



VIRGINIA DEFENSE FORCE

VDF 100: Active Shooter Training



Training Purpose

- ***Action:*** This overview is designed to develop an understanding of Operational Security, Physical Security and Anti-terrorism awareness and practices (including active shooter)

Conditions: Interactive classroom training

- ***Standard:*** To correctly identify security measures usage and terrorist threats/reactions





Course Outcomes



- **OUTCOME #1: Recognize and define basic action shooter information**
- **OUTCOME #2: Describe Run/Hide/Fight alternatives**
- **OUTCOME #3: Explain post-incident response**



General Guidelines



Course Outline



- **Community training started in 2006**
- **Lessons learned from Columbine**
- **Training focuses on options...**
- **Police response**
- **Campus notifications**
- **Plan, Plan, Plan!!!!!!!**



U.S. Shootings



September 13,
2013

- Navy Yard
- Washington, DC (13 fatalities)

December 14,
2012

- Sandy Hook Elementary School
- Newtown, CT (28 fatalities)

April 20, 1999

- Columbine High School
- Littleton, CO (13 fatalities)



Columbine High School



- Time: 16 Minutes
- Casualties:
 - 13 Killed
 - 21 Wounded





Sandy Hook



- Greater psychological ramifications than Virginia Tech (2007) due to the victim set
- Extensive media exposure
- Influencing leaders at highest levels
 - “I know this is not the first time this country has debated how to reduce gun violence, but **this time is different.**” –President Obama



Navy Yard



- Shooter influenced by delusions;
 - Thought he was being controlled by low-frequency radio waves
 - Scratched the words “End the torment!” on the barrel of the shotgun used in the shooting
- Extended shooting time
 - First shot at 0816
 - Last at 0925



The Active Shooter Defined



- 1 or more individuals actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area.
- “Active” aspect of the definition implies that both law enforcement personnel and citizens have the potential to affect the outcome of the event based upon their responses to the situation.



Active Shooters



- Most Attackers had no history of prior violent or criminal behavior
- Considered the greatest terrorist threat on campuses
- Incidents of targeted violence at schools were rarely sudden, impulsive acts



Mentality of Active Shooters



- Desire is to kill and seriously injure without concern for his safety or threat of capture
- Normally has intended victims and will search them out
- Will continue to move throughout building/area until stopped by law enforcement, suicide, or other intervention



Active Shooter Statistics



- From an FBI Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the US Between 2000-2013
 - 160 incidents occurred.
 - Average of 11.4 incidents per year.
 - Casualties included 486 killed and 557 wounded in this time period. Shooters are not included in casualty figures.
 - 70% of the incidents occurred in either a commerce/business or educational environment.
 - Educational environments were identified as the 2nd most common location for these incidents (39 total) and had some of the highest casualty rates.
 - 27 incidents were at Pre-K to 12 Schools, 12 were at Institutions of Higher Education

So what do these statistics tell you?



Active Shooter Statistics



- From an FBI Study of Active Shooter Incidents in the US Between 2000-2013 (Continued)
 - In at least 6 incidents, the shooters were female, all others were male
 - All but 2 incidents involved a single shooter
 - 60% of the incidents ended before Police arrived
 - Even when law enforcement was present or able to respond within minutes, civilians often had to make life and death decisions. That is why this training is so important; to prepare you for these type situations you may face

So what do these statistics tell you?



Active Shooter Statistics



- Incidents in the US between 2014-2015
 - 20 incidents occurred per year
 - 231 casualties: 92 killed and 139 wounded (shooters are not included)
 - 6 incidents ended with civilian involvement
 - 26 incidents ended with Law Enforcement Officers at the scene.
 - 14 incidents ended with an exchange of gunfire between the shooters and Law Enforcement.
 - Of the 16 shooters involved in these exchanges:
 - 12 were killed by Law Enforcement
 - 3 committed suicide
 - 1 surrendered



Active Shooter Statistics



- Incidents in the US between 2014-2015 (Continued)
 - 42 Shooters
 - 39 males
 - 3 females
 - The shooters ranged in ages from pre-teen to 1 shooter in their 70's
 - 15 of the 40 incidents occurred in areas of commerce (businesses, banks, etc.)
 - Six of the incidents occurred in educational environments:
 - 3 at schools (pre-K through 12th grade) and
 - 3 at Institutions of Higher Education



Your Role During A Shooting



Active Shooter

- **RUN:** Best option: Evacuate/Get out
- **HIDE:** Hide and barricade yourself in a room
UNTIL YOU CAN EVACUATE
- **FIGHT:** Take actions to prepare to defend yourself





Run (Evacuate)



Run/evacuation is always the preferred course of action.

- Have multiple potential evacuation routes in case one of them is inaccessible
- Avoid open hallways due to not knowing who or what is around the corner
- Help others escape, if possible

Run



Run (Evacuate)

If you decide to evacuate, commit to your action, even if others refuse to follow:

- Leave your belongings behind
- Prevent others from entering an area where the shooter might be
- Get far away from the scene & seek shelter

Run



Your Role During a Shooting



- Immediate and Safe Escape
- ***Remember:***
 - ***Don't*** leave a safe place to take matters into your own hands. Leave it to the Law Enforcement Officers.

Hide



Your Role During a Shooting



- Secure in Place
 - Lock and barricade doors
 - Close blinds
 - Stay Calm and Quiet
 - Turn off the lights



Hide



Your Role During a Shooting



- Overpower??
 - If directly confronted by the threatening person, its decision time:
 - ONLY consider to COUNTER if you are in immediate danger and have no other option. Lockdown or Evacuate is always a better option if available.
- Use “Weapons of Opportunity”
 - Scissors, pens, pencils, thumb tacks, chairs or any other items that can be thrown etc.
- Personal safety
 - Leader not Hero
- *Remember mentality of shooter*

Fight



Your Role During a Shooting



- REMEMBER, there is strength in numbers!
- If the threat becomes imminent, yell, throw, and attack the aggressor (high and low), taking the aggressor to the floor
- If possible, dislodge the weapon from the aggressor
- Hold the aggressor down, one person on each limb and one person controlling the aggressor's head



Fight



Planning for an Active Shooter



- KISS
- Have a plan “B” because “A” will fail
 - Murphy's Law
- Where do I go, what do I do?
 - Rally points
- Practice, Practice, Practice
- ***Be prepared, not paranoid***



Your Role During a Shooting



- Always go with your gut instinct
- Be observant
- Limit opportunity for crime
- Report anything suspicious
- Escorts and assistance
- Be Safe!!!





Questions?