

# NYPD RESPONSE



The primary attention of the responding officers will be focused on your hands. If you encounter an officer, **keep your hands out, open, above your head, and most importantly, EMPTY.**

**DO NOT CARRY ANY PACKAGES OR ITEMS THAT COULD BE CONFUSED AS A WEAPON OR DEVICE.**

Do not attempt to run towards or grab onto the officers.

Resist the urge to turn suddenly or make any threatening or erratic movements.

Please understand that the primary mission of initial responding officers is to rapidly locate and neutralize the shooter. Consequently, even if you are injured, officers may initially pass you by in order to rapidly contain the threat. They, or others, will return to render aid and evacuate victims.

Once safely evacuated, be prepared to be detained for further questioning by law enforcement investigators.

Recognize that depending on the scene, threat, size, and complexity of the facility, it may take several hours for the officers to safely clear the area and find you. Until contact is made, **remain calm, quiet, and alert.**

## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

### NYPD Active Shooter Publication

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/counterterrorism/active-shooter-analysis2016.pdf>

### Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

<https://www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources>

### Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

<https://www.cisa.gov/active-shooter-Preparedness>

### Stop the Bleed Campaign

<https://www.stopthebleed.org>

### NYPD Shield

<https://www.nypdshield.org>

Or Scan  
The QR



# ACTIVE SHOOTER

## CIVILIAN RESPONSE OPTIONS



“Countering Terrorism  
Through Information Sharing”  
**NYPDSHIELD.ORG**

# ACTIVE SHOOTER

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) defines an active shooter as “an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.”

Active shooter attacks are often dynamic and unique events that may involve a wide range of tactics, targets, and motives. There is no single statistical profile of an active shooter.



## The Call/Text to 9-1-1



**Call/Text 911** as soon as it is safe to do so. Staying as calm as possible, **provide them with as much detailed information as you can**, including:

- Your name
- Your exact location (specify floor/area description)
- Specific address/area of the incident
- Number of shooters
- Last known observation of shooter(s) and the direction in which they traveled
- Physical description of the shooter (sex, race, clothing, type of weapons)
- Number of victims and their location with a brief description of injuries
- If you have heard explosions in addition to gunshots, smelled smoke, saw fire, etc.
- If you observed any suspicious devices (improvised explosive devices), provide a description and the location where it was seen
- The presence of armed security or off-duty police officers who may be mistaken as a threat



# NYPD

In the event of an active shooter/assailant attack, NYPD SHIELD recommends the civilian emergency response protocol of **avoid/barricade/confront** to those in harm's way. Each action should be understood and considered an option as each situation is different. In other words, you may not be able to avoid/run from an assailant but can follow your location's lockdown and shelter-in-place procedures, effectively barricading yourself and finding cover. You may also only have the option of confronting a shooter. Remember, there is no specific order and each person will have to make their own choice in a crisis. During an active shooter/assailant emergency, it is vital to consider the safest way/time to notify 9-1-1 and always be ready to defend yourself while exercising any of the protective options.

## AVOID

- Evacuate the building immediately if it can be done in a safe manner.
- Do NOT carry any personal belongings with you and avoid elevators (often recalled) and escalators, if possible. Remember keep your hands open and empty.
- If you are located in a high-rise building and you know the shooter is below, ascend as many floors as possible. Once a safe area is reached, secure the location and move away from the entrance to a more protected location. If the shooter is above you, move down and out of the building.
- When evacuating in the stairwell, stay pressed to the wall to allow responding officers room to ascend quickly and safely. This will also keep you out further out of sight from adjoining staircases.
- Tell others you encounter to leave as well but do not stay to convince them.



## BARRICADE

- If it is possible to do safely, move rapidly to a designated secure area/safe room of the building. It is vital to identify these locations before an incident.
- Locate areas with effective ballistics protection, not just visual concealment. Cover will stop / slow bullets whereas concealment does not.
- Lock and block the door with large heavy objects to make entry as difficult as possible. (This includes objects such as desks, tables, file cabinets, furniture, books, etc.)
- Turn off the lights, find a hiding spot inside the room, and remain quiet / silence your phone.
- Look for items that can be used as improvised weapons in case the shooter enters.
- Lastly, be prepared to wait for police arrival and entry. (see section on police response)



## CONFRONT

- As a last resort, or if your only viable option, take direct action against the shooter.
- Attempt to quickly overpower the individual with force in the most violent manner possible. If available, use improvised weapons. (e.g. scissors, coat rack, leg of a table or chair, etc.)
- If you are with other people, try to work as a collective group to overcome the shooter.
- Remember, the attack will continue unless the shooter(s) is stopped.
- Lastly, possessing and holding an attacker's weapon(s) upon police arrival may lead to you being mistaken as a threat. **DO NOT** have it or anything else in your hands when police officers arrive.



**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!**

**888-NYC-SAFE**

**NYCSAFE@NYPD.ORG**