Active Shooter Awareness Training
For Tenant Agencies
Today’s Discussion

- Previous active shooter incidents
- Evolution of police response
- Police response tactics
- How to react to an active shooter
- Facility lockdown procedures
- What to do when law enforcement arrives
- Employer responsibilities
Texas Tower Incident

- August 1, 1966
- Austin, TX
- Suspect: Charles Whitman
- Killed 16 (including wife, mother and an unborn baby)
- Wounded 31 (as far away as two blocks)
- Killed by two police officers
Frank Carlson Federal Building

- August 5, 1993
- Topeka, KS
- Suspect: Jack Gary McKnight
- Killed 1 with a firearm, Court Security Officer Gene Goldsberry
- Wounded 4 (Pipe Bomb Shrapnel)
- Attack conducted on the day he was to be sentenced for federal drug charges
Columbine High School

- April 20, 1999
- Littleton, CO
- Suspects: Harris and Klebold
- Killed 13
- Wounded 24
- Both suspects planned to and committed suicide
Virginia Tech

- April 16th, 2007
- Blacksburg, VA
- Suspect: Seung-Hui Cho
- Killed 32
- Wounded 23
- Indications are that Cho meticulously planned the assault (mailed his “manifesto”, chained and locked doors, moved methodically into rooms, large quantity of ammunition, extra magazines etc.)
- Suspect committed suicide
Fort Hood, Texas Shooting

- November 5, 2009
- Fort Hood Army Base
- Suspect: Nadal Malik Hasan (Army Major)
- Killed 13
- Wounded 43
- Shooting in and around a base Soldier Readiness Center
- FN 5.7 pistol (reloaded numerous times)
- Wounded by two police officers employing IARD Active Shooter tactics
Gateway Center, Orlando, FL

- November 6, 2009
- Gateway Center Building
- Orlando, FL
- Veterans Administration on 15th Floor
- Inspector coordinated with local PD
- Inspector made contact with the VA staff
- Personnel locked down the office
- Killed 1 (not a government customer or employee)
- Wounded 8 (no government customers or employees)
Lloyd D. George Federal Courthouse

- January 4, 2010
- Las Vegas, NV
- Suspect: Johnny Lee Wicks
- Killed: 1 (Court Security Officer)
- Wounded: 1 (Deputy US Marshal)
- Began shooting as he entered building
- May have been motivated by anger over cuts to his social security benefits
The Evolution of Police Response

- Pre-Columbine High School
  - Conventional response
  - Establish perimeter and call SWAT

- Post-Columbine High School
  - Unconventional response
  - Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD)
Police Response Tactics

Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD)

- Until proven otherwise, any unauthorized *intruder* inside a building will be considered armed, dangerous, and capable of initiating and conducting a plan that includes the mass murder of innocent people.

- Law enforcement personnel will enter the building and quickly establish close contact with the intruder(s). This reduces the potential for mass killing.
How do I respond to an active shooter?

- Your location and the location of the incident dictate your actions.

- Evacuate:
  - Have an escape route and a plan in mind.
  - Leave your belongings behind.
  - Keep your hands raised.

- Lock down/shelter in place
  - Hide in an area out of the shooter(s) view.
  - Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors if possible.
How do I respond to an active shooter?

Take action.

- Only as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Act with aggression and attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Fight the shooter. Rush with lots of people, throw things or use improvised weapons to take the shooter to the ground.
How do I respond to an active shooter?

If caught in an open area, use your judgment.

- Seek cover and concealment.
- Use whatever is available to obscure you from the shooter (ex.: walls, trees, poles, buildings, fencing, containers, etc.).
- Hide behind something capable of stopping a bullet (ex.: masonry or brick wall, engine block of a car).
- Unless you are in imminent danger, if locked down, do not attempt to evacuate without instructions from Law Enforcement Personnel.
- Have a working knowledge of your facility (ex.: exits and evacuation routes).
Lock Down

If the shooter is outside the building:

- Turn off lights, lock windows and doors, close curtains/shades.
- Stay out of the view of doors with windows.
- Lay down on the floor below window line.
- Dial 911, give your location, and follow directions.
- Move to central secure area – only if safe.
- If the shooter tries to break into the room you are in, leave the room through an alternate exit (Another door or through the wall/ceiling/window).
- Stay until you receive “ALL CLEAR” signal from recognized authority.
- Follow directions of recognized police/security personnel.
Facility Lock Down Procedures

- Activate the OEP
- Lock doors
- Use signals and/or codes
- Safe Area
- Account for employees & visitors
- Do not open door until police arrive
- Communicate
Protective Security Officer Roles & Responsibilities

- Secure all entrances
- Facilitate the entrance of Law Enforcement responders and the egress of tenants
- Do not abandon post unless under directed fire
- Contact the MegaCenter and relay incident information as soon as possible
- Request emergency medical response as necessary
- Respond to designated locations in accordance with the facility Occupant Emergency Plan
When Law Enforcement Arrives

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Keep hands raised and spread fingers.
- Do not grab officers or make sudden movements.
- Listen - they will be giving instructions.
- Proceed to the exit directed. If injured, ambulatory aid will be given outside.
- Give details of shooter(s) to the officers (ex.: try to remember and advise officers of the description, numbers (shooters & victims), weapons).
Occupant Emergency Plan

- All GSA Owned or Leased Federal Facilities are required to have an OEP IAW 41 FMR 102-74.

- An OEP helps you to protect life and property in Federally occupied space during defined emergency conditions and plans for evacuation or relocation to a safer area.

- OEPs may cover emergencies such as:
  - Fire
  - Explosion
  - Discovery of an explosive device
  - Natural forces (severe weather, earthquakes)
  - Chemical or biological exposure or threat
  - Physical threats to building occupants or visitors.
Employer Responsibilities

- Work with your FPS Inspector to establish your facility’s Active Shooter Plan and OEP that is well coordinated.

- Establish protocols for employees to follow and review these protocols much like fire drills.

- Practice the plan! A well coordinated OEP needs to be rehearsed. You cannot wait to see how your plan works when an active shooter incident happens.

- Listen to employee concerns and address the possibilities.
Questions and Answers

“Success depends upon previous preparation, and without such preparation there is sure to be failure.”

~ Confucius