

Campus Safety Bulletin

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IN THIS ISSUE: COPING WITH ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS



**CAMPUS
EMERGENCIES
CALL "2911"
(336) 750-2911**

Facing an active shooter incident on a university campus is something no one wants to ever imagine. However, today's reality compels us to acknowledge the potential of such a situation occurring anywhere, at any time, and prepare accordingly. Here are some national standards that can help individuals better cope if ever faced with such an unfortunate occurrence.

General Considerations

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. They are typically over within 10 to 15 minutes. Therefore, you must act quickly and decisively in the absence of Law Enforcement. Remember:

- To be aware of your environment and any potential dangers.
- To make a mental note of the nearest exits in any facility you go into.
- People cope differently in crisis situations, so don't expect your colleagues to respond appropriately or at all.
- Those with training and a plan are better able to manage their reactions and respond effectively.

Notification Procedures & Resources

Typically, two tiers of notification occur during an emergency that may potentially impact the public: 1) A victim or witness notifies local authorities; 2) Emergency personnel notify the local community. It is important to note that:

- 1st Responders can't respond to a situation if they are not notified of it. You, the witness, are that first tier of notification, so don't assume someone else has called for help.
- On our campus, RamALERT is the emergency notification system used to notify the campus community of an emergency, as well as provide instructions on precautions you should take to safeguard yourself.
 - o The system includes: mobile text & voice alerts, e-mail alerts, outdoor siren alerts, and campus display monitor messages.
 - o **You must register** to receive mobile text (historically the most reliable method of communication during high call volume events) & voice alerts. Instructions are available at www.wssu.edu/ramalert.

Appropriate Response Actions

If there is an active shooter on campus or in your building, you should attempt to run, hide or fight.

- **RUN:** If a shooter is in your building and you can safely get out, evacuate.
- **HIDE:** If you don't know where the shooter is in your building and can't safely evacuate, Iockdown inside your building.
 - o Secure doors, turn off lights, and move occupants into concealed areas of a classroom or office, away from doors and windows.
 - o Keep occupants calm and quiet.
- **FIGHT:** If you encounter the shooter and have no other safe options (can't run or hide), try to incapacitate the perpetrator.
- If Campus Police issues a campus lockdown:
 - o And you are off-campus, stay off-campus.
 - o And you are outside and buildings are locked down, move away from campus to a safe, secure location.
 - o Wait for the "All Clear" from Campus Police (through RamALERT) before resuming normal activity.