

# *Preparing for Active Shooter Events*

Boca Raton Police Department  
Crime Prevention Unit



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Active Shooter Defined*

An Active Shooter is a person or persons actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Active Shooter Stats*

- ▣ An average of 11.4 incidents occur annually.
- ▣ 45% of the incidents occurred in commercial/business locations.
- ▣ The average active shooter incident lasts 12 minutes, while 37 % last less than 5 minutes.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Prior to an Incident*

- ▣ Establish policies and report suspicious activity.
  - What conduct is expected at work.
  - What are the warning signs to watch for.
  - How to report suspicious activity.
  
- ▣ Provide regular training for all new/current employees, supervisors, and managers.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Indicators of a potentially violent person:*

- ❑ Terminated Employees.
- ❑ Employees that over-react to criticism.
- ❑ Employees who express intense anger at the employer or co-workers. Blames others for their problems.
- ❑ Employees with ongoing Domestic Violence issues.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Indicators of a potentially violent person:*

- ❑ Obsession: Just can't seem to "get over" a policy change, etc.
- ❑ Harasses or intimidates others or may be the victim of on-going harassment. A feeling of superiority or helplessness.
- ❑ Expressions of paranoia, depression, or withdrawal.
- ❑ Unusual focus on violent incidents or dangerous weapons.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Indicators of a potentially violent person:*

- ❑ Increased use of alcohol and/or drugs.
- ❑ Violations of company policies, theft, or destruction of company property.
- ❑ Increased absenteeism.
- ❑ Extremist Ideology.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *Have an Action Plan*

- ▣ Have an action plan in place.
  - Method for reporting emergencies. (911, Fire Alarm, etc.)
  - An emergency notification system to alert various parties of an emergency including: individuals at remote locations within premises.
  - Evacuation policy and procedures.
  - Establish emergency escape routes (i.e., floor plans, safe areas).
  - Contact information for employees.



Visibility ● Intelligence ● Partnerships ● Education ● Responsiveness

# *Be Prepared*

- ▣ Prepare and distribute to appropriate managers/employees crisis kits.
  - Suggested contents: radios, floor plans, staff roster/staff emergency contact numbers, first aid kits, and flashlights.
  
- ▣ Designate an official responsible for acting as a liaison with first responders. Have alternates.
  
- ▣ Drill! Drill! Drill!



