

Active Shooter Safety Information



University of California, San Diego

<http://police.ucsd.edu/index.html>

PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR REFERENCE

Preparing together.

What is an active shooter?

An individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people, typically through the use of firearms and in a confined and/or populated area.

Run. Hide. Fight.



TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE OR SET IN AIRPLANE MODE

Phones that buzz or ring will bring attention to places of hiding.



RUN

Find an escape route and try to leave the premises if there is an accessible path.

Be sure to:

- practice escape routes with friends
- learn different pathways
- don't linger or try to convince others to follow you
- leave your belongings behind

- only when possible, try to help others
- prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- keep your hands visible
- follow the instructions of any police officers
- do not attempt to move wounded people
- call 911 when you are away from the danger area



HIDE

Hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you.

Your hiding place should:

- be out of the active shooter's view
- provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (like an office with a closed and locked door)
- your hiding place should not trap you or restrict your options for movement

To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:

- lock doors, turn off lights, close blinds/curtains
- blockade the door with heavy furniture

If the active shooter is nearby:

- lock the door
- shut down your cell phone or put in airplane mode
- silence any source of noise—like phones, radios, televisions, etc.—remain quiet
- hide behind large items—cabinets, desks, etc.)



FIGHT

As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the active shooter by:

- acting as aggressively as possible against the shooter
- throwing items and improvising weapons
- yelling
- committing to your actions

If evacuation and hiding out are not possible:

- try to remain calm
- with your phone in airplane mode, dial 911 to alert police to the active shooter's location
- if you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen

What to expect from law enforcement

1 Arrival

The first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help injured people.

- Rescue teams that include officers and emergency medical personnel will follow the initial officers and will treat and remove any injured people. They may also call upon you, if you are able, to help remove the wounded from the premises.

2 Purpose

Law enforcement's purpose is to stop the active shooter as soon as possible. Officers will go directly to the area where the last shots were heard.

- Officers usually arrive in teams of four (4)
- Officers may wear regular patrol uniforms or external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical equipment
- Officers may be armed with guns
- Officers may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation
- Officers may shout commands, and may push individuals to the ground for their safety

3 Your response

When law enforcement arrives:

- try to remain calm
 - follow officers' instructions
 - do not carry anything in your hands, including bags, jackets, books, etc.
 - keep hands visible at all times—raise your hands and spread your fingers
 - avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
 - avoid pointing, screaming and yelling
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- do not stop to ask officers for help or directions for evacuating, just proceed in the direction the officers are entering the premises

4 Provide information

When you are in a safe place, provide the following information to law enforcement or 911 operator:

- location of the active shooter
- number of shooters, if more than one
- physical description of shooter/s
- number and type of weapons held by the shooter/s
- number of potential victims at the location

Getting in touch with family

- once you have reached a safe location or an assembly point, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control
- all witnesses will be identified and questioned
- do not leave until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so

For more information

SEEK MORE INFORMATION

Department Homeland Security - RUN, HIDE, FIGHT video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0

Stop-the-Bleed Campaign - a national awareness campaign intended to encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency: www.dhs.gov/stopthebleed

BleedingControl.org - an initiative of the American College of Surgeons and the Hartford Consensus which contains diagrams, news, videos, and other resources: www.bleedingcontrol.org

REFERENCES

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- Safety Guidelines for Armed Subjects, Active Shooter Situations, Indiana University Police Department, April 2007.
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- Shots Fired, When Lightning Strikes (DVD), Center for Personal Protection and Safety, 2007.
- Workplace Violence Desk Reference, Security Management Group International, www.SMGICorp.com
- How to Plan for Workplace Emergencies and Evacuations, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Health and Safety Administration, OSHA 3088, 2001.