

# Pierce County Sheriff's Department



## Active Shooter Response Options

# Purpose

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- ❑ To present some background in the development of the Active Shooter program in order to establish historical context.
- ❑ Make clear the mission of an Active Shooter deployment, which is to:
  - Minimize the number of victims, and
  - Reduce the injury potential to the responding officers
- ❑ Outline the Active shooter training program



# Recent Worldwide AS Incidents

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- **Feb. 2, 1996 - Moses Lake, Wash.** Two students and one teacher killed, one other wounded when 14-year-old Barry Loukaitis opened fire on his algebra class. **3/1**
- **March 13, 1996 - Dunblane, Scotland** 16 children and one teacher killed at Dunblane Primary School by Thomas Hamilton, who then killed himself. 10 others wounded in attack. **17/10**
- **Feb. 19, 1997 - Bethel, Alaska** Principal and one student killed, two others wounded by Evan Ramsey, 16. **1/2**
- **March 1997 - Sanaa, Yemen** Eight people (six students and two others) at two schools killed by Mohammad Ahman al-Naziri. **8**
- **Oct. 1, 1997 - Pearl, Miss.** Two students killed and seven wounded by Luke Woodham, 16, who was also accused of killing his mother. **2/7**
- **Dec. 1, 1997 - West Paducah, Ky.** Three students killed, five wounded by Michael Carneal, 14, at Heath HS. **3/5**
- **Dec. 15, 1997 - Stamps, Ark.** Two students wounded. Colt Todd, 14, hiding in the woods and shot the students as they stood in the parking lot.
- **March 24, 1998 - Jonesboro, Ark.** Four students and one teacher killed, ten others wounded outside as Westside Middle School emptied during a false fire alarm. Mitchell Johnson, 13, and Andrew Golden, 11, shot at their classmates and teachers from the woods. **5/10**



# Recent Worldwide AS Incidents

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- **April 24, 1998 - Edinboro, Pa.** One teacher, John Gillette, killed, two students wounded at a dance at James W. Parker Middle School. Andrew Wurst, 14, was charged. **1/2**
- **May 19, 1998 - Fayetteville, Tenn.** One student killed in the parking lot at Lincoln County High School three days before he was to graduate. **1**
- **May 21, 1998 - Springfield, Ore.** Two students killed, 22 others wounded in the cafeteria at Thurston High School by 15-year-old Kip Kinkel. Kinkel had been arrested and released a day earlier for bringing a gun to school. His parents were later found dead at home. **2/22**
- **June 15, 1998 - Richmond, Va.** One teacher and one guidance counselor wounded by a 14-year-old boy in the school hallway. **0/2**
- **April 20, 1999 - Littleton, Colo.** 13 students (including killers) and one teacher killed, 23 others wounded at Columbine High School in the nation's deadliest school shooting. **13/21**
- **April 28, 1999 - Taber, Alberta, Canada** One student killed, one wounded at W. R. Myers High School in first fatal high school shooting in Canada in 20 years. The suspect, a 14-year-old boy, had dropped out of school after he was severely ostracized by his classmates. **1/1**
- **May 20, 1999 - Conyers, Ga.** Six students injured at Heritage High School by Thomas Solomon, 15, **6**
- **Nov. 19, 1999 - Deming, N.M.** Victor Cordova Jr., 12, shot and killed Araceli Tena, 13, **1**

# Recent Worldwide AS Incidents

- ❑ **Dec. 6, 1999 - Fort Gibson, Okla.** Four students wounded by Seth Trickey, 13, Fort Gibson Middle School. **0/4**
- ❑ **Dec. 7, 1999 - Veghel, Netherlands** One teacher and three students wounded by a 17-year-old student. **0/4**
- ❑ **Feb. 29, 2000 - Mount Morris Township, Mich.** Six-year-old Kayla Rolland shot dead at Buell Elementary School near Flint, Mich. By six-year-old boy with a .32-caliber handgun. **1**
- ❑ **March 2000 - Branneburg, Germany** One teacher killed by a 15-year-old student, who then shot himself. **1**
- ❑ **March 10, 2000 - Savannah, Ga.** Two students killed by Darrell Ingram, 19, while leaving a dance **2**
- ❑ **May 26, 2000 - Lake Worth, Fla.** One teacher, shot and killed at Lake Worth Middle School by Nate Brazill, 13, **1**
- ❑ **Sept. 26, 2000 - New Orleans, La.** Two students wounded with the same gun during a fight at Woodson Middle School **2**
- ❑ **Jan. 17, 2001 - Baltimore, Md.** One student shot and killed in front of Lake Clifton Eastern High School. **1**
- ❑ **Jan. 18, 2001 - Jan, Sweden** One student killed by a 17 & 19 year old **1**

