

**Active Assailant
Mass Casualty Event**



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Ft. Myers, FL 33912

EMERGENCY 9-1-1
Non-Emergency 239-477-1000
www.sheriffleefl.org

“Proud to Serve”

You heard gunshots, or an explosion, saw someone stabbing people, or a vehicle purposefully drive into a crowd...*now what?* Do you have a plan? How prepared are you?

Do you Run, Hide, Fight?

If you **run** –

- Leave your belongings behind
- Put your hands in the air
- Visualize your escape routes
- Avoid escalators and elevators

If you **hide** –

- Lock and barricade doors with heavy furniture
- Close and lock all windows
- Close blinds and cover windows
- Turn off lights
- Silence all electronic devices – *phones on vibrate can be heard*
- Remain silent
- Look for other avenues of escape
- Locate possible weapons
- When safe, find a way to communicate with first responders

If you **fight** –

- What can you use as a weapon?
- Are others around who can and will join you?

Your goal is to disrupt or incapacitate the assailant using aggressive force and items in your environment when running or hiding is not an option.

Preparation Is Key

Before anything happens, develop plans for when you are eating at your favorite restaurant, out shopping, visiting a sick friend at the hospital or attending an outdoor event.

Create a plan of action...is there an escape route, where can you hide, what do you have at your disposal if you need to fight? A few minutes of pre-planning can be the difference between surviving a mass casualty event and not.

You should consider taking a basic first aid class where you learn what to do as a Bystander Responder. Learn how to stop the bleeding and administer basic first aid before First Responders arrive on scene. Remember, law enforcements first role at a mass casualty event, such as an active shooter is to stop the threat. Once the threat has been neutralized, first aid can begin. It is up to each of us to become Bystander Responders and know how to help those around us in an emergency.

Calling 9-1-1

Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. There are several questions these highly trained emergency call-takers will ask to get the right help to you as quickly as possible.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office follows the National Emergency Dispatch protocol developed with the assistance of the National Tactical Officers Association.

Key Questions Asked

- What type of weapon(s) are involved?
 - ▶ (Gun) How many shots have been fired?
 - ▶ (Gun) When was the last time you heard shots fired?

- How many suspects are involved?
- Where is the suspect now?
 - ▶ (Suspect left/leaving) How did s/he leave?
 - Vehicle description?
 - What direction of travel?
- Description of suspect(s)?
- Can you safely evacuate/leave the building/area?
- **(Lockdown)** Where exactly are you?
 - ▶ What is the best way to get to you?
 - ▶ How many people are with you?
- How many people are in the building/area?
- Does the suspect appear to be wearing a bulletproof vest or body armor?
- Did you see the suspect carrying anything?
 - ▶ (Yes) Describe it to me
- Did you hear the suspect saying anything?
 - ▶ (Yes) What did s/he say?
- **(Suspect on scene)** Did s/he arrive in a vehicle?
 - ▶ (Yes) Describe the vehicle.
 - ▶ (Yes) Where is the vehicle now?
- Has the suspect taken any hostages?
 - ▶ (Yes) How many?
 - ▶ (Yes) Exactly where are they?
- How many people are injured?
- Is there anything else you can tell me?

These are a few key questions you may be asked. Your answers may determine the next set of questions.

Directions You May Hear

Depending on the answers you give and the situation at hand, the 9-1-1 call-taker may suggest you take certain actions.

Evacuation:

If you are able to safely leave the area you may hear the 9-1-1 Call-Taker say:

- **Get out** of the building/area **even** if others will not follow.
- **Help** others escape, **if possible**.
- Take an evacuation path that is **away from the suspect**.
- **Warn others** of the situation as you escape.
- **Do not** attempt to **move** wounded people.
- **Do not** rush **towards officers**, keep your **hands visible** at all times, and **follow** all of their **commands**.
- Can you take your phone with you?
 - ▶ (No) Call us back from a safe location, if possible.

Lockdown:

- **Gather** those around you and **go** to the **nearest** room with a **locking door**.
- **Do not** leave your current location if you feel the **suspect will see or find you**.
- Once you are **inside**, **lock** and **barricade** the door with heavy objects.
- Try to **prevent** being **seen**. If you can, **turn off** the **lights** and **close** the drapes or blinds to **cover any windows**.
- **Sit or lie** on the floor **next to** the wall with the door and be as **quiet as possible**.
- **Do not answer** or **open** the door for **anyone**.
- If you are **found** and **unable** to get away, be **aggressive** and prepared to **fight for your life** by using any items you can as **weapons**. Throw objects, yell, and continue to **defend yourself**.

For more information, contact the Lee County Sheriff's Office Community Relations Section at 239-258-3280. The Lee County Sheriff's Office has Crime Prevention Specialists available to answer questions relating to this topic and other safety matters and to conduct a wide variety of educational programs free of charge.

Crime Prevention	239-258-3280
Public Gun Range	239-690-3999
Fraud Line	239-258-3292
Crime Stoppers	1-800-780-TIPS



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www.nextdoor.com

It is the policy of the Lee County Sheriff's Office to protect the constitutional rights of all people, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical handicap, religion or other belief system or physical characteristic; and to treat each person with respect and dignity.