

WORKPLACE SAFETY

Mokena Police Department

Steve Vaccaro, Chief of Police



WORKPLACE SAFETY

- Why are we here?
 - According to the U.S. Department of Labor, violence in the workplace is a serious safety and health issue
 - Approximately 2 million American workers are victims of workplace violence each year*
- Today's objectives:
 - Define workplace violence
 - Identify how the Mokena Police Department respond to acts of violence
 - Identify Best Practices

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- *Workplace violence*
 - is any act or threat of physical *violence*, harassment, intimidation, or other threatening disruptive behavior that occurs at the work site. It ranges from threats and verbal abuse to physical assaults and even homicide. It can affect and involve employees, clients, customers and visitors.

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- How will the Mokena Police respond?
 - We train to respond to a variety of business incidents
 - Burglar/Panic Alarms
 - Domestic Disturbances
 - Employee Conflicts
 - Customer Disputes
 - Unwanted Subjects
 - Critical Incidents
 - Our priorities in responding to a critical incident at your building:
 - First and foremost – **GO TO THE THREAT!!!**
 - **Elimination of the threat**
 - Removal and treatment of any injured persons.

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- What this means for you and your staff:
 - Should there be an active threat, responding officers:
 - **WILL** pass over those who are injured.
 - **WILL** give direct commands and orders to anybody present.
 - **WILL** ignore (and may physically re-direct) any person who approaches as they are moving toward the threat.
 - In spite of this, rest assured that:
 - A rescue team **WILL** be coming to assist the injured.
 - Your building **WILL** be thoroughly searched following the elimination of the threat.

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- First Steps
 - Help **US** to reduce the likelihood of a problem in your facility by actively engaging in constant:

THREAT ASSESSMENT

Inappropriate/Irrational Behavior

Implied Threats

Physical or Verbal Aggression

Expected problems

If you SEE something, SAY something...**IMMEDIATELY!!**

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- Pre-Planning
 - Cell phones and 911.
 - 10 - digit Non-emergency number (708-479-3911) should be in your phone for QUICK access.
 - Stay on the line with dispatch in order to provide updated information:
 - Subject/Suspect description
 - Subject/Suspect actions
 - Location inside/outside of your building
 - Any weapons
 - Vehicle description

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- Panic Alarms
 - Know the locations of panic alarms.
 - Know how they operate.
 - Remember your training.
 - Remember when to use/not use panic alarms.
 - Regular training should be documented.
 - Regular testing should also be documented.
- Physical plant:
 - Don't prop out of view exterior doors.
 - Keep doors that are supposed to be secured – **SECURED!!**
 - Do NOT allow entry to those who you don't know/don't belong.
 - Confront strangers – report to the police.

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“RUN, HIDE, FIGHT”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>

“Best Practice” for responding to a Violent Incident.

OUR goal is to **SAVE LIVES!!**

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- Discussion of accounting for employees during an incident.
 - Discussion of “*Employee Assembly Points*”.
 - As an EMPLOYER, how can you help?
 - *Monitor your staff*
 - *Report any concerns*
 - *EAP referrals?*
 - *What have we learned today?*
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QUESTIONS?