

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Active Shooter Incident - Courses of Action

Get Out:

- Move quickly; don't wait for others to validate your decision
- Leave belongings behind
- Survival chances increase if not where shooter is or by going where he can't see you

Hide Out/Secure immediate area:

- May not be able to get out if the shooter is between you and the only exit or if you would have to enter an area where the shooter is positioned
- Hiding place should be well hidden and well protected
- Avoid places that might trap you or restrict movement
- Lock and barricade doors
- Turn off lights
- Block windows and close blinds
- Turn off radios and computer monitors
- Keep occupants calm, quiet, and out of sight
- Keep yourself out of sight and take adequate cover/protection
i.e. concrete walls, thick desks, filing cabinets (cover may protect you from bullets)
- Silence cell phones
- Place signs in exterior windows to identify the location of injured persons

Spread Out:

- If two or more of you, DO NOT huddle together. This gives you options and makes it harder for the shooter
- Quietly develop a plan of action in the event the shooter enters
- Remain calm. Can have a contagious effect on others and keeps others focused on survival

Police Response:

- Objective is to immediately engage assailant(s)
- Evacuate victims
- Facilitate follow up medical care, interviews, counseling
- Investigation

Call Out/What to Report:

- Inform authorities
- Call #412-396-COPS (x2677 on campus) and tell the name of the shooter (if known), shooter description, location, number and type of weapons
- Your specific location - building name and office/room number
- Number of people at your specific location
- Injuries - number injured, types of injuries
- Assailant(s) - location, number of suspects, race/gender, clothing description, physical features, type of weapons (long gun or hand gun), backpack, shooters identity if known, separate explosions from gunfire, etc

Un-Securing an area:

- Consider risks before un-securing rooms
- Remember, the shooter will not stop until they are engaged by an outside force
- Attempts to rescue people should only be attempted if it can be accomplished without further endangering the persons inside a secured area
- Consider the safety of masses -vs- the safety of a few
- If doubt exists for the safety of the individuals inside the room, the area should remain secured

Take Out:

- Assume shooter's intentions are lethal
- Shooter will succeed in killing all those with whom he comes in contact, UNLESS you stop him
- Develop a survival mindset that you have "what it takes" to survive when your life is on the line
- You must be prepared to do whatever it takes to neutralize the threat. Throw things, yell, use improvised weapons
- If two or more of you, make a plan to overcome the shooter
- Do the best that you can- choose to survive!

