



Active Shooter Incident at University of Alabama-Huntsville February 12, 2010

Information Cutoff Date: February 12, 2010; 1930 hrs.

NYPD SHIELD intelligence briefs are current as of the information cutoff date. The information is therefore preliminary and subject to further analysis and revision.



Overview

- At approximately 4 pm, local time, a female shooter opened fire on the campus of University Alabama-Huntsville
 - The shooter was a female member of the university faculty
 - The attack occurred at a biology faculty meeting
- Reports indicate 3 people were killed and 3 wounded
 - 2 male victims are in critical condition
 - 1 female victim is in stable condition
- The female suspect was arrested and her husband is detained
- Shooting occurred in the Shelby Center, a 200,000-square-foot science facility on the university campus
- Motive: the female opened fire when she learned she would not get a tenure faculty position as a full-time biology professor



The University of Alabama-Huntsville Campus

- Shelby Center
 - A 200,000-square-foot science building at the university campus
 - A 6-year-old, \$60 million facility
 - Named for U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama and his wife, Dr. Annette Shelby





The Attack

- Five of the victims were biology faculty members and one was a staff member
- There are multiple witnesses to the attack who have been interviewed by the police
- Students reported hearing gunfire and screams from the faculty meeting room as the attack occurred
- No information on the type of weapon used
- The suspect's identify is not yet confirmed, but some media outlets are reporting it as Dr. Amy Bishop, a Harvard trained neuroscientist and biology professor
- The University's Biology Department webpage has been temporarily removed and a notice about the shooting is currently posted



Police Response

- The shooting was called in to police at 4:00 pm
- Police arrived on campus by 4:01pm, and residence halls were secured by 4:10 pm
- The building was secured by 4:45 pm and cleared after 5:30 pm
- Alerts are reported to have been sent out around approximately 5:00 pm on the UA Huntsville's alert system
- Other buildings were placed in lockdown, but have been cleared
- Police search is complete and the campus is shut down until further notice
- There is a command center set up at Madison Hall, Room 109



Implications for NYC

- Active shooter attacks continue to plague school campuses, workplaces, and public venues
- Attacks by disgruntled employees can take place at any workplace and at any time
- While it is the responsibility of law enforcement to respond to such incidents, prevention and initial response to active shooter events fall upon facility security personnel and employees



Sources

- *“3 Dead In Ala. University Shooting,”* MSNBC Breaking News, February 12, 2010.
- *“3 Killed In Alabama University Shooting,”* CNN, February 12, 2010.
- *“3 People Killed, Three More Wounded In Shooting At UA Huntsville,”* LA Times, February 12, 2010.
- *“University Of Alabama In Huntsville Closed After Shooting, Hotline Set Up For Students And Parents,”* Huntsville Times, February 12, 2010.



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NYPD SHIELD Website

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