



Dispatch Response to Active Killers (D-RAK)

2-Day Scenario-Based Training Course

On December 14th, 2012, twenty 1st graders and six staff members at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT were tragically killed during an Active Shooter (now commonly referred to as an “Active Killer” event since weapons other than firearms are being used). Since then, the number of Active Killer events continue to rise and the number of victims also gets higher and higher, as the Killers learn from each event. Although tactical training for 1st Responders has also increased and numerous states now require annual practice of school emergency response plans, there often remains a significant gap of time before law enforcement arrives and the threat is located and stopped. It is critical that these valuable seconds be minimized, so therefore we must figure out how to *Shave Seconds to Save Lives!*©

Best intentions and increased effort sadly are not enough during Active Killer preparedness. For this reason, Dan Jewiss, who was the Lead Investigator for the Sandy Hook School shooting, founded The RAK Academy, to share best practices for Response to Active Killers on all levels – Dispatch, 1st Responders, SROs, Command Staff, Investigators and Civilians. Dan developed this 2-day D-RAK course to educate Dispatch personnel on the Lessons Learned from recent Active Killer events and the critical roles that Dispatch played in them. To do this, Dan draws on his years of dispatch experience as a Desk Trooper and his time teaching for the CT State Police Dispatch Training Academy. Dan shares his case study analysis of Active Killer events, including how some law enforcement response habits contradict critical actions most needed during an Active Killer event, to stop the threat. Dan incorporates scenario-based training to make Dispatch personnel more effective immediately upon their return to work.

Performance Objectives:

Day #1 will be an in-depth analysis of law enforcement’s response to the Sandy Hook School Shooting and other recent Active Killer events. This involves a critical, detailed analysis of the time taken to report, dispatch, respond to and stop the threat at these scenes. Dispatch personnel will also be taught the benefits of *Scriptwriting*, a critical skill necessary for *Shaving Seconds to Save Lives!*© during an Active Killer event. Dispatch personnel will be challenged to use their training, experience and the *Lessons Learned* that are discussed in class to develop Active Killer Dispatch Scripts to take back to their own agencies.

Day #2 will build on the teaching points established during Day #1. Dispatch personnel will perform scenario-based training repetitions that are monitored, coached and evaluated using a progressive (Crawl-Walk-Run) adult-learning, performance model. Dispatch personnel will be expected to identify the critical priorities of the first 1st Responders on scene at an Active Killer event so that Dispatch personnel can provide effective and timely support to stopping the threat and saving lives. Dispatch personnel will be reminded to use this course information to augment their existing training and department policies. Lastly, Dispatch personnel will be presented with post-traumatic stress, personnel wellness challenges that they may encounter in the wake of an Active Killer event.

**Please contact Dan Jewiss at D.Jewiss@me.com or 203-704-0581
with any questions or to host this training.
www.TheRAKAcademy.com**

Dispatchers will:

- Identify what Active Killer events are.
- Learn critical *Lessons Learned* from recent Active Killer events, including the 2012 Sandy Hook School Shooting and the critical roles Dispatch played in them.
- Understand the importance of *scriptwriting*.
- Identify current training scripts for D-RAK.
- Identify current performance scripts for D-RAK.
- Identify ideal scripts for D-RAK to maximize the principles of *Shaving Seconds to Save Lives*©.
- Identify and clarify additional Dispatch task organization that should be implemented during an Active Killer event.
- Learn how to identify Swatting Active Killer calls and limit the harm that can be caused by them.
- Learn how to identify False Active Killer Alarms and limit the harm that can be caused by them.
- Learn how to integrate their agency's training and policies with the aforementioned teaching points.
- Discuss individual, post-traumatic stress concerns in the wake of an Active Killer event.

Methods of Presentation:

Interactive Lecture using a PowerPoint presentation.

Class discussion (Dispatchers are drawn into discussions throughout the training).

Workshop breakout, team sessions.

Practical exercises to reinforce teaching points.

Scenario-based training with realistic performance standards.

Practical Exercises: Several team exercises are utilized to reinforce the adult-learning training techniques.

Training Aids:

1. PowerPoint and related audio/visual equipment.
2. Ideal D-RAK script templates.
3. Mock Dispatch Operations Centers (established in conjunction with the host agency).

Time: 16 hours (2-days)

Evaluation Process: Pre-Test (taken individually) & Post-Test (taken as a class).
Scenario-based training checklists.

Issued Materials: Class Handouts: - Pre-Test
- Selected PowerPoint slides
- Initial Call Script

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