Active Shooter Prevented:

Evaluating a Close Call
Overview

• **Active shooter**
  
  – DHS definition “an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.”

  – “Active Shooter” Vs “Rampage Killer”

• **Presentation goals**
Analysis

• Studies
  – NYPD – Recommendations and analysis
  – FBI – Study of Active Shooter Incidents
  – Shooter profile
    • Act alone
    • Generally male
    • Median age
    • Relationship to victims
Analysis

- Analysis
  - Frequency
  - Location
  - Weapons
  - Casualties
  - Resolution
Improvements in mitigation

- Recommendations
  - Early Identification
  - Weapons detection
  - Reaction

Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life. Customers and clients are likely to follow the lead of employees and managers during an active shooter situation.

1. EVACUATE
   - Have an escape route and plan in mind
   - Leave your belongings behind
   - Keep your hands visible

2. HIDE OUT
   - Hide in an area out of the active shooter’s view.
   - Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors

3. TAKE ACTION
   - As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
   - Attempt to incapacitate the active shooter.
   - Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter.

CALL 911 WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO
Early Identification

• Information sharing

• Threat Assessment

• Pros
  – Work well for known adversaries

• Cons
  – Information may be restricted
  – Needle in a haystack
  – Only work for known adversaries
Weapons detection

• **Pros**
  – Provides opportunity to identify weapons

• **Cons**
  – Inconvenience
  – Perception
  – Expense
  – Displacement
Reaction

• Changes in police tactics

• Staff training

• Pros
  – Limits loss of life

• Cons
  – Limits loss of life
Man in La Crosse Jail After Bringing Gun to Hospital

Posted: Sat 5:17 PM, Apr 12, 2008

A Waunakee man is in the La Crosse County Jail, after police say they found him armed with a handgun and ammunition at the Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center.

Police say 46-year-old Michael J. Barrett is being held on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and disorderly conduct.

Police responded to the La Crosse medical center just before 8 a.m. Saturday. They say Barrett initially spoke with a cafeteria employee, who was concerned with his comments.

That employee contacted hospital security, who later found Barrett and took him into custody for police.

The La Crosse Police Department says it doesn't appear Barrett had any connection to Gunderson Lutheran or its employees.
Setting

- La Crosse, Wisconsin
- Gundersen Medical Center
The incident

• **Timeline**
  
  – 7:35 – Enters facility
The incident

- **Timeline**
  - 7:35 – Enters facility
  - 7:40 – Enters cafeteria
  - 7:47 – Approached
The incident

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  - 7:35 – Enters facility
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  - 7:47 – Approached
  - 7:49 – Security/Police notified
The incident

• Timeline
  – 7:35 – Enters facility
  – 7:40 – Enters cafeteria
  – 7:47 – Approached
  – 7:49 – Security/Police notified
  – 7:51 – Location narrowed down
The incident

- **Timeline**
  - 7:35 – Enters facility
  - 7:40 – Enters cafeteria
  - 7:47 – Approached
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The incident

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  - 7:51 – Location narrowed down
  - 7:53 – Security makes contact
The incident

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  – 7:49 – Security notified
  – 7:51 – Location narrowed down
  – 7:53 – Security makes contact
  – 7:55 – Police arrive
The subject

- History of mental illness
- Prior criminal record
- Recent family issues
- Instability
- Planning
The precipitating event

- Doctor’s Hospital
  Columbus Georgia

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Aftermath

• Immediate
• Secondary
• Criminal case
Analysis - What went wrong

- Access
- Police response
- Staff notification
Analysis - What went right

- Employee awareness & engagement
Analysis - What went right

• Physical environment
  – CPTED
  – Video surveillance
Analysis - What went right

• Effective response
  – Selection
  – Communications
  – Training
  – Empowerment
Discussion

• Audience experiences...

  – What happened?
  – What went right?
  – Improvements?
Questions?

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