



# PREVENT, PREPARE, ACT ACTIVE ATTACKER TRAINING

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# AGENDA

- 👁 Introduction
- 👁 What Are We Talking About and How Are We Going to Talk About it?
- 👁 Active Attacker Science
- 👁 Case Studies
- 👁 Mindset and Mental Preparedness
- 👁 Plans of Action
- 👁 What to Expect
- 👁 Questions





## HOW WE WILL TALK TODAY

- ⑥ Direct and Straightforward
- ⑥ Address Hard Topics
- ⑥ Honest, Realistic, Tangible and Actionable Information
- ⑥ Fact and Science Based
- ⑥ Tools and Options





## HOW WE WON'T TALK TODAY

- 👁️ No Pictures or Audio From Actual Events
- 👁️ No Pictures or Names of Victims or Killers
- 👁️ Nothing Euphemistic or Indirect
- 👁️ No Scare Tactics or Fear Mongering





## WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

- An Active Attacker is an individual actively engaged in killing, or attempting to kill, people in a confined and populated area without other clear criminal intent.
- An Active Attacker Incident can occur anywhere people are gathered in groups that can be accessed by an assailant





## KEY TERMINOLOGY

- Contact Officer/Contact Team – Police teams made up of 1-4 law enforcement officers used to locate and neutralize the Active Shooter threat. These teams may access the Hot Zone in multiple locations.
- Rescue Task Force (RTF) – The Rescue Task Force is a team of fire and law enforcement personnel who are deployed in the Warm Zone to provide point-of-wound care to victims where there is an on-going ballistic or explosive potential. These teams triage, treat, stabilize and extract the injured in a rapid manner. A typical/optimal RTF consists of 2-3 fire department personnel and 2-3 law enforcement personnel.
- Casualty Collection Point (CCP) – An area that has both cover and concealment and will function as temporary place in to mass casualties await extrication to medical transportation. Tactical Emergency Casualty Care can also be performed in this location by the RTF as needed.





## KEY TERMINOLOGY

- Hot Zone – Area where there is a known hazard or life threat that is direct and immediate. An example of this would be any uncontrolled area(s) that has/have not been cleared by law enforcement officers and where the active shooter(s) could be.
- Warm Zone – Area(s) that has/have been quickly cleared by law enforcement but are not secure. This area will be where the victims will be assessed by RTFs. Fire Department resources should enter Warm Zones, but should only be done with Force Protection, cover and concealment. A dynamic risk analysis should have been completed prior to entering a Warm Zone.
- Cold Zone – Areas where there is little or no threat due to distance or shielding and/or have been secured by law enforcement. This is the area where Fire Department and EMS personnel and will stage, triage, treat and transport victims once they have been removed from the Warm Zone.





# ACTIVE ATTACKER SCIENCE







## ACTIVE ATTACKER TRENDS (2000-2019 FBI/DOJ)

- 333 separate incidents in 43 states and Washington DC
- Incidents resulted in 1062 fatalities
- Incidents resulted in 1789 injuries
- 332 Shooters were male, 13 were female
- 42 Incidents (13% of total) occurred in California
  - The next highest state was Florida with 27
- Between 2013 and 2019 there were an average of 24 incidents per year





# ACTIVE ATTACKER TRENDS (2000-2019 FBI/DOJ)

- Four occupancy types accounted for 70% of all incidents
  - Businesses open to the public (96 Incidents)
    - 329 Killed and 425 Wounded
  - Open Spaces (50 Incidents)
    - 185 Killed and 710 Wounded
  - K-12 Schools (44 Incidents)
    - 179 Killed and 240 Wounded
  - Businesses not open to the public (41)
    - 106 Killed and 130 Wounded





## ACTIVE ATTACKER TRENDS (2000-2019 FBI/DOJ)

- What does all of this mean to us?
  - You are nearly 4x more likely to be impacted by an active attacker away from a school than at a school
  - 96% of attackers were male and 97% of the time they acted alone
  - The average attacking time is 9-12 minutes (depending on calculation methodology).





