

Active Assailant (Shooter) Protocol

Purpose

This protocol should be used to define what actions should be taken in the event of an Active Assailant (Shooter) event by students, staff, faculty, and campus police.

Definition

An active assailant is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. The assailant can use firearm(s), bladed weapons, vehicles, and improvised devices. Assailants generally have no pattern or method to their selection of victims, which creates an unpredictable and quickly evolving situation that can result in loss of life and injury.

Warning Signs

- Increasingly erratic, unsafe, or aggressive behaviors.
- Hostile behavior based on claims of injustice or perceived wrongdoing.
- Drug and alcohol abuse.
- Claims of marginalization or distancing from friends and colleagues.
- Changes in performance at work. Sudden and dramatic changes in home life or in personality.
- Financial difficulties.
- Pending civil or criminal litigation.
- Observable grievances and making statements of retribution.

Preparation

- Know your surroundings, take mental notes of exits
- Have a plan: How will you escape? How will you avoid the assailant? How will you defend yourself?
- Don't deny or dismiss the sounds of gunfire, screaming, or individuals running away. Taking immediate action could save your life.

Students/Faculty/Staff Procedures:

Avoid

- Have situation awareness
- Leave ASAP, leave everything behind, get away.
- Know your exits
- Consider secondary exits
- Call 911 when you are safe.
- When away from the scene, get to somewhere safe ie: Four County Career Center or the Maintenance Building on the Northside of campus.

Deny

- Lock the door
- Lights out
- Out of site
- If possible, barricade the door, the heavier the better
- Outward opening doors, use rope, belts or other devices to keep the door closed
- Look for secondary exits if available and safe
- Prepare to defend yourself, position yourself to be able to react, use the element of surprise

Defend

- Fight, shift the motions, grab the weapon.
- Use items available to you to defend yourself
- Don't fight fair, you have a right to defend yourself, you have a right to LIVE!

Campus Police

- Move to the threat immediately. Use the Emergency Channel to contact Henry County Sheriff Office, give a status update and request for mutual aid.
- If possible contact IT or Maintenance to lock the building down if away from the office.
- Neutralize the threat.
- Continue to check the building and area for additional threats until relieved by responding emergency personnel
- Assist with treating the wounded and securing the scene.

Command Center

- Will be located at the Maintenance Building or other designated location.
- Will be operated by those officials that have safely exited the building consisting of the following positions: President, Vice President, Chief Fiscal Officer, the Director of Facilities, a member of the Police Department if available and a liaison from the Henry County Sheriff's Office.
- Will direct RAVE Alerts, Media Alerts, and other social media regarding the current campus situation.
- Will be in direct contact with all emergency responders.
- Establish a secure location for evacuees from the college campus.
- Along with Law Enforcement, provide instruction for the re-entry into the campus and alerting the campus community that the situation has been resolved.