OSINT verification checklist (short, printable)

OSINT Video Verification Checklist — Quick Reference

1. **Source verification**
   ☐ Is the uploader a named person or newsroom? ☐ Can we contact them? ☐ Have they posted related local content previously?
2. **File provenance**
   ☐ Was the original file provided (not re-upload)? ☐ Is there metadata/EXIF available? ☐ If metadata missing, did uploader explain why?
3. **Temporal consistency**
   ☐ Upload timestamp consistent with claimed event time? ☐ Are weather/sun position consistent with claimed time/date?
4. **Geolocation**
   ☐ Can we match skyline/street features to satellite or street-view imagery? ☐ Are unique landmarks present and consistent?
5. **Reverse search & archival check**
   ☐ Frame grabs reverse-searched (InVID, Google) — any prior matches? ☐ Clip appears in news archives / earlier conflicts?
6. **Visual forensic checks**
   ☐ Repeating patterns or cloned textures in frames? ☐ Motion/physics realistic (smoke, lighting, debris)? ☐ No obvious compositing seams?
7. **Audio analysis**
   ☐ Does weapon sound match known audio of system claimed? ☐ Are ambient sounds consistent with location (language, traffic)?
8. **Cross-corroboration**
   ☐ Is there satellite imagery (Planet Labs, Maxar) confirming event? ☐ Do other independent eyewitnesses or reporters corroborate?
9. **AI / Deepfake detection**
   ☐ Run through AI-detection tools (e.g., synthetic media detectors) — flags? ☐ Look for impossible camera moves or hyper-real textures?
10. **Legal & ethical checks**
    ☐ Is the footage graphic — has consent/ethics been considered? ☐ Is publication likely to endanger sources or victims?
11. **Publish decision**
    ☐ Verified: publish with clear sourcing and verification notes.
    ☐ Unverified but newsworthy: publish with clear caveats & “unconfirmed” label.
    ☐ Do not publish: false, manipulated, or unverifiable within editorial standards.

Document reference:

reporter name,

contact,

file hash,

verification steps performed,

date/time,

handling editor initials.