



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

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.

An “active shooter” is an individual who is engaged in killing, or attempting to kill, people in a confined and populated area.

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 with anyone who is a sworn, full-time, law enforcement officer (federal, state, or local); federal employee 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 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

