ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

Utah Department of Public Safety - Highway Patrol, Training Division

OBJECTIVES

- **Strategies to help you survive an ongoing incident**
- Post incident issues
- Medical treatment
- Discussion regarding firearms in the workplace

Active Shooter Defined

Individual or Individuals involved in an ongoing incident where people are losing their lives or are in danger of receiving serious bodily injury.

Figure Out What You Can Do

A lot of people live in fear because they haven't figured out how you're going to react when faced with a certain set of circumstances. I've come to terms with this by looking deeply into whatever makes me fearful - what are the key elements that get the hairs up on the back of my neck - and then figuring out what I can do about it.

- Chris Hadfield, Canadian Astronaut

FIGHT, FLIGHT, FREEZE

- **Boyd’s circle- Air Force Colonel who defined human decision making and called it the OODA loop. Any break in this loop will reset you to the beginning.**
  - **OBSERVE - everyone must take inventory of their situation**
  - **ORIENT - plans evaluated, weighed, and selected**
  - **DECIDE - course of action decided**
  - **ACT - a plan is implemented**
- **After the plan is complete you automatically begin to observe the results and the loop resets.**

OBSERVE
ORIENT
DECIDE
ACT

Fight, Flight, Freeze
OR
Run, Hide, Fight

Pre-Event Planning

- Building Security and Access
- Safe Areas- Where can I hide, what will stop bullets
- Incident Notification- How will building occupants be notified?

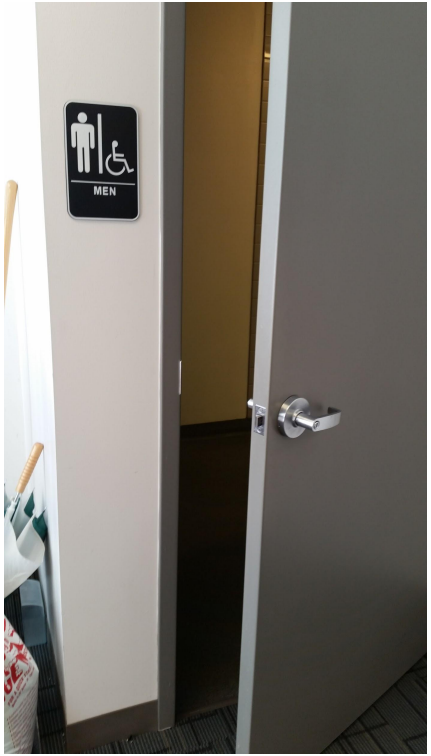
RUN

- Your goal should be to get out and get away.
- Run to advantageous positions. Have a plan, where you are running to?
- If you are in a hardened area (4 concrete walls and a steel door), stay?
- What am I gaining? What am I giving up?
- Call 911? What if you are 100 percent confident they have been contacted?
- You will be running into a wave of responding officers. This is good but you do not want to be perceived as a threat. Empty hands, follow commands. They will most likely totally ignore you if you are compliant.
- How do I break a window if I need to escape?

HIDE

- Hide where you are less likely to be found.
- Select areas that are easy to secure. We are buying time.
- Below are some items that can be used to secure a door.

Inswing



- Wedges
- Prop Stick
- Pre-cut stops
- Heavy items
- Junk

HIDE

HIDE

Outswing

- Tie the doorknob
- Tie the crash bar
- Tie the Pneumatic

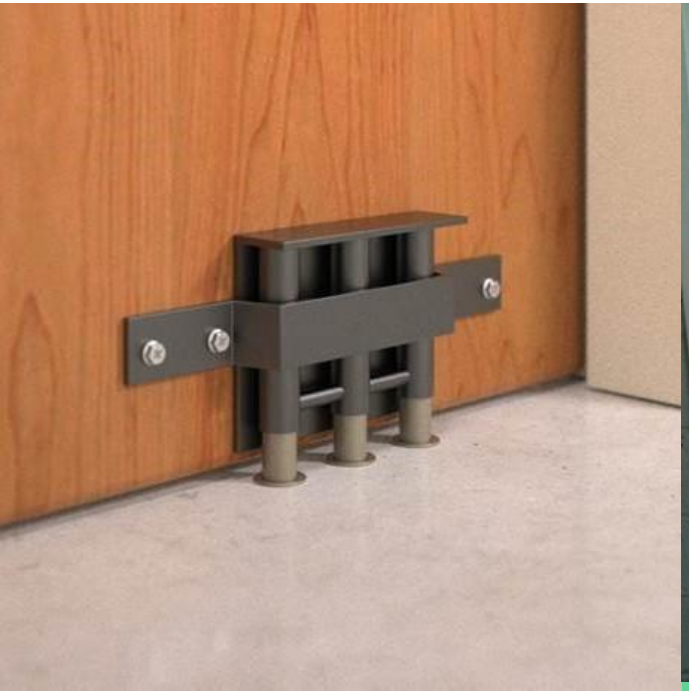
Outswing door- Tie to door to something. You can use the closer to secure the door. 550 cord, ratchet straps, belts, tubular webbing, extension cords, barrier strap, fire hose.

