

An Overview and Awareness for an Active Shooter on Campus



**FAIRLEIGH
DICKINSON
UNIVERSITY**

Training Objectives

- Learn some of the various indicators of violence
- Define various shooting situations
- List measures that can be employed to reduce the effectiveness of an active shooter
- Describe actions that can be expected from responding law enforcement
- Safety Tips

EVAN Video

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8syQeFtBKc>

History of School Shootings

- Hostage and Shooting incidents are not new, but they are on the rise
- In the United States, from 1991 to the shooting at Virginia Tech in April 2007, there have been 10 shootings on or near college campuses in the United States. Since the Virginia Tech shooting up to present there have been 304.
- The most known school shootings:
 - Columbine High School in April 1999
 - Virginia Tech in April 2007
 - Northern Illinois University in February 2008
 - Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012
 - Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February 2018
 - Robb Elementary School in Uvalde Texas in May 2022

School Shooting Incidents in Canada

- Since 1975 there have been 8 active shooter incidents at schools in Canada.
- The deadliest was 1989 at Ecole Polytechnic where 14 were killed

Motives

- 24% motivated by desire for attention or recognition
- 27% motivated by suicide or desperation
- 34% motivated by attempt to solve a problem
- 54% had multiple motives
- 61% motivated by revenge
- **71% felt bullied/persecuted or threatened by others**

Statistics

- 27% of attackers exhibited interest in violent movies
- 37% of attackers exhibited interest in violence in their own writings, poems, essays and journal entries
- 59% of attacks occurred during the school day
- 63% of attackers had a known history of weapon use
- 68% acquired the weapon used from their own home or relative
- **81% of incidents at least one person had information that the attacker was thinking about or planning the attack**
- **93% of attackers engaged in some behavior prior to the attack that caused others to be concerned**
- 95% of attackers were current students
- Odds are one in 1 million that a student will die at school as a result of a violent act

Profile of Past Shooters

- Male
- Caucasian
- Age 20-49
- Withdrawn
- Isolated or Rejected by Peers
- Mental Health Problems
- Have Easy Access to Weapons
- Bullied Repeatedly from a Young Age
- Troubled Home Life
- Frequent Anger/Rage

Active Shooter Incident

- One or more suspect(s) who, as police respond to the scene, are actively killing and/or causing serious, life threatening bodily injury to multiple victims. The main object of the suspect(s) appears to be that of mass murder, rather than other criminal conduct such as robbery or hostage taking.
- Threat is not contained and there is immediate risk of death and injury
- Considered the greatest threat on campuses
- Leaves little or no time for proper planning and requires law enforcement to take immediate action
- These situations can develop into hostage situations upon arrival of law enforcement

Mentality of an Active Shooter

- Desire is to kill and seriously injure without concern for their safety or threat of capture
- Accepts targets of opportunity while searching for or after finding any intended victims
- Will continue to move through building/area until stopped by law enforcement, suicide, or other intervention
- Shooters mentality is not escape. Goal is to kill and injure

RUN- HIDE- FIGHT

- If you ever find yourself in the middle of an active shooter event, your survival may depend on whether or not you have a plan.
- This plan does not have to be complicated.
- There are three things that may make a difference:

Run.

Hide.

Fight.

RUN HIDE FIGHT VIDEO

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>

RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Do not attempt to move wounded people.
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Call 9-1-1 when you are safe.
- If you are in the same building/location of a shooter and you feel it is safe to run, or on the campus grounds do not attempt to enter another building which is equipped with card access. Those buildings will be remotely locked down.

HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view.
- Lock the door or block the entry to your hiding place.
- Silence your cell phone (including the vibration) and remain quiet.
- The shooter is not going to search.
- If you are in a building on campus equipped with card access, not identified as the location with the shooter. The entrance doors will be remotely locked down by Public Safety, not allowing entry. Stay in lockdown until you receive an All Clear.

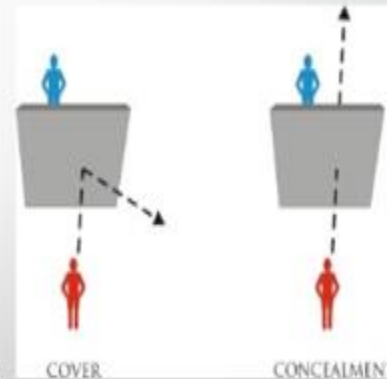
FIGHT

- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in immediate danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with as much physical aggression as possible.
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the active shooter.
- Commit to your actions...your life depends on it.
 - This is not a recommendation to fight but rather a choice of flight or fight where there are no other options

Active Shooter Outdoors

ACTIVE SHOOTER (OUTDOORS)

- **MOTION** – Moving targets are much harder to hit. Move away towards a location that provides protection.
- **DISTANCE** – Increase distance between you and the shooter.
- **ANGLE** – A target running away at an angle is harder to hit than one running directly away from the shooter. Run away at an angle towards a location that can provide protection.
- **COVER** – Protective object that cannot be penetrated by gunfire.
- **CONCEALMENT** – Protection from shooter's view, but can be penetrated by gunfire. Moving through concealment makes you harder to target.



Contacting Emergency Personnel

- Emergency **911**
- FDU Public Safety:
- Metro Campus **201 692-2222**
- What to Report
 - Your specific location
 - Number of people at your specific location
 - Injuries
 - Assailant information (location, number of assailants, race, gender, clothing color and style, physical features, type of weapons, backpack, have you heard any explosions separate from gunshots?)



Public Safety Role

- If an incident occurs on campus, FDU Public Safety Officers will notify local law enforcement and Public Safety officers will respond to block and monitor areas around the building or area involved and await arrival of local law enforcement.
- FDU Public Safety officers will not enter any area where there is an active shooter as they are not armed.
- FDU Public Safety will assist the responding law enforcement officers and try to assist any individuals who have escaped the building

Law Enforcement Response

- Outside law enforcement agencies will respond and take charge of the situation
- Responding law enforcement officers **primary objective** will be to confront the suspect(s) and neutralize the threat
- Law enforcement's goal is to locate, contain, and stop the shooter
- Everyone in the building will be considered a suspect
- When the team of officers makes contact with you, do not run towards them
- Keep your hands visible and respond to their commands
- Officers will engage with fire, anyone that is armed or moves on them in what can be perceived an aggressive manner
- If you are near the suspects when officers make entry, the best thing to do is drop as low as you can and stay there, with your hands visible until the team commands you to get up.

Law Enforcement Response (continue)

- Injured Persons
 - Initial responding officers will not treat the injured or begin evacuation until the threat is neutralized
 - You will need to explain this to others in an attempt to calm them
 - Once shooter is contained, officers will begin treatment and evacuation
- Evacuation
 - Safety corridors will be established. This may be time consuming
 - Remain in secure areas until instructed otherwise
 - You may be searched. Leave your personal belongings
 - You will be escorted out of the building by law enforcement personnel

Safety Tips

- Whether you are coming to class or working on campus, take ownership of making sure your location is safe
- Be aware of your surroundings (e.g. location of exits, doorways, etc...)
- Report suspicious persons
- Make sure you have registered with the FDU Alert Notification system as this will be one of the main ways you will receive information on what to do. In these incidents, a “Lockdown” will be ordered by local law enforcement and you should remain where you are until the all clear is given

Final Thoughts

- It is difficult to predict the origin of the next threat
- Assailants in some recent incidents across the country were not students or employees
- There are no obvious specific targets and the victims were unaware they were targets, until attacked



Contact Information:

For Metropolitan and Vancouver
Campuses

Director David Miles

201 692-2227

dmiles@fdu.edu

