



**GUARDIAN BROTHER**

CONCEPTS

AWARENESS • SAFETY • PLANNING

Active Shooter



## Disclaimer

Guardian Brothers knows the topic of Active Shooter is a highly sensitive issue. The intent behind this program is only to **educate** and **prepare** you. Our goal in an Active Shooter situation is that everyone survives. Any points of view expressed by the instructors are intended only to help accomplish that goal. These tips are generalities for consideration and not an all-inclusive list. Each case is unique and contains numerous variables, all of which cannot be accounted here.

# Learning Objectives

Be able to describe what an active shooter is

What steps to take during an active shooting

Be able to state what you should do when encountering law enforcement

Be able to describe steps to stop bleeding

Describe prevention options

# Active Shooter Facts

# What is an Active Shooter?

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security defines an Active Shooter as an **individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people** in a confined and populated area, **typically through the use of firearms.**

# What is an Active Shooter?

Someone typically armed with a deadly weapon with intent on killing.

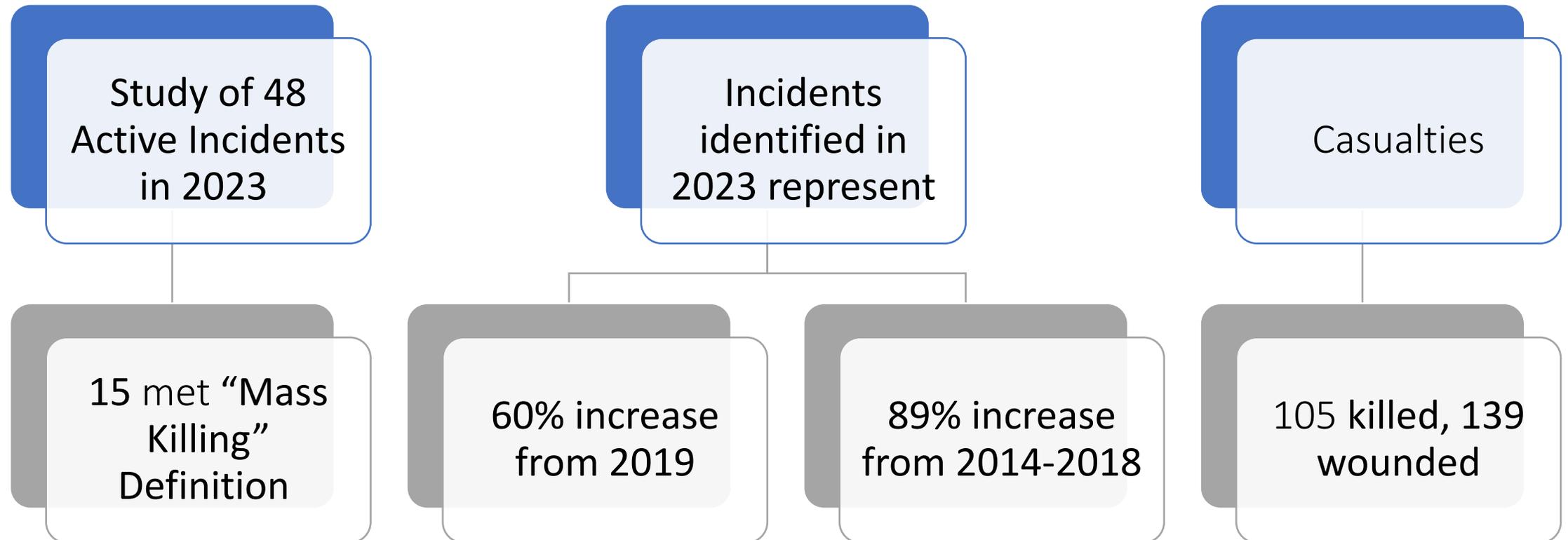
Accepts targets of opportunity.

Moves throughout the building/area until stopped.

