

Active Shooters and How to Deal with it in your library

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Active Shooter Situation CSUN 2011

- Student reported another student claimed to have a gun and wanted to shoot. This was reported to Guest Services and the Associate Dean's Office.
- Fire alarm pulled to evacuate the building quickly. Not the right call and could have endangered lives.
- Many staff didn't take their purses. Many not able to retrieve belonging until late into the evening because it takes a long time for dogs to sniff every part of a 272,000 square foot building.

Active Shooter Situation UCLA 2016

- Former student shoots UCLA Engineering Professor and tries finding another Professor to kill as well.
- Everyone at UCLA received messages via text, phone or email shortly after the situation came to light. Everyone sheltered in place and locked or blocked access to their doors.
- Made it difficult for shooter to find his next target and trapped the killer who then took his own life.

Lessons CSUN Learned from UCLA Active Shooter incident

- Many students complained that while they were informed of the shooter, they were not told where to go or what to do.
- Campuses learned to give them more instructions if possible as to where to go to be safe.
- My campus prominently provided a video at:
<http://www.csun.edu/police/activeshooter>

Lessons CSUN Learned from UCLA Active Shooter incident

- Posters across campus indicating your best options in order are:
 - Get Out
 - Hide Out
 - Help Out
 - Fight (this is your last resort when you have no other option, as it is going to be you or the shooter that will survive)

Lessons Learned from UCLA Active Shooter incident

- If you are uncertain if you can't get out safely, shelter in place, stay in the building and preferably find a room you can close.
- Lock all windows and doors.
- Do not use the elevators
- Keep track of who is with you and call 911
- Remain quietly in shelter until emergency authorities announce all clear.

When is a threat not a threat?

- February 16, 2018 – Armed Guard, working for company hired by campus leaves his gun on the dashboard of his truck and takes a picture of his gun on the dashboard with the Library in the background. He uploads this picture to Snapchat with the caption “It’s going to be a short day”.
- Within 2 hours several Snapchat users notice and reported this to police. Soon police helicopters and SWAT officers are all over campus.
- The panic and fear on campus only subsided when the SnapChat account lead to the Armed Guard, who claims he was only waiting for his fellow guard to return from the library and the short reference was to pioneer West Coast rapper “Too Short” who’s music he was listening while waiting for his friend and he didn’t mean it as a threat to campus or library.

Dealing with the Aftermath of Active Shooters or Threats of Active Shooter

- Many on the campus community were as terrified just as if there was a active shooter, even though campus authorities said from their first communication indicated a hoax was possible. There was never evidence of a active shooter nor threats from any potential shooter.
- Lots of campus people wanted assurances this would not happen. Many locked their offices, even though no lockdown was ordered. Many had a high level of anxiety and concerns as they went to classes, offices, etc., that they maybe targeted if they went along
- Some went to counseling services for help in calming their fears.
- Discussion across campus on communications across campus, including why campus didn't implement lock down procedures, while there was uncertainty as to whether or not it was a hoax.