

Mayor's Public Safety Initiative for Annapolis Businesses

Intruder/Active Shooter Emergency Action Plan

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Tendencies of a Potential Active Shooter

- Threatens harm or talks about killing others.
- Is known to start or participates in fights.
- Loses temper and self-control easily.
- Swears or uses vulgar language most of the time.

Tendencies of a Potential Active Shooter

- Possesses or draws artwork that depicts graphic images of death or violence.
- Is known to initiate domestic violence.
- Becomes frustrated easily and converts frustration into uncontrollable physical violence.

WHEN A HOSTILE PERSON(S) IS ACTIVELY CAUSING DEADLY HARM OR THE IMMINENT THREAT OF DEADLY HARM, OR IS BARRICADED WITHIN A BUILDING, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED:

A.D.D. Avoid – Deny – Defend

- *A – AVOID* Avoid Danger!
- *D – Deny* Access to your location!
- *D – Defend* Take action!

AVOID starts with your state of mind

- Pay attention to your surroundings
- Have an exit plan and alternate route of escape
- Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
- Leave your belongings behind

AVOID starts with your state of mind

- Help others escape, if possible
- Call 911 as soon as possible and report incident
- The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better
- Do not attempt to move wounded people

D – Deny

- If avoidance isn't possible; find ways to prevent the attacker from having access to you and others around you.
- Close and lock doors, barricade doorways with furniture, etc..
- Deny Access.

D – Deny

- Turn the lights off
- Barricade Door with object in room. The heavier the better
- Remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects and silence your phone
- *If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you.*

D – Deny

Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the active shooter's view
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., an office with a closed and locked door)
- Not trap you or restrict your options for movement (i.e., small closets)



D - Deny

- Turn off the lights
- Silence your cell phone and/or pager
- Turn off any source of noise (i.e., radios, televisions)
- Hide behind large items (i.e., cabinets, desks)
- Remain quiet

D – Defend

- Take action! As a last resort you have a right to defend yourself if you believe your life is in imminent danger.
- Commit to your actions and act/be as aggressive as possible against him/her

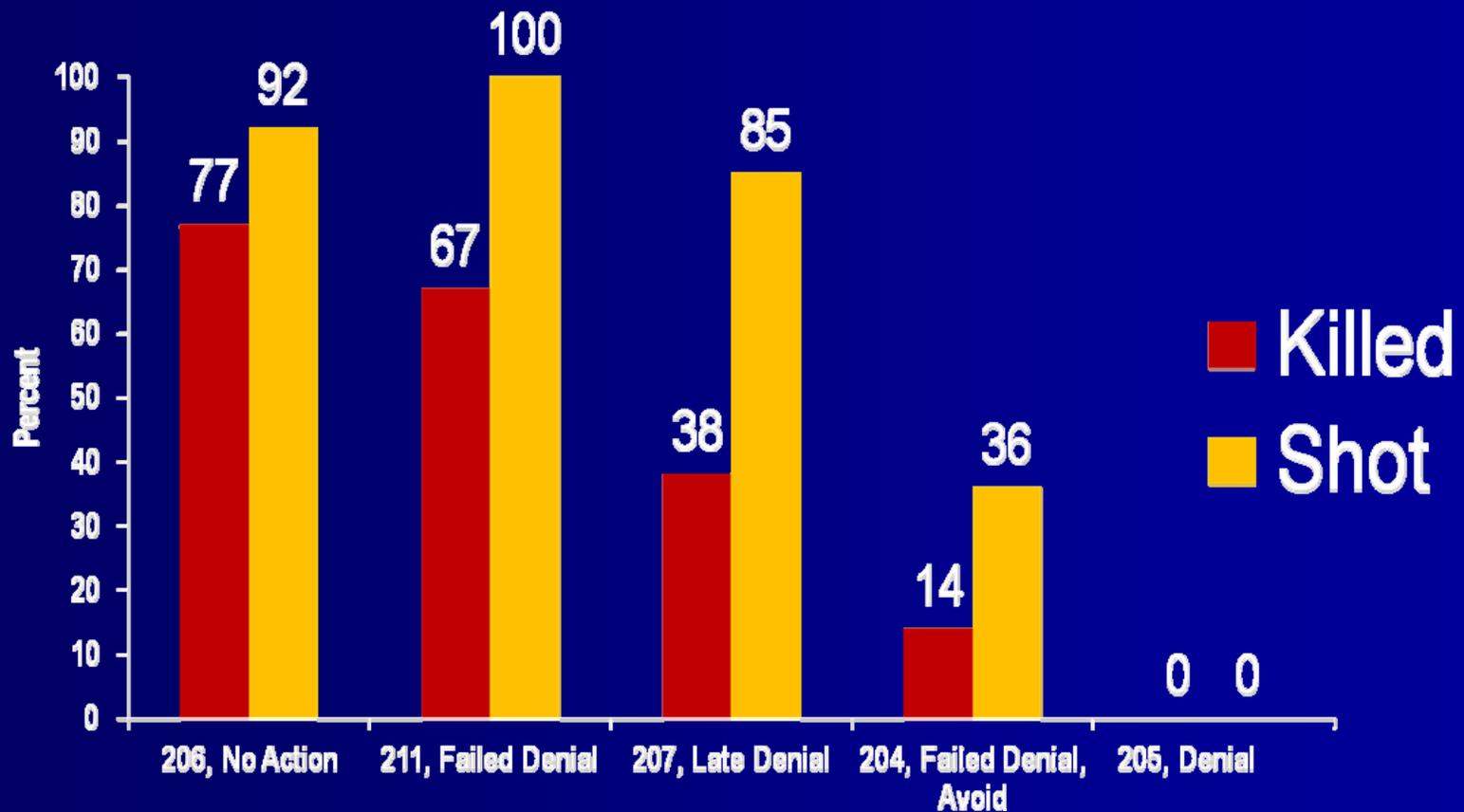
D - Defend

- Attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:
 - Throwing items and use improvised weapons
 - Yelling (Channel anger for aggression)

D - Defend

- Attack assailant as soon as they enter doorway, so that they have no time to react
- Attack weak points on body (eyes, ears, groin, etc.)
- Do not fight fair....THIS IS ABOUT SURVIVAL.

Virginia Tech Shooting



Other Important Points

- If communication is available, call 911 or other appropriate emergency #'s.
- Do not sound the fire alarm. A fire alarm would signal the occupants in the rooms to evacuate the building and possibly place them in harm as they attempt to exit.
- Stay away from windows where the assailant can see you.
- Don't stay in open areas.

Other Important Points

Once law enforcement arrives, obey all commands. This may involve your being handcuffed or made to put your hands in the air. This is done for safety reasons, and once circumstances are evaluated by law enforcement, they will give you further directions to follow.

Other Important Points

This Emergency Action Plan cannot cover every possible situation that might occur. Nevertheless, it is a training tool that can reduce the number of injuries or death if put into action as soon as a situation develops. Time is a critical factor in the management of a situation of this manner.

Helpful Resources

- A.D.D. Video from A.L.E.R.R.T:
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0It68YxLQQ>
- Search for:
 - Avoid, Deny, Defend
 - Run, Hide, Fight