# Recent Worldwide AS Incidents

- **March 5, 2001 - Santee, Calif.** Two killed and 13 wounded by Charles A. Williams, 15, at Santana HS **2/13**
- **March 7, 2001 - Williamsport, Pa.** Elizabeth Catherine Bush, 14, wounded student Kimberly Marchese in the cafeteria of Bishop Neumann High School **0/1**
- **March 22, 2001 - Granite Hills, Calif.** One teacher and three students wounded by Jason Hoffman, 18, at Granite Hills High School. A policeman shot and wounded Hoffman. **0/4**
- **March 30, 2001 - Gary, Ind.** One student killed by Donald R. Burt, Jr., a 17-year-old student who had been expelled from Lew Wallace High School. **1**
- **Nov. 12, 2001 - Caro, Mich.** Chris Buschbacher, 17, took two hostages at the Caro Learning Center before killing himself.
- **Jan. 15, 2002 New York, N.Y.** A teenager wounded two students at Martin Luther King Jr. High School. **0/2**
- **Feb. 19, 2002 - Freising, Germany** Two killed in Eching by a man at the factory from which he had been fired; he then traveled to Freising and killed the headmaster of the technical school from which he had been expelled. He also wounded another teacher before killing himself. **3/1**

# Recent Worldwide AS Incidents

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- **April 26, 2002 - Erfurt, Germany** 13 teachers, two students, and one policeman killed, ten wounded by Robert Steinhäuser, 19, at the Johann Gutenberg secondary school. Steinhäuser then killed himself. **16/10**
- **April 29, 2002 - Vlasenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina** One teacher killed, one wounded by Dragoslav Petkovic, 17, who then killed himself. **1/1**
- **April 14, 2003 - New Orleans, La.** One 15-year-old killed, and three students wounded at John McDonogh High School by gunfire from four teenagers (none were students at the school). The motive was gang-related. **1/3**
- **April 24, 2003 - Red Lion, Pa.** James Sheets, 14, killed principal Eugene Segro of Red Lion Area Junior High School before killing himself. **1**
- **Sept. 24, 2003 - Cold Spring, Minn.** Two students are killed at Rocori High School by John Jason McLaughlin, 15. **2**
- **Sept. 28, 2003 - Carmen de Patagones, Argentina.** Three students killed and 6 wounded by a 15-year-old Argentinian student in a town 620 miles south of Buenos Aires. **3/6**



# Columbine

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## □ April 20, 1999

- Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold: Killed 13 and wounded 21 in 15 minutes. Fired 188 shots.
- Total of 76 explosive devices at the school, 2 diversionary devices, 13 in their cars, 8 in their homes totaling 99 explosive devices.
- Two propane bombs in cafeteria would have killed 600+ if they worked.
- Plan was to kill as many as possible with the bombs and then kill more as they exited the school.
- They hated the world and though they had a kill list, none one it were killed. They wanted a spectacle of death and destruction.
- Well planned, poorly executed.

# Tiger by the Tail

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- ❑ Multiple bombs
- ❑ Multiple shooters
- ❑ Possible sniper
- ❑ Odor of natural gas
- ❑ Air, ground traffic
- ❑ Alarms sounding
- ❑ Fleeing students and teachers
- ❑ Arriving parents
- ❑ Media
- ❑ Triage and medical care for wounded
- ❑ Ingress/egress of emergency veh.
- ❑ Investigation of incident
- ❑ Diversion for some other event?
- ❑ Perimeter concerns

# Huge Perimeter and Search Area

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- ❑ Columbine HS enrollment at the time was 1,945 students.
- ❑ 120 teachers and 20 staff members
- ❑ The structure is 250,000 square feet and has 25 exit doors.
- ❑ Multiple large spaces such as the library, cafeteria, auditorium etc. and 75 classrooms on two floors.

