Active Shooter Response

- Active Shooter Events
- Who are the Shooters?
- Culture and Prevention
- Response
- Q&A
An Ongoing Trend
October 1st, 2015 – Umpqua Community College

One gunman – 26 year old Chris Harper Mercer

9 students killed

9 wounded

Incident ended when Two police detectives arrived on-scene and engaged the suspect who entered a classroom and shot himself in the head
1a Roseburg
Detective Sgt. Joe Kaney and Det. Todd Spingath are about 5 miles away when the 911 call of a shooting at Umpqua Community College comes in at 10:38 a.m., Oct. 1.

1b Sgt. Lynn Withers responds from the Oregon State Police Roseburg office.

2 The three arrive on campus at 10:44 a.m. Kaney and Spingath pull up to Snyder Hall and use cars and a breezeway as cover. Withers stands by the library to block the gunman’s possible escape and uses the building as cover. The officers know the gunman is in Room 15.

3 A student shot in the leg is seen on the lawn between Snyder Hall and the library.

4 The gunman shoots at police through a window. Police can’t see in.

5 The gunman comes out and stands by the southeast door, shooting at police. Kaney and Spingath shoot back, and one shot hits the gunman. He retreats.

6 Roseburg police and Withers enter room 15. They find the gunman lying in the classroom. He had shot himself in the head.

7 At 10:48 a.m., Withers radios dispatch: “Suspect is down.”
VIRGINIA

- April 16th, 2007 – Virginia Tech
- Lone gunman – Seung-hui Cho, 23
- Handguns only
- 32 killed
- 29 wounded
- Blocked escape routes / chained doors
- Incident ended when suspect killed himself
ILLINOIS

- February 14, 2008
- Northern Illinois University
- Lone gunman – Stephen Kazmierczak, a graduate student
- Legally purchased shotgun and 3 handguns
- 5 killed
- 16 wounded
- Incident ended when suspect killed himself
ARKANSAS

- March 24th, 1998 – Jonesboro, Arkansas
- Two gunmen (Mitchell Johnson 13/Andrew Golden 11)
- Three rifles
- False fire alarm
- 4 students, 1 teacher killed
- 10 wounded
- Incident ended when police caught the fleeing suspects
OREGON

- May 21st, 1998 – Springfield, Oregon
- Lone gunman, Kip Kinkel, 14
- Two pistols, one rifle
- 2 killed
- 22 wounded
- Killed both parents the day prior
- Incident ended when seven students subdued suspect and held him until police arrived
COLORADO
April 20th, 1999 – Littleton, Colorado
Columbine High School
Two gunmen Dylan Klebold, 17 and Eric Harris, 18
12 students, 1 teacher killed
23 wounded
Planned to kill 500 and blow up school
Multiple IEDs lit and thrown, timed devices utilized
Incident ended when both suspects killed themselves
MINNESOTA

- March 21st, 2005 – Red Lake, Minnesota
- Indian reservation high school
- Lone gunman Jeff Weise, 16
- 5 students, a teacher, and a guard killed
- Murdered his grandfather, a tribal policeman, before the incident
- Incident ended when suspect killed himself
COLORADO
COLORADO

- September 26th, 2006 – Bailey, Colorado
- Platte Canyon High School
- Lone gunman, Duane R. Morrison, 53
- 1 student killed
- 6 students sexually assaulted
- Incident ended when SWAT team entered room and suspect killed one hostage and himself
CONNECTICUT

- December 14th, 2012-Sandy Hook Elementary school
- Lone gunman, Adam Lanza, 20
- Heavily armed
- 20 children and 6 adults killed
- Incident ended when suspect killed himself
Who Are Active Shooters?

What’s the profile of an Active Shooter?
Who Are Active Shooters?

- Usually an individual but not always
- Actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people
- Confined and populated area
- In most cases weapons used are firearms
- Usually no pattern or method to their selection of victims
- Many have a history mental health related illnesses
- In nearly all incidents, somebody else knew
Culture and Prevention
Culture and Prevention

• Creating a culture where, when somebody else knows, they tell and the school responds appropriately
  – School shooters are not living, going to school and planning these events in a vacuum – somebody else knows
  – If you see something, say something
  – Create a culture of safety
Culture and Prevention

• Empower and train all employees
  – OODA Loop
    • Designed by 1950’s Air Force pilot Colonel John Boyd who adapted human factor elements to create
      – Observe
      – Orient
      – Decide
      – Act
    • Teach staff to be observant and tell administrators when something’s wrong
Culture and Prevention

• Behavioral Intervention/Threat Assessment/Students of Concern Team Strategies
  - Team effort to determining threats
  - Multi-disciplined approach
    • Mental Health Professionals
    • Public Safety
    • Educators
    • Faculty
    • School Administrators
    • Social Workers
Response

• Unpredictable
• Evolve quickly
• Usually last 10-15 minutes or less
• Police response usually 5-10 minutes
• Can occur anywhere
  – Schools
  – Stores
  – Office
• “What if?”
Response

- Take note of the two nearest exits in any facility you visit
- Be aware of your environment and any possible dangers
- If you are in an office, stay there and secure the door
- If in a hallway, get into a room and secure the door
- Take action against the shooter ONLY as a LAST RESORT
- CALL 9-1-1 AS SOON AS IT IS SAFE!!
Response

• **RUN**
  - If there is an escape path:
    - Have predetermined routes in mind
    - Leave your belongings behind
    - Help others escape if possible
    - Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
  - Distance is your friend in a shooting situation
Response

• **RUN**
  • Prevent individuals from entering an area where the shooter may be
  • Keep your hands visible
  • Follow the instructions of any police officers
  • Do not attempt to move wounded people
  • Call 9-1-1 when you are safe if you have something to report
Response

• **HIDE**
  - If evacuation is not possible
  - Choose a hiding place that:
    - Is out of shooter’s view
    - Provides protection if shots are fired toward you
    - Does not trap you or restrict your options for movement
  - Make sure to:
    - Lock the door
    - Blockade the door with heavy furniture
Response

• **HIDE**

• If the shooter is nearby:
  – Lock the door
  – Silence your cell phone
  – Turn off any source of noise (radios, TV’s, etc.)
  – Hide behind large items (Cabinets, desks)
  – Remain quiet

• Active shooters are not breaching locked doors!! use this fact to your advantage
Response

• IF EVACUATION OR HIDING IS NOT POSSIBLE

• Try to remain calm
  – Staying calm will help others calm down

• Dial 9-1-1, if possible, to alert police to the shooter’s location

• If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen
Response

• **ACTION AGAINST THE ACTIVE SHOOTER – FIGHT!!!**

• As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt his/her plan and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:
  – Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her
  – Throwing items and improvising weapons
  – Yelling
  – Committing to your actions
  – Buy first responders time
Response

• ACTION AGAINST THE ACTIVE SHOOTER – FIGHT!!!

• Disrupt the shooter’s plan
• Overwhelm the shooter with numbers of people
• This is the point where it’s okay to get angry and fight back!
Stop the Bleeding

• Literally…STOP THE BLEEDING
• Initiate basic bleeding control – B-CON
• A person can bleed to death within three minutes of a major arterial wound
• B-CON attempts to control that bleeding for 15-20 minutes until first responders arrive on scene to provide advanced life saving measures
  – Tourniquets
  – Wound packing material
Question and Answer