

ACTIVE SHOOTER

An active shooter is a person actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area, typically through the use of firearms. In general, how you respond to an active shooter will be dictated by the specific circumstances of the encounter.

Keep in mind there could be more than one shooter.

HOW TO RESPOND

1. Run

- Have an escape route in mind and plan ahead.
- If it is possible to flee the area safely and avoid danger, do so.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- If you are able to do so **safely**, contact **MUPD** at **304-696-HELP (4357)/64357** from campus phones, or call **911**.
- Keep your hands visible as officers respond.

2. Hide

- If escape is not possible, hide in an area out of the shooter's view.
- Block entry to your hiding place with furniture and other heavy objects.
- Turn off all lights and close and lock all windows and doors.
- Close all window blinds and curtains.
- If you are able to do so **safely**, contact **MUPD** at **304-696-HELP (4357)/64357** from campus phones, or call **911**.
- If you are able to do so **safely**, get all individuals on the floor and out of the line of fire.
- Silence your cell phones/mobile devices.
- Remain there until an "all clear" instruction is given by MUPD or other authorized personnel or via MU Alert.

3. Fight

- Fight back as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with physical aggression and throw items at the shooter.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM RESPONDING POLICE OFFICERS

Police officers responding to an active shooter are trained to proceed immediately to the area where shots were last heard. Their purpose is to stop the shooting as quickly as possible.

The first responding officers will normally be in teams of four (4); they may be dressed in regular patrol uniforms or they may be wearing external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets and other tactical equipment. The officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns or handguns and may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation.

Regardless of how officers appear, **REMAIN CALM**. Follow instructions the police give you. Do not be afraid of the officers. Put down any bags or packages you are carrying and **keep your hands visible at all times**; if you know where the shooter is, tell the police.

The first officers to arrive will not stop to aid injured people; rescue teams of other officers and emergency medical personnel will follow the first officers into secured areas to treat and remove the injured.

Keep in mind that even once you have escaped to a safer location, the entire area is still a crime scene; police usually will not let anyone leave until the situation is fully under control and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Until you are released, remain at whatever assembly point authorities designate.

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