

# Surviving an Active Shooter

It depends on YOU



# Could it happen at Allegany? YES

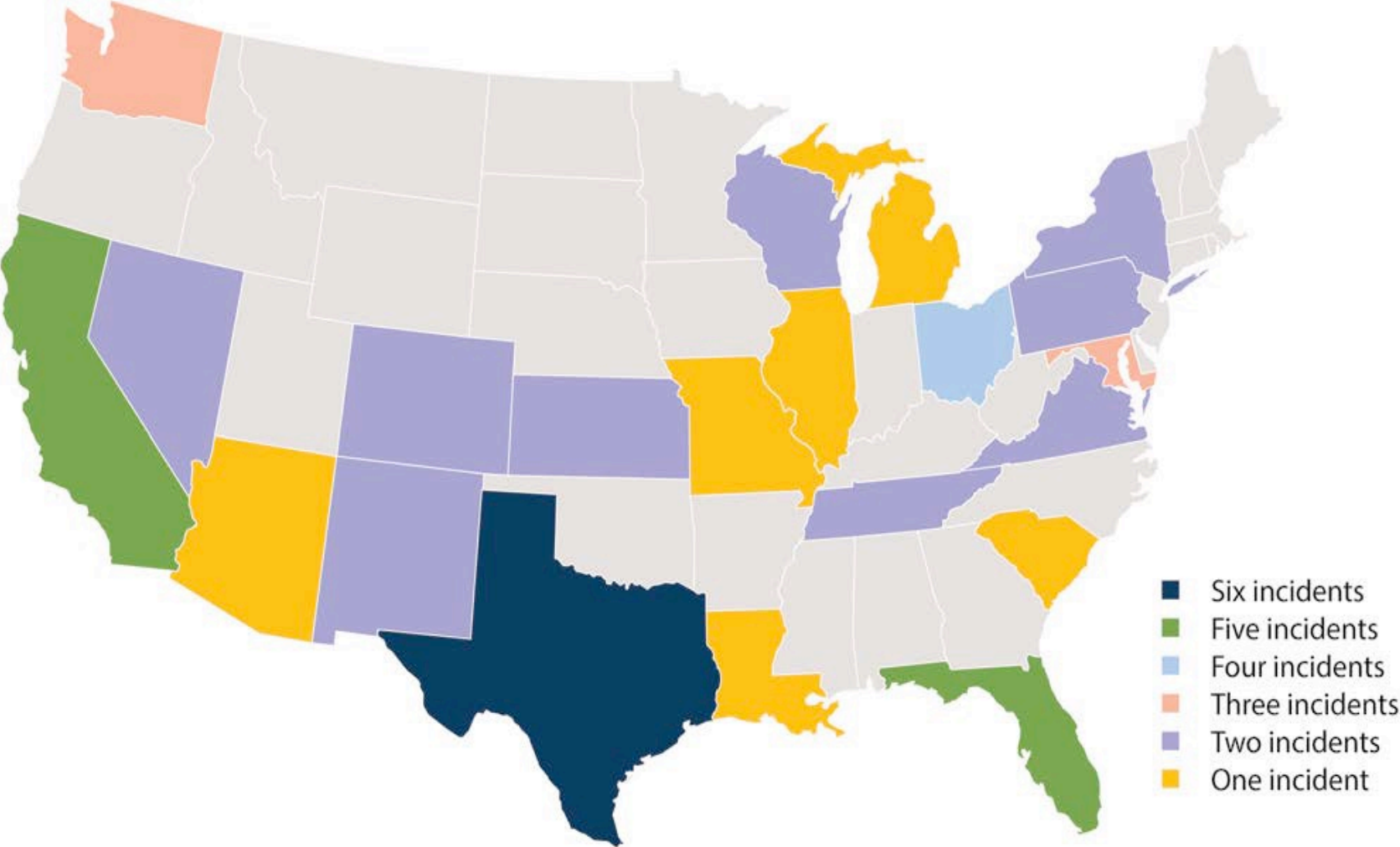
- It's a low frequency event

- Colleges and K-12 are the safest places in America
- Colleges are 7.5% of the total incidents over past 13 years
- It's easier to get hit by lightning than experience an A/Shooter
- If it happens, it's devastating

- But it's a high-impact event

- It changes the college and community forever

# 50 Incidents in 2016/2017



# Casualties

The 50 incidents resulted in 943 casualties (221 people killed and 722 people wounded, excluding the shooters).

