It has certainly been a wild ride lately in the risk management business. We started the semester worried about grass fires and are ending it concerned about flooding. Still, this pales in comparison to the tragic events at some other campuses across the country, notably in Oregon and Mississippi. Accordingly, this entire newsletter is dedicated to the subject of campus security.

The Safety Guy has some thoughts (as always!) on the subject. First, it is humanly impossible to eliminate all risks when dealing with a determined armed intruder. As with any risk management issue, the approach should be how to best mitigate and manage the risk. The fact that every armed intruder event is unique and different rules out the “cookie cutter” or “checklist” approach that we are most comfortable with. To me, the appropriate approach should be three tiered and focused on training, vigilance, and reaction. Let’s take a brief look at each:

**Training:** Knowing what to do in an emergency situation is essential. Inherent in this is knowing information such as where exits are located, campus police contact info, what terms such as “shelter in place” mean, how and when to lock classroom doors etc.

**Vigilance:** If you “see something, say something”. If something doesn’t look right, it probably isn’t. Know who to report suspicious behavior to.

**Reaction:** Staff, faculty, and students should be familiar with actions to be taken in emergencies. Campus Police and other agencies train regularly to provide a rapid reaction to an emergency situation.

In closing, remember that the holidays are a time when many people are injured. Be careful setting up your holiday decorations, don’t drink and drive, and watch out for sleighs and reindeer.

*Safety Guy*
The LSU Shreveport Police Department is the law enforcement agency for the campus. All Officers are certified to the requirements set forth by Louisiana’s Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. Most have decades of experience and all train regularly for on-campus emergencies. This training often includes other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies along with medical first responders. The LSU Shreveport Police Department also trains annually in the safe and effective employment of their handguns, rifles, shotguns, Tasers and door-breaching tools. You can reach the LSU Shreveport Police Department at (318) 455-5497, #999 from an on-campus extension or via email at police@lsus.edu.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

The FBI’s website (https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-incidents) has a lot of information regarding the “hot-button” topic of Active Shooter. At this webpage, you can watch their video or look at statistical data they have compiled over the years.

Some Active Shooter statistics to think about:

- Active-shooter incidents often occur in small- and medium-sized communities where police departments are limited by budget constraints and small workforces.
- The average active-shooter incident lasts 12 minutes. Thirty-seven percent last less than 5 minutes.
- Overwhelmingly, the offender is a single shooter (98 percent), primarily male (97 percent). In 40 percent of the instances, they kill themselves.
- Two percent of the shooters bring IEDs as an additional weapon.
- In 10 percent of the cases, the shooter stops and walks away. In 20 percent of the cases, the shooter goes mobile, moving to another location.
- Forty-three percent of the time, the crime is over before police arrive. In 57 percent of the shootings, an officer arrives while the shooting is still underway.
- The shooter often stops as soon as he hears or sees law enforcement, sometimes turning his anger or aggression on law enforcement. Patrol officers are most likely responding alone or with a partner. When responding alone, 75 percent had to take action.
- A third of those officers who enter the incident alone are shot by the intruder.

There are other educational training videos available on-line as well. On YouTube, put “active shooter” in the search bar and watch the videos from Ohio State or the University of Arkansas. The message of “Run, Hide, Fight” is clearly demonstrated. Northwestern State University Police in Natchitoches also has a video on their website.

You can also take an independent study course from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s website (http://www.training.fema.gov) titled IS-907 “Active Shooter, What can you do?”
VIGILANCE......KEEP YOUR GUARD UP

The LSUS Police Department asks for everyone’s help in reporting anything that seems suspicious or dangerous to them. If you see something...SAY SOMETHING! College campuses across the country, LSU Shreveport being one of them, are unable to have Police Officers on every corner so they rely greatly on the students, faculty and staff to contact them when something is discovered.

The LSUS Police Department will investigate all matters, determine the severity of the situation and make an appropriate response. Remember, if the situation you witness is an emergency, please dial 911 first! Ways to contact emergency first responders are:

**Current federal government guidelines recommend that you… RUN! HIDE! FIGHT!**

1. Run!
   - Have an escape route and plan in mind.
   - Leave your belongings behind. Time is critical!
   - Keep your hands visible and follow all commands given by law enforcement personnel.

2. Hide!
   - Quietly hide in an area out of the active shooter’s view.
   - Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors if possible. If an escape appears, then RUN!

3. Fight!
   - As a last resort and only when your life, or others, is in imminent danger.
   - Attempt to incapacitate or subdue the active shooter.
   - Act with physical aggression or throw items at the assailant.

The LSUS Police Department trains annually as required by the Louisiana’s Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission. When doing so, we try to incorporate as much multi-agency training as possible because during major incidents; local, state and federal agencies will respond.