



## Know Who You Let Into Your Home

One cannot over-emphasise the importance of caution and discernment when allowing people into your personal space, particularly when it involves individuals you don't know well or who could pose a potential risk. This applies to various situations, including hiring staff and allowing strangers access.

In complexes and residential estates, security is often seen as a gate, a boom, and a security uniform. But proper safety extends beyond perimeter control - it starts with you, the resident. Each time a housekeeper, gardener, plumber, technician, or delivery person steps into your home, you're inviting more than just a service; you're introducing a potential security risk. Criminals often exploit this trust by posing as legitimate workers or infiltrating service companies to gain access to private properties. For this reason, residents must take proactive steps to vet and verify the identities and backgrounds of anyone entering their homes.

24/7 Security Services encourages everybody to vet domestic staff and contractors to ensure the safety of your home. The vetting process involves verifying the information provided by the individual, their employment history, qualifications, and references. Thorough vetting helps mitigate potential risks associated with hiring individuals who may have a criminal past, falsified qualifications, or a history of unreliable work performance. For domestic staff, it is essential to verify references - contact previous employers to inquire about the applicant's work ethic, reliability, and conduct. Remember to confirm the consistency and duration of prior employment.



**The risks of not vetting employees properly include theft and financial loss, exposure to violent behaviour, data and confidentiality breaches, and being a victim of ulterior motives.**

### Steps You Should Take:

**Insist on Identification:** Always ask for an official photo ID and company-issued card. Be wary of excuses like "I forgot it" or "My boss has it."

**Verify With the Company:** Contact the service provider directly to confirm the technician's name, ID number, and purpose of the visit. Do not rely on phone numbers provided by individuals at your door; use publicly listed contact details instead.

**Request Criminal Background Checks:** Where possible, ask contractors to provide proof of criminal background screening for their employees. This is becoming a standard practice among reputable service providers.

**Use Registered Contractors:** Only work with companies that are registered, reputable, and preferably recommended by the estate's management or other residents. Fly-by-night operators often skip background checks and proper staff vetting.

**Escort and Supervise:** If possible, supervise the work or have a trusted person do so. Avoid allowing workers to wander unsupervised on your property, especially in sensitive areas such as bedrooms or studies. Your estate's gates may deter outsiders, but your front door is your final line of defence. Be vigilant, verify, and never assume. Trust is earned — not given — and when it comes to your family's safety, due diligence isn't optional. It's essential.

**#SafetyFirst**

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