# Lessons Learned

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- ❑ Incidents are spontaneous
- ❑ Suspect(s) are unpredictable
- ❑ Pre-incident signs evident (school incidents)
- ❑ Incidents involve target rich environments
- ❑ First responders were outgunned and were not sufficiently trained
- ❑ Tactical intervention too late to effectively resolve the situation
- ❑ Multi-jurisdictional issues evident

# Definitions

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## □ Active Shooter

- Suspect(s) activity is causing the immediate death or serious injury of, typically, multiple victims. The situation is not contained and there is substantial risk of ongoing danger to other victims. (Sandman call)

## □ Dynamic Situation

- The Active Shooter situation is frequently dynamic in that it is fluid, evolving and changing with constant movement, numerous victims, discovery of IEDs and other tactical challenges.



# Definitions

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## □ Static Situation

- The suspect(s) stop moving and appear to be contained. Multiple suspects can create simultaneous static and dynamic situations and uncontained static situations can become dynamic without notice.

## □ Barricaded Suspect(s)

- A static situation involving an armed suspect, (with or without hostages), who has demonstrated or voiced violence, and has fortified a position of advantage in a room or building. No indication of immediate harm to any hostages. Contain and call SWAT.

# First Responder Actions



# Responding to the Scene

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- Get whatever information you can
  - Number of suspects, description, location
  - Static or dynamic situation
  - Currently Shooting?
  - Victim locations and injuries
  - Weapons, IEDs, any stated threats or objectives
  - Get facility rep on scene (SRO, principal, owner, etc.)
  - Direct responding deputies
  - Stage fire nearby
  - Call law enforcement and fire supervisors to the scene
  - Make sure SWAT is enroute

# Arrival the Scene

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## ❑ Establish Incident Command

- First arriving deputy is in charge (unless scene commander has been designated).
- Incident command located in a safe place with the largest field of view, but may change with suspect movement.
- Go to side channel when enough people have arrived on scene. Direct arriving units for perimeter, search teams etc.
- Direct escaping/released victims to a safe location, (away from parked cars), for debrief. Suspect(s) may be among victims. Sweep victim safe area for IEDs and if possible victims should have an officer assigned for security.

# Search Team Mission Objective

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- The main mission of the search team is to stop the threat. There are many obstacles to this mission:
  - Unmanageable numbers of victims
  - Multiple suspects
  - Multiple injured victims
  - Fire and the fire alarms and sprinklers
  - Explosive devices
  - Injuries to search team members



# Tactical Considerations

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## □ Search Team(s)

- Minimum of 3 officers, 4 is better.
- Regular sized rooms can be searched by 2 officers, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> officers are there to provide movement and search team security.
- NEVER MAKE ENTRY OR MOVE ALONE.
- The team stays together all the time, do not conduct simultaneous searches.
- Use all available tactical equipment such as shields, helmets, long guns etc.
- COMMUNICATE–COMMUNICATE-COMMUNICATE
- Scene commander stays at ICS site, search team leader relays info to scene commander.

# Rescue Teams

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- ❑ Must have constant security just like the Search Team even though movement is limited to “secured” areas.
- ❑ If there are not enough officers available firemen can augment rescue teams. Avoid using civilians.
- ❑ Minimum first aid at scene, objective is to move victim out of the area for treatment and transport.

# Contained Shooter

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- ❑ Advise Incident Command of situation and location of suspect and, (if known), number/status of hostages.
- ❑ Preserve containment, wait for SWAT. DO NOT make entry if situation is contained and hostages are not being harmed.
- ❑ If shooter begins harming hostages, either;
  - Keep containment and negotiate. (You can't be compelled to charge at a suspect who is shooting at you), or
  - Make entry and stop the threat.