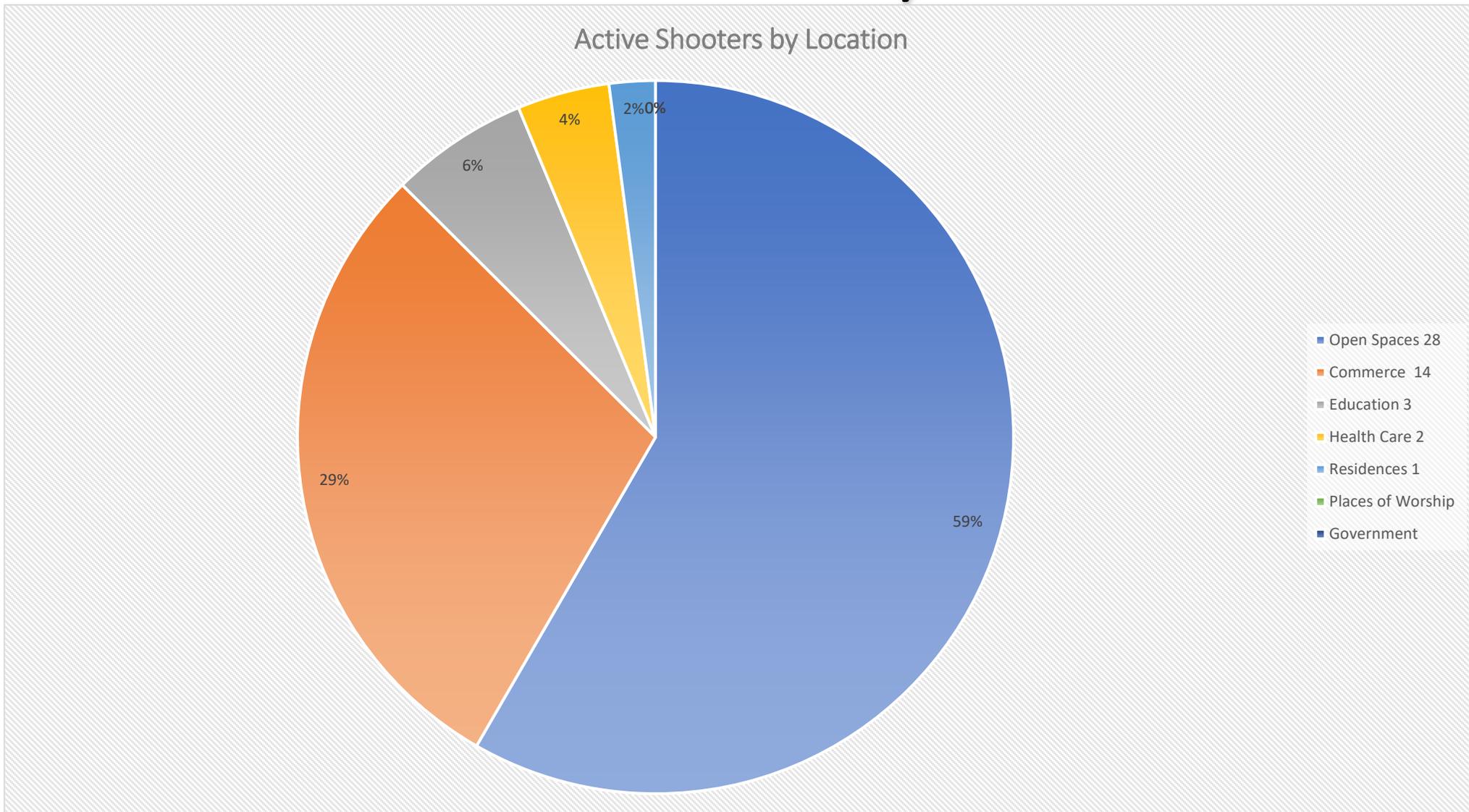
Shooter's mentality is typically not to escape but to kill and or injure.

There is no "typical profile" for an active shooter

# FBI Study



# FBI Study



Reference: FBI Study of Active Shooters 2023

# FBI Study 2023

49  
shooters

- 48 males
- 1 female/transgender male

30 shooters were apprehended by law enforcement

12 shooters were killed by law enforcement

7 shooters committed suicide

5 shooters were wearing body armor

What should you do...



**RUN**

**HIDE**

**FIGHT**

**Recognize there is Danger!!**

# Shots Fired

## Fight, Flight, or Freeze

- Studies in case after case have shown those who froze had a greater likelihood of being injured

## Sensory

- Sounds of gun fire
- Alarms blaring
- Flashing lights
- Water sprinklers going off
- People screaming

## Remain Calm

- Taking action can help restore a sense of control
- Focus on your response (Run, Hide, or Fight)
- Avoid thinking worse case scenario

Run



# Run

- Consider the location of the shooter before evacuating
  - Do not evacuate if doing so means becoming a target of opportunity
- Consider all possible ways of evacuation
  - Windows
  - Other doors
  - Stairs
- Have your evacuation route planned in your mind
- Leave your belongings

# Run

- Help others evacuate, if possible
- Keep in mind people with disabilities and how you can safely help them
- Always evacuate, even if others choose not to follow
- If you encounter police on the way out, do not interfere and follow their instructions with your hands clearly visible
- After successfully evacuating the building get to a safe place and call **911** immediately

