

Preparing for emergencies and response protocols in our Nation's Capital



Patrick A. Burke
Asst. Chief of Police



Special Operations Division



Emergency Response Plan

- In emergency situations that affect public safety, law enforcement will be among the first responding agencies. In the District of Columbia, residents, businesses and visitors depend on the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to ensure the protection of life and property. The MPD responds to all threats to public safety occurring within the city, while simultaneously providing basic police services in neighborhoods. It is essential that MPD be prepared to maximize resources and capabilities, to ensure that critical tasks are undertaken efficiently and effectively when a major threat to public safety exists.



Personal Preparedness – Get informed!

- **DC Police Alert/Alert DC?**

DC Police Alert enables the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to notify you quickly about crimes in your neighborhood that may affect you, your home or your business. Also provides test notification during major emergencies or crises.

- With DC Police Alert, the MPD can send emergency alerts, notifications and updates to your cell phone, pager, BlackBerry, PDA and/or e-mail account. All you have to do is sign up at <https://textalert.ema.dc.gov/register.php>.

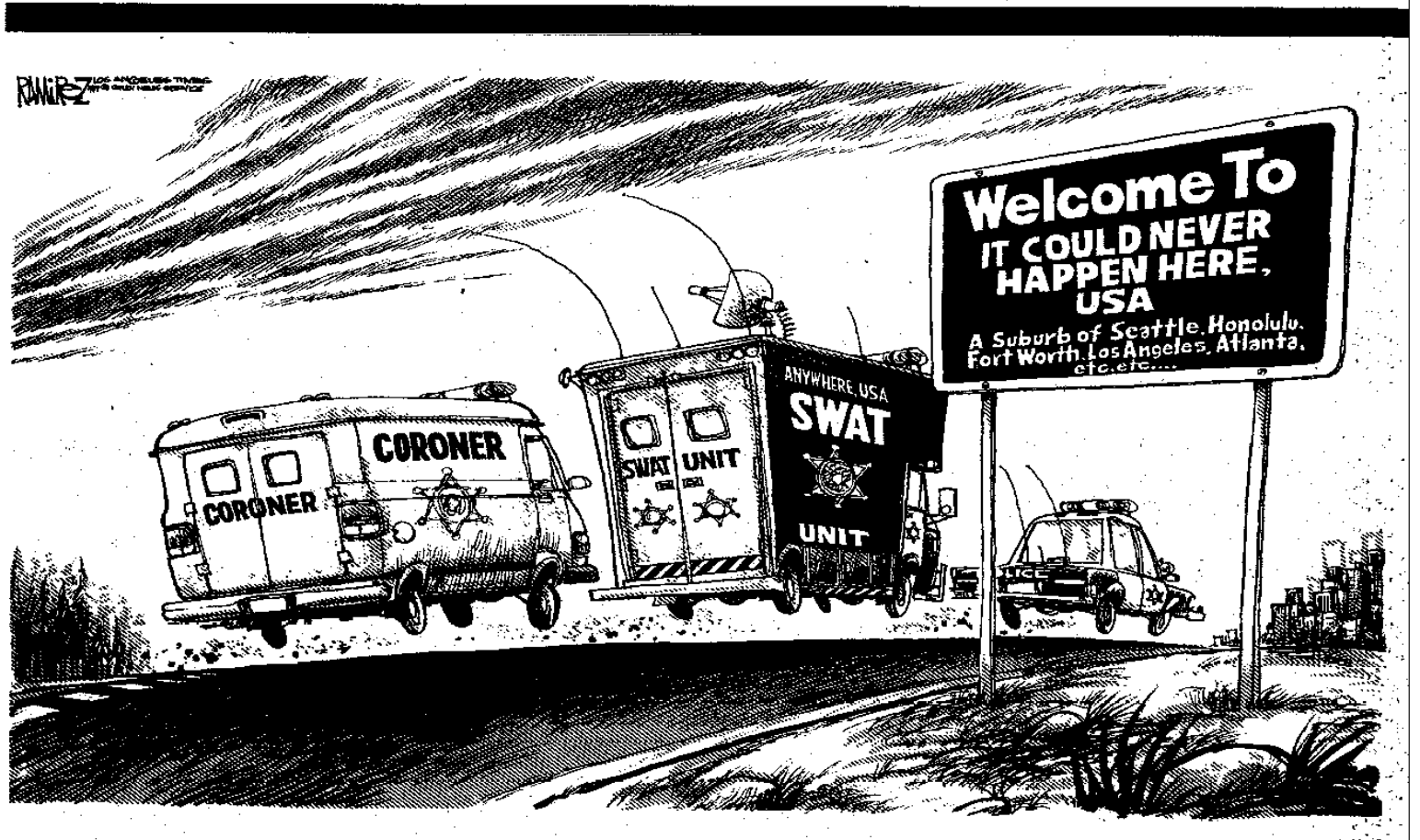


Get Informed

- [Alerts](#): The first thing you need during an emergency is reliable information.
- [Web](#): Add 72hours.dc.gov to your “Favorites” so you can quickly access valuable information during or after an emergency.
- [TV](#): Tune in to Cable Channels 13, 16, or your local news station to receive updates.
[Radio](#): Radio stations will broadcast official information and instructions from the District government.



