

CERT Class

How to Survive an Active Shooter Incident (the first 20 minutes)

April 21, 2018

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How is "Active Shooter/Killer" Defined?

There are a variety of definitions/characteristics of a "shooter/killer" around the country.

Today's presentation uses the FBI and Department of Justice definition/list of characteristics:

1. Use of different weapons: vehicles, knives, guns, etc.
2. No pattern or method in selection of victims
3. Incident is pre-planned, can be triggered by
anger
feeling of being slighted or thwarted in efforts
need for dramatic suicide at police hands
domestic violence
workplace violence
religious perversion
4. Suspect has no plan to escape or survive
5. Suspect will use multiple weapons
6. Lone male suspect

Common Tactics Used by Shooter/Killer

1. Barricade victims in to keep rescue out
2. Chemical agents or IEDs employed to subdue victims, thwart police
3. IEDs (improvised explosive devices)
4. Multiple locations used

Review of 160 Events Between 2000 and 2013

- Shooter commits suicide 40% of the time
- 158 (all but 2) involved a single shooter
- 6 shooters were female
- Police used guns in 45 incidents
- 21 shooters were stopped by unarmed citizens
- 10 TO 15 MINUTES IS LENGTH OF A USUAL ATTACK

Important -- When you call 911

1. BE SPECIFIC: Location (address, commonplace name, cross streets)
2. Description of Suspect (include whether carrying weapons)
3. Male/female? Race? Height?
4. Clothing?
5. WHAT IS HE/SHE DOING? (maybe not shooting, but revealing weapon)
6. Location or direction of shooter's fleeing scene

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Police Response – What You Can Expect

- Immediate action/rapid deployment
- SHOOTER MUST BE STOPPED FIRST / INJURED WILL BE DEALT WITH LATER
- In very specific circumstances the police may be able to deploy emergency medical personnel to area to work with/evacuate injured

Police Priority of Life During Event:

1. Innocent victims or hostages
2. Innocent bystanders
3. Law Enforcement Officers
4. Suspect

Actions

- Create casualty collection point
- Form search teams
- Triage victims (death, immediate help needed, can withstand delay)
- Evacuate ambulatory victims
- Rescue teams escort fire/EMS into scene

TRAINING/DRILLS WILL BE HELD AT:

1. Berkeley Adult School
2. Berkeley High School
3. Zaytuna Training Schools
4. Seek out government facilities and local businesses
5. YouTube video available now: “Surviving an Active Shooter” by L.A. County Sheriffs

WHEN THE KILLING STARTS
RUN HIDE FIGHT (in this order!)

RUN -- GET OUT! Look for exits through kitchens, stockrooms. If safe, help others.

IF YOU CAN'T RUN -- HIDE!

1. SILENCE CELL PHONE, stay quiet
2. Get to a room/area in a secure location
3. Lock/barricade doors
4. Turn off lights
5. If pre-planned location, secure emergency bag

IF YOU CAN'T HIDE -- FIGHT!

1. Defend yourself however you can

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2. Improvise weapons (video showed defender spraying shooter with fire extinguisher)

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Group Activity

1. How would you communicate there is a shooter in the building?
2. Do you have a rally point?
3. How would you account for residents' whereabouts/status?
4. How would you communicate with your loved ones? Do you have a reunification plan?
5. What resources would you need immediately after the event?

Devise Emergency Action Plan

- Plan escape route
- Devise communication strategies
- Structure a chain of command
- Establish a system of accounting for personnel (HEADCOUNT)
- Establish a Media Public Safety Liaison
- Strategies for dealing with PTSD/mental-health issues after attack.