Active Shooter Response

Portland Community College
Department of Public Safety
Emotional Trigger Warning

The content of this presentation focuses on active shooter events. Portland Community College Department of Public Safety understands that even discussing these events can be distressing and emotionally draining for some people. Therefore, it is our intent to foster as safe a learning environment as possible while still presenting this critical information to you.
Definition of an Active Shooter

An Active Shooter is an individual or group of people actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area without concern for his/her safety, and he or she will continue to do so until killed, commits suicide or is stopped by other intervention.
A **Lockdown** occurs when there is an active threat on campus. During a lockdown all exterior and interior doors of the affected campus are locked, and a tone alert and an active threat message is played on the public address system. The message instructs everyone to run if safe to do so, hide if it's not safe to run, and fight/confront the active threat if you are face-to-face with him.
THE LOCKDOWN MESSAGE

Strobes will start Flashing inside and outside the campus buildings

Followed by a Lockdown Alert and Instructions on inside and outside speakers
All external and internal doors that are equipped with access control will immediately be locked from the Public Safety dispatch center.
LOCKDOWN

All doors without access control will have to be locked and secured manually by someone inside the room.
ACCESS CONTROL CARDS

All access control cards are disabled during a lockdown so no one can enter a locked building and room. Exception: Public Safety and law enforcement. This prevents an active shooter from using someone's card to enter a locked building and room.
Your Recommended Response to an Active shooter is to...

This is an individual decision. You choose the option that you think is safest for you to do at the time. And it is non-linear. You could be hiding one minute if the active shooter is in your building and running away the next if the active shooter leaves your building... or vice versa.
Run!

• If you think it is safe to do so, run away from the sound of gunfire and keep running until you can’t see the campus anymore.

• Ask others to go with you, but do not wait for them!

• Do not stop in a safe assembly areas.
Hide!

- Locks, lights, out of sight
- Barricade the door
- Place cell phones on silent or vibrate but do not turn them off
- Remain silent
- Make a plan to fight/confront
- Only open the door for the police
Fight/Confront...

If an active shooter enters your room be prepared to confront or fight him. Here are your two options:
Fight/Confront…

As many people as possible gang tackle the active shooter. And when the active shooter is down on the ground everyone sits on an arm or leg until the police arrive. The active shooter will not be able to move with 400+ pounds pinning him to the floor.

Option 1. Swarm
Option 2. Distract

If you cannot participate in the gang tackle, then start throwing things at the active shooter when he enters the room. This will distract the active shooter’s attention from the people who are going to tackle him and may keep them from getting hurt.
The Alternatives to Fighting/Confronting

Freeze
You do nothing to protect Yourself or others

Negotiate
An active shooter’s goal is to kill as many people as possible until he is stopped. Attempting to negotiate just makes you an easy target.

You are almost certain to get hurt or killed with these options!
Police Response to an Active Shooter
What to Expect From The Police

Be prepared to:

- Have weapons pointed in your direction
- Be searched
- Be handcuffed
- Be treated like a suspect
What The Police Want From You

- Keep hands visible and free of weapons
- **DO NOT** point at the police or the shooter
- **DO NOT** Make quick movements
- **DO NOT** Run towards the police or attempt to hug them
- **DO NOT** Scream or yell
- Follow all instructions from the police
Putting It All Together

Please click on the following link to watch the Run. Hide. Fight video.
If Public Safety is at your campus or center... call Public Safety first at 971-722-4444 and then 911
If Public Safety is **NOT** at your campus or Center... Call 911 first and then Public Safety Emergency at 971-722-4444
These safety tips do not cover everything, but if you understand and adhere to them, your chances of surviving an active shooter incident are significantly increased.
Additional Resources

- Free “Active Shooter” smart phone APP by Michael Shields:
  - Includes the Run-Fight-Hide video
  - Includes the five phases of the pathway to violence

- Examples of resources found on-line:
  - FBI practical guide: “Workplace Violence: issues in Response.”