

SILVERBACK

SAFETY & TRAINING SOLUTIONS, INC.

troy@silverbacksafety.com

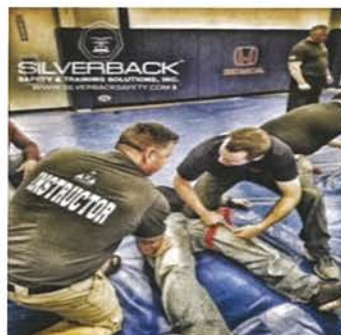
(740) 252 -2956

Our focus at *Silverback Safety and Training Solutions* is to provide life- saving training along with the necessary gear and equipment needed to survive a Mass Casualty Incident. From Businesses, Schools, and Churches, to Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS, *Silverback Safety and Training Solutions* is able to provide dynamic and engaging training courses that are specifically designed for you and your team. These training programs are designed to help you make quick, effective decisions in challenging real life scenarios that will increase your ability to save those around you, as well as yourself.



"This training was awesome! I would recommend Silverback training to everyone!!

A big Thank You to the whole Silverback Team!!!-B.C. EMR



"This was the best training I have ever been to and I'm so glad we were able to bring Silverback into our facility to train us to save lives.

- K.L. (major auto manufacturing company)

"This training ranks in my top 5 of best trainings in my career. The company is top notch with great instructors.

The realism they provide is amazing"

Mike - Fire Captain 22 years

SASA/ BITT TRAINING

Schools, Churches, Corporations

Attacks on schools are becoming an almost norm in today's world. Places of worship are not the safe sanctuary they once were. Business workplace violence is very common. From a disgruntled employee to a domestic situation spilling into the workplace, the danger is real on all these sites. And as fast as Law Enforcement, Fire /EMS is coming to you, NO ONE will beat the person who is already on scene. What you do in those first few minutes can increase the survivability of those wounded. You don't have to be a paramedic to save a life. You bring the heart and a willingness to learn and we'll provide you with a new skillset. Our SASA/BITT Training will better prepare you to survive when that day comes. Of course, you won't be a trauma doc when we leave BUT you will know how to respond to an active threat and to safely, quickly and effectively treat the wounded. We will help you shake the "victim mindset" and help you embrace the "survivor mindset" by passing on knowledge and performing hands on interventions.



www.silverbacksafety.com

75-90% of all trauma deaths occur *before* the patient reaches the hospital!

TECC / RTF TRAINING

*(Tactical Emergency Casualty Care / Rescue Task Force)
Law Enforcement/ Fire / EMS/ Corporation EMR's & Security*



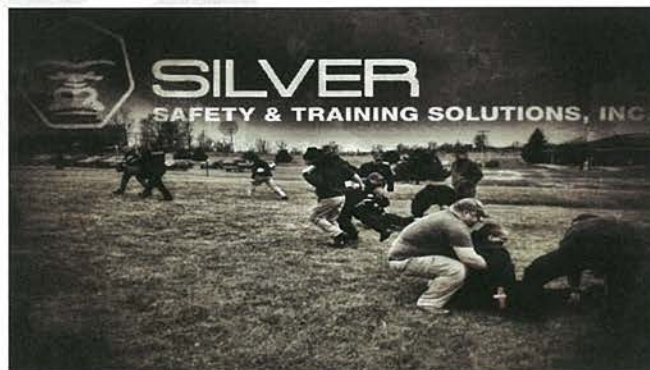
Now we go next level. This training brings in a higher level of medical interventions based on tried and true TECC principles, along with hammering home the concepts of RTF such as Unified Command, Casualty Collection Points, MARCHE & S.T.A.R.T. as triage tools and the deployment of the RTF teams into the "warm zone". For this training, the Silverback team will take you through the most interactive, intense, hands on training your team has experienced.

With the stress inoculation your team will go thru repeated "real world" based scenarios until the required level of competence is achieved. We help work out the kinks with the treatment, triage, comms, RTF deployment, command structure, and transport. This is achieved through teamwork every time and by working with the multiple agencies who would normally respond to your event, whenever possible.

"Thank you all! Your expertise and teaching skills are definitely hands down the most intense and educational we have ever seen! Thank you so very much! – G.O.- EMR



"When the stress inoculation occurs, it allows a responder to take all the new skills and put them together in life-saving situations," Kent Grant, a retired detective. "Through repetition and constant encouragement, a responder gets to where it all starts to come together for them. They are able to remember training, be calm, and apply the medicine to save lives."



