

Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport

Department of Public Safety
Police Training Section

A Briefing

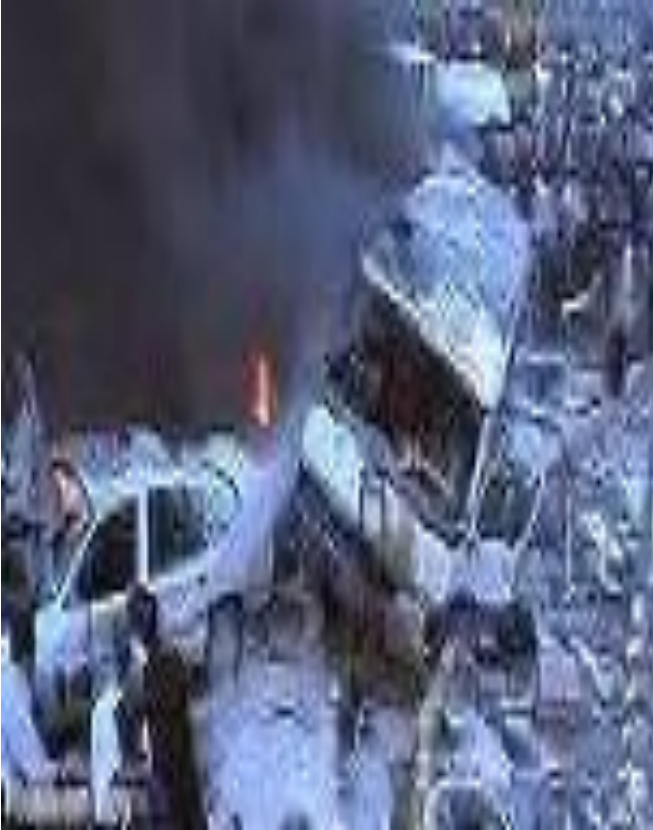
Active Shooter: How to Respond

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Learning Objectives

- To understand the Police Mission when responding to an Active Shooter.
- To understand the priority of Life Scale.
- To understand your role and responsibility when confronted with an Active Shooter.
- To understand what to expect during an Active Shooter incident.
- To understand how responding officers will react towards you during an Active Shooter incident.

Our Mission



To empower you with the tools and tactics necessary to cope with a group of highly motivated, well-trained, well-rehearsed, murderers like we see in the world today.

Definition: Active Shooter

- NTOA (National Tactical Officers Assoc.) defines active shooter as: one or more subjects who participate in a random or systematic shooting spree, demonstrating their intent to continuously harm others.
- An active shooter's overriding OBJECTIVE appears to be that of mass murder, NOT other criminal conduct such as robbery, kidnapping, etc.
- The definition can include any assault with a deadly weapon causing a mass homicide.

Priority of Life Scale

Know this:

- First responders to the active-shooter scene will usually be required to place themselves in harm's way to meet the overall objective of saving as many lives as possible.
 1. Innocent civilians, hostages, victims
 2. Emergency services personnel (police, fire, medical)
 3. Suspects
 4. Property is not a consideration

Columbine High School, Littleton, Colorado (April 20, 1999)



- On that fateful day, two high school students-turned-assassins, put in motion an elaborate year-long plan to bring murder and mayhem to their affluent high school.
- When the shooting began at approximately 11:20 am, the first responding Jefferson County patrol deputy came under immediate fire from one of the gunmen.

Columbine (continued)

- The deputy returned fire, called for assistance, and watched the gunman enter the school. The other responding deputies – acting as they had been trained in contemporary tactical training at the time – set a perimeter around the school and waited for SWAT to arrive.
- For the next 45 minutes, the two gunmen had free reign of the school as the police forces gathered outside.
- At approximately 12:06 p.m., two ad-hoc SWAT teams began their movement from the command post to make entry into the school.
- Because of all the explosive devices ,the two dead gunmen were not located until 3:30 p.m. - *FOUR HOURS AFTER THE SEIGE BEGAN.*

Active Shooter



Police Response to Active Shooter

- SEARCH
- FIND
- CONFRONT
- STOP THE KILLING





Run, Hide, Fight video

What Do I do ?

Active shooter situations are often over within 10-15 minutes before Law Enforcement Officers arrive.

Therefore: **“Run, Hide, Fight”**

- Be aware of your environment and any possible dangers.
 - Take note of the two nearest exits in your work area.
 - If you are in an office, stay there and secure the door.
 - As a last resort, attempt to take the active shooter down. When the shooter is at close range and you cannot flee, your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him.
- *CALL 911 WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO !***

RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Evacuate regardless if others agree to.
- Leave everything behind.
- If possible ... help others escape.
- Stop others from entering into an area where the active shooter is.
- Keep hands visible.
- Follow the directions of police officers
- Do not move wounded people.
- ***Call 911 when safe to do so.***

Hide

IF YOU CANNOT ESCAPE – FIND A PLACE TO HIDE

Your hiding place should:

1. Be out of the active shooter's view.
2. Provide you protection if shots are fired in your direction.
3. Not trap you or restrict your options for movement.

To prevent an Active Shooter from entering your hiding place:

1. Lock the door.
2. Block the door with heavy furniture.
3. Silence your cell phone.
4. Turn off all sources of noise.
5. Hide behind large items (file cabinets).
6. Remain quiet.

If you cannot hide or evacuate

- Remain calm.
- Dial 911, if possible, to alert the Police as to the active shooter's location.
- If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen.

Information to give the 911 Operator

1. Location of the shooter
2. Number of shooters (if more than one)
3. Physical description of shooter
4. Number and type of weapons held by the shooter
5. Number of victims at the location

Fight

**ONLY AS A LAST RESORT – AND ONLY WHEN YOUR LIFE IS IN
IMMINENT DANGER – ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT AND/OR
INCAPACITATE THE ACTIVE SHOOTER BY:**

- Acting as aggressively as possible against the shooter.
- Throwing items and improvised weapons.
- Yelling.

COMMIT TO YOUR ACTIONS

The first officers on the scene will not stop to help injured persons. Expect rescue teams of police and medical personnel to follow the initial responders. The rescue teams will treat and remove any injured persons. They may also call upon able-bodied individuals to assist in removing the wounded from the premises.

Their purpose is to STOP the active shooter as soon as possible.

What to expect

- Officers usually arrive in teams of 1-4 officers.
- They may wear regular uniforms or external bullet proof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical gear.
- They will be armed with rifles and handguns.
- They will be moving rapidly to the sounds of gunfire in attempts to locate the shooter(s)
- They will shout commands and push people to the ground.



How to react

DO

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Put down any items in your hands.
- Immediately raise hands and spread fingers.
- Keep hands visible at all times.
- Avoid pointing, screaming, or yelling.

DO NOT

- Do not make quick movements toward officers or attempt to hold onto them for safety.
- Do not stop officers to ask for help, or directions when evacuating proceed in the direction the officers are entering from.

This type of thing can happen anywhere and anytime.

- **Church**
- **Mall**
- **Movie Theatre**
- **School campus**
- **Restaurant**

Is your family prepared?

Do you have a family plan?

QUESTIONS ?