# ACTIVE ATTACKER TRENDS

- 👁️ Attackers generally have two objectives
  - 👁️ A specific target or targets AND
  - 👁️ Inflicting mass chaos and casualties
- 👁️ Attackers generally seek the path of least resistance in order to do more damage
- 👁️ Attacks end (greater than 90%) when attacker is faced with armed/meaningful resistance or inability to access additional victims
  - 👁️ **THIS IS WHERE WE START TO WIN**





## SANDY HOOK SCHOOL SHOOTING NEWTON, CO DECEMBER 14, 2012

- Single shooter enters school (K-12 School) armed with a rifle and two pistols and begins shooting
- Shooter was confronted by multiple adults during progression through the school
- 420 total innocents present; 26 killed and 2 wounded
- Total incident time was 6 mins
- Shooter killed himself prior to contact with LE
- After Action Report highlighted that responding personnel (from multiple agencies) acted on their training during the ASI





## PULSE NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING ORLANDO, FL JUNE 12, 2016

- Single shooter enters nightclub (Business open to public) armed with a rifle and pistol and begins shooting
- Situation transitioned from ASI to barricade with hostages
- 320 total innocents present. 49 killed and 53 wounded
- Orlando first responders had trained and prepared for such an incident
- Total incident time was 3+ hours
- Shooter killed by police during hostage rescue operation
- After Action Report highlighted that responding personnel acted on their training during ASI and subsequent barricade situation





# GILROY GARLIC FESTIVAL SHOOTING GILROY, CA JULY 28, 2019

- Single shooter forced entry to the Gilroy Garlic Festival (Open Spaces) via a chain link fence armed with a rifle with multiple high-capacity magazines
- Shooter engaged in a shoot out with responding police
- Thousands of innocents present; 3 killed and 17 wounded
- Total incident time approximately 5 mins
- Shooter committed suicide after being engaged by police
- After action report highlighted that responding personnel acted on their training during the ASI
- Police staffing the event responding to shooting ended the event quickly





## MINDSET

- 👁️ The #1 thing anyone can do to prevent or survive an active attacker incident is be mentally prepared and have a protector mindset.
- 👁️ Its FREE
- 👁️ Anyone can do it
- 👁️ It's easy





I DON'T KNOW HOW  
I'M GOING TO WIN,  
I JUST KNOW I'M  
NOT GOING TO LOSE.

