

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT: Response to Active Shooter(s) or Hostile Person(s)

If you are to ever find yourself in the middle of an active shooter event, your survival may depend on whether or not you have a plan. The plan doesn't have to be complicated.

There are three things you could do that make a difference: Run. Hide. Fight.

RUN: First and foremost, if you can get out, do.

- If there is an escape path, attempt to evacuate
- Evacuate whether others agree to or not
- Leave your belongings behind
- Help others escape if possible
- Prevent others from entering the area
- Call 9-1-1 when you are safe

HIDE: If you can't get out safely, you need to find a place to hide. Act quickly and quietly. Try to secure your hiding place the best you can.

- Lock and/or blockade the door
- Silence your cell phone/pager
- Hide behind large objects
- Remain very quiet

Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the shooter's view
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction
- Not trap or restrict your options for movement

FIGHT: As a last resort, and only if your life is in danger . . . whether you're alone or working together as a group, fight.

- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Act with physical aggression

- **Improvise weapons**
- **Commit to your actions**

Remember: The first responders on the scene are not there to evacuate or tend to the injured. They are well-trained, and are there to stop the shooter.

What to do when law enforcement arrives:

- **Remain calm and follow instructions**
- **Keep your hands visible at all times**
- **Avoid pointing or yelling**
- **Know that help for the injured is on its way**

Needless to say, a person must use their own discretion during an active shooter event as to whether they decide to run, hide or fight; however, DHS has outlined what they feel are the best practices for surviving an active shooter event