Active Assailant

Prevention, Response, Survival

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Balance IS possible!

- Unobtrusive controls and procedures – “hardening” is not always a solution and there will still be incidents
  - Cameras, door releases, CPTED
  - Security through customer service
  - Radios to communicate – lives
  - Formal procedures in place
  - Routine Inspections
  - Training, communicating, responding as a team with a PLAN!
Pre-Incident Indicators (PII’s)

• “Telltales”
• “Tests”
• Vandalism
• Misrepresentation
• Eliciting information
• Intrusion attempts
• Loitering
• Missing equipment, uniforms, keys, codes, etc.
• Nearby crimes
Techniques

• Communicate with each other!

• Communicate with nearby organizations (Target Stores example)

• Sign up for crime alerts in your area (www.riversideca.gov/rpd/crstats)

• Google news tickers

• Police coffee, phone, desk?
Techniques (Cont.)

- Approach and “security through customer service”
- Team approaching
- “Assumptions”, “Taking for Granted” and “Gut Feelings” (Hairs on the back of your neck?“ “D.L.R.” (Don’t Look Right)
- Situational Awareness “Conditions”:
  
  WHITE, YELLOW, ORANGE, RED

IMPRESSIONS!!! Be an impressive team!
Active Assailant –
Lockdown is Not Enough!

An organization should, as best to its ability, engage in efforts designed to prevent the most extreme forms of violence, such as deadly attacks.

Are You Ready?
Active Assailant Procedures

✓ Do you have formal plan?
✓ Have you trained and practiced for the most likely?
✓ Are roles assigned?
✓ Have you discussed communication procedures?
Why Do I Need This?

A Study of 160 Active Shooter Incidents in the United States Between 2000 - 2013: Location Categories

- **EDUCATION**: Schools (Pre-K to 12), 16.9% (27); Institutions of Higher Education, 7.5% (12)
- **GOVERNMENT**: Other Government Properties, 6.9% (11); Military, 3.1% (5)
- **OPEN SPACE**: 9.4% (15)
- **RESIDENCES**: 4.4% (7)
- **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**: 2.5% (4)
- **HOUSES OF WORSHIP**: 3.8% (6)
- **COMMERCE**: Businesses, Open to pedestrian traffic, 27.5% (44); Malls, 3.1% (6); Businesses, Closed to pedestrian traffic, 14.4% (23)

Why Do I Need This? (Continued)

- Active assailant incidents can happen anywhere, anytime
- Police response is never quick enough
- Lack of planning = additional deaths
- Workplace violence, Duty to Protect, OSHA General Duty Clause
- What is your business’ “Standard of Care”? Is it “Impressive?”
- Are you in compliance with federal and state regulations?
Active Assailant(s)

(phrase, n.) An individual or a group actively engaged in killing or intending to kill and harm people in a confined space or in a populated area. Whether it be through use of firearms or other weapons and without pattern or method to selection of victims.

“Active” implies that we can potentially affect the outcome.
Statistics

• Average Incident: **12 minutes**
• Average response: **3-6 minutes**
• Sandy Hook – **6 minutes** to suicide

• SWAT team response: average of **42 minutes** to set up, suit up and respond

• 60% end before law enforcement arrives

• **YOU ARE THE FIRST RESPONDER**

• Probability of active assailant is lower than fire, tornado or hurricane, however, consequences are **more fatal**
Incident Characteristics

- There is no “profile” – other than majority were male.
- No “one size fits all” plan
- Typically no pattern or method
- **Shooter will move the path of least resistance**
- 40% of assailants had no clear motivation (FBI statistic)
- Most assailants do some pre-operational planning
- Typically there were signs ignored prior to the incident “It takes a village to recognize someone hurting.”
- Lack of planning and authority to make decisions impacted fatalities
- **Assailants aren’t expecting return of force from victims**

- There are typically pre-incident indicators (PII’s) of some sort.
ALERT · LOCKDOWN · INFORM · COUNTER · EVACUATE

Developed by a policer officer in 2001 for his wife, a school principal. It was developed following Columbine.

Others:
- Department of Homeland Security (Online and PSA’s)
- ALERT - [https://alerrt.org/](https://alerrt.org/)
- FASTER - [http://fastersaveslives.org](http://fastersaveslives.org)
- Your Local Police/Sheriff
- Your Insurance Carrier
ALERT

• Call 911

• PA announcement to occupants – **No code words**, use plain English
  • “There is an active shooter in the building going down the gym corridor.”

• Can PA or other method be heard in ALL areas?

• **DO NOT** require approval to make notifications…has hindered quick notification in the past. Empower your people.

• Tell any visitors to remain calm, you have a plan and follow directions.

• Text or other method of emergency communication (okay to text helpful information)

• **DO NOT** pull fire alarms or activate sprinklers – it can hinder emergency responders communication and activities
LOCKDOWN

• Lock doors

• Look for escape routes, **DO NOT** open doors

• Barricade doors – block out windows (prepare for this!)

• Spread out within the room

• Use belts to tie doors shut at the operating hardware

• Put up posters in windows if available, requesting assistance, Call 911!, etc.

• Turn off all lights

• Turn off all sounds on cell phones – **NO VIBRATE EITHER!**
LOCKDOWN (Other Considerations)

• Games for children (quiet, spread out, etc.) – Muscle memory

• Pre-designate a concrete room with a steel fire door that can be dead-bolted from the inside. Check with your fire department.

• Make sure that you have lockdown / shelter in place supplies in that room (i.e. food, water, restroom facilities (camp potty?), etc.

