



Run. Hide. Fight

What to do if you are confronted with
an active shooter event

Understanding the Situation

An active shooter situation evolves quickly and may even end before law enforcement arrives

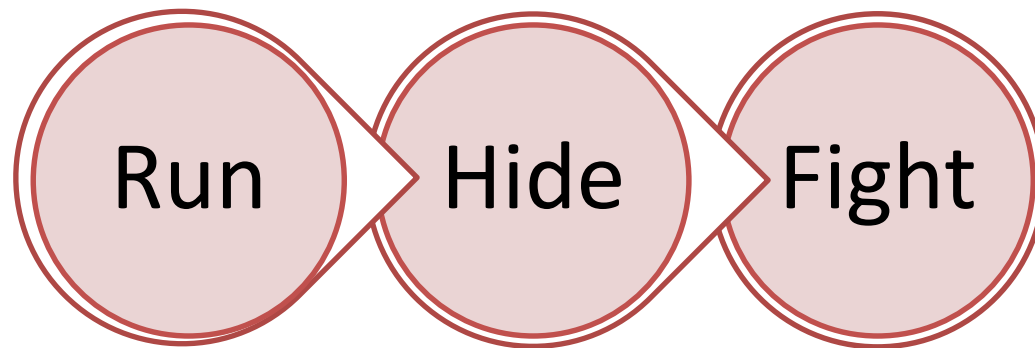
Familiarize yourself with your surroundings

- Have knowledge of your physical environment and location
- Conduct a risk assessment – potential vulnerabilities or the uniqueness within each department, which may pose additional challenges to first responders
- Leverage available resources



Everyone's Priority is to Protect Themselves

Protection: Courses of Action During an Event



Run

Evacuation is based on the specific circumstances

1. The location of the shooter
 2. Whether it can be accomplished safely
- If safe, evacuate to the emergency evacuation assembly area for an accounting of staff, faculty and students
 - If possible, work as a team by having someone watch for the shooter while evacuating as many individuals out of the windows (ground floor) as calmly, quietly, and safely as possible

**CALL 911
When it is Safe**

Hide

If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the shooter is less likely to find you

- Secure the area immediately (LOCK THE DOOR, if possible) to prevent the shooter from entering, using whatever is available.
- Keep yourself out of sight and take adequate cover/protection.
- Turn off devices that emit sound.
- Avoid trapping yourself or restricting your options for movement
- Be aware that the shooter may bang on the door, yell for help, or entice you to open the door of a secured area. Do not respond to voice commands until you can verify with certainty that they are being issued by a police officer
- Consider the risk of exposure by opening a door
- Wait for the "all-clear" message from authorities



CALL 911
When it is Safe

Fight

Taking action is a last resort when faced with imminent danger

- Attempt to take the shooter down – when the shooter is in close range and you cannot evacuate, your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him/her
 - **Commit to your actions – do not falter**
 - Attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the shooter
 - Act as aggressively as possible against him/her
 - Throw items
 - Improvise weapons
 - Act as a team if others will join
 - Do whatever is necessary to neutralize the situation
 - It may save your own life



**CALL 911
When it is Safe**

When you are told to evacuate...

- Remain calm and follow officers' instructions
- Put down any items in your hands
- Raise hands, spread fingers and keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming, and/or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating, just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises
- Tell the officers where the shooter is, if you know where he/she is at



Requesting Help and Providing Information

- When you are safe and secure, call 911
- Provide them any information you can including
 - Location with street address
 - What is happening right now
 - A description of the shooter – especially clothes
 - Type of weapon
 - Number of shots
 - Whether there have been any injuries
 - A call back number
- If possible and safe, meet the first arriving units outside and tell them what has happened



Police Priorities

- Primary priority is to eliminate the threat
- Secondary priorities include:
 - Protecting the lives of those inside the building
 - Protecting the lives of police officers
 - Protecting the lives of the suspect(s)
 - Not allowing the suspect(s) to escape
 - Not allowing individuals to enter the area
 - Containing the situation



Staying Updated

If an active shooter situation develops, the University of Louisville Police Department will work closely with area law enforcement officials to manage the event. The University will provide the most accurate and timely information available to students, faculty, staff and the community. To ensure you are receiving the most current information at all times from the University of Louisville, confirm you are signed up to receive RAVE alerts at:

[Louisville.edu/alerts](https://louisville.edu/alerts).



For additional information, please visit: [The Department of Homeland Security](#)

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[Review Video](#)