-GOKHAM SAKI





# SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

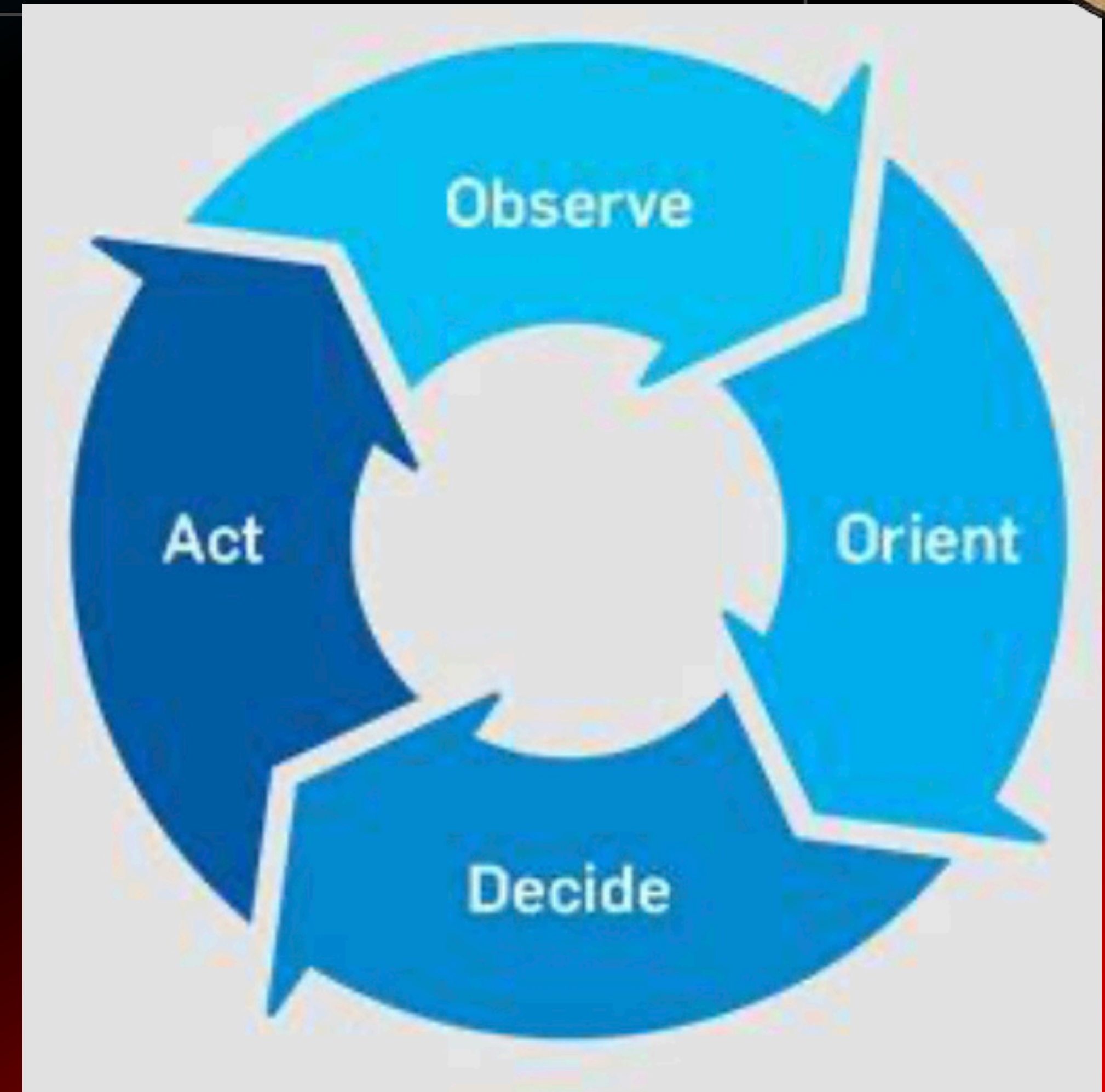
- 👁️ What does a threat look like?
- 👁️ How can a threat get to me?
- 👁️ How can I escape a threat?
- 👁️ How can I slow down a threat?
- 👁️ How can I stop a threat?





# OODA LOOP

- 👁️ Understand that it exists
- 👁️ Master your own
- 👁️ Interrupt others
- 👁️ Win the day





# USE YOUR OODA LOOP TO WIN

- 👁️ Know Your Surroundings
- 👁️ Trust Your Instincts/Training
- 👁️ Make A Decision Quickly
- 👁️ Implement Your Plan
- 👁️ ACT. LEAD.
- 👁️ Interrupt the attacker's OODA Loop

**A good plan,  
executed now,  
is better than  
a perfect plan  
next week.**

**-General George Patton**





# MINDSET

- 👁️ All you have to do is something. Anything. Just don't do nothing.
- 👁️ Calm and courage are VERY contagious; so are panic and despair.
- 👁️ Its ok to be scared, its NOT ok to quit.
- 👁️ Don't give up. Help is coming.