• Test cell phone reception in room prior to incident

• Location known only to key personnel?
LOCKDOWN (Barricade Options)
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- www.nightlock.com
- www.doorricide.com
- www.bilco.com
- https://fightingchancesolutions.com/
- https://anchormaninc.com/
INFORM

- Continuation of alert
- Keep people informed of the situation
  - *i.e. “Police are on the scene, stay calm.”*
- Use of phones and radios with those identified in advance to be in charge
- “E-lerts” – electronic interface, App Event Alerts
- Don’t let 911 dispatcher “suck” your time
INFORM (Continued)

• Most important – **Where is the shooter?**

• Dispatcher giving direction – COULD BE WRONG - YOU MAKE THE DECISION

• Don’t need to see assailant to give location – don’t open doors or look through windows

• Don’t use room numbers – responders will not know – describe location of the room or hallway

• Consider saying “someone is shooting” for faster response
COUNTER

- Ensure doors remain **closed** and **locked**, no access
- Plan quick and take back control from the assailant
- Based on age appropriateness
- **Fight back** – may not mean incapacitate – can’t shoot if the weapon is not in his hand
- Throw items, books, bottles, mugs, canned goods, etc.
- **OODA Loop** / Sight picture
- Improvised weapons – what would you use in this room?
- Wasp Spray / Bear Spray – longer range for spray pattern
COUNTER (Continued)

- Majority spread out in room
- Small number at door to disrupt shooter
- SURPRISE – SPEED – VIOLENCE OF ACTION

“A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week.” — General George S. Patton.
Activity

- NO weapons
- Careful with improvised weapons
- Safety Monitor – Volunteer?
- After Action Report Monitor – Volunteer?
- Participation not required
**EVACUATE**

- **Preferred response** to remove as many potential targets as possible
- Account for **all occupants** (is there a daily roster quickly available?)
- Meet at a pre-determined rally/reassembly point
- Have you practiced different escape routes? From **any** location on campus? “Muscle memory”
- “Cookie Break” drills?
Lockdown is **NOT** Enough!

## The Lesson From Virginia Tech

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room 210</th>
<th>STAYED DOWN</th>
<th>JUMPED &amp; BARRICADED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Class</td>
<td>Room 206 - 14 Present, Killed – 10, Wounded - 2</td>
<td>Room 204 – 19 Present, Killed – 2, Wounded - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 200</td>
<td>No Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hallway – Killed 1

### Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAYED DOWN</th>
<th>BARRICADED AFTER 1ST TIME</th>
<th>BARRICADED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 211 – 19 Present, Killed – 12, Wounded - 6</td>
<td>Room 207 – 13 Present, Killed – 5, Wounded - 6</td>
<td>Room 205 – 12 Present, Killed – 0, Wounded – 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
POLICE RESPONSE

- 1st goal is to “eliminate” the threat
- Will NOT provide first aid until threat eliminated
- Make sure NOTHING in your hands – not even a cell phone.
- Location of assailant / direction of travel
- Short physical description of assailant (i.e.: Male, white, short hair, black shirt)
- Describe weapons.
Weapons

- Black Rifle
- Semi-Auto Pistol (72%)
- Revolver
- Shotguns
POLICE RESPONSE (Cont.)

• “Knox box” with master keys/access cards/keypad codes?

• Emergency packet with maps, photos of key personnel, utility locations, radio, etc. (Incident command board)?

• Designated law enforcement liaison?

• Removable evacuation maps?

http://www.thecommandboard.com/
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Consider a **family hotline** number?
- Person who keeps track of injuries/hospitals taken to?
- Pre-setup contract for personnel and family **counseling**?
- Main contact for those concerned about coming back to campus?
- Have a pre-assigned **media person**
FIRST AID AND RECOVERY

- Emergency responders may need your medical supplies too!
- **Extra gauze** will be needed (pads, tampons, etc. work too)
- “Battle Dressings” & Tourniquets
- Consider a trauma kit / IFAK
- Trauma first aid classes
- TCCC – Tactical Combat Casualty Care course
- “Stop the Bleed”
BLEEDING

Average male – 5-6 liters of blood
.5 liter – typical donation amount
1 liter – elevated heart rate
1.5 liter – weak pulse, low blood pressure
2 liters – confused/lethargic, weak pulse, shock, possible death
2.5 liters – 50% will be unconscious – death likely

Femoral (leg) bleed out – avg. THREE MINUTES
Brachial (arm) bleed out – up to EIGHT MINUTES

First medical assets to reach San Bernardino victims took 11 minutes.
STOP THE BLEED
Activity - Tourniquets

• “Rescue Ready”
• Practice one-hand and two
• High and tight
• Backplate to artery
• Distal Pressure – should be none
• Reassess – Reassess – Reassess
• Are they safe? – 2 hour max guideline
• Only remove if bleeding stopped by hemostatic gauze
Hemostatics
Chest Seals
(For Tension Pneumothorax)
How Does This Come Together?

✓ Work with local police and fire officials – no plan is effective without their visit and review

✓ Develop a plan specific to your organization and MOST LIKELY SCENARIOS. Small pieces at a time.

✓ Have training materials needed

✓ Communicate the plan.

✓ Follow up and re-evaluate annually and make necessary improvements

✓ Train, retrain and practice skills

✓ “After Action Review”

Keep It Simple and Smart!
Fight like the **THIRD** monkey trying to get on Noah’s Ark

“*Determined Individual*”
KEEP CALM AND ASK QUESTIONS
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