June 16, 2019

Dear X,

I am offering this letter of recommendation in unequivocal support of Mr. Troy Lowe and his Silverback Safety & Training Solutions organization to provide top notch quality training to your staff. Recently, near the end of May this year, I was invited as an expert in threat assessment to participate in Silverback training to Chevron executives and the Biloxi Police Department near Gulfport, Mississippi. My part was to present findings in my latest book, *Surviving Mass Victim Attacks: What to do when the Unthinkable Happens*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2018. This book was the compilation of over three decades of work across clinical, government, and intelligence positions within the U.S. Secret Service and the CIA focusing on threat to our organizations, people, family, and ourselves. I feel I am qualified to make this recommendation – which I rarely do. I take recommendations very seriously.

Why am I recommending this organization to you? Based on my observations and detailed interactions with this team, I posit the following:

Leadership: Mr. Troy Lowe is a born leader who instills confidence and skills focus to all in his team and to all participants being trained. He trains and observes all training in progress with a continuous and professional eye. His objective is straightforward and forever the focus – *provide training to save lives in emergency situations*. He has developed a cadre of professionals who work as well and maybe better than any such teams with whom I have been associated over the decades of my work in this important area of focus. My experience has pointed out long ago that any team is only as good as the leader. Mr. Lowe is top notch, his focus is in the right place, and no one gets left behind in training. Because of his excellent leadership skills, he has surrounded himself with the best to help oversee, monitor, conduct training, and self-evaluate each carefully planned session to continually improve training. Mr. Lowe expertly adjusts training to meet the needs of the organization providing trainees. In short – impressive.

Training: Having observed training firsthand, I came away knowing that trainees who participated gained valuable life-saving knowledge and skills through instruction, practice, and guided life-like reenactments. The personal instruction is truly hands-on. As one example, in the May training, I observed multiple reenactments of the Pulse Nightclub mass shooting attack. The smoky, loud, and confusing nightclub scene was recreated complete with “human victims.” These “victims” believe in the training to such a degree they volunteer to have life-saving practices completed on them in as realistic reenactments that can be used in training. There is care to debrief trainees after each training segment and responses are recorded. Likewise, the trainers are debriefed in private to determine if and how training could be improved. I must say that I have been exposed to actual training of many types across my years of service and have observed scores of training approaches. Silverback is at the top.

Trainers: The selected trainers are top notch and maintain a training focus at all times. Consummate professionals, they work to make sure there is total engagement with all trainees and ensure that each trainee is properly instructed through actual exercises. In these exercises, they are not done with all at one time, but properly repeated with a few at a time to ensure that each trainee receives accurate training, and adjustment - if necessary. There is a strong comradery among the trainers that is infectious and pulls in the trainees to their benefit. Importantly, these exercises are spaced in such a way that trainees can discuss what they learned and even practice more before the next training exercise begins. As part of the realism, two highly qualified former military personnel presented on the threat and actions the day of the Ft. Hood massacre in which Major Nidal Hassan shot and killed 13 people and injured 30 others – they were survivors of that attack. The audience was riveted.

Results: In the training in which I participated across days, I observed trainees from two highly different organizations acquire important lifesaving skills as evidenced by their behavior during actual exercises and reenactments. There was a significant amount of material to learn, and they absorbed the material and made it their own. Comments from trainees were excellent. I received many comments in personal discussions with trainees, and they were impressed. Silverback has learned the secret of highly accurate training. That is, maintain focus on the training objectives and make it highly interesting and enjoyable. The result is that skills are acquired quickly, and the Silverback training objective is achieved.

For these reasons, I highly recommend Silverback Safety & Training Solutions to meet your proactive training needs to assist in making your organization a safer place to work.

Sincerely,

Gary M. Jackson, PhD
President and CEO
ANBECO, LLC

jacksongm@anbeco.org



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
School of Operational Medicine
CIRG-Tactical Section**

4/19/2018

Mr. Lowe,

Recently, I had the privilege of working with you and members of your team while conducting medical training for members of our SWAT teams.

While in your area we conducted our Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) class. During this class, we utilized not only your equipment, but your staff and precious time as well.

I'm writing you this letter to express our gratitude. Our program was an overwhelming success, due in no small part to you and your staff. What your company brought to the table was instrumental in the successful execution off the class. Your professionalism, modesty, and expertise your fields were apparent and well received by all the students. It was truly a pleasure to watch you and your staff work.

Please accept this letter of appreciation as a small token of our thanks. You have a wonderful team of professionals serving your organization. It's refreshing to see members of a team so passionate and skilled about their tradecraft.

I hope to be able to work with you and your team again in the future. Be safe.

Michael F. Biamonte

FBI-CIRG-Tactical Section

Manager, School of Operational Medicine

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing, today about the experience that Silverback Safety Training Solutions offer.

I am a licensed Emergency Medical Responder and lead a team of fellow EMRs at a major automobile parts manufacturer in Ohio.