# PLANS OF ACTION

“FAILING TO PLAN IS PLANNING TO FAIL”  
-Winston Churchill

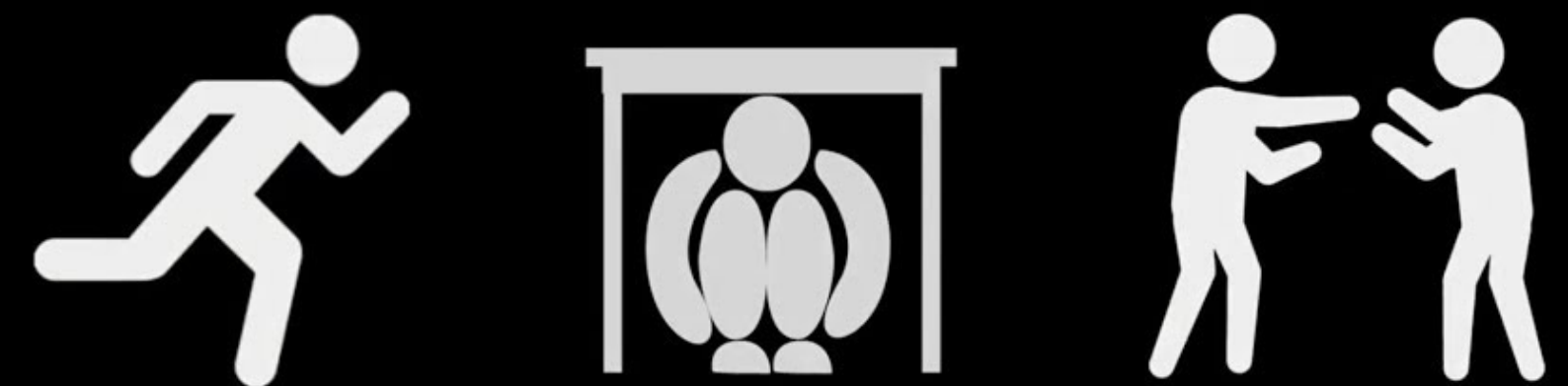




## RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

- Simple, easy to remember, hard to do.
- Whatever you decide to do, do it 100%
- When you start, don't stop
- Others will follow you if you are committed

# RUN HIDE FIGHT





# ALICE

- Tool to help in all school emergencies
- Actions can be applicable to multiple types of emergencies
- Others will follow your lead if you are committed.

**ALICE**  
TRAINING INSTITUTE

**ALERT**  
Initial Alert may be a gunshot, PA announcement, etc...  
Avoid code words.

**LOCKDOWN**  
If Evacuation is not a safe option, barricade entry points.  
Prepare to Evacuate or Counter if needed.

**INFORM**  
Communicate real time information on shooter location.  
Use clear and direct language using any communication means possible.

**COUNTER**  
As a last resort, distract shooters ability to shoot accurately.  
Move toward exits while making noise, throwing objects,  
or active person shooter.

**EVACUATE**  
Run from danger when able to do so using non-traditional  
exits if necessary. Entry point should be predetermined.

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## MAKING YOUR OWN PLAN

- 👁️ There is no single plan which will be successful in all scenarios
- 👁️ Assembling a mental tool kit of viable options and being able to quickly assemble them into a plan is key.
- 👁️ Where you are and who you are with are big influences on your plan
- 👁️ Winning in an active attacker comes down to seconds and inches.
- 👁️ Pick a course of action, commit to it and go for it.
- 👁️ Only hesitate or change plans if your plan isn't working.
- 👁️ Don't forget that the bad guy has a say in all of this too.





## MAKING YOUR PLAN

- 👁️ What is the threat and where is it in relation to me?
- 👁️ How many other people are counting on only me?
- 👁️ What are our collective abilities?
- 👁️ What resources do I have?
- 👁️ What does my gut say to do?
- 👁️ If this plan doesn't work, what's my back up plan?





## MAKING YOUR PLAN

- ⑥ You already formulate plans spontaneously multiple times a day.
- ⑥ Consider making a mental practice of crafting a hasty plan as you move through different parts of your day.
- ⑥ Talk with you teammates about plans.
- ⑥ Not talking about active attackers does not keep them from happening.