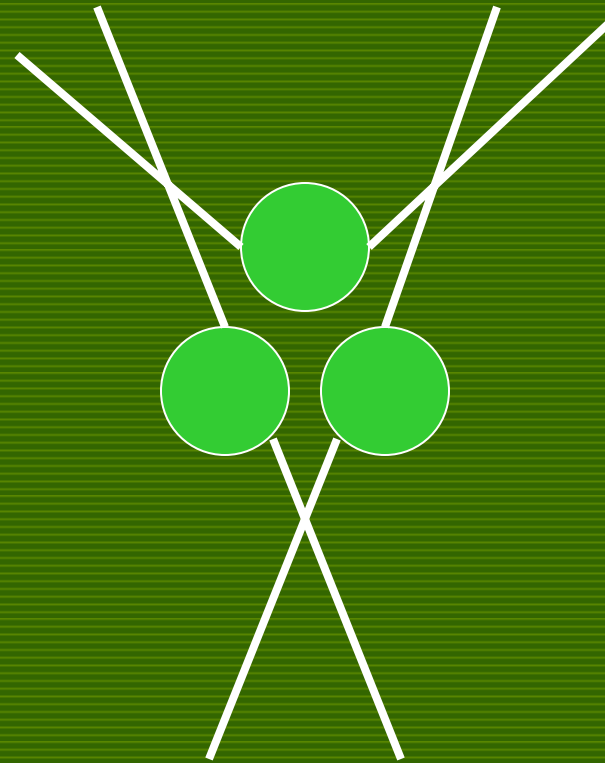
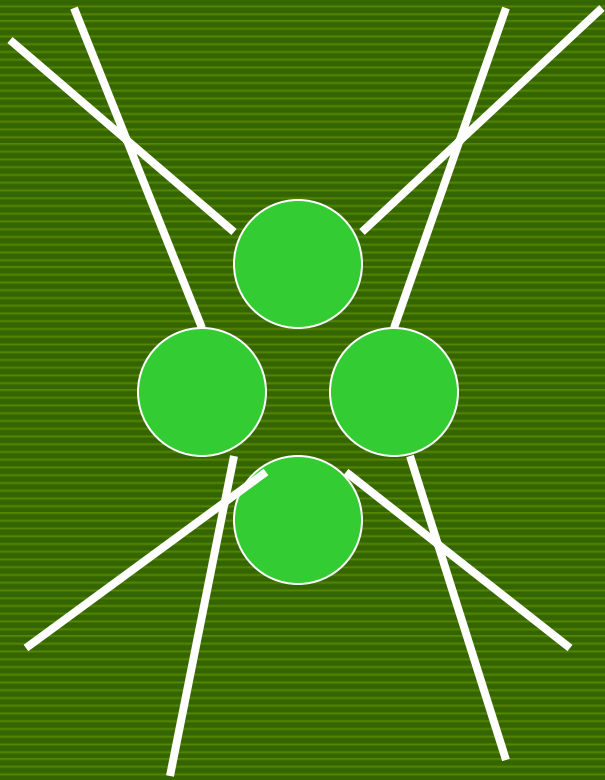
# Active Shooter Surrender

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- If contact is made with the suspect and he surrenders;
  - Maintain a position of cover if possible.
  - Do not move to the suspect. (May be a ruse to expose team to second shooter).
  - One officer gives clear commands.
  - Have suspect remove outer clothing.
  - Secure suspect, interrogate regarding other suspects, continue search.

# Team Formation

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# Through the Door

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What the bad guy watches

What you need to watch

# A.S. Entry with Rear Guard

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# Incident Command System

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- ❑ Can be used for any type or size of emergency.
- ❑ The ICS/IMS/NIMS allows different agencies to communicate using common terminology and operating procedures. It also allows for the timely combining of resources.
- ❑ ICS starts when the emergency starts. The system size and structure can be altered depending upon the changing conditions of the incident.

# Incident Command

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- Proper incident management
  - Helps ensure safety of working personnel as well as:
    - Victims, witnesses, suspects, media etc.
  - Reduces confusion and redundancy.
  - Allows for critical decision making with limited information and severe time restrictions.
  - Enables the commander to effectively use his available resources.

