



Homeland
Security



Federal Bureau
of Investigation

JOINT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

(U//FOUO) Recent Active Shooter Incidents Highlight Need for Continued Vigilance

27 December 2012

(U) Scope

(U//FOUO) This Joint Intelligence Bulletin (JIB) is intended to provide information on the recent active shooter incidents that have taken place in the Homeland. This information is provided to support the activities of DHS and FBI and to assist private sector security officials and federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement in identifying protective and support measures relating to active shooters.

(U//FOUO) For the purpose of this report, an “active shooter” is defined as one or more individuals participating in a random or systematic killing spree demonstrating their intent to harm others with a firearm. An active shooter’s objective is that of mass murder, rather than committing traditional criminal acts, such as robbery or hostage-taking. Active shooter attacks are dynamic incidents that vary greatly from one to another.

(U//FOUO) Information contained in this JIB is current as of 1630, 27 December 2012.

IA-0€ H-13

(U) Warning: This joint DHS/FBI document is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It is subject to release restrictions as detailed in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 482) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS and FBI policy for FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, media, or other personnel who do not have an authorized need-to-know without appropriate prior authorization.

(U) Key Findings

(U//FOUO) Recent shootings underscore the need for private sector security officials and law enforcement to ensure that protective and crisis response measures are in place and up-to-date.

(U//FOUO) The FBI analyzed 154 active shooter events in the United States between 2002 and 2012 (to date) that included three or more individuals being shot.*

(U//FOUO) Motivations for active shooting incidents are difficult to fully determine. The shooter was deceased after 51 percent of these events (43 percent committed suicide and 8 percent were shot and killed by responders). Forty-five percent of active shooters were arrested and 4 percent remain unidentified. A clear motivation was never determined in 40 percent of cases analyzed; however, the most common identified motivations were found to be workplace retaliation (21 percent), domestic disputes (14 percent), and academic retaliation by a current or former student (7 percent).

(U//FOUO) The shooter was male in 96 percent of cases analyzed. The shooter acted alone 96 percent of the time. Active shooter events most commonly occurred in a workplace environment (37 percent) or academic setting (17 percent).

(U//FOUO) From investigations and analysis, many active shooters were described as social isolates, harbored feelings of hate and anger, and/or had some reported contact with mental health professionals. Mental illness is commonly referenced as a potential contributing factor, but its causal impact on the attack can only be speculated. Very few active shooters had previous arrests for violent crimes. Common catalysts or triggers observed include: loss of significant relationships, changes in financial status, loss of a job, changes in living arrangements, major adverse changes to life circumstances, and/or feelings of humiliation or rejection on the part of the shooter.

(U) Suggested Protective and Crisis Response Measures

(U//FOUO) The following protective and crisis response measures may assist or augment existing safety, security, and counterterrorism efforts at commercial and public facilities. Facilities should review and update existing emergency and crisis management procedures using these measures. Officials should consider the following measures for everyday security:

- (U//FOUO) Review, update, and validate all emergency and crisis management plans.
- (U//FOUO) Coordinate response plans across functional disciplines (e.g. police, fire, EMS, hospitals, school districts, and private sector) and regions to maximize response in a large incident.
- (U//FOUO) Conduct exercises of emergency and crisis management plans.
- (U//FOUO) Raise awareness among employees by conducting “all hazards” awareness training.

* (U//FOUO) For the purpose of this analysis, the shooter was considered one of the three individuals shot if they committed suicide or were shot and killed by a responder.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

- (U//FOUO) Raise community awareness of potential threats and vulnerabilities.
- (U//FOUO) Ensure the staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities during a crisis and exercise these responsibilities.
- (U//FOUO) Ensure that emergency communications equipment is present and operable. Practice emergency communications plans and systems.
- (U//FOUO) Report suspicious activity to proper authorities, to include missing or stolen weapons.