- 58 killed and 489 wounded during the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, in 2017.
- 49 killed and 53 wounded at Pulse, a nightclub in Orlando, Florida, in 2016.
- 26 killed and 20 wounded at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, in 2017.

# How does this compare to other death rates?

In 2017,

- In Maryland, 555 people died in MV Collisions
- Nationally, 37,133 died in MV Collisions
- In Baltimore alone, over 300 died in homicide cases
- Nationally, over 80,000 died from the flu (estimated)

## Some Active Threat research findings:

- There's no common perpetrator profile
- Threat Assessment may indicate that a person is at risk, and allow for intervention (by a BIT Team)
- Others knew of the impending storm 33% of the time
- 80% were students or former students, so processes and technology did not stop them. They know how to get in.

# What's Allegany College Doing?

- IF YOU TELL US ABOUT THREATENING BEHAVIOR, the Crisis Response Team (CRT) assesses the risk and deals with the involved person:
  - Should they be separated from campus?
  - Should they be treated and evaluated before returning?
  - How best should they return, and be monitored?
- CRT acts on your reports and Campus Safety Incident Reports
- YOUR reports are YOUR witness statements describing the incident and your concerns

# Can Campus Safety & Security keep me safe?

- Active Shooter incidents break out quickly and usually without warning
- If you call 911 or (240)321-5799, help will respond immediately
- YOU need to act without delay
- Campus Safety and Security will:
  - Help you get out as they enter
  - Go directly to the threat
  - Direct the police and fire responders to the scene quickly
  - Confirm the incident and send out Alert messaging
  - Engage the Emergency Operations Center if needed (post-incident)



# Allegany's Alert Messaging (e2Campus)

- Make sure your contact info is up-to-date
- During class, keep your phone on vibrate, not silent. Place in front of you, face down, during instruction
- If you hear concerning noises before any other alert, try to investigate, or look at your phone for more info
- Usual alert order:
  - e2Campus (text alerts)
  - PA system (in-building)
  - Siren Alert (for exterior use only, usually weather)

# This training is all about YOU

- Act quickly - do something. Don't hesitate to act
- The incident will likely be over before police arrive
- RUN if told to Run - don't delay for a second
- Use your sense of fear - if the situation gives you the creeps, it's for a reason. RESPOND!

## Your likely response -

- Tunnel vision, Auditory Exclusion
- Time Dilation (things moving in slow motion)
- Out-of Body Experience - can't believe it's happening
- Reduced Motor Skills

# Denial

- In The Station Nightclub fire in 2003, when Great White was performing, the pyrotechnics started a fire. People did not want to believe it was happening,
- And they **hesitated**.
- The rush to the main entrance caused a panic and a stampede

# Deliberation

- You don't have to leave by the same entrance you came in. Check for EXIT signs
- Use WILLPOWER to overcome your fear and hesitation
- Breathe through your nose and exhale slowly. It slows your heart rate temporarily
- Don't get scared, get MAD!

# Decision

- Asses your situation, and make DECISIONS
- Is it time to Run, Hide, or Fight?
- Take control of your class or office - give direction
- Use your command voice - you have the authority!

# Influences on the incident severity

- Number of deaths - How quickly the officers arrive & confront the shooter
- Number of deaths - How the citizens respond, and take appropriate action
- Availability of places to hide
- Time of police arrival - averages 3-5 minutes, THEN they have to go to the scene of the threat

# OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

- Run, Hide, Fight Video - City of Houston
- Run, Hide, Fight Video - Ohio State

In the end, your safety is up to you



# Take Charge!

- Many of our students are transient
- We don't see them on a regular basis, and they may not dorm here
- Half will react positively, and half will freak out
- YOU must be the class leader, the shepherd
- YOU must shout orders, and make sure everyone follows
- DO NOT allow one person to get you killed

# RUN

- **Escape quickly** - the further away the better
- Do not collect in the parking lot
- Note EXITS when entering the building
- Don't wait for confirmation of your fears
- Take others with you, but don't wait for them
- Don't take anything but your phone
- Act as directed, your hands over your head
- Provide information when asked by the police

# HIDE

- **If he can't see you, he can't hurt you**
- Plan areas to hide in when you arrive in a building
- Know HOW to lock your door
- Lock or barricade the door quickly. He does not want to climb over stacked furniture to get to you, or get trapped.
- Turn out the lights, computer screen, PPT projector and cell phone screens. Absolute darkness!
- Stay silent! Disable phone ringers

# Consider the Night Lock!



Grab the Night Lock key....



