Surviving An Active Shooter Event

Be aware of your environment and all possible dangers

If you are in a hallway, quickly get into a room

Take note of the two nearest exits in any facility you visit

If you work in an office stay there and secure the door

FIGHT as a last resort and when your life is in imminent danger

Dial 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so!

You can survive. Important tips to know

Critical Information

1. Location of the active shooter.
2. Number of shooters, if more than one.
3. Physical description of the shooter(s).
4. The number and type of weapon(s) held by the shooter(s).
5. Number of potential victims at the location.

Active Shooter

Run > Hide > Fight

ZotAlert

As one of several emergency communication methods used at UCI, ZotAlert is an alert system that uses cell phone text messaging to quickly notify the UCI community with emergency and safety-related information. To sign up to receive messages, visit: www.oit.uci.edu/zotalert

Request a Presentation

The UCI Police Department offers an in-person, 1 hour, interactive presentation workshop on Workplace Violence and Active Shooter Incidents. Tailored for faculty, staff, and students, the presentations are designed to provide additional information on active shooter incidents.

For more information, visit https://police.uci.edu/comm-engagement/active-shooter.php

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HOW TO RESPOND

An active shooter is an individual engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.

Active shooters often use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly.

Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims.

Because most active shooter incidents often last only 10 to 15 minutes, how you respond to the situation before law enforcement personnel arrive may help save your life.

PREVENTION

At UCI, we believe in hoping for the best, but also preparing for the worst. Although it’s critical we give advance thought on how to respond to an active shooter event, the prevention of it occurring is invariably the best possible scenario.

If you hear or see something that may lead to an active shooter or otherwise violent situation, please call 9-1-1 immediately to alert the police.

Trust your gut feeling. The life you save could be your own.

RUN
- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Help others escape if possible.
- Prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
- Follow the instructions of police officers.
- Do not attempt to move wounded people.

HIDE
- Remain out of the active shooter’s view.
- Your hideout should provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e. an office with a closed and locked door).
- Blockade the door with heavy furniture and turn off the lights.
- Your location shouldn’t trap you or restrict your options for movement.
- Remain quiet and do not answer the door until emergency personnel arrive.

FIGHT
As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, you may choose to attempt to take the active shooter down:
- Act aggressively against him/her.
- Throw items and improvise weapons.
- Yell and fight.
- Commit to your actions and follow through.

WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVE

Law enforcement’s goal is to locate, contain, and stop the active shooter as soon as possible. Officers will proceed directly to the area in which the last shots were heard.

- Officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns, and handguns.
- Officers may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation.
- Officers may shout commands and push individuals to the ground for their safety.

HOW TO RESPOND

- Be calm and follow officers’ instructions.
- Drop any items in your hands (i.e. bags, jackets, phone, etc.)
- Raise both hands and spread your fingers.
- Keep hands visible at all times.
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as attempting to hold onto them for safety.
- Avoid pointing, screaming, or yelling.
- Do not ask officers for help or direction when evacuating from the scene.
- Cooperate with investigators by providing them detailed information.