



Delaware Valley Intelligence Center Situational Awareness Bulletin

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(U) Active Shooter Awareness

(U) The purpose of this bulletin is to provide some basic knowledge of active shooters and immediate actions that should be taken in the event an active shooter incident were to occur.

(U) An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, an active shooter's weapon of choice is a firearm, but is not limited to firearms, and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Victims are often targets of opportunity.

(U) Because active shooter situations are often over within minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation. Below are three simple steps that have been proven to help people involved in active shooter incident survival.

1. EVACUATE (*if possible*)

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Keep your hands visible and open palms facing forward.
- Follow instructions of police officers.
- Have a designated meeting point and knowledge of everyone who is present.

2. HIDE OUT

- If you are in an office, stay there.
- If you are in a hallway, lobby etc. get into a room.

(U//FOUO) The information in this report is not finished intelligence and has not been formally evaluated by the Intelligence Community. It is being shared for information purposes, but has not been integrated with other information, interpreted, or analyzed. It is not to be released to the public, media, or other personnel who do not have a valid need-to-know.

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- Lock and barricade the door with large items (i.e., desks, file cabinets). If the door can not be locked or barricaded, lay on your back with your feet up against the door to use your body weight as a barricade.
- Get as low as possible, lay on the floor.
- Silence all electronic devices.
- Remain quiet. Remain calm.
- Dial 911, if possible, to alert police of location, physical description, and type weapon(s) used by the shooter(s).
- If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen.

3. TAKE ACTION

- **As a last resort** and only when your life is in imminent danger, 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/her. Act with physical aggression, and throw items at the active shooter.

(U) The information in this bulletin is for situational awareness. Active shooters are a concern of law enforcement and the public as well. While there is no way to completely stop these events from taking place, there are ways to mitigate the possibility of injury and or death, through education, training, and preparation.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announces the availability of two Independent Study Course titled: *Workplace Security Awareness (IS-906)* and *Active Shooter, What You Can Do (IS-907)*, no-cost training courses developed to provide the public with guidance on workplace security and how to prepare for and respond to an active shooter situation.

This online training is available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute (EMI) at:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS906.asp>

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS907.asp>

(U) For comments or questions related to the content of this document, please contact the DVIC Intelligence Section at (267) 322-4131 or via unclassified email at DVIC@phila.gov

SOURCES:

http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/active_shooter.pdf

<http://www.nypdshield.org/public/SiteFiles/documents/Activeshooter.pdf>

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