



Midlothian Police Department presents

CITIZEN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

Avoid-Deny-Defend

During an act of violence (e.g. robbery, hostage situation, workplace violence, active shooter):

AVOID starts with your state of mind.

- Pay attention to your surroundings.
- Have an exit plan.
- Move away from the source of the threat as quickly as possible.
- The more distance and barriers between you and the threat, the better.

DENY when getting away is difficult or maybe even impossible.

- Keep distance between you and the source.
- Create barriers to prevent or slow down a threat from getting to you.
- Turn the lights off.
- Remain out of sight and quiet by hiding behind large objects and silence your phone.

DEFEND because you have the right to protect yourself.

- If you cannot Avoid or Deny, be prepared to defend yourself.
- Be aggressive and committed to your actions.
- Do not fight fairly. THIS IS ABOUT SURVIVAL.

CALL 911 when you are in a safe area.

When Law Enforcement arrives, **SHOW YOUR HANDS AND FOLLOW COMMANDS.**

Remember that Failure to Plan is Planning to Fail.