



# ACTIVE SHOOTER

*Chesterfield County Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit (804) 318 - 8699*

## Active Shooter

An active shooter is an event in which one or more persons are actively engaging in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms, and there is no apparent pattern or method to their selection of victims. These situations are dynamic and evolve rapidly, with immediate deployment of law enforcement officers to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to innocent victims.



If faced with an active shooter incident, there are **THREE** things you can do that make a difference: **RUN, HIDE, FIGHT**.

### **RUN** - When an active shooter is in your vicinity:

- If there is a way out, and you can get out, **GET OUT!** This is your first and best option.
- Get out whether others agree to or not.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Discourage others from entering the danger zone.

### **HIDE** - If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide.

- Lock and/or barricade the door.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Hide behind large objects if possible.
- Remain very quiet and do not leave until directed by law enforcement officers.

### **FIGHT** - AS A LAST RESORT, and only if your life is in danger:

- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with physical aggression.
- Improvise weapons.
- Commit to your actions.

### **POLICE RESPONSE** - When law enforcement officers arrive:

- Keep your **EMPTY** hands raised and visible, with your fingers spread apart.
- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Avoid pointing or yelling.
- The first police officers to arrive will not respond to or aid those who are injured. They will go directly to the shooter.

