



SAFETY TALK

ACTIVE SHOOTER

An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearm (s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to the victims.

Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

Control Measures/Safeguards

Good practices for coping with an active shooter situation

- Be aware of your environment and any possible dangers.
- Take note of the two nearest exits in any facility you visit.
- If you are in an office, stay there and secure the door.
- If you are in a hallway, get into a room and secure the door.
- As a last resort, 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.

CALL 911 ONLY WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO!

Stay Calm!

Retail Safety Excellence

How to Respond if Near an Active Shooter

STEP ONE: RUN

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises

- Have an escape route already planned
- Leave your belongings behind
- Help others escape if possible

STEP TWO: HIDE

If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you.

- Your hiding place should be out of view but not trap or restrict your options for movement.
- Prevent entry by locking or barricading the door.
- Silence your phone and remain quiet.
- If you call 911 and can't speak leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen.

STEP THREE: FIGHT

As a last resort, and **only** when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by;

- Throwing items and improvising weapons.
- Yelling
- Committing to your actions.

How to Respond When Law Enforcement Arrives

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Put down any items in your hands.
- Immediately raise your hands and spread your fingers.
- Always keep your hands visible .
- Avoid pointing, yelling or screaming.
- Do not stop to talk to officers when evacuating. Just follow directions.
- The first officers to arrive to the scene will not stop to help injured persons.
- Do not leave until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.