



For Immediate Release

December 7, 2015

Shelby County Office of Preparedness Offers Training For Surviving Mass Shooting Events

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness is offering a free training course to prepare people for mass shootings similar to last week's tragedy in San Bernardino, California. **"That incident left 14 dead and more than 20 injured. Events like that one could occur here and we want our citizens prepared,"** said Dale Lane, Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness.

The many recent mass shootings led the office of preparedness to coordinate special training classes with the F.B.I. for Shelby County Government employees. **"We also want to conduct similar sessions for businesses, neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations and other groups,"** added Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

The 1 and ½ hour class focuses on the *Run, Hide, Fight* concepts to increase a victim's ability to survive a shooting event.

Run: If you can escape safely, attempt to leave.

- If you try to escape, have a route and a plan
- Leave belongings behind, except your cell phone
- Do not attempt to rescue or remove wounded victims

Hide: Stay out of the shooter's sight.

- If you are in a hallway, go quickly into a room or office and close the door and lock it
- Block the door with heavy furniture
- Turn off lights and close blinds
- Stay away from doors and windows
- Remain quiet (silence cell phones and pagers and turn off radios and televisions)
- Lie down and hide behind large, heavy items

Fight: As a last resort, if you are in imminent danger, attempt to tackle or incapacitate a shooter.

- Throw items at the shooter
- Yell to distract attention

Class members will also learn how to talk to 911 dispatchers to give key information such as their location, a description of the shooter, the types of weapons being used and the number of potential victims and their locations. **"The session will also prepare people about how to react once law enforcement officers arrive on the scene. They won't initially know who might be victims or the shooters,"** added Director Lane.

For more information, go to www.staysafeshelby.us, www.dhs.gov or call (901) 222-6700 to schedule a training session.

(End of Release)