

## REFERENCES – WILLEM NICOLAAS VAN HEERDEN

### Reference for Mr Nick van Heerden.

Nick van Heerden worked for me as a team leader from December 05 until May 06, commanding a Security Escort Team of eleven individuals drawn from both local nationals and expatriates. He was responsible not only for commanding his team whilst on missions in the challenging security environment of Iraq, ensuring that our clients reached their venues and conducted their business in safety, but also for conducting mission planning, liaison with the clients, and also the administration of his team.

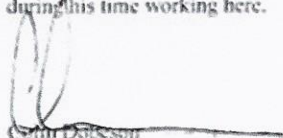
Throughout the six months which Nick worked for me, I found him to be both extremely professional and hardworking. He was also extremely reliable and flexible, and was able to adapt to changing mission requirements and requests at extremely short notice without complaint. On several occasions we received written thanks from clients whom Nick had taken out on missions, complementing him on his professionalism and helpful attitude.

This professionalism was apparent not just whilst out on the ground, but also during the mission preparation and planning. It was apparent that a great deal of conscientious hard-work went into his mission planning, especially with regards to obtaining the latest intelligence reports. This was reflected in the excellent standard of his briefings given to his team members before each mission.

One of his greatest assets is his extensive experience working in the country and indeed in the personal protection industry in general. He possesses an encyclopaedic knowledge of the streets and areas of Baghdad in particular and often knew of more secure and less congested routes through the city than his peers. As a result, he was often consulted for advice on venues and routes throughout the city during the mission planning process.

I found Nick's personality to be ideal for working within the often demanding environment within Iraq. He maintains an affable demeanour at all times, and is consistently upbeat whilst dealing with extremely stressful situations. His calm and level-headed nature is a great asset whilst operating in a violent and unpredictable country.

I would wholeheartedly recommend Nick to anyone wishing to employ him in the future. He was a pleasure to work with and a great asset to the operation in Baghdad during his time working here.

  
Colin Dotson  
20<sup>th</sup> June 2006