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

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