



THREAT SUPPRESSION, INCORPORATED

THREAT SUPPRESSION®

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Joint Public Safety Response to the Active Assailant™

Executive Summary:

Active assailant incidents require law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, 9-1-1 communications, healthcare, and organizational leaders to operate as one system while the threat, casualty picture, and operational priorities change. Joint Public Safety Response to the Active Assailant examines the history and evolution of active assailant attacks and translates lessons from major incidents into practical decisions for integrated response. Participants examine the stopwatch of death, asymmetric tactics, tactical breaching, witness detention, force protection, fire and EMS integration, Rescue Task Force operations, casualty collection points, command and communications, and secondary hazards. The course helps agencies identify gaps in planning, training, exercises, and sustainment before an event exposes them.

THE CHALLENGE: Active assailant response is not a single-discipline problem. Law enforcement, fire, EMS, communications, and organizational leaders must act together as information and priorities change. Fragmented planning creates avoidable risk. This course provides a shared framework.

Course Overview:

Joint Public Safety Response to the Active Assailant is an eight-hour program for leaders responsible for preventing, responding to, and recovering from hostile events. It addresses firearm, vehicle-as-a-weapon, fire-as-a-weapon, mass-stabbing, explosive, chemical, and other active assailant scenarios. The course connects threat history and attacker behavior to the practical decisions that shape response outcomes, then examines the coordination required across agencies and disciplines during a rapidly changing mass-casualty event.

Length	One eight-hour day from 0800-1700 with an hour and 15 minutes for lunch.
Format	Instructor-led presentation with facilitated discussion, case-based examples, and application to local planning.
Audience	Law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, 9-1-1 communications, military, healthcare, education, government, and critical-infrastructure leaders involved in active assailant planning or response.
Class Size	Host-specific. The lecture format has no fixed enrollment limit; final attendance and room requirements are confirmed during scheduling.
Classification	Law Enforcement Sensitive / Unclassified.
Cost	\$6,000 for one full-day program. Travel and lodging are additional; government discounts may be available.

What Participants Will Learn:

The Nature of the Threat

The course begins with the history of mass-casualty and school-shooting incidents and examines how attackers modify their tactics based on prior events, research, and perceived weaknesses. Participants consider adolescent, adult, grievance-driven, revenge-oriented, workplace, and ideologically motivated assailants, while keeping the focus on the operational decisions that must follow when warning signs, intelligence, or an attack emerge.

The Stopwatch of Death and Response Priorities

Participants examine the time-sensitive relationship among threat neutralization, casualty collection, medical intervention, evacuation, and command decisions. The discussion addresses why a fast law-enforcement response remains critical but cannot, by itself, resolve the full event. The course also examines potentially preventable causes of death and the decisions that influence whether fire and EMS personnel can enter, treat, and move patients in a hostile environment.

Integrated Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, and Rescue Task Force Operations

The course addresses law-enforcement priorities, tactical breaching, force protection, witness detention, hostages and doomed captives, and the risks of blue-on-blue and blue-on-green incidents. It then connects those responsibilities to fire and EMS operations, casualty collection points, medical care, and Rescue Task Force integration. The objective is to establish a common operating picture in which each discipline understands its own mission, its dependencies, and the decisions that can create risk for other responders.

Command, Communications, and Multiple Operational Scenes

Active assailant incidents routinely create more than one operational scene. Participants examine incident command, unified communications, information organization, scene control, marking the deceased, and coordination across law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, healthcare, and organizational leadership. The course emphasizes the need to manage changing information without allowing fragmented command structures or incompatible procedures to slow the response.

9-1-1 Communications and Information Management

The course addresses the communications burden created by overwhelming call volume, competing reports, stale calls, call prioritization, protocol deconfliction, PSAP-to-PSAP coordination, and radio-system failure. Participants consider how dispatch centers support incident command, maintain accurate information, and help agencies coordinate when the public, responders, and multiple jurisdictions are reporting different parts of the same event.

Asymmetric and Complex Attack Tactics

Participants examine attacks involving firearms, vehicles, fire, mass stabbing, chemical agents, explosives, and other methods. The course uses these scenarios to demonstrate why agencies must plan for asymmetric tactics and secondary hazards rather than rely on a single active-shooter model. The discussion focuses on the operational implications of each tactic, including force protection, access, breaching, casualty care, evacuation, and the need to coordinate across specialized disciplines.

