

What to Expect from Responding Police Officers



Police officers responding to an active shooter are trained to proceed immediately to the area where the shots were last heard; their purpose is to stop the shooting as quickly as possible. The first responding officers may possibly be from different police agencies and dressed in different uniforms. They may even be in civilian clothes and wearing an external bulletproof vest.

Regardless of how officers appear, remain calm. Do as the officers say and do not be afraid of them. Put down any bags or packages that you are carrying and keep your hands visible at all times.

- If you know where the shooter is or the shooter's description, tell the officers.
- The first officers to arrive will not stop to aid injured victims. Rescue teams will follow shortly after the first responding officers enter the area. They will attend to the injured and remove individuals safely from the area.
- Keep in mind that once you have escaped to a safer location, the entire area is still a crime scene. Usually police will not let anyone leave until the situation is under control and witnesses have been identified.

What else can you do?

Prepare a plan of action for an active shooter in advance. Determine possible escape routes and know where the nearest building exits are. *Discuss, Practice, Prepare.*

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Program UCPD's 24-Hour phone number into your cell phone: **(951) 827-5222.**

These guidelines are not all inclusive, but if understood and followed-up with periodic reminders and training when feasible, it can increase your chances of surviving an active shooter incident.

*"We of the University of California Police Department, Riverside recognize our contribution to the quality of life and a safe environment in our community through the provision of professional law enforcement services. We will meet the challenge of providing these services by basing our thoughts and actions on the shared values of service to our Community, Integrity, Responsibility, Accountability, Professionalism, along with Pride and Satisfaction in our profession."
-Chief Mike Lane*



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Crisis Response Guide

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The "RAIN" Acronym

Respond...
Do Something, Don't Freeze Up

Assess...
Suspect(s), Victims & Location

Isolate...
Run, Hide or Fight

Notify...
The Proper Authorities

Active Shooter

The United States Department of Homeland Security defines the Active Shooter as "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 events are unpredictable and evolve quickly, knowing what to do can save lives.

In the Classroom or Office

If you are in a classroom, room or office, carefully assess the situation and determine which is safer run, hide or fight. Secure the door, turn off all lights, silence your cell phones and remain silent. If you run, make sure that it is absolutely safe to do so.

If the door has no lock and the door opens in, a good heavy door wedge can be kept on hand and driven in as hard as you can, otherwise look for heavy furniture to barricade the door.



If windows don't open, you cannot break them or you are not on a ground floor, get out of sight from the door, stay low and quiet.

If the door has a window, cover it if you can.

Depending on the shooter's location you may also consider exiting through any window openings. Have someone keep watch as you get as many students out through the windows (ground floor) as calmly and quietly as possible.



If police units are not yet on scene, move away from the incident as quickly as possible and shelter in place.

When officers arrive on scene, keep your hands on top of your head, do exactly what the Police tell you to do.



Share any pertinent information on the shooter with responding officers, including what they are wearing and their location.

Open Spaces

Stay alert and look for appropriate cover locations. Examples include: brick walls, large trees, retaining walls, parked vehicles, and other objects which may stop gunfire.

In Large Rooms / Auditoriums

If in a gym or auditorium and the shooter is not present, quickly exit the building, if safe to do so, and move toward any police unit. Drop all bags and keep your hands on your head. Do what the police tell you to do.

In Hallways or Corridors

If in a hallway, go into a room that is not already secured and secure it.

Unless you are very close to an exit, don't run through a long hall to get to one, you may encounter the shooter.

Don't hide in restrooms!

Trapped with the Shooter

If you are trapped with the shooter, don't do anything to provoke them. If they are not shooting, do what they say and don't move suddenly.

If they do start shooting, you need to make a choice:



RUN

HIDE

FIGHT

If you can safely get to an exit.

If evacuation is not possible.

As a last resort act with physical aggression and commit to your actions. This can be very dangerous, but certainly no more than doing nothing.

The last thing that the shooter will expect is to be attacked by an unarmed person. Any option chosen may still result in a negative consequence.

Only you can decide at that moment what you will or will not do to preserve your life or the lives of others.