I R A D A V A L I Y E V A



Close Protection Officer (CPO) | Executive Protection | Diplomatic Security | Security Management | Protective Driving

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LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/irada-valiyeva
Nationality: Azerbaijani | Date of Birth: 9 August 1983 | Height: 175 cm | Driving Licence: A1, A, B1, B, C1, C
Available for immediate relocation to the UAE, Saudi Arabia, the GCC and the wider Middle East & North Africa (including Iraq and Libya); also open to projects in Europe and America

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Application: Close Protection Officer / Executive Protection / Security Management

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to apply for a Close Protection Officer, Executive Protection or Security Management position with your organisation in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, the wider GCC or the wider Middle East, with equal readiness for projects in Europe and America. I bring 20 years of security experience, including 17 years with the U.S. Embassy in Baku, where I protected 3 U.S. Ambassadors and their families, and I am available to relocate immediately.

At the Embassy I advanced from Security Guard to Ambassador's Bodyguard and Bodyguard Driver, providing armed close protection and armoured transportation to U.S. Diplomatic Security standards. I operated armoured vehicles, prepared primary and alternate routes for motorcade movements together with the Regional Security Office, completed firearms qualification every two months in Baku (4-hour sessions of training and shooting exercises) and won the Bodyguard Team Safe Driving Award in 2016. I also completed the OT-801 Bodyguard Protective Security Operations course in Washington in 2017, and 3 senior U.S. diplomatic officials have given me written recommendation letters.

I am Smith System certified and experienced with B6 armoured vehicles, defensive, offensive and evasive driving, securing VIPs, and diplomatic and military motorcades.

At Hyatt Regency Baku I led 45 security personnel (40 outsourced security staff and 5 Security Team Leaders) across a seven-building five-star hotel complex, covering VIP protection, loss prevention, lost and found, emergency response plans and fire safety coordination. I was selected from 25 applicants and became a Service Coach, training and mentoring my colleagues. That role taught me to protect high-profile guests discreetly in a hospitality environment, which I believe is directly relevant to Gulf clients.

I have kept my skills current through 8 professional courses in 2026. These include a 15-day Close Protection Training Course at Artan Training Center in Tbilisi, a firearms training and qualification course on AR-15/M4, AK-47 and Glock 17/19 in Slovakia, First Response Emergency Care (FREC 3) in Bratislava, Basic Fire Fighting with ORCA Offshore FZE and a Fire and Rescue Marshal licence for Formula 1.

As a female Close Protection Officer, I can support assignments involving female principals, families and delegations where cultural sensitivity and discretion matter most. As a 1st Dan Karate black belt, 3-time Republic of Azerbaijan champion, champion of Kazakhstan and 2-time Baku champion, I bring discipline, fitness and calm under pressure, and I work in Azerbaijani, Russian, Turkish and English.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how I can support your clients and your team. My CV is attached, and references and certificates are available on request. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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