## **WORKPLACE VIOLENCE**

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTHLY TOPIC**

Every day, we see workplace violence on the news. However, reports and statistical analysis of workplace violence document some surprising facts:

- In 2013, 397 fatal workplace injuries in the United States were classified as homicides, which works out to 9% of all workplace deaths.
- People are more likely to die in workplace transportation accidents, falls or trips, or after getting hit by an object or equipment than by homicide.
- 21% of deaths in the workplace were committed by associates. 77% were by robbers or assailants.
- 77% of violence involved no weapon. Only 5% involved a gun.

Still, being prepared and knowing how to respond to violence in the workplace is important in case it should occur.

### Workplace Fatality



DOJ Workplace Violence 1993-2009 National Center for Victims of Crime

**Oregon State** 

## **Aggressive Employee/Customer**

During the course of your day, a fellow employee, student, or customer may become aggressive or act in a manner which makes you feel that you are in danger.

- Remain calm. If you raise your voice or response, that could cause the person to escalate their behavior
- Control your body language (don't cross your arms, roll your eyes, stare the customer down)
- Keep an object/barrier between you and the person. If no barrier is present, take a few steps away to put distance between yourself and the person
  - Call for help. Call for a co-worker to come to your aid, call campus security (737-7000), call 9-1-1
  - Quietly state that the behavior is unacceptable but you are willing to listen and work with the person if they would lower their voice
  - If a weapon is presented, quickly seek protection away from the person



Wiki how

#### **ACTIVE SHOOTER**

Some professions have a greater chance of being involved in a fatal shooting than others. In 2012, sales (and related occupations) had a workplace fatality rate of 51%. Protective service occupations (fire/law enforcement) saw a 40% workplace fatality rate. [Remember, this is out of almost 400 of all fatalities occurring in the workplace].

Whether at your work or someone else's' work, you should know what to do if you encounter someone with a weapon.

National Center for Victims of Crime



Active Shooter, U.S. Navy

- Remain calm
- Do not seek out the shooter!

#### Run / Escape

- If safe to do so, use an accessible path
- Help others escape
- Leave your belongings behind

#### Hide (if escape is not possible)

- Seek a room and lock the door. You should be out of shooter's view
- If possible, blockade the door to prevent entry
- Remain quiet with all sources of noise silenced

#### Fight (an absolute last resort)

- Fight for your life
- Be prepared to cause severe injury to the intruder
- Throw objects

#### Informational Videos:

- Run.Hide.Fight (FBI)
- Active Shooter Awareness (Homeland Security)
- Surviving an active shooting incident (Alberta Campus)

# OSU EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND WARNING INFORMATION



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OSU Alert—Sign Up

OSU Emergency Plan mobile device app—In Case of Crisis

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