

Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)

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Violent tragedies in our nation's schools, such as the 1999 attack at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, changed the response and training protocols for our first responding police officers to active shooter events. This paradigm shift away from reliance on specialized SWAT and tactical teams to resolve critical, in progress violent homicidal acts has created a new, aggressive response capability by our nation's true first responders: the patrol officer. Tested under fire and repeatedly proven to save lives, this swift and effective integrated Police, Fire and EMS response protocol is the standard for American first responders.

We partnered with the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) at Texas State University in order to utilize their Trademark and Copyrighted CRASE and Avoid, Deny, Defend (ADD) training curriculum and materials. The ALERRT Center at Texas State University was created in 2002 as a partnership between Texas State University, the San Marcos, Texas Police Department and the Hays County, Texas Sheriff's Office to address the need for active shooter response training for first responders. In 2013, ALERRT at Texas State was named the National Standard in Active Shooter Response Training by the FBI.

Participants will learn about disaster response and how to prepare for and respond to being trapped inside a building during an active shooter event. They will learn steps to take to assist law enforcement and to limit casualties. During these training sessions we identify and discuss the phases of *Disaster Response Psychology* and how to limit their impact on potential victims looking at the bigger picture of how people react in disasters and high stress events in general.

- Identify and discuss the phases of *Disaster Response Psychology* and how to limit their impact on potential victims- Ripley, Amanda. (2008). *The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes And Why*. New York: Three Rivers Press.
 - o Denial
 - o Deliberation
 - o Decisive Moment
 - o On her research she identified a three-phase process that everyone goes through during these events. People who survive go through the process faster and take better actions at the decisive moment because they have prepared beforehand.
- *Stress Response*
 - o Not having a pre-existing plan can kill you. The effects of life-threatening stress on your bodily systems severely limit your ability to both perceive information and make appropriate response plans.
- *Human Brain vs. Lizard Brain*
 - o Lizard Brain - older more primitive brain structures (emotional brain)

- Human Brain - corresponds to more modern brain structures (rational brain).
- Discussion of:
 - Profile of Shooter
 - Location
 - Shooter Connection
 - Shooting Events
- Understanding and Preparing for the Police Response
 - Priority of Work
 - Medical Issues
 - The Conceal Handgun License
- Other Considerations
 - Schools
 - Hospitals
 - Exercises and Drills
- Preparing for the Aftermath

The training is relevant, standardized, and constantly evaluated to ensure that the latest terrorist threats are addressed and planned for. We utilize the Avoid, Deny, Defend strategies. The data discussed comes from the 2014 FBI report titled a study of active shooter incidents from 2000 to 2013. The data in our presentation has been updated to include 2015 events.