Courthouse Security—Active Shooter Plan

Wednesday, June 26, 2019
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Mr. Aristides “Harry” Jimenez
Deputy Chief of the Community Readiness and Intelligence Division
Bexar County Sheriff’s Office

Participants will learn about disaster responses: how to prepare for and respond to being trapped in a building during an active shooter event, and steps that will assist responding law enforcement and limit casualties. The speaker will identify the phases of Disaster Response Psychology and discuss how to limit their impact on potential victims. He will explain the transition from being victims to becoming survivors, and summarize the bigger picture of how people react in disasters and high-stress events.
Aristides “Harry” Jimenez is deputy chief of criminal investigations in the Bexar County District Attorney’s Office. He previously served as the Bexar County Sheriff’s Office deputy chief of the Community Readiness and Intelligence Division. Before appointment as BCSO Chief, Jimenez was deputy special agent in charge, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), San Antonio, and supervised a wide range of HSI investigative authorities and responsibilities to combat transnational criminal organizations illegally exploiting travel, trade, financial and immigration systems. His investigative expertise includes money laundering, bulk cash smuggling, money service brokers, narcotics smuggling, trafficking, commercial trade and fraud, human smuggling/trafficking, transnational and anti-gang enforcement, weapons smuggling, export enforcement, intellectual property rights, cyber crimes, child sexual exploitation and critical infrastructure protection. Jimenez had direct oversight of criminal investigations over 58 counties, two federal judicial districts, over 550 miles of international border between Mexico and the U.S. with responsibility for some of the busiest ports of entry into this country. Jimenez is a 31-year law enforcement veteran who retired from Homeland Security Investigation.
Three Minutes.
• Once notified, Law Enforcement will respond to an Active Shooter as quickly as possible.
• Response time averages about three minutes.
• Your immediate actions should be focused on maximizing your personal safety until Law Enforcement is able to stop the threat.

What You Do Matters.

Avoid starts with your state of mind.
• Pay attention to your surroundings.
• Have an exit plan.
• Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible.
• The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.

Deny when getting away is difficult or maybe even impossible.
• Keep distance between you and the source.
• Create barriers to prevent or slow down a threat from getting to you.
• Turn the lights off.
• Remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects and silencing your phone.

Defend because you have the right to protect yourself.
• If you cannot Avoid or Deny be prepared to defend yourself.
• Be aggressive and committed to your actions.
• Do not fight fairly. THIS IS ABOUT SURVIVAL.

CALL 911 when you are in a safe area. Inform the 911 operator that this is an active shooter situation.

When Law Enforcement arrives,
SHOW YOUR HANDS AND FOLLOW COMMANDS.

For more information: www.AvoidDenyDefend.org
Or get the free app: AvoidDenyDefend
Be Prepared
Avoid | Deny | Defend™

During an act of violence (e.g. robbery, hostage situation, workplace violence, active shooter):

AVOID starts with your state of mind.

• Pay attention to your surroundings.
• Have an exit plan.
• Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible.
• The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.

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Remember that Failing to Plan...... is Planning to Fail.
Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)

In the past two decades, horrific mass shootings have been thrust into public consciousness. Mitigating the effects of these events is the responsibility of those who serve in our communities' public safety organizations. The public expects an effective and swift response to these threats. Research has shown, however, that many of the mass attacks, or active attack events, are over before law enforcement responders arrive on the scene.

Civilians who find themselves embroiled in such an event must be prepared to take immediate action to save their own lives before law enforcement arrives. The average response time for police response to an active attack event is three to four minutes. Without effective, preplanned response options for civilians at the scene of the attack, many victims can be seriously injured or killed.

We partnered with the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) at Texas State University in order to utilize their Trademark and Copyrighted CRASE and Avoid, Deny, Defend (ADD) training curriculum and materials. In 2013, ALERRT at Texas State was named the National Standard in Active Shooter Response Training by the FBI.

During our CRASE training, participants learn about disaster response; how to prepare for and respond to being trapped inside a building during an active shooter event; and steps they can take to assist responding law enforcement and to limit casualties. We help participants identify and discuss the phases of Disaster Response Psychology and how to limit their impact on potential victims. We show the transition from being victims to becoming survivors understanding the bigger picture of how people react in disasters and high stress events in general.

During class, participants identify and discuss the phases of Disaster Response Psychology and how to limit their impact on potential victims (Ripley, Amanda. (2008). The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes And Why. New York: Three Rivers Press.) On her research she identified a three-phase process that everyone goes through during these events. People who survive go through the process faster and take better actions at the decisive moment because they have prepared beforehand.

  - Denial
  - Deliberation
  - Decisive Moment

  - Stress Response
    - Not having a pre-existing plan can kill you.
    - The effects of life-threatening stress on your bodily systems severely limit your ability to both perceive information and make appropriate response plans.
- Discussion of:
  o Profile of Shooter
  o Location
  o Shooter Connection
  o Shooting Events

- Civilian response:

**Avoid | Deny | Defend™**

- **During an act of violence (e.g. robbery, hostage situation, workplace violence, active shooter)**
  
  o **AVOID** starts with your state of mind.
    • Pay attention to your surroundings.
    • Have an exit plan.
    • Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible.
    • The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.
  
  o **DENY** when getting away is difficult or maybe even impossible.
    • Keep distance between you and the source.
    • Create barriers to prevent or slow down a threat from getting to you.
    • Remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects and silence your phone.
  
  o **DEFEND** because you have the right to protect yourself.
    • If you cannot Avoid or Deny be prepared to defend yourself.
    • Be aggressive and committed to your actions.
    • Do not fight fairly. THIS IS ABOUT SURVIVAL.
  
  o When Law Enforcement arrives, **SHOW YOUR HANDS AND FOLLOW COMMANDS**.

- Understanding and Preparing for the Police Response
  o Priority of Work
  o Medical Issues
  o The Conceal Handgun License

- Other Considerations
  o Exercises and Drills

- Preparing for the Aftermath