Can't happen to me?



D.C. shooting

A gunman opened fire inside the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, killing a security guard before being shot.




SOURCE: U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum AP



U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Shooting: TTP

Date of Incident 6/10/2009

- June 10, 2009 at approximately 12:53 p.m. (EST), a lone gunman entered the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC
- The Gunman, identified as James Wenneker Von Brunn, 88, entered museum carrying a .22 caliber Long Rifle
- Von Brunn was dressed in a brown trench coat and “Confederate” style hat
- He entered the Museum’s front door and began shooting. One security guard and the shooter were hit by gunfire, the other security guard was hit by flying glass
- Von Bruun has been affiliated with several white supremacist groups, specifically the Holy Western Empire
- Von Bruun has a criminal record, spending 6 ½ years in Federal Prison, convicted for entering the Federal Reserve building armed with several weapons and attempting to take hostages in 1981
- The wounded security guard and shooter were transported to a Washington, DC hospital
- The Security Guard, Officer Stephen Johns, 39, six year veteran of Wackenhut Security Services died from his injuries.

- 
- Have uniform patrol units conduct area canvass checks on any neighboring synagogues, Jewish centers and schools.
 - Increases in domestic terrorism have posed threats as serious as those posed by foreign terrorist events.
 - “Lone-Wolf” type spontaneous shooting attacks are **extremely difficult to predict and defend against**. This event highlights the importance of suspicious activity reporting in order to discover a potential plot prior to it being carried out.
 - Identifiable reportable suspicious activity which might have prevented this plot; reports of threatening statements, attempts to acquire weapons, pre-attack surveillance, elicitation, etc.

Proactive Measures for Washington, DC.

Mapped all Synagogues, Jewish Centers, and Schools for District Commanders to distribute to uniform patrol units to conduct area canvass checks, for suspicious activity during their tour of duty.

- Bulletins were sent out to local neighboring law enforcement agencies for any similarities of suspicious activity at places of worship, specifically Jewish institutions.
- All suspicious activities should be reported through the AMS System SAR Module on the Metropolitan Police Department’s home page.

Metro-Train Crash – June 22, 2009

Original Call for assistance was from Office of Unified Communications
Incident location was an above-ground track
Concerns were for passenger safety, first responders, and their safety
while working in proximity to electrical rails
Incident involved mass casualties where all First Responders worked
side by side--Joint Operation
Fire Department was lead and MPD assisted with securing the scene



9 Killed, 76 Injured, in Deadliest Disaster in Metro History
Quick response and communication by law enforcement and first responders led to conclusion that the event was not a terrorist event or criminal act

Working under NIMS/ICS was critical for coordination!!

