

MASS SHOOTING/ACTIVE SHOOTER FIRST RESPONDER AWARENESS CARD

It appears that the "bad guys" (criminals and terrorists) are more determined, violent and heavily armed than ever before. Crisis situations such as terrorist events, criminal attacks and active shooters are occurring with alarming frequency.

Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS and Emergency Management must adapt to the changes in society so that appropriate delivery of emergency services is ensured in a crisis.

DISPATCH AND RESPONSE PHASE

- Nature of the call and location are important. When responding get all the dispatch information available.
- Current threat environment could be applicable to a mass shooting/active shooter response. Any current threats, planned events or intelligence reference the location? Is location a soft target?

ARRIVAL ON SCENE

- Slow down when approaching the area and conduct a 360-degree scan during your "windshield survey".
- Look for people and objects that seem out of place for the location or time of the call - if it looks suspicious it probably is.
- Use Staging Area to limit number of responders - don't stack up responders and resources in one location.
- Quickly establish an outer security perimeter.
- ***ALWAYS BE AWARE OF SECONDARY ATTACKS AND DEVICES!***

APPROACHING THE AREA

- Utilize Incident Command System (ICS) and Unified Command **ASAP!**
- Establish hazard Control Zones around the suspected or actual event (Hot, Warm, Cold). Limit the number of responders entering the "Hot Zone".
- Always have an escape route open to leave the scene quickly if needed.
- Scan the area using binoculars; spotting scopes or vehicle-mounted cameras if possible before approaching.
- If you must approach the event use shielding and cover to your advantage.
- **Law Enforcement will deploy quickly using Rapid Deployment tactics.**

Response sheet is for training and informational purposes only. Please utilize local guidelines and procedures.

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RESPONSE

- *Responder's safety is paramount during this type of event!*
- Fire and EMS should remain in staging area until the scene is secured by law enforcement when possible.
- Situations could become a hostage situation.
- Armed perpetrator(s) may have fled the scene, may be injured/fatality or remain on the scene.
- Immediate interagency cooperation/Unified Command is essential.
- Body armor should be obtained for those responding into the "impact" area.
- Fire and EMS personnel should wear helmets and clearly marked Fire or EMS jackets.
- EMS may need to implement disaster procedures such as triage tags, casualty collection points and field treatment areas for minor injuries.
- Staging, command, triage, and treatment areas MAY have to be ½ to 1 mile away from the scene due to the distance a round can travel.

FIRE/EMS

- Only enter the scene if it is confirmed that all suspects are confined!
- Only a small number of fire and/or EMS personnel should enter under these circumstances.
- May adopt a "scoop and run" response during an active threat.
- Additional law enforcement officers should ensure safe passage.
- The healthy civilians can help evacuate the walking wounded.

PLANNING

- **Multi-agency pre-planning is critical!**
- Notify all key agencies supporting entities as soon as possible (Emergency Management, Hospitals, etc.)
- Be prepared for schools, businesses and other locations to be in a "lockdown mode".
- Plan on large and immediate media response.
- Plan on large and immediate parents, family and friends response to the incident scene.

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