# Scenario

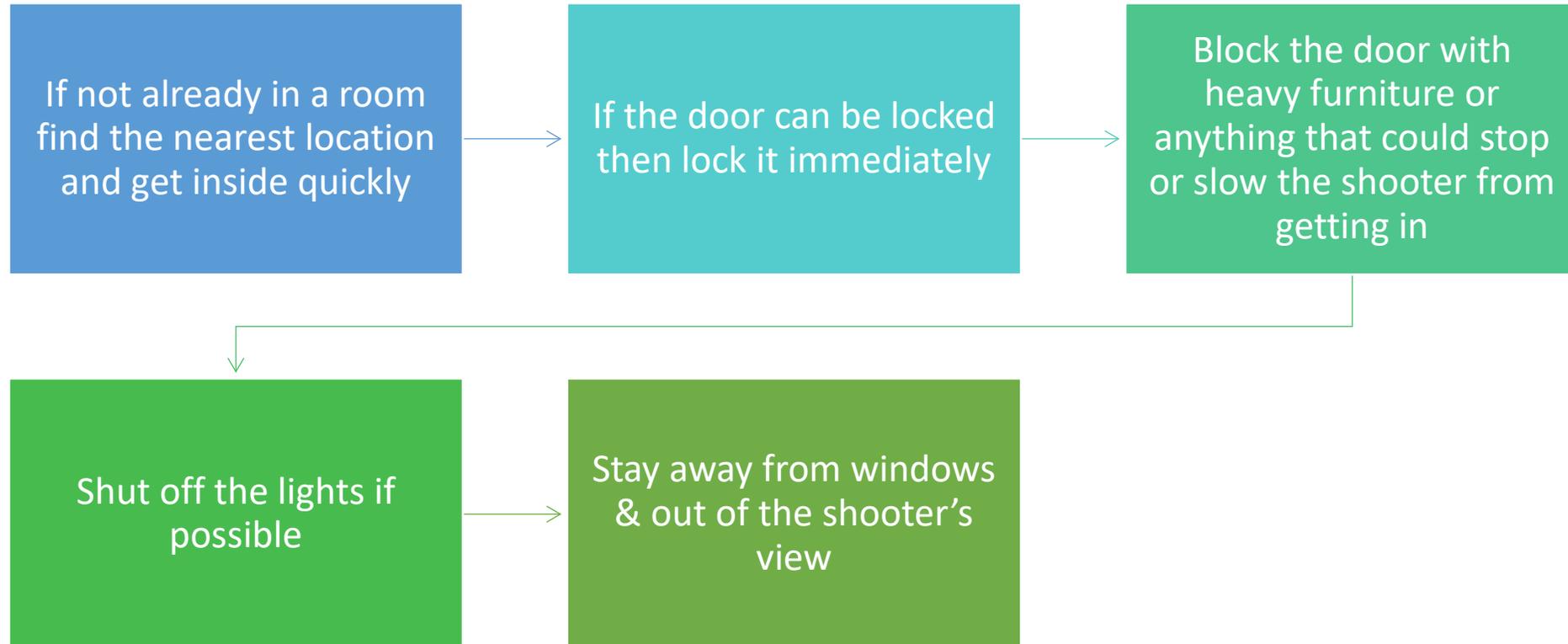
As you're evacuating the building you encounter a hallway with several people wounded from gunshots. You hear no other sounds coming from the immediate area that lead you to believe an Active Shooter is nearby. You know the area where you just came from is safe.