Law Enforcement

Fire Services

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Management

Health Care

Hazardous Materials

Public Safety Communications

Public Health

Public Works

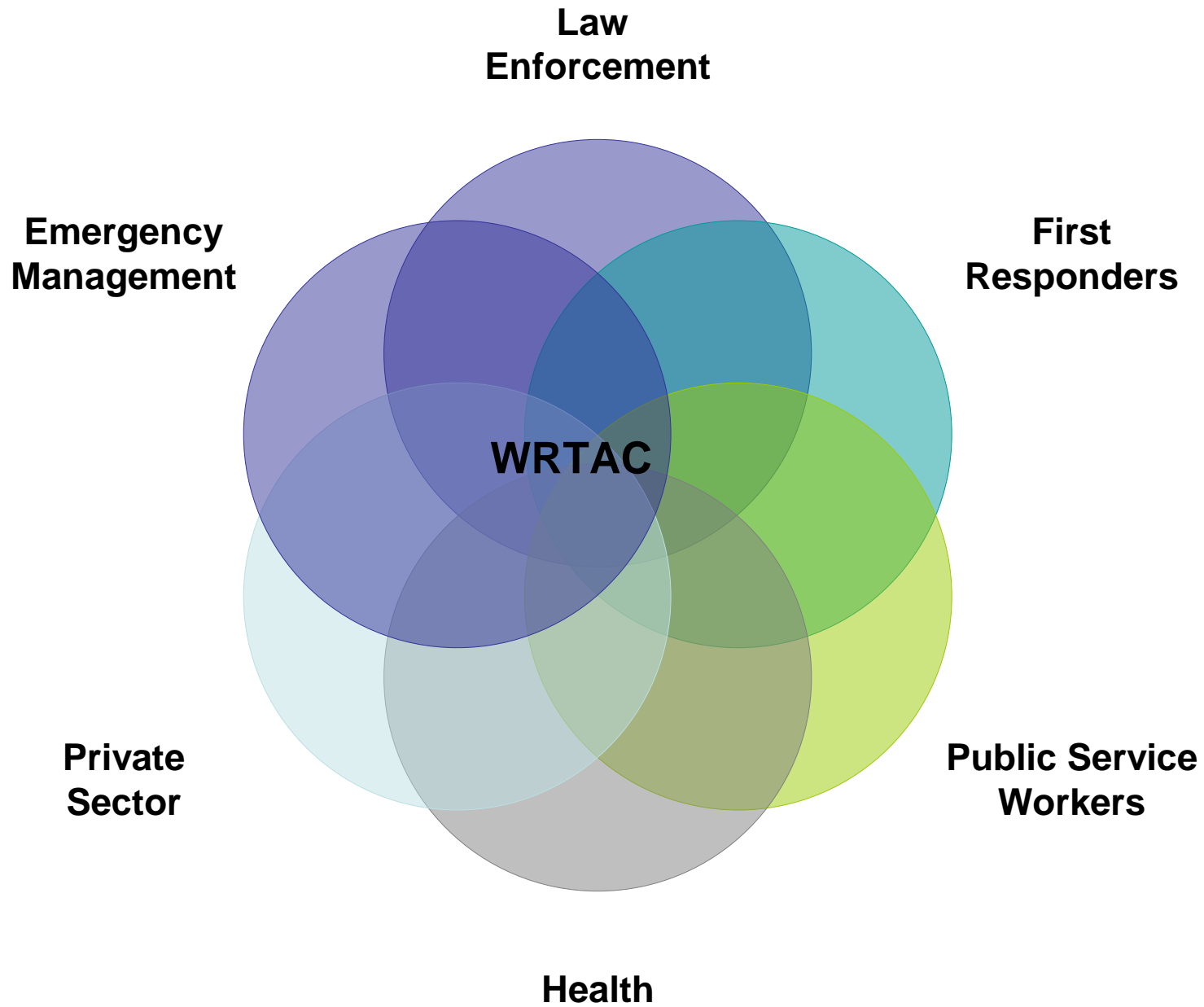
Government Administrative

Delineates Responsibilities

Eliminates Omission

Avoids Duplication





Active shooter/MPD response

- Active Shooter/Combatant incidents are spontaneous.
- Suspects behavior unpredictable.
- Pre-incident signs existed in most incidents. (School/Workplace)
- Incidents occur in a target rich environment.
- First responders outgunned and/or didn't have the training to respond to an active shooter situation.
- A tactical intervention was too late.
- Multi-jurisdictional response issues were present.
- There is no known profile of an Active Shooter/Combatant



Lockdown Considerations

- ✓ Lock Doors/Stay away from Windows
- ✓ Safe Area
- ✓ Account for Students/Employees
- ✓ Do Not Open Door Until Police Arrive/Barricade entry to room if possible
- ✓ Communicate
- ✓ Decisions (for any situation); Flee or shelter in place



Interagency Response

- MPD, DCFEMS, HSEMA – Federal, local partners.
- EOC/JOCC Activations
- Regional partners – NCR/COG
- Mutual aid.....



COG Police Chiefs Committee

- Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives
- City Of Alexandria Police Department
- Arlington County Police Department
- CIA-Security Protective Service
- Drug Enforcement Agency
- City Of Fairfax Police Department
- Fairfax County Police Department
- Falls Church City Police Department
- Fauquier County Police Department
- Federal Bureau Of Investigation
- Federal Protective Service
- Frederick County Sheriff Office
- Frederick Police Department
- Gaithersburg Police Department
- Greenbelt Police Department
- Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
- City of Manassas Police Department
- Manassas Park Police Department
- Maryland State Police Department
- Metro Transit Police
- Metropolitan Police Department Wash DC
- Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Washington Airport Authority Police
- Military District Of Washington Provost Marshal
- Montgomery County Police Department
- National Institutes Of Health Police
- Pentagon Force Protection Agency
- Prince George's County Police Department
- Prince William County Police Department
- Rockville City Police Department
- Takoma Park Police Department
- US Capitol Police
- US Library of Congress Police Department
- US Marshal Service
- US Park Police
- US Secret Service Uniformed Division
- US Secret Service
- Virginia State Police



Questions or Comments ?

