

# ACTIVE THREAT

An active threat involves an individual or groups who are engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. The perpetrators may use firearms, knives or other improvised weapons to cause maximum damage, in a limited time.

If faced with an active threat situation you will have to quickly decide the best way to protect your own life. You may have to use one or more of these options.



- Escape, if possible
- Have a plan in mind
- Leave your belongings
- Stay low and utilize cover
- Call Emergency Services when you are safe



- Lock/barricade the door
- Turn off the lights and any source of noise (e.g. television)
- Silence phone and turn off vibrate mode
- Hide behind large objects
- Remain very quiet



- Last resort, when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the attacker
- Use any tools available
- Commit to your actions
- Work as a team if you are in a group



## IN THE EVENT OF A KNIFE ATTACK

- Run away from the area, if possible
- Place barriers between you and the attacker while you move away
- If you are cornered, improvise a shield (e.g. backpack, chair etc.), and shove when attacked to escape
- If you cannot run away or use a shield-like object, try to protect your vital organs. Make an X with your arms, palms facing inward, and guard your center line - throat, neck, lungs, heart and arteries.



## WHEN SECURITY SERVICES ARRIVE

- Stay low
- Show your hands
- Do not make any sudden movements
- You may be cuffed, lined up and/or questioned before release

## COMPLEX COORDINATED ATTACKS

In some cases, attackers may stage a complex coordinated attack, initiated with an explosion(s) or a vehicle ramming followed by shooting and/or stabbing, striking multiple targets simultaneously or in close succession. You will need to react based on the evolving nature of the situation and limited information available.

### EXPLOSIONS

- Take cover
- Crawl to a safer place (safe haven)
- Move away from windows
- Observe for any sounds of a follow-on attack
- If you hear or see gunfire, refer to Run-Hide-Fight action plan.
- Be aware of possible subsequent explosions where emergency or security services assemble

### VEHICLE RAMMING

Attacks using vehicles as weapons are difficult to detect or prevent. These usually target public areas at peak times, with few routes of escape.

- Maintain situational awareness in crowded and tourist areas
- Agree on assembly points with your group
- If you see a car moving erratically, move out of its path, towards safety
- Try to put objects such as buildings, trees and lampposts between you and the attacker
- Do not approach the vehicle/driver, as the attack could continue with firearms and/or knives

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