

Active Threat

An active threat event is a dynamic and rapidly evolving emergency involving an individual actively attempting to cause serious bodily harm or death. While these incidents are rare, they require immediate action by those in the affected area. National studies indicate that most active threat incidents involve a single attacker and are often resolved within five minutes or less, frequently before law enforcement arrives on scene.

The Master's University Campus Safety Department is trained and prepared to respond immediately to active threat incidents. During an emergency, your actions in the first moments can significantly impact your safety and the safety of others.

Response Options: Run (Evacuate), Hide (Lockdown), Fight (Counter)

RUN (Evacuate) – Preferred Option

If a safe escape route is available, evacuate the area immediately. Running to safety should always be your preferred response when possible.

- Remain calm and move quickly away from the threat.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Encourage others to evacuate, but do not delay your own escape if they refuse.
- Keep your hands visible while evacuating.
- Move to a safe location away from the immediate area.
- Once safe, call 911 and then contact TMU Campus Safety.
- Provide as much information as possible, including:
 - Location of the attacker
 - Number of attackers
 - Physical description(s)

- Type of weapon(s)
- Number and location of injured persons

HIDE (Lockdown)

If evacuation is not possible, secure yourself in the safest available location.

- Move into a room and lock the door if possible.
- Barricade doors using desks, tables, or other heavy objects.
- Turn off lights and close blinds.
- Silence your cell phone and all electronic devices.
- Remain quiet and stay out of sight from windows and doors.
- Spread out within the room rather than gathering in one location.
- Do not open the door for anyone unless you are certain it is law enforcement.
- Stay in place until instructed otherwise by law enforcement or university officials.

FIGHT (Counter)

As a last resort, and only if your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt or incapacitate the attacker.

- Act aggressively and commit fully to your actions.
- Use improvised weapons such as chairs, fire extinguishers, backpacks, or other objects.
- Work together with others if possible.
- Target vulnerable areas and continue until the threat is no longer present.
- Your objective is to stop the attacker long enough to escape or allow responders to intervene.

Contact Emergency Responders

When it is safe to do so:

- Call 911 immediately.
- Contact TMU Campus Safety at (661) 713-7561.
- Provide your location, the nature of the emergency, and any information about the suspect or victims.

When Law Enforcement Arrives

Law enforcement officers' first priority is to stop the threat. They may pass injured persons and provide limited instructions while securing the area.

When law enforcement or first responders arrive:

- Remain calm.
- Follow all instructions immediately.
- Keep your hands empty, visible, and raised if directed.
- Avoid sudden movements or pointing.
- Do not run toward responding officers.
- Do not stop officers to ask questions or provide lengthy explanations.
- Proceed in the direction officers instruct you to move.

After the Incident

- Move to the designated reunification or assembly area if instructed.
- Remain available to provide information to law enforcement.
- Seek medical attention if needed.
- Utilize available counseling and support services.
- Monitor official TMU communications for updates and instructions.

As a Christ-centered community, we recognize that emergencies can occur without warning. While we diligently prepare and train to respond effectively, we ultimately place our trust in God, who is our refuge and strength in times of trouble.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." — Psalm 46:1 (ESV)