Planning, Standards, and Operational Consequences

The course closes the operational loop by connecting response practices to planning, training, exercises, sustainment, legal exposure, and organizational accountability. It is designed to support integrated planning practices addressed by NFPA 3000 and Department of the Air Force Instruction 32-2001, but the course does not make an agency or installation compliant by itself. Participants are expected to evaluate their own authorities, plans, capabilities, and gaps with appropriate subject-matter and legal personnel.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the history of mass-casualty and school-shooting incidents in the United States.
2. Describe the operational significance of adolescent, adult, grievance-driven, revenge-oriented, workplace, and terrorism-motivated active assailants.
3. Describe asymmetric active assailant attack tactics and their implications for response planning.
4. Identify active assailant attack methods, including firearm, vehicle-as-a-weapon, fire-as-a-weapon, mass-stabbing, chemical, explosive, and other attacks.
5. Explain law-enforcement priorities, tactical breaching, force protection, and other procedures for responding to an active assailant.
6. Distinguish between hostages and doomed captives and discuss the operational implications of each.
7. Describe the legal and operational considerations associated with witness detention at an active assailant event.
8. Explain medical considerations, casualty collection point operations, and treatment best practices at an active assailant event.
9. Discuss potentially preventable causes of death and the time-sensitive decisions that affect survival.
10. Describe fire-service responsibilities and the conditions required for fire and EMS personnel to operate in a hostile environment.
11. Explain integrated response models, including Rescue Task Force operations and coordination among law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, and healthcare.
12. Distinguish between static and dynamic force protection and identify which approach is appropriate in the circumstances discussed.
13. Describe the risks of blue-on-blue and blue-on-green incidents and identify planning measures that reduce those risks.
14. Explain the communications challenges created by overwhelming call volume, stale calls, protocol deconfliction, PSAP-to-PSAP coordination, and radio-system failure.
15. Describe command and coordination considerations when an active assailant incident creates multiple operational scenes.
16. Apply course concepts to identify gaps in local plans, authorities, training, exercises, and sustainment requirements.

Host Agency Requirements:

The host agency should provide an auditorium or suitable training space with seating and sightlines appropriate for the expected attendance. Technical requirements include a computer, projector or display, and audio capability adequate for the room. Because the course is designed for joint response, the host should invite the disciplines responsible for law-enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, communications, healthcare, and related command decisions. Before delivery, the host should provide the expected participant count and identify site-specific planning priorities or operational concerns that should be considered during discussion.

About Threat Suppression:

Threat Suppression, Incorporated is a research-driven safety, security, and public-safety training and consulting firm founded in 2012. The company is a leading provider of integrated active assailant training for the Department of War, providing more than 165 classes at 45 major installations. The company has invested more than 50,000 hours in internal active assailant research. Threat

Suppression serves as a principal member of NFPA 3000 and participates in multiple state and federal ASHE workgroups that shape national active assailant preparedness standards and policy.

The company's leadership has commanded active assailant events and was lead authors on the 2021 Oxford High School mass shooting after-action report, one of the most comprehensive analyses of an active assailant incident response. Threat Suppression provides active assailant preparedness, rescue task force training, emergency management support, behavioral threat assessment and management, exercises, after-action reviews, and physical security services to federal agencies, military installations, public safety organizations, healthcare systems, schools, and private organizations. Our work combines operational experience, applied research, and field-tested instruction.

To Schedule or Learn More:

Phone: 1-800-231-9106

Email: info@ThreatSuppression.com

Course Page: www.threatsuppression.com/joint-active-assailant

Website: www.threatsuppression.com

“Threat Suppression personnel are the leading experts in active assailant prevention, response, and recovery. This course clearly demonstrates their incredible knowledge and expertise.”

Carly Posey

Mother of two children who survived the Sandy Hook shooting; Mission Director, The I Love U Guys Foundation

“Our personnel implemented the lessons learned from this course at our 2025 active shooter event. The responders said the event was just like you said. We absolutely saved lives and would not have done so if it wasn't for this training.”

Gary Flores

Assistant Fire Chief, Fort Stewart / Hunter Army Airfield

“This course is monumental and groundbreaking. This is the most comprehensive course available on integrated active assailant response. I wholeheartedly recommend all agencies attend Threat Suppression's training courses.”

Sid Heal

Commander, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department SWAT (ret.); President, California Association of Tactical Officers (ret.)

“The speakers are brilliant and impeccably eloquent. They put a complex problem into simple terms for everyone to understand. This course truly defines and describes active shooters.”

Joseph Erardi, PhD

Superintendent, Newtown Public Schools, 2013–2018

“This course is the intersection of academic excellence and operational expertise. This training is fundamentally critical for anyone responsible for active attack prevention, response, and recovery. Threat Suppression is a true national security asset.”

Matthiew Langlois, MD

Chief Tactical Physician, French National Police RAID Tactical Unit; initial SWAT responder to the 2015 Paris Bataclan terror attack