HIDE

THIS DOOR SHALL
REMAIN CLOSED
BY ORDER OF THE
UTAH STATE FIRE MARSHAL

HIDE

Test items, some work some clearly do not. You need to test these items. Be wary of permanent items they can be turned against you or officers. Some may also violate fire codes.



FIGHT

- When fighting is the best or only option. When it comes to fighting you want it as unfair as possible, in your favor.
  - Number- The more that are attacking the better your chance of winning.
  - Committed- Go for broke, a violent, fight finishing attack
  - Surprise- catch your target off guard, do it quickly. multiple planned fast attacks
  - Force the assailant to defend
  - Bad guy down, you done?
- Weapons
  - Improvised- As creative as you.
  - Dedicated- Items carried as a weapon

OTHER WEAPONS

- Knives- A knife can be incredibly effective. You have to be close. Usually require a fair amount of practice and training.
- Pepper Spray- Low cost, low risk. May slow an offender will not disable and may not affect some people at all. Will expose everyone in the area including you.
- Civilian Tazer, others?

Firearms

Considerations:

- Type of round, # of rounds.
- Assailant capabilities
- Being reported to 911 as the offender
- Do I risk being killed by officers? other CCP holders?
- Attacked by individuals who perceive you as the threat.

FIREARMS

- Currently both employees and customers may carry concealed or open carry in state buildings. The exception is a secure facility (defined by statute) such as correctional facilities, courts, airports.
- A firearm could prove a valuable tool in a violent encounter provided it is used correctly. It could also get you killed and can provide a false sense of invulnerability.
- If confronted by uniformed officers while carrying a firearm you should comply. If you feel that the officers are incorrect for whatever reason, and it is possible, argue in court not on scene. This is the same advice given to plain clothes and off duty officers.

UTAH STATUTE

76-2-407 Deadly force in defense of persons on real property.

(1) A person is justified in using force intended or likely to cause death or serious bodily injury against another in his defense of persons on real property other than his habitation if:

(a) he is in lawful possession of the real property;

(b) he reasonably believes that the force is necessary to prevent or terminate the other person's trespass onto the real property;

(c) the trespass is made or attempted by use of force or in a violent and tumultuous manner; and

(d)

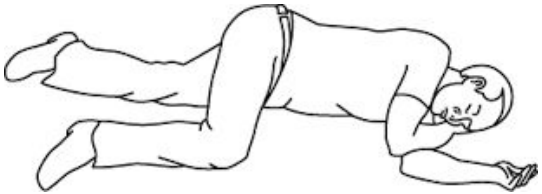
(i) the person reasonably believes that the trespass is attempted or made for the purpose of committing violence against any person on the real property and he reasonably believes that the force is necessary to prevent personal violence; or

(ii) the person reasonably believes that the trespass is made or attempted for the purpose of committing a forcible felony as defined in Section 76-2-402 that poses imminent peril of death or serious bodily injury to a person on the real property and that the force is necessary to prevent the commission of that forcible felony.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

In a violent encounter of any scale medical personnel may take some time to attend to all victims. There is a real potential to save someone's life.

Massive bleeding- tourniquets on extremities, pack gunshot wounds (everywhere but chest), apply pressure and pressure bandages, hemostatic agent (if available), seal chest wounds.

Airway- recovery position,  Comfortable for them?

Respiration- Monitor breathing provide CPR if needed. Clear airway if needed.

Circulation- Check for pulse, provide compressions if no pulse. AED available?

Hypothermia- Keep them warm.

MASSIVE BLEEDING

- Some locations have started placing massive hemorrhage kits in buildings. Kits contain items similar to these.
- Just like weapons you can improvise.
- Tourniquets- Extremities only, as high as possible, staunch the bleeding. It should not be released by anyone other than a doctor.
- Packing- pack to fill cavity, hold pressure minimum of 5 minutes.
- Pressure Bandage- top packed gunshot wound with pressure dressing.