

Point Loma Nazarene University

Active Shooter / Violent Intruder Protocol

This information is provided to assist PLNU Faculty, Staff, and Students in making the best possible decisions in the event of an on-campus active shooter or violent intruder event. Experience has shown that Shelter-in-Place may not always be the best response.

An Active Shooter/Violent Intruder is a person actively engaged in violent behavior seeking to injure or kill as many victims as possible within a condensed period of time prior to the arrival of law enforcement.

These situations leave little or no time for planning and normally require law enforcement to take immediate action to terminate the threat. In each situation it is critical to quickly evaluate your options and react. Although not all inclusive, the following are steps to consider. Thinking of your response now will greatly increase your likelihood of survival.

1. **RUN**

- Put as much distance as possible between you and the shooter.
- Have an escape route in mind.
- Evacuate whether or not others agree to follow.
- Leave personal belongings behind.
- Keep your hands visible and empty.
- Follow instructions of law enforcement.
- Monitor your cell phone for emergency text messages.

2. **Hide**

If you are in a classroom or office and you feel it is not safe to run, stay there, lock the door and evaluate the following:

- What is the location of the shooter(s)?
- Can you safely evacuate the location? Consider alternate exits such as windows.
- Silence any sources of noise (cell phones, radios, televisions).
- Hide behind large solid objects.
- If safe to do so, call 9-1-1 to notify police of incident.
- If you cannot speak, leave the line open to allow the dispatcher to listen.
- If the door does not lock, use heavy furniture to barricade the door.

3. **Fight**

As a last resort, and only if your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the intruder(s) by:

- Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her.
- Throwing items and improvising weapons (textbooks, chairs, desks, laptops, lamps).
- Yell, scream, make loud noises
- Do not give up and do not be a victim.