

## **ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS**

Unfortunately, we live in a time where these types of incidents occur. The incidents involve one or more individuals who are actively attempting to kill others in a specific location, often confined and well populated. These events are often unpredictable and over within a very short period. Because of how quickly they can evolve, it helps to know how to prepare and deal with these situations until law enforcement assistance can arrive. Being prepared and aware are the best ways to help protect yourselves and those around you.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS:**

**GET OUT:** If you can escape safely, attempt to do so.

- Have a plan and a route before doing this, and help others escape if possible.
- Make sure to warn and prevent others from entering areas where the active shooter might be if possible.
- As tempting as it is, do not attempt to move victims as it could cause more harm and put you all in more danger.
- Do not attempt to bring your belongings with you. Leave them behind and take only yourself and others.
- As soon as it is safe and you are able, call 911. Make sure your hands are always visible and that you follow all instructions given by law enforcement once they arrive.

**HIDE:** If you do not have the ability to escape safely, find the least likely place the active shooter may find you and hide there.

- Make sure you do not trap or confine yourself to the point that you do not have a way to move if you must.
- Try to hide in a place where the active shooter would not be able to see you or find you.
- It is best to hide in places that could prevent the travel of bullets such as behind closed and locked doors. If you are able, create a blockade and stay away from windows and other visible locations.

**TAKE ACTION:** If you do not have other options, and you are able to do so without putting yourself in danger, attempt to interrupt and/or disable the active shooter. This should be a LAST RESORT.

- Have a plan and commit to it. If you are going to act, you need to 100% commit to them in order to try and keep yourself from getting hurt or injured in the process.
- Yell, throw things, and distract the active shooter if possible. Improvise weapons as necessary to disrupt what the active shooter is trying to accomplish.
- Be aggressive, deliberate, and as quick as possible in your actions against the active shooter.

A good resource for active shooter preparedness is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's website: <https://www.cisa.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>