CEPAR Preparedness Update

September is National Preparedness month. Recent mass shootings in Colorado, Wisconsin, and New York give us cause to review the steps that need to be taken if you are faced with this type of event. We hope that members of the Emory community are never faced with encountering an active shooter. By releasing this information, we hope that our community will be better prepared, and that chances of safety and survival can be improved.

Active shooter events are unpredictable, motives are different, and warning signs may vary, but there are three things you can do to increase chances of safety and survival:

Run-Hide-Fight

A video produced by the Houston Mayor’s Office emphasizes that taking a few simple steps can make a difference:

- **Run** if a safe path is available. Always try and escape or evacuate even if others insist on staying. Don't linger to gather belongings.

- Encourage others to leave with you, but don't let their indecision slow down your own escape. Once out of the line of fire, try to prevent others from unknowingly walking into the danger zone and call 911.

- If you can't escape safely, find a place to **hide** outside the shooter's view. If you can't find a safe room or closet, hide behind large objects that offer protection. Seek a hiding place that doesn't restrict your options to move. Try to remain quiet and calm.

- When hiding, turn out lights, lock doors and silence the ringer and vibration mode on cell phones. If a door doesn't lock, attempt to block it with furniture or other large objects.

- As a last resort, if your life is at risk, working together or alone, act with aggression. Use improvised weapons — a fire extinguisher or chair for example — and **fight**.

- Be aware that first responders are usually not there to assist the injured, but to stop the shooter; help for the injured is on the way. Once law enforcement arrives, remain calm and follow instructions. Keep your hands visible at all times and avoid pointing or yelling.

Please follow this link to read the article on Workplace Shooting published in the Emory Report and view the video. [View Here](http://listserv.cc.emory.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A3=ind12&L=ALL-EMORY&E=q...e14mbx22nEnterp_&T=text%2Fhtml;%20charset=Windows-1252&pending=)

For more information on how to be prepared visit [www.emergency.emory.edu](http://www.emergency.emory.edu).