Insert the “Key” in the door and floor plates...



Swing-in or Swing-out, the door is LOCKED



Turn off  
the lights



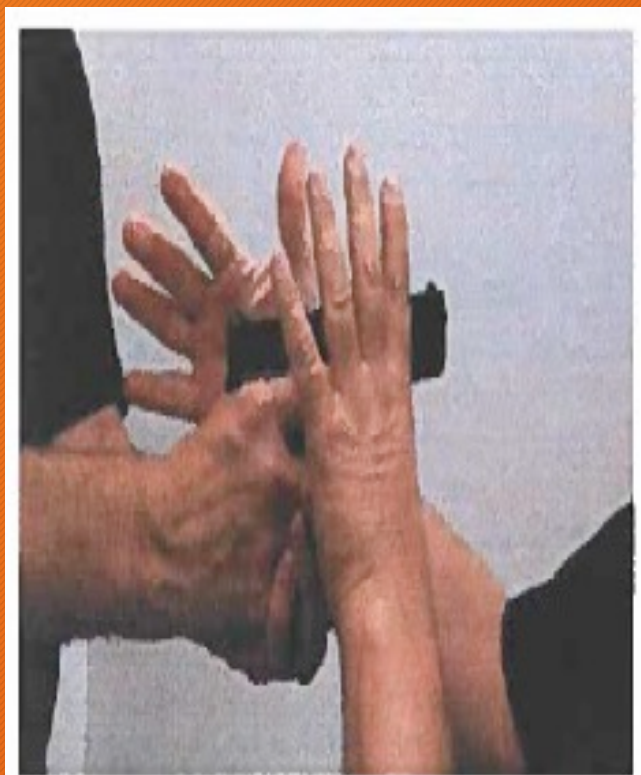
Remain Quiet  
and HIDE



# FIGHT!

- **Grab the weapon and don't let go**
- Self-defense is a recognized American right
- It is supported by CCC and DHS
- Work as a team - decide who does what. Act decisively
- Take advantage of breaks in the action and act!
- Any disruption to his plan buys you more time

# Control the weapon, not the person



Point it away, or to the ground



# Use gravity to your advantage

- If you push downward or fall to the ground, the attacker cannot aim and fire the weapon.
- **Use your weight to fall to the ground, so the weapon is out of play.**
- YOU are no longer the target: the struggle is over the weapon

# Virginia Tech case study

- 32 students and staff lost their lives
- The suspect chained the outer doors shut, and put a bomb-threat note on the doors
- Suspect went to the second floor of Norris Hall, and started shooting

# Room by Room....

- #206 - shooting started there. 92% of occupants shot
- #211 - 911 called. Door blocked with desk. 100% of occupants shot
- #207 - occupants shot, then the shooter left. Students used their bodies to block the door. More shots fired, no one hit.
- #204 - teacher shot and killed while holding the door closed. Students escaped through windows. Teacher was a Holocaust survivor
- #205 - Students had time to react. Door was blocked by large desk. Shots fired, no one hit.

# You are not helpless

- What YOU do matters
  - Time and action makes the difference
  - Consider alternatives
  - Act “on the fly”
  - Convince others to react also
- Panic is the enemy - why?

# Preparing for the Police Response

- Officers may be in uniform, or in plainclothes
- Look for a badge, uniform, insignia, and official demeanor
- They may have something on to keep themselves safe from an accidental shooting by another officer



# When the police arrive

- Priority 1 - confront the shooter
- Priority 2 - medical care, treating the injured
- Priority 3 - evacuating the survivors
- Priority 4 - securing the crime scene

# What you should do

- Follow commands exactly
- Show your hands as directed
- If told not to move, **DO NOT MOVE**

# Medical Issues

- There will be an EMS delay - why?
- People need help, so jump in if it's safe
- Take CPR and first aid training
  - Use a real or makeshift tourniquet if necessary to save a life
  - Get Stop-the-Bleed training

In the end,

- It all depends on YOU,
- And how YOU prepare for and react to a crisis.
- Use your Gift of Fear....
- Allegany Safety & Security: Ext. 555