security officer's prompt and knowledgeable response can significantly impact the safety and well-being of individuals present. Understanding the correct protocols allows security officers to act decisively, ensuring not only their safety but also that of others around them. This can include directing evacuations, assisting injured individuals, or coordinating with first responders. A well-prepared officer can help prevent further escalation of dangerous situations and contribute to a more organized and effective response overall. While compliance with regulations, minimizing paperwork, and training other officers are important aspects of a security officer's responsibilities, their primary function in emergencies hinges on their ability to act swiftly and correctly. The knowledge of emergency procedures directly enhances their capacity to handle critical scenarios.*

## 10. What defines "reasonable suspicion" in a security context?

A. A feeling based on intuition

B. A belief based on facts that a crime may occur

C. A vague assumption without evidence

D. Information gathered from social media

*In a security context, "reasonable suspicion" refers to a belief based on facts or specific circumstances that a crime may be occurring or is about to occur. This concept is pivotal in law enforcement and security operations, as it provides a foundation for taking appropriate action, such as detaining a person for questioning or conducting a search. Reasonable suspicion requires a factual basis, which could include observations of suspicious behavior, knowledge of criminal activity in the area, or other relevant facts that an informed person would consider significant. This approach helps to ensure that security officers act judiciously and not merely on gut feelings or assumptions. It is important to emphasize that reasonable suspicion should be supported by evidence or concrete signs of criminal behavior, distinguishing it from feelings based on intuition or vague assumptions without backing facts. Additionally, while information gathered from social media can sometimes contribute to building reasonable suspicion, it must still be considered within the broader context of observable facts or credible information.*

SAMPLE

# Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://virginiasecurity.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

SAMPLE