

## ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE PROTOCOL

With recent events in our world happening, this is a great opportunity to remind our campus community of what to do in the tragic event of an active shooter or threat.

In the event of an active threat or shooter incident, please follow these simple guidelines:

### ***HOW TO RESPOND WHEN AN ACTIVE THREAT OR SHOOTER INCIDENT IS IN YOUR VICINITY***



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

#### **1. RUN or EVACUATE**

***If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises. Be sure to:***

- Have an escape route of plan in mind ahead of time. Know the layout of where you are at before an emergency.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow you.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- If you are on the first floor, exiting out a window may be the safest option.
- Help other escape if you can. People may panic and do strange things under stress.
- Prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter or aggressor may be, if you can.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Follow the instructions of any police officer you encounter and follow their directions.
- Do not attempt to move wounded people, get yourself to safety.
- Call 911 when you are safe.

## 2. HIDE

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

***Your hiding place should:***

- Be out of the active shooter's view.
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., an office or classroom with a closed, locked and barricaded door).
- Not trap you or restrict your options for movement.

***To prevent an active shooter or aggressor from entering your hiding place:***

- Lock the door.
- Block the door with heavy furniture, desks, or objects.
- Silence your cell phones.
- Hide behind large objects (i.e., cabinets, desks).
- Remain as quiet as possible.
- Dial 911, if possible, to alert police to your location.
- If you cannot safely speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatch to listen.

## 3. FIGHT

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

- Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her.
- Throw books, objects or improvised weapons.
- Yelling / Scream at them.
- Be committed to your actions and don't stop until the threat is disabled.

### **HOW TO RESPOND WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES**

***Law enforcement's purpose is to stop the active shooter or threat as soon as possible. Officer will proceed directly to the area of the threat in which last shots were heard, or as directed by bystanders pointing them to the threat area.***

- Officers may arrive in teams or solo.
- Officer may be in regular police uniforms or have on external ballistic vest, helmets or tactical equipment.
- Officer may be armed with rifles, shotguns or handguns drawn.
- Officer may use pepper spray, tear gas or flash bangs.
- Officer may shout commands, and may push individuals to the ground for their own safety.

***How to react when law enforcement arrives:***

- Remain calm and follow officers' directions.
- Put down any items in your hands.
- Immediately raise your hands above your head and spread your fingers.
- Keep your hands visible at all times.
- Avoid making quick movements towards officers such as holding on to them for safety.

- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling.
- Do not stop to ask officer for help or direction when evacuating, just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises.
- Once you have reached a safe location or assembly point, you will likely be held there until the situation is under control.

**REMINDER:**

If you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. Please call 911 and also notify Notre Dame College Campus Police Dispatch at: 216-373-5212.