

### **When law enforcement arrives:**

- Remain calm and follow instructions
- Drop items in your hands (e.g., bags, jackets)
- Raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid quick movements toward officers, such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling
- Do not ask questions when evacuating

### **Information to provide to 911 operations:**

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooters
- Number and type of weapons shooter has
- Number of potential victims at location

**For questions or additional assistance contact:**  
Your local law enforcement authorities or FBI Field office :



Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20528



# **ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENT**

## **QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE**

An "active shooter" is an individual who is engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

- ☐ *Victims are selected at random*
- ☐ *Event is unpredictable and evolves quickly*
- ☐ *Knowing what to do can save lives*

## ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

When an Active Shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation.



**You have three options:**

### 1 RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
- Help others escape, if possible
- Do not attempt to move the wounded
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- Keep your hands visible
- Call 911 when you are safe

### 2 HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view
- Lock door or block entry to your hiding place
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet

### 3 FIGHT

- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Act with as much physical aggression as possible
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the active shooter
- Commit to your actions . . . your life depends on it

The first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help the injured. Expect rescue teams to follow initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove injured.

Once you have reached a safe location, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Do not leave the area until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.



# Homeland Security

## Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Educational Sheet

In partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation

### CVE Overview

To counter violent extremism, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is working with a broad range of government and civilian partners to gain a better understanding of the behaviors, tactics, and other indicators that could point to potential violent and/or terrorist activity; and the best ways to mitigate or prevent that activity. This initiative is designed to support the National Strategy on Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism and the Strategic Implementation Plan for Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism in the United States, which President Obama released in 2011. Our approach to CVE emphasizes the strength of local communities. We begin with the premise that well-informed and equipped families, communities, and local institutions represent the best defense against terrorist ideologies. While our primary purpose is to prevent terrorist and violent extremist attacks by individuals or groups recruited by violent extremist organizations, or inspired by violent extremist ideologies, we also support strong and resilient communities as important ends themselves.

### Secure Information Sharing

One of the venues utilized by DHS to promote information and intelligence sharing on a broad range of topics is the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). This network provides a secure and trusted environment for information sharing and collaboration between federal, state, local, tribal, private sector, civilian, and international partners engaged in the prevention, protection against, mitigation, response to, and recovery from a variety of threats, crimes, hazards, and incidents. Within HSIN, the Joint DHS and FBI Countering Violent Extremism and Active Shooter (CVE-AS) Web Portal provides a forum for the exchange of Unclassified FOUO, SBU, and LES information to sworn, full-time, law enforcement officers (federal, state, or local); federal employees affiliated with the criminal justice system or intelligence communities; military personnel; and government agencies associated with infrastructure protection of the United States.

The CVE-AS Web Portal also shares Unclassified FOUO or SBU information with private sector partners, civilian security personnel, corporate executives, educational institutions/academia, international partners, community leaders, and other state and local partners, as appropriate. The Web Portal provides users and training practitioners with accurate, appropriate, and relevant CVE training development resources; information on outreach initiatives and subject matter experts; and forums to provide feedback, share products, and to ask questions.

### Core Initiatives for Countering Violent Extremism:

**DHS Outreach on CVE:** Conferences, workshops, and online forums for federal, state, local, tribal, private sector, civilian community, and international partners.

**Training Initiatives:** DHS and its partners continue to educate front line officers, first responders, and community leaders on identifying and reporting suspicious activities and efforts to CVE.

**Grants:** DHS has prioritized prevention activities through our grants that directly support local law enforcement and community outreach efforts to understand, recognize, prepare for, prevent, and respond to terrorist pre-cursor activity, and separately to raise public awareness and vigilance through the "If You See Something, Say Something"™ public awareness campaign.

**Analysis and Research:** DHS has produced substantial analysis and research on violent extremism to support state and local partners in detecting and mitigating threats.

For more information from DHS on CVE initiatives, please visit the following DHS websites:

- Countering Violent Extremism at: <http://www.dhs.gov/topic/countering-violent-extremism>
- CVE-AS Public Portal at: <http://www.dhs.gov/cveas-portal>
- or email the program manager at: [cveasportal@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:cveasportal@hq.dhs.gov)



# Homeland Security

## Active Shooter Educational Sheet

In partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation

### DHS ACTIVE SHOOTER FOCUS

The Department of Homeland Security aims to enhance incident preparedness through a "whole community" approach by providing training, products, and resources to a broad range of stakeholders on issues such as active shooter awareness. This approach supports our stakeholders to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from threats or incidents. In many cases, there is no pattern or method to the selection of victims by an active shooter, and these situations are by their

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very nature unpredictable and evolve quickly. DHS offers a variety of courses, materials, and workshops to better prepare you to deal with an active shooter situation and to raise awareness of behaviors that represent pre-incident indicators and characteristics of active shooters.

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leaders, and other state and local partners as appropriate. The Web Portal provides users and training practitioners with accurate, appropriate, and relevant active shooter training development resources, subject matter expert information, outreach initiatives, and forums to provide feedback, share products, and ask questions.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims. Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes -- before law enforcement arrives on the scene -- individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

### ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

When an active shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation. Since incidents vary, educate yourself and others on three options:

- » **RUN** (escape/evacuate)
- » **HIDE** (in locked areas/out of site), and/or
- » **FIGHT** (last resort, physical aggression)

For more information on active shooter initiatives, please visit the following websites:

- DHS Active Shooter Preparedness at: <http://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter>
- CVE-AS Public Portal at: <http://www.dhs.gov/cveas-portal>
- FBI Active Shooter awareness site at: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cirg/active-shooter-and-mass-casualty-incidents>
- or email the DHS program manager at: [cveasportal@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:cveasportal@hq.dhs.gov)