**What do you do next?**

Hide

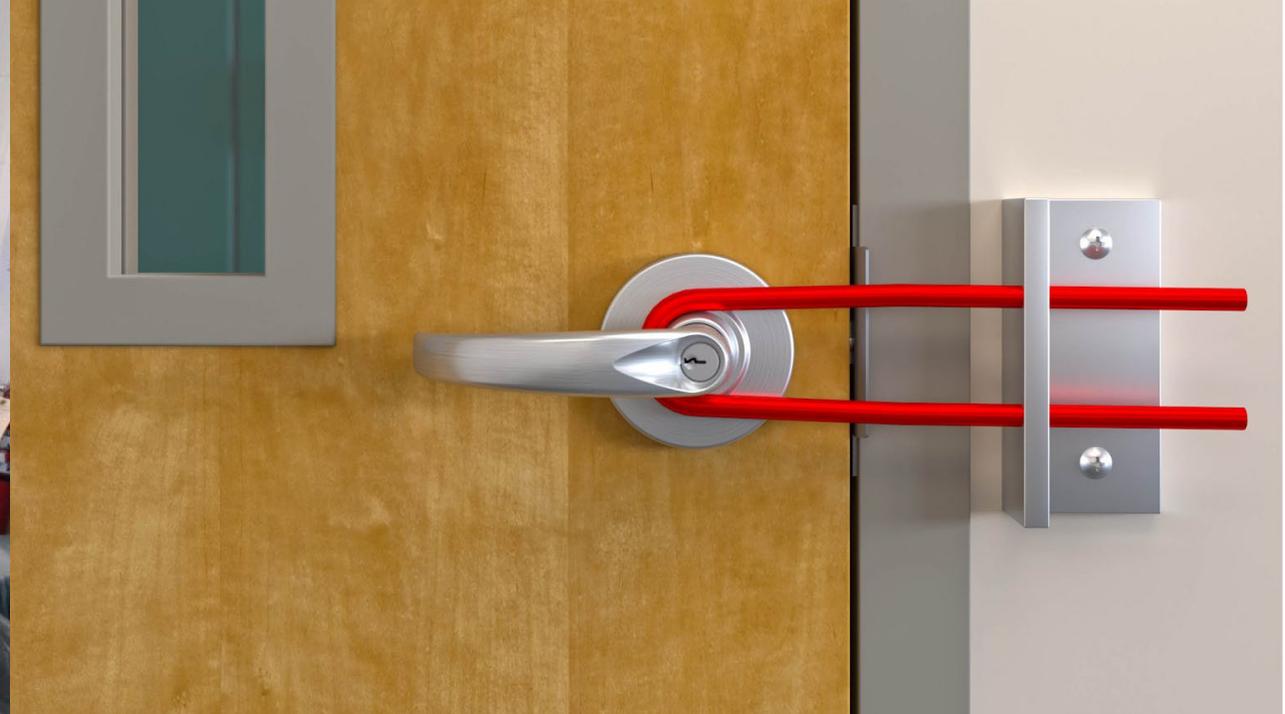


# Hide



# Hide

- Remain Calm and Quiet
- Noise Discipline - Sounds that draw unnecessary attention
  - Silence electronic devices that can give you away
  - Even a vibration setting on cell phones can give you away
- Light Discipline - Flashes of light that draw unnecessary attention
  - Avoid looking at your electronics in a dark room



Fight



# Fight

- Only when your life is in imminent danger
- Keep in mind, it is one or two shooters against the many
- Once you commit to taking action do so at 110%
- Commit to your actions with the mindset, “I am going to win and go home.” NEVER ACCEPT **FAILURE AS AN OPTION**
- Be aggressive in your attack but attack with a plan
- Virginia Tech-2007
  - 1<sup>st</sup> room attacked no one fought back and 92% of the class was shot
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> class blocked door with table which resulted in shooter shooting through door but no one was hit by the bullets

# *Distraction Team*

- Good role for individuals who are unsure if they can fight
- Natural human reaction is to avoid objects thrown
  - Interferes with the shooter's ability to shoot accurately
  - Gives others time to act
  - Will try to block or move out of objects way
- Throw any item that can be thrown at the shooter
  - Chairs, computers, books, cell phones, book bags, etc...

# Attack Team

- Good role for individuals with confidence in their abilities
- Consider what is in the room that could be used as a makeshift weapon
  - Pens
  - Belts
  - Scissors
  - Shoes
- Goal is to stop shooter from harming anyone else
  - Force on Force
  - Remove weapons and subdue

**IF YOU'RE GONNA FIGHT**



**FIGHT LIKE YOU'RE THE 3RD MONKEY IN LINE  
FOR NOAH'S ARK, AND BRUTHA IT'S STARTIN' TO RAIN!**

# Law Enforcement Arrives

- **Keep hands empty and clearly visible with fingers spread.**
- Remain calm and follow officers' directions
- Keep in mind officers will be fighting through adrenaline and tunnel vision to stay focused
- Avoid any sudden movement that could lead officers to believe you're a threat



# Preventative Measures



# Prevention

- Virtually all of these acts are premeditated rather than impulsive
- Forethought goes into target selection
- Most offenders do not threaten target directly, prior to an incident
- 81% of school shooting cases the offender told at least one person about the attack

# Prevention

- Recognizing behavior:
  - Normally an outgoing person who starts pulling away
  - Has an abnormal stressful life event taking place
  - Any act, gesture or statement that would be interpreted by a reasonable person as threatening or intimidating
  - Becomes fixated on a hate group, terrorist, or extremist material
  - Statements and behavior indicating suicidality

