

# **Core Values in Close Protection: Beyond Skills and Tactics**

### 1. Integrity

- **Confidentiality:** Clients often share private details. A CPO must safeguard this information as strictly as they would physical security.
- **Consistency:** Integrity means behaving ethically and professionally, whether on duty, off duty, or in unseen moments.
- **Moral Compass:** Guides decision-making under pressure and prevents misuse of authority, resources, or privileged access.

#### 2. Loyalty

- **Dedication to Principal:** Loyalty means prioritising the client's safety, well-being, and privacy over personal comfort or gain.
- **Commitment to Team:** Loyalty extends to fellow protectors, creating unity and reliability under stressful circumstances.
- **Resilience:** A loyal protector doesn't quit when conditions become inconvenient, hostile, or demanding.

#### 3. Discretion

- **Protecting Reputation:** Many threats are reputational or media-related. Discretion preserves the client's public image.
- **Silent Professionalism:** The best close protection is often invisible, effective without drawing unnecessary attention.

## 4. Accountability

- **Owning Decisions:** CPOs must accept responsibility for their actions, whether a decision saves the day or creates risk.
- **Legal & Ethical Compliance:** Adhering to laws and standards builds trust with clients and protects the protector from liability.

### 5. Reliability

- **Dependability:** A protector must always be someone the client can count on, regardless of circumstances.
- **Consistency in Standards:** Reliability ensures operational procedures, from route planning to surveillance detection, are carried out to the highest level every time.

#### 6. Discipline

- **Professional Bearing:** Discipline ensures operatives maintain composure, sharpness, and readiness.
- **Following Protocols:** In critical moments, discipline ensures actions are instinctive and aligned with the protective plan.

#### 7. Adaptability

- **Dynamic Environments:** Threats, routes, and schedules often change without notice. Adaptability ensures continued safety without visible disruption to the client.
- **Problem-Solving:** The ability to remain calm and adjust under pressure is as vital as any tactical skill.

### 8. Judgement

- Assessing Threats: CPOs must distinguish between genuine dangers and false alarms.
- Making Split-Second Choices: Good judgment, rooted in training and experience, can be the difference between prevention and tragedy.

# 9. Respect

- **For the Client:** Respecting the client's boundaries, privacy, and lifestyle while still enforcing protective measures.
- **For the Role:** Understanding that the responsibility of close protection is a privilege requiring humility and professionalism.

## **Summary:**

Integrity and loyalty are the foundation of close protection, but without **discretion**, **accountability**, **reliability**, **discipline**, **adaptability**, **judgement**, **and respect**, even the most technically skilled CPO will fail to earn lasting trust. In close protection, **character is as critical as competence**.