

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

Related Policy: OP-060	Responsible Business Area: Facilities, Planning and Management
Effective Date: 04-10-2023	Last Revision Date: 04-10-2023
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Description:

College of Western Idaho (CWI) has established a RUN, HIDE, FIGHT Procedure for responding to an active aggressor situation. This Procedure should be utilized by the campus community who may become directly or indirectly involved in this type of situation. Full cooperation is expected during such an occurrence.

Definition:

Active Aggressor: An individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined area. In most cases, active aggressors use firearm(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Responsibilities:

Director of Safety and Security is responsible for:

- Providing guidance and oversight to CWI.
- Developing, updating, and reviewing this Procedure.
- Provide training.

Operating Procedures:

General

Active aggressor situations are unpredictable, evolve quickly, and are often over within 5-15 minutes. Individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active aggressor situation.

Handling an Active Aggressor Situation

There are three basic options to protect yourself from an active aggressor situation: RUN, HIDE, or FIGHT. Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life.

1. RUN - If an escape route is accessible, attempt to evacuate the premises. Be sure to:
 - a. Have an escape route and plan in mind.
 - b. Evacuate regardless of other's decisions to stay or follow.
 - c. Leave belongings behind.
 - d. Assist others escaping, if possible.
 - e. If safe to do so, prevent individuals from entering the area where the active aggressor may be, WARN people.
 - f. Keeps hands visible to law enforcement.
 - g. Follow first responders' instructions.
 - h. DO NOT attempt to move wounded individuals.
2. HIDE - If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where an active aggressor is less likely to find you.
 - a. Your hiding place should:
 - i. Be out of the aggressor's line of sight or view.
 - ii. Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e. closed and locked door of office or closet).
 - iii. Not trap you or restrict options for movement.
 - b. To help prevent an active aggressor from entering your hiding place:
 - i. Lock all doors.
 - ii. Barricade the door, if possible, with available items (i.e. heavy furniture, etc.).
 - c. If the active aggressor is within your vicinity:
 - i. Lock the door.
 - ii. Silence cell phones, pagers, radios, or other devices.
 - iii. Turn off sources of noise such as TVs and radios.
 - iv. Conceal yourself behind large objects such as bookcases or desks.
 - v. Remain silent, limit movement which creates noise.
3. FIGHT - Take action against the active aggressor. Take last resort measures for survival when facing imminent injury or death. Attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the aggressor by:
 - a. Acting aggressively towards the shooter engaging in physical attack.
 - b. Throwing items or using improvised weapons.
 - c. Yelling.

- d. Staying committed to your actions. Do not let up until shooter is incapacitated or disrupted.
- e. Depending on the situation, one may choose to alter these options. For example:
 - i. One might choose to FIGHT instead of RUN, HIDE.
 - ii. One might choose to HIDE instead of FIGHT, RUN.
 - iii. One might choose to RUN and then FIGHT.
 - iv. One might choose to HIDE and then FIGHT.

Each person must make their decision relevant to the situation and react accordingly.

How to Respond When Law Enforcement Arrives

Law enforcement's primary purpose is to stop the active aggressor as soon as possible. Officers will proceed directly to the area in which the threat was last heard:

- Officers usually will enter the building in teams.
- Officers may wear regular patrol uniforms or external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical equipment.
- Officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns, handguns, etc.
- Officers may use Oleoresin Capsicum spray or tear gas to control the situation.
- Officers may shout commands and may push individuals to the ground for their safety.

1. HOW TO REACT WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES

Your attention to law enforcement officers is vital for survival:

- a. Remain calm and follow officers' instructions.
- b. Put down any handheld items (i.e., bags, backpacks, jackets, etc.).
- c. Immediately raise hands and spread fingers.
- d. Always keep hands visible.
- e. Avoid making quick movements towards officers or grabbing onto them.
- f. Avoid pointing, screaming, or yelling at officers.
- g. DO NOT stop and ask officers for directions or help when evacuating.
- h. Proceed in the direction where officers are entering.

2. INFORMATION TO PROVIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT OR 911

Accurate and relevant information to law enforcement is vital for active aggressor mitigation and can be provided to on scene police or 911.

- a. Location of the active shooter.
- b. Number of active shooters.
- c. Physical description of active aggressor(s):
clothing, height, weight, hair color, type of weapon, etc.
- d. Number of weapons and explosive type devices in the area.
- e. Number of potential victims at the location.

NOTE: Arriving officers will not stop to help injured persons. Their initial response is to stop the active aggressor, so be conscious of this. Expect rescue teams comprised of additional officers and other emergency medical personnel to follow the initial response officers.

Rescue teams will treat and remove any injured persons. They may call upon able-bodied individuals to assist them in removing the wounded from the premises.

Once you have reached a safe location or an assembly point, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control and secure, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. DO NOT leave until released by law enforcement authorities.

Campus Security

Call 911

When safe to do so, call main campus security number (208.562.3333) and advise them of the emergency so they can notify CWI Security Management.

When initiating a lockout/lockdown notify campus security at 208-562-3333 if safe to do so.

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT Communication

An “Emergency Notification” will be sent via the CWI RAVE Alert messaging system to the campus community advising them of the situation and to RUN, HIDE, FIGHT.

Ending RUN, HIDE, FIGHT Status

1. An “All Clear” notification will indicate the emergency situation has been contained.

2. A sweep of all buildings will be done to ensure everyone knows the RUN, HIDE, FIGHT status has been lifted. This can be done by:
 - a. First Responders
 - b. Security
 - c. Faculty/Staff
 - d. Facilities Planning and Management designees

Sub-Section of Applicable Operating Procedures:

[OP 060](#)

Referenced:

[Campus Safety and Security website](#)

[Emergency Handbook](#)

Emergency Notification, Timely Warning, CWI Alert Procedure
Lockout/Lockdown Procedure