# Prevention

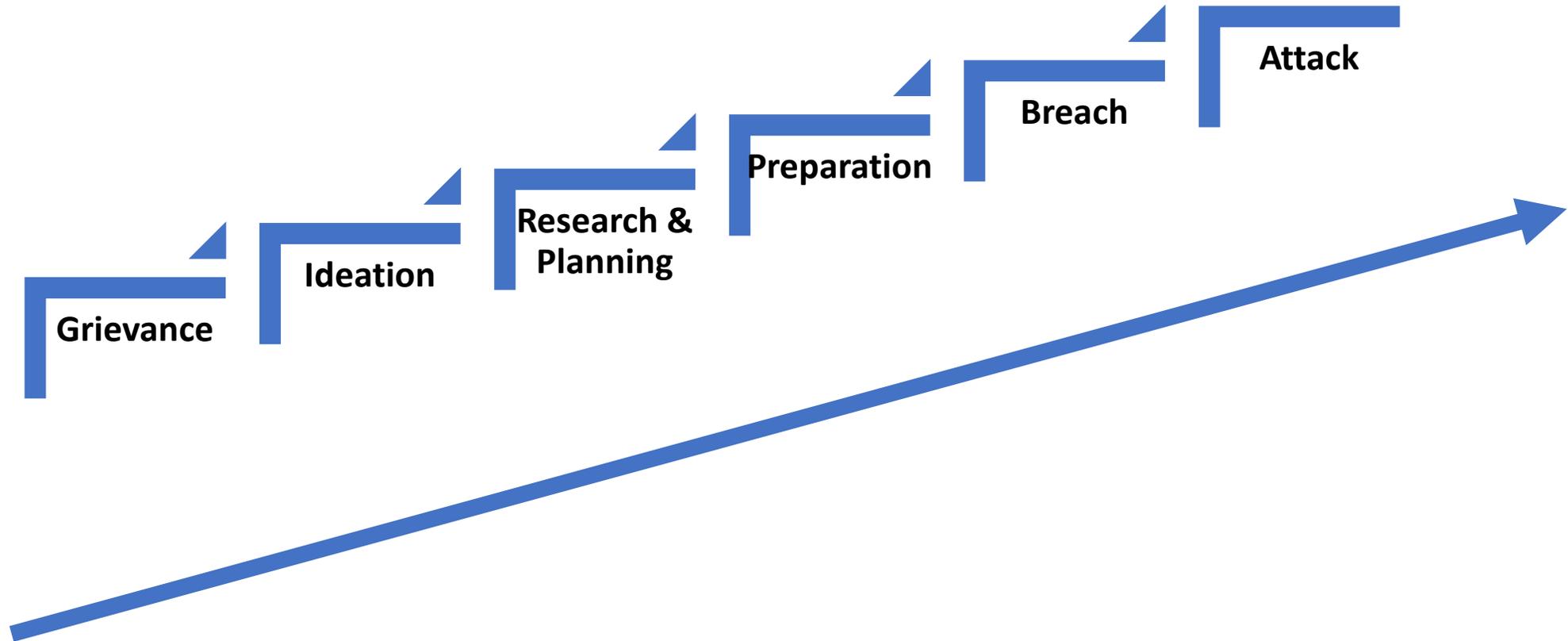
## Person of Concern (Qualities):

- Strength of coping mechanism (healthy conflict resolution)
- Attitude about self (narcissistic/entitled, injustice collector)
- Need for attention, recognition, or notoriety
- Response to rules and authority
- Preoccupation w/ violence
- Deceptiveness and manipulative

# Prevention

- Offenders intending to engage in targeted attacks generally move along an identifiable pathway
- The first step often involves a deeply held personal grievance or humiliation based on real or imagined injustices inflicted

# Pathway to Violence



# Target Hardening

- Workspace:
  - Surveillance
  - Access Control
  - Territorial Reinforcement
- Procedures:
  - Have open door meetings
  - Notify police department of meetings with high-risk persons

Questions??





**GUARDIAN BROTHER**

CONCEPTS

AWARENESS • SAFETY • PLANNING

- Expanded Active Shooter Program w/ Practical Exercises
- Conflict De-escalation Training
- Site Security Evaluations
  - Home
  - Office
- Personal Safety Training
- Custom programs



**GUARDIAN BROTHER**

CONCEPTS

AWARENESS • SAFETY • PLANNING

Mike Crawford

972-977-8014

[Mike.guardianbrothers@  
gmail.com](mailto:Mike.guardianbrothers@gmail.com)