PUBLIC SAFETY
“Active Threat” Additional Slides
The UTA Police Department is a full-service Police Department. Officers are certified and licensed Texas Peace Officers and possess full arrest authority like all other Texas Law Enforcement Agencies.

The UTA Police Department houses the Office of Emergency Management that coordinates emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation programs for university emergency incidents or situations.

The UTA Police Department operates:

- **24** hours-a-day
- **7** days-a-week
- **365** days-a-year
The University of Texas at Arlington takes the safety of our university community seriously. While we hope that you never face an active shooter situation, we believe that preparation and awareness can make a huge difference on your personal response to a critical incident.
YOU HAVE CHOICES!

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus.

This module provides information and options for responding to an active threat, and clarifies emergency communication that you may receive. The options are not all-inclusive or chronological, but designed to address dynamic situations. This module will help you 1) assess the situation (your location, the location of the threat, type of threat, etc.), 2) identify and weigh options, and 3) develop a plan of action and commit to it.
AVOID

It starts with your state of mind.

• Be aware of your surroundings and your location relative to the threat. If safe, RUN away from loud noises, screaming and/or gunshots. If something looks or feels wrong, take action.

• Know your exit and escape route options. Use different routes as you travel around the campus, so you become familiar with different exits and escape options.

• Do NOT use elevators as emergency escape routes.
AVOID (con’t)

• Quickly get away from the threat and the affected area, if safe to do so – and stay away from it.

• Get others to leave the area, and prevent others from entering it. Assist those who need assistance (i.e. have a disability).

• If you are on campus and not in the affected area, stay where you are – shelter-in-place.
AVOID (con’t)

• If you are able to safely get to your car and leave campus, do so. If you are not on the campus, stay away from the campus.

• When safe, call UTA PD at 817-272-3003 or 911 to report the threat or situation.  
  *Calls made to 911 from UTA property will not go directly to UTA Police. 911 will transfer calls to UTA Police, so be cognizant that may add time.*

• Follow all instructions from the dispatcher.

• Always wait for the “all clear” from campus officials before returning to an affected area.
When getting away is difficult or not possible, DENY access to your room.

- Make the room look empty: turn off lights, projectors and other equipment. Close blinds and block doors with bulky items such as tables, desks and chairs.
- HIDE out of sight and remain quiet.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Lock the door. (Most campus doors can be locked from the inside by pushing the button on the door handle.)
If you can’t **AVOID** or **DENY** the threat’s entry - as a last resort - **FIGHT** and **DEFEND** yourself.

- Work with others as a team to develop a plan and commit to the actions. **Your life depends on it.**
- Position yourself by the sides of the door in order to surprise the threat when he/she enters the room – use the element of surprise to your advantage.
DEFEND (con’t)

- Scan the area for potential items that could be used to defend yourself. Such items include: fire extinguishers, books, chairs, belts, backpacks, umbrellas, boots/shoes, pens/pencils/scissors, drink containers, hot coffee, trash cans, etc.

- When using physical force, be aggressive, loud and determined in your actions. Try to gain as much control over the threat and his/her weapon as possible. This requires quick and decisive action by you and your colleagues. The goal is to keep the threat immobilized and secure the weapon.

- Be decisive and swift in all of your actions.
Your Response to Police

- Follow all Police commands.
- Show your hands and keep objects out of them.
- Do not move, unless a Police Officer tells you to do so.
- Stress will be high. You may be handcuffed, searched, told to leave, or directed to a specific area.
If you are a Licensed to Carry (LTC) holder – follow these steps to not be confused as the shooter:

• Secure or put down your weapon, show your hands, and identify yourself as a LTC holder.

• Avoid making quick movements.

• Follow commands.
MavAlert

If an emergency occurs on campus, the UTA Police Department will send an immediate notification via MavAlerts. MavAlerts provide information and direction on what actions you should take for safety.

Emergency communication may also be delivered through building intercoms, outdoor warning systems, message boards, Police personnel or Police vehicle public address systems.
During an emergency, the police department will advise our community on actions to take using the following terms:

- Evacuate
- Seek Shelter / Shelter-in-Place
- Lockdown
Emergency Communications
Evacuate

- Be aware of your surroundings and location relative to the threat. Quickly head towards safety, somewhere away from the emergency. Stay away from the threat.

- Know your exit and escape route options. Use different routes as you travel around the campus periodically, so you become familiar with different exits and escape options.

- Get others to leave the area, and prevent others from entering it. Assist those who need assistance (i.e. have a disability).

- Take your property if safe to do so.

- Do NOT use elevators as an escape route.
Emergency Communications
Seek Shelter / Shelter-in-Place

- Always be aware of your surroundings and location relative to any threats.
- If you are outside, go to the nearest building if safe to do so.
- If you are already inside a building or in a safe place, stay where you are.
- Stay away from the affected area.
- If you’re in a large, open building such as the Library, MAC, or University Center, hide in areas where you can get out of view - such as a closet, bathroom, under a desk or counter, etc.
Emergency Communications

Lockdown

- Stay in your room or building.

- Stay away from doors and windows, hide and take cover. Get out of sight.

- Silence phones and electronic devices. Remain silent. Do not let your phone give you away.

- Lock and barricade doors, close blinds, block windows, turn off lights/projectors/other equipment. Make the room look and sound empty.
During Emergencies...

- Taking a test, attending class, finishing work, or getting permission from your manager or a professor to leave is **NOT** a priority when there is an emergency.
- Follow all instructions.
- If you are not on campus, do **NOT** come to campus.
REMEMBER

If You See Something, Say Something!

If you see something or someone who appears suspicious to you, please call UTA Police at 817-272-3003 or 911 so we can intervene and/or assist the individual.
UTA Emergency: **817-272-3003** or **911** (Arlington Police will transfer to UTA Police)
Non-Emergency: 817-272-3381

police.uta.edu

The University of Texas at Arlington Police Department

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Additional Resources

To view the presentation on Avoid/Deny/Defend:

https://police.uta.edu/activeshootervideo

For additional Active Shooter videos and resources:

https://police.uta.edu/activeshooter

UTA Emergency Management resources:

https://police.uta.edu/em