



## ACTIVE SHOOTING, ROBBERY, AND HOSTAGE SITUATION

[www.ufs.ac.za](http://www.ufs.ac.za)

### What is this?

These incidents involve forceful or malicious entry onto campus to rob, harm, or intimidate. This includes situations where someone is held hostage by violent force or threats.

#### Active shooter behaviour:

- Often ends in suicide or police intervention.
- Usually targets populated areas.
- Fast paced and unpredictable, making response difficult.
- Attackers may have ample ammunition and create diversions such as explosions.

### STAY SAFE

#### BEFORE

- Keep security details private. Report lost access cards to Protection Services.
- Stay alert. Report any suspicious people or behaviour.
- Report any intimidation.

#### DURING

#### During an active shooting or robbery:

- Keep your phone on silent and out of sight (if possible), but leave it on so others can stay informed and plan accordingly.



- Report incidents to security or to the South African Police Service (SAPS).
- Stay away from windows.
- Stay calm.
- If you hear a gunshot:
  - **React;** do not freeze. Active shooters show no mercy. Evacuate the premises. **Get up and get out!**
  - **Escape**
    - **Run:** Evacuate, stay low, move in zigzags.
    - **Hide:** Lock yourself in a room, stay quiet, and hide behind large objects. Don't remain still. If necessary, break a window or escape



through the ceiling.

- **Fight** (last option): Use any object to attack the shooter.
- **Survive:** Stay calm if injured (SAPS is securing the area). Medical help will arrive. Avoid screaming or yelling to prevent revealing your position.

A shooting or robbery may escalate into a hostage situation when attackers feel trapped or seek leverage. In these high-risk events, stay aware and adapt. While shootings and robberies need immediate action, hostage situations call for restraint.

#### **Outside a hostage situation:**

- Do not speak to the media. This could endanger lives.

#### **Inside a hostage situation:**

- Stay calm and keep others calm.
- Keep your phone on silent.
- Comply with the captors; only respond when asked.
- Leave negotiations to the experts.



#### **AFTER**

- Provide information to authorities.
- Attend debriefing and seek trauma counselling.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

##### **Protection Services**

- **BLOEMFONTEIN CAMPUS**  
051 401 2634 / 051 401 2911  
080 020 4682 (toll free)
- **QWAQWA CAMPUS**  
058 718 5460 / 058 718 5175
- **SOUTH CAMPUS**  
051 505 1217 / 051 505 1478

Source of information: CSMP units provided by ISMI

#### **Crime Stop**

(report criminal activity anonymously)  
**08600 10111**

Mobile phone emergency number **112**

#### **Student Counselling and Development**

- **BLOEMFONTEIN CAMPUS:**  
051 401 2853
- **QWAQWA CAMPUS:**  
058 718 5032 / 5029 / 5033
- **SOUTH CAMPUS:** 051 505 1298
- **24/7 TOLL FREE:** 0800 00 63 63

**ER24** ■ 084 124

#### **SAPS**

- **10111/112**  
from a cellphone