# HELPING YOURSELF AND OTHERS

- If you are at an active attacker, you **ARE** the first responder and can make a huge difference in the outcome
- Ride/Hide/Fight and help/encourage others
- Be a good witness, make notes (mental or written) about the situation and pass that information to responders
- Render aid to yourself and others (Stop the Bleed)
- If you're physically able to help, others are counting on you to help





# WHAT TO EXPECT FROM US AT AN ACTIVE ATTACKER INCIDENT





# Priorities of Action

**STOP THE KILLING  
STOP THE DYING  
START THE MOVING  
START THE HEALING**





## Initial Law Enforcement Response

- Upon notification of a possible active attacker incident, the agencies dispatch center will send the closest available units ASAP and request a large volume of officers respond. Dispatchers also work with callers to get up to date information about the situation on scene
- Officers arrive at the location and immediately move to the area of interest or highest threat, relaying that information to incoming officers
- Officers respond directly to stimuli in pursuit of the attacker(s) in an attempt to stop the violence as fast as is possible
- As additional officers and supervisors arrive, a command structure is set up to start dealing with additional incident priorities





## Initial Fire and EMS Response

- Upon notification of a possible active attacker incident, the agencies dispatch center will send the closest available units ASAP and request a specified selection of units. Dispatchers also work with callers to get up to date information about the situation on scene
- Fire and EMS crews arrive and stage out of the immediate area. The first arriving fire chief officer locates the LE officer in charge and establishes unified command.
- If it is determined that there are viable victims in the warm zone, and that the warm zone is accessible, fire crews will form into RTFs with law enforcement.
- The first RTFs initial task is to triage victims, address immediate life threats and provide recon. Follow on RTFs will collect, further treat and extricate victims to the cold zone.







## Initial Site Personnel Response

- Emergency operations can be greatly enhanced when there is some one familiar with the site who can assist incident commanders and responders
  - Keys and key cards
  - Maps
  - Access to audio and video systems
  - Ability to communicate directly with people sheltered in place
- It may take a bit for incident commanders to be ready to receive assistance, that ok!





# RTF OPERATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

- RTFs work as a joint unit. Identifying a LE and FD “leader” and ”communicator” before stepping off is key.
- FD members give direction as to where to go, provide recon for incident command, triage, treat and transport viable victims to CCP or Cold Zone
- LE members give direction as to how to get there and provide force protection to fire TF members
- Brief Back Requests and Plans
- Direct and Indirect Force Protection
- Safety Corridor Force Protection
- ”Dirty Stays Dirty” and ”Clean Stays Clean” as much as possible for victim extrication





## Continued Unified Operations

- Once threat suppression is complete, focus of forces shifts to assisting RTF work and securing the scene
- Fire and EMS crews not engaged in RTF work will be establishing triage, treatment and transportation areas and coordinating the MCI plan with local hospitals
- At the appropriate time a full tactical clearance of the incident area must be completed, and the crime scene areas established and maintained
- At the completion of extrication and transportation, a leadership focus shift will move efforts toward family reunification and criminal investigation





## Continued Unified Operations

- The incident continues LONG after the threat has been suppressed
  - Crime scene needs to be processed and investigation initiated
  - Uninjured people need to be connected with supportive resources and reunited with their families
  - The incident site needs to be remediated so it can return to functionality
  - Injured will need to be cared for and the lost need to be mourned and remembered
  - The community will forever be affected but will also have to move forward
- As leaders, having a vision of the desired end state for your community after a violent event is almost as important as having a plan for what to do if something happens





## What to Do Now?

- Do you have at least a basic plan for yourself, your family and work areas that you're responsible for?
- Do formal plans exist for public locations you visit frequently or have responsibility for? (Schools, faith centers, entertainment venues, etc)
- What training do you, your family and coworkers have? How current is it? Does it need to be refreshed?
- Have you tested your training and preparations in a drill or simulated incident? How long ago?
- Do you have relationships with local responders? Do you know their plans? Do they know yours?





## Conclusion

- Have plan, and if faced with a threat, implement that plan without delay
- Pay attention to your surroundings before, during and after a threat
- Be a good witness and share important information with responders
- If you have access to site specific resources to help responders, make that known at the command post.
- If you're sheltered in place, help is coming but you are the first responder!
- Don't ever give up





# Questions?

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