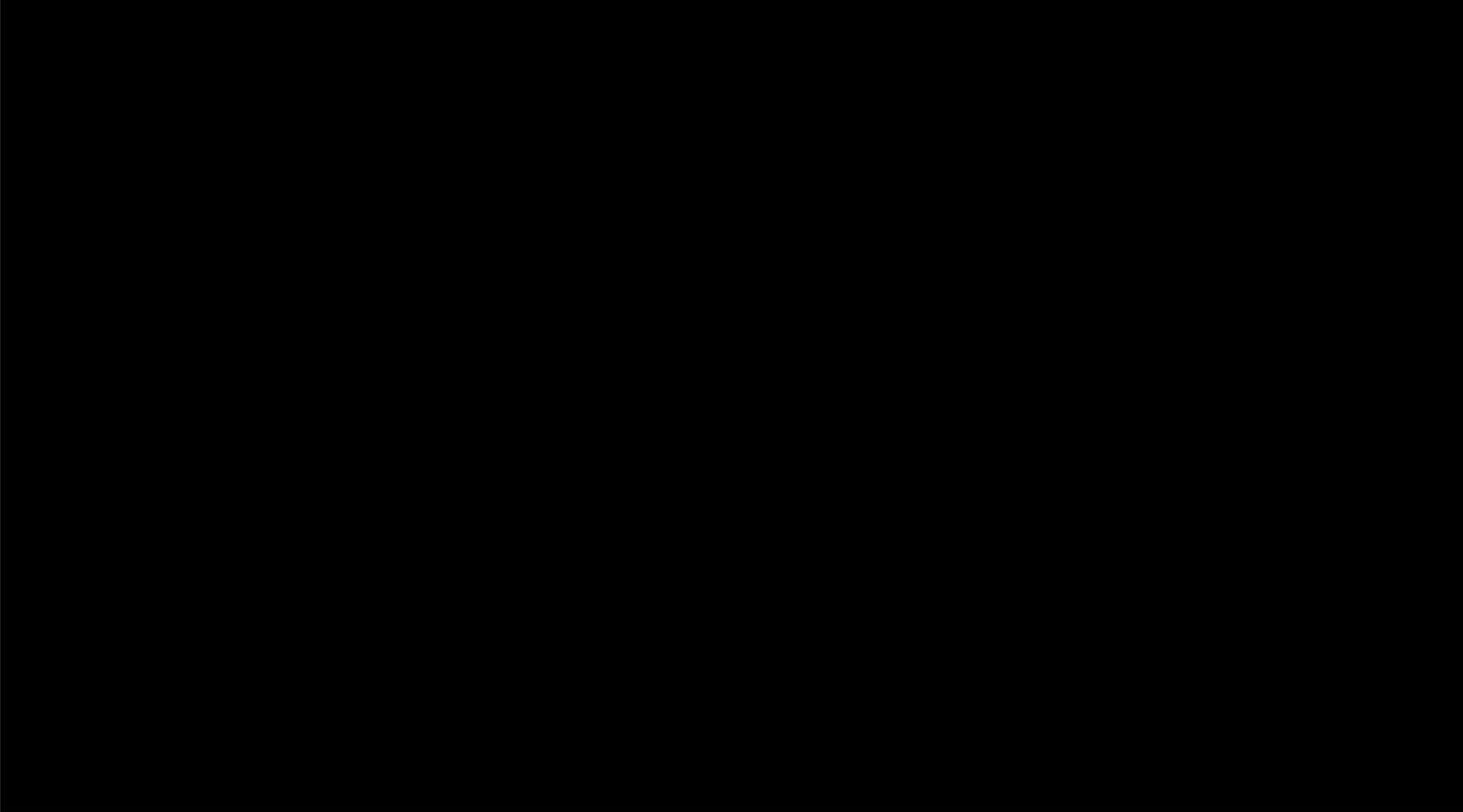
Visibility ● Intelligence ● Partnerships ● Education ● Responsiveness

# *During an Incident*

- **REMEMBER:**
  - **Run** -If safe to do so, leave everything and go! When exiting, empty and raise your hands making it clear you are not armed.
  - **Hide**-Find a place that will hide you from sight and, if possible, protect you from bullets. Silence your phone!
  - **Fight**-As a last resort, fight for your life! Act with aggression, use improvised weapons, and commit to your actions!



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *When Possible*

- ▣ Provide the following information to law enforcement officers or 911 operators:
  - Location of the active shooter.
  - Number of shooters, if more than one.
  - Physical description of the shooter(s).
  - Number and type of weapons held by the shooter(s).
  - Number of potential victims at the location.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# *First Responders Arrive*

- ▣ The primary goal of law enforcement is to eliminate the threat and stop the active shooter as soon as possible.
  - Primary responsibility is to eliminate the threat; they will not be able to stop to help injured persons.
  - Officers may arrive in teams with tactical equipment such as vests, helmets, and rifles.
  - Officers will need to take command of the situation; expect to experience officers shouting orders and even pushing individuals to the ground for their safety.



Visibility ● Intelligence ● Partnerships ● Education ● Responsiveness

# *After an Incident*

- ▣ Account for missing persons and relay to authorities.
- ▣ Have a plan for referring individuals for follow-up care, including grief counseling.
- ▣ Have a plan to continue operations without key personnel.
- ▣ Complete and review an after action report.
- ▣ Modify current plans to address deficiencies.



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness

# Questions?

Crime Prevention Unit

561-347-3938



Visibility • Intelligence • Partnerships • Education • Responsiveness