



The first two to five responding officers should form a single team and enter the structure. (A single officer entering a structure must understand the inherent risk assumed in taking such an action.) The first officers entering the structure should recognize that their primary objective is to stop further violence. Officers should identify and communicate locations of victims needing medical attention. If practical, and absent continued shooting, officers should treat any massive hemorrhaging that may result in the immediate loss of life.

### **A. Concepts and Principles**

Safe, effective responses to active shooters are designed around concepts and principles. The first responding officers should:

1. Stay together as much as possible and enter the involved structure quickly.
2. Maximize communication by staying in close contact with other first responders.
3. Maximize threat coverage by addressing all angles.
4. Visually search involved areas using 540 degrees of coverage around and above the team.
5. Evaluate rooms from the threshold (commonly referred to as slicing the pie).
6. Differentiate between deliberate and direct-to-threat speeds and use the appropriate speed for the circumstances.
7. Use cover-contact principles when taking suspects into custody.

### **B. Follow-On Responders**

Follow-on responders should be directed to victim locations if there is no active threat. Follow-on responders should:

1. Establish and maintain security in the area that follow-on responders occupy.
2. Consider the involved structure as unsearched.
3. Not enter a hallway unannounced if it is occupied by other officers.
4. Unless what other officers want accomplished is very clear, move to them after notifications and conduct a face-to-face meeting.
5. Direct victims to safety by utilizing either shelter-in-place or evacuation. If evacuating, establish a cordon of first responders to the desired exit point to ensure safety of victims.
6. Establish a casualty collection point (CCP) for injured persons. The CCP should be a room or open area (if outside of the structure) capable of holding all victims with injuries that require medical treatment. A series of

rooms next to each other can be considered if casualties exceed available space.

7. Communicate with all involved responders to ensure the area remains secure while facilitating victim treatment.

### **C. Post-Event**

Responses to an active-shooter event must include the aftermath of the incident. Officers should apply the SIM model (Security / Immediate Action Plan / Medical).

1. Security should take priority. Responding officers must ensure that the immediate environment they are working in remains secure, particularly if the active shooter remains a threat.
2. After officers address known threats, they should formulate an immediate action plan as quickly as possible. This plan should be quick and simple and address: “if / then” – the fluid variables of the situation.
3. Responding officers should address medical issues as soon as they establish security and have an immediate action plan in place.

### **D. OIS Investigations**

Should there be an exchange of gunfire the agency will implement its officer-involved-shooting policy and respond accordingly.

### **V. Media Inquiry**

All requests for information should be funneled through the public information officer (PIO) or the incident commander (IC) for vetting and coordination. Consideration should be given to establishing a media staging location that is not within the immediate vicinity of the active-shooter event.