(U) Long-Term Protective Measures

(U//FOUO) Protective measures in the long term should emphasize physical safeguards, including building enhancements that present a more robust deterrent and provide a more survivable environment. Officials should consider the following measures:

- (U//FOUO) Install secure locks on all external and internal doors and windows with quick-release capability from within for emergency escape.
- (U//FOUO) Install window and external door protection with quick-release capability from within for fire escape.
- (U//FOUO) Consider establishing safe areas within the facility for assembly and refuge during crises.*
- (U//FOUO) Consider establishing/implementing an emergency communications system such as phone trees or text messages for personnel.

(U) Indicators of Surveillance

(U//FOUO) The following activities may suggest surveillance of facilities. Independently, each indicator may represent legitimate recreational or commercial activities; however, multiple indicators could suggest a heightened threat:

- (U//FOUO) Overly interested in entry points, peak days and hours of operation, security personnel, surveillance assets (including cameras), and access controls such as alarms, barriers, doors, gates, or locks.
- (U//FOUO) Loitering, parking, or standing in the same area over multiple days with no reasonable explanation.
- (U//FOUO) Observing security reaction drills or procedures (may cause an incident to observe response).

* (U) For additional information regarding recommended law enforcement and civilian responses to an active shooter incident, refer to the Department of Homeland Security booklet, *Active Shooter: How to Respond*, October 2008.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

- (U//FOUO) Having an unusual interest in speaking with building maintenance personnel or security guards.
- (U//FOUO) Attention to or avoidance of surveillance cameras.
- (U//FOUO) Attempts to disguise appearance from visit to visit (change in hair color, style of dress).
- (U//FOUO) Interest without justification in obtaining site plans, ingress and egress routes, and information on employees or the public.
- (U//FOUO) Garments not appropriate for weather/seasons.
- (U//FOUO) Unusual behavior, such as staring at or quickly looking away from personnel or vehicles entering or leaving facilities or parking areas.
- (U//FOUO) An increase in anonymous telephone or e-mail threats in conjunction with suspected surveillance incidents, indicating possible surveillance of threat reaction procedures.
- (U//FOUO) Discreet use of still cameras and video recorders or note taking or use of sketching materials that would raise suspicion in a reasonable person.

(U//FOUO) Law enforcement agencies, security personnel, and administrators should be aware of and remain alert to indicators of surveillance activities. Officials are encouraged to review and update their evacuation plans and security and emergency policies.

(U) Reporting Notice

(U) DHS and FBI encourage recipients of this document to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to the local FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force and the state and local Fusion Center. The FBI's 24/7 Strategic Information and Operations Center can be reached by telephone number 202-323-3300 or by email at SIOC@ic.fbi.gov. The DHS National Operations Center (NOC) can be reached by telephone at (202) 282-9685 or by email at NOC.Fusion@dhs.gov. FBI regional phone numbers can be found online at <http://www.fbi.gov/contact/fo/fo.htm> and Fusion Center information may be obtained at http://www.dhs.gov/files/resources/editorial_0306.shtm. For information affecting the private sector and critical infrastructure, contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center (NICC), a sub-element of the NOC. The NICC can be reached by telephone at (202) 282-9201 or by email at NICC@dhs.gov. When available, each report submitted should include the date, time, location, type of activity, number of people and type of equipment used for the activity, the name of the submitting company or organization, and a designated point of contact.

(U) Administrative Note: Law Enforcement Response

(U//FOUO) Information contained in this intelligence bulletin is for official use only. No portion of this bulletin should be released to the media, the general public, or over nonsecure Internet servers. Release of this material could adversely affect or jeopardize investigative activities.

(U) For comments or questions related to the content or dissemination of this document, please contact the FBI Criminal Intelligence Section, at (202) 324-3000, or I&A Production Branch staff at IA.PM@hq.dhs.gov.

(U) I&A would like to invite you to participate in a brief customer feedback survey regarding this product. Your feedback is extremely important to our efforts to improve the quality and impact of our products on your mission. Please click below to access the form and then follow a few simple steps to complete and submit your response. Thank you.



(U) Tracked by: HSEC-9.1, HSEC-9.2