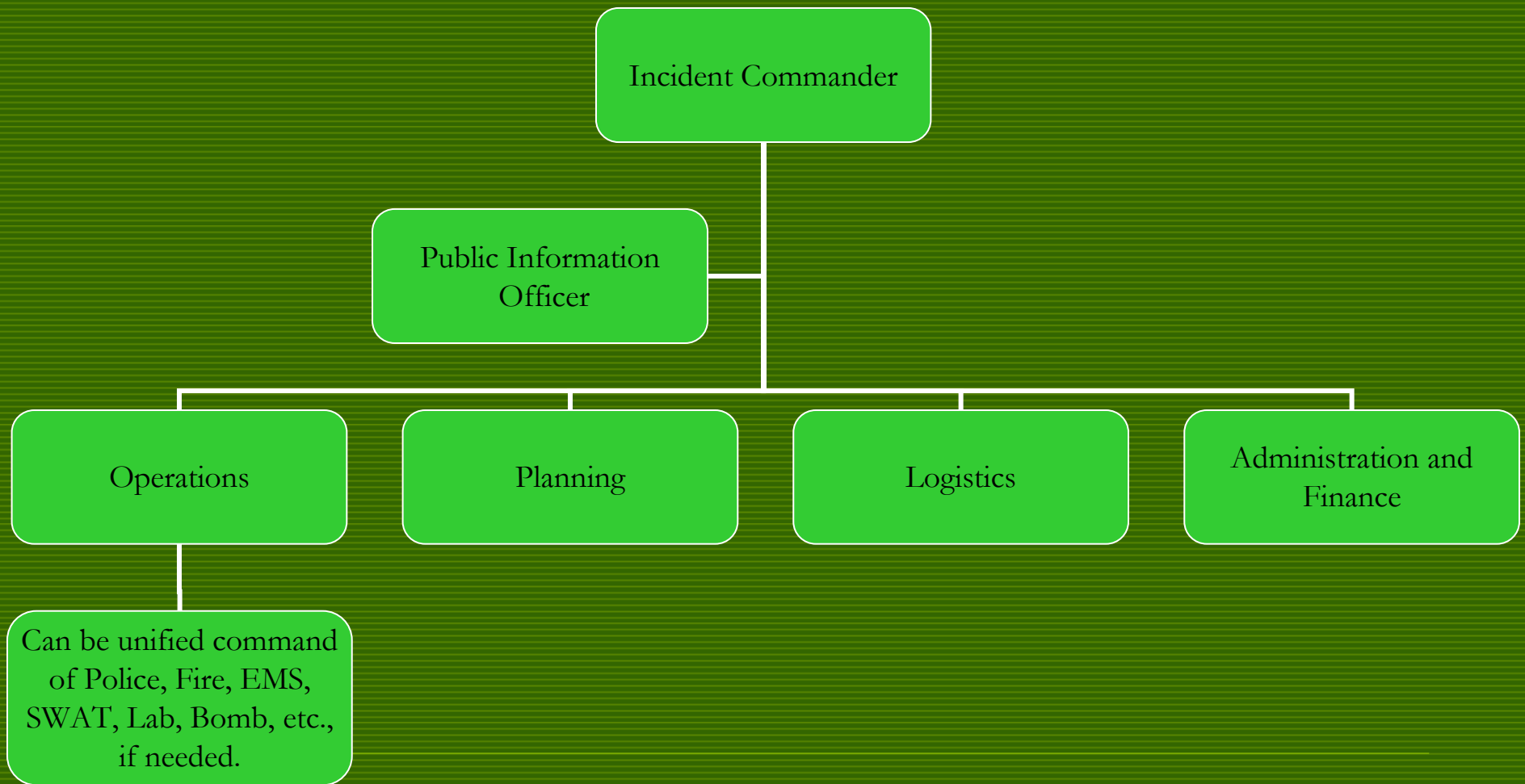
# What is ICS?

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- A five part management system that creates a set of common procedures for organizing personnel, facilities, communications and equipment at emergency incident. It enables responders to organize their activities and expand the system as needed based on incident requirements.

# ICS – The Big Picture

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# ICS - Command

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- ❑ This position is filled at every ICS incident regardless of size or complexity
- ❑ The Incident Commander (IC) is the first position staffed and the last position terminated.
- ❑ The Command Section can also include Command Staff and/or Public Information Officer if needed.
- ❑ IC is responsible for everything and must have the “Big Picture” to be able to properly command and coordinate resources.



# ICS Responsibilities

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## □ Life Safety

- The health and safety of occupants, responders, offender(s) and bystanders.

## □ Incident Stabilization

- IC must properly manage available resources and implement a plan that will effectively control the incident.

## □ Property/Environment Conservation

- Environmental, public and private property, and system/infrastructure protection.

# Emergency Response Plan

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- ❑ A reference guide for emergencies
  - Bomb threat
  - Fire or natural disaster
  - Active Shooter
- ❑ Contains step by step procedures you consider, examine and refine BEFORE you need them.
- ❑ Your response will be more effective, accurate and complete if you think of it and about it ahead of time.

# Examples of Needed Contents

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- ❑ Detailed floor plans
- ❑ Ortho view
- ❑ Phone tree
- ❑ Contact info/photo of key personnel
- ❑ Keys, access cards
- ❑ Location of power and alarm boxes
- ❑ Alarm codes
- ❑ Employee roster
- ❑ Number working
- ❑ Hazards to human safety such as chemicals, animals, equipment, high fall hazards etc.
- ❑ Instructions to employees during a given emergency