

# Survival Strategies In The Event of an Active Shooter

## RESPONSE

Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life.

### RUN

- If you can safely escape, do so. Get out of the building and away from the shooter, taking into account that there might be more than one armed intruder.
- Keep running until you are well away from the building. Get behind some type of cover.
- Evacuate whether others agree to or not.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Call 911 or (301) 405-3333 when it is safe to do so.

### HIDE

- If you are unable to exit, find a place to hide.
- Lock and barricade all doors and windows.
- Turn off lights, radios, and computer monitors and silence all cell phones.
- Close blinds and block windows.
- Keep everyone calm and out of sight.
- Take adequate cover for protection. Use concrete walls, thick desks, and file cabinets to protect yourself from bullets.
- Call 911 or (301) 405-3333 when it is safe to do so.

### FIGHT

- As a last resort, if your life is in danger, fight back.
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with physical aggression and do whatever it takes to stop the shooter.
- Yell, use improvised weapons, such as a chair or fire extinguisher.
- Use all of your strength and commit to your actions.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

When law enforcement arrives follow instructions exactly.  
Keep in mind that the officers may not know who the shooter is.

- Remain calm and follow officer's instructions.
- Put down any items in your hands (i.e. bags, jacket, etc.).
- Raise your hands and spread your fingers.
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers, such as attempting to hold on to them for safety.
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or directions while evacuating.
- Provide officers with as much information as possible.

## PREPARATION

When preparing for an active shooter situation  
Plan ahead and consider the following wherever you may be:

- Know your surroundings.
- Take note of the nearest exits.
- Can the door be locked?
- What would work as a barricade?
- Do the windows open?
- Where would you run?