

# Your “active shooter” safety information



City of Aliso Viejo



PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR REFERENCE

## Preparing together.

### What is an active shooter?

An active shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area, typically through the use of firearms.

## Run. Hide. Fight.



### TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE OR SET IN AIRPLANE MODE

Phones that buzz or ring will bring attention to places of hiding.



### RUN

**Find an escape route** and try to leave the premises if there is an accessible path.

Be sure to:

- practice escape routes with friends
- learn different pathways
- don't linger or try to convince others to follow you
- leave your belongings behind

- only when possible, try to help others
- prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- keep your hands visible
- follow the instructions of any police deputies
- do not attempt to move wounded people
- call 911 when you are away from the danger area



### HIDE

**Hide** where the active shooter is less likely to find you.

Your hiding place should:

- be out of the active shooter's view
- provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (like an office with a closed and locked door)
- your hiding place should not trap you or restrict your options for movement

To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:

- lock doors, turn off lights, close blinds/curtains
- blockade the door with heavy furniture

If the active shooter is nearby:

- lock the door
- shut down your cell phone or put in airplane mode
- silence any source of noise—like phones, radios, televisions, etc.—remain quiet
- hide behind large items—cabinets, desks, etc.)



### FIGHT

**As a last resort**, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the active shooter by:

- acting as aggressively as possible against the shooter
- throwing items and improvising weapons
- yelling
- committing to your actions

If evacuation and hiding out are not possible:

- try to remain calm
- with your phone in airplane mode, dial 911 to alert police to the active shooter's location
- if you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen



# What to expect from law enforcement

## 1 Arrival

The first deputies to arrive on scene will not stop to help injured people or set up a staging area. They will immediately enter to engage the shooter.

- Rescue teams that include deputies and emergency medical personnel will follow the initial deputies and will treat and remove any injured people. They may also call upon you, if you are able, to help remove the wounded from the premises.

## 2 Purpose

Law enforcement's purpose is to stop the active shooter as soon as possible. Deputies will go directly to the area where the last shots were heard.

- Deputies usually arrive in teams of four (4)
- Deputies may wear regular patrol uniforms or external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical equipment
- Deputies may be armed with guns
- Deputies may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation
- Deputies may shout commands, and may push individuals to the ground for their safety

## 3 Your response

When law enforcement arrives:

- try to remain calm
- follow deputies' instructions
- do not carry anything in your hands, including bags, jackets, books, etc.
- keep hands visible at all times—raise your hands and spread your fingers
- avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
- avoid pointing, screaming and yelling
- do not stop to ask deputies for help or directions for evacuating, just proceed in the direction the deputies are entering the premises

## 4 Provide information

When you are in a safe place, provide the following information to law enforcement or 911 operator:

- location of the active shooter
- number of shooters, if more than one
- physical description of shooter/s
- number and type of weapons held by the shooter/s
- number of potential victims at the location



## Getting in touch with family

once you have reached a safe location or an assembly point, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control

all witnesses will be identified and questioned

do not leave until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so



## Report threats and suspicious activity

**ALL THREATS AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY MUST BE REPORTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.**

ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT TAKES THREATS SERIOUSLY AND WILL INVESTIGATE.

# To submit a tip or lead.

**This information could save your life! Share it with your family, neighbors and friends.**

**Orange County Sheriff's Department**  
 Emergency or Crime in Progress: 911  
 Non-Emergency Dispatch:  
 (714) 647-7000 or (949) 770-6011

**Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)**  
<https://tips.fbi.gov/>  
 Major Case Contact Center:  
 1-800-CALLFBI (225-5324)

**OC Crime Stoppers**  
 1-855-TIP-OCCS (847-6227)  
<http://occrimestoppers.org/submit-a-tip/>