As a Medical Response Team Captain, I sought advanced training for our teams. Silverback brought the training and much more.

This group offers comprehensive studies, training but also countermeasures and action plans to apply in the new society we now live in.

It starts with analysis, of your facilities and property. Troy's team, comes in with counter terrorism experts to find potential weaknesses that could be exploited, in an attack. They will analyze your Emergency Action Plans and Emergency Operations. With identified weaknesses, Silverback will offer suggestions to strengthen these items. Your Emergency Action Plan and Emergency Operations will be tested later on, in the hands on training.

Then, the team will set up a training session with your Emergency Management and Emergency Response teams. The combination of lecture and hands on training, is clear and easy to understand. It, will make a lay person an effective life saver. It will teach you rapid patient assessment. What will kill your patient first? Fix that. Now what could kill your patient? Fix that.

These skills are then applied to stress induced training exercises. This is when a responder feels realistic pressures of a lifesaving scenario. Most often, nothing goes right in their first attempt. But, Troy and his supportive training team correct the issues during the chaotic scenes. Then, we try it again. It gets better and we move on. When Emergency Operations and the Rescue Teams work together everyone gains knowledge and understanding, before something happens.

By the end of our weekend of training, my group of Emergency Medical Responders, were reacting to scenes and scenarios with a calm, confident and educated approach side by side with local Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement. We worked with agencies and responders that will be dispatched to our plant. This training definitely reinvigorated the teams and improved their confidence by working with those outside agencies. Adding skills and applying them, in real world situations that an EMR, EMT, Paramedic, and even an everyday lay person may encounter was most beneficial.

As a former student, I highly recommend Silverback Safety Training Solutions. Silverback's training can make anyone a skilled lifesaver. This training is proof that knowledge is power. And after this training, my teams are powerful, skilled lifesavers that have the confidence in themselves and from local trained professionals.

Greg Buxton

Emergency Medical Responder

Silverback trainee



Chevron

Working with Mr. Troy Lowe to set-up our training was very easily handled as he was more than happy to work around our schedule. The whole Silverback Team was very professional and knowledgeable. Amazing that he was able to find such a diverse set of Instructors with so much background. The group of Instructors he brought to our facility were passionate about their job and they were patient in working with us through the skills. We had 2 groups of 22 attend the TECC/RTF training and they all walked away with a whole new set of skills. The training we received was very realistic and well organized. There was a very good balance of classroom vs. hands-on training and they did a great job of keeping everyone engaged. We are looking forward to training with the STS group in the future!

Sincerely,

Keith Dikes

Training Coordinator - Chevron Pascagoula Fire Department

Kathy Platoni, Psy.D.
Clinical Psychologist

Office Address:

50 South Main Street
Centerville, Ohio 45458 2362
Telephone ~ 937-321-4020
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Professional Affiliations:

Fellow, American Institute of Stress
Ohio Psychological Association
Diplomate, American Academy of Pain Management
American Society of Clinical Hypnosis
Division of Military Psychology

To Whom It May Concern;

I have had the privilege of serving as an instructor for Silverback Training Solutions for nearly three years, a company who has revolutionized the creation of safety solutions seen nowhere To else in this nation and more recently, on a more global level. A number of businesses, such as Honda, Chevron Gas, and Denison University, and the Ohio Tactical Officers' Association have made the very wise decision to provide their training at a completely new and authentic level, replicating the realism of active shooter situations in amazing detail in order for participants to learn to make the appropriate decisions under intensely high pressure situations. There is no better model for learning.

It is outside the classroom and away from the desk that the necessary real life experiences can be acquired on a hands on basis and with equally concentrated practice. If one intends to survive the unexpected, Silverback does it right, allowing all partakers to face their own moments of truth in vivo. This training far exceeds slapping on a few Band Aids and placing tourniquets. Silverback founder and CEO Troy Lowe, originator and author of all training modules offered by Silverback, assures that the tactical medicine portion of the training has far surpassed the realism of the US Army's Combat Casualty Course on every conceivable level. If you plan to survive a mass shooting or mass casualty, tragic events that now impact businesses, schools, colleges and universities, churches, factories, military installations, and the like, Silverback Training Solutions is the way to go.

As a survivor of the Fort Hood Massacre of 2009, I can state, without reservation, that if we, as deploying Soldiers, had been exposed to this level of tactical medical training *and* had access to some of Silverback's brilliantly constructed medical kits (Basic Improvised Treatment and Trauma Kits), there would have been many more survivors of this national tragedy. We had no tools to save lives other than our own untrained hands.

It is the responsibility of every corporation, business, educational institution, church community, movie theater owner, and so own to train their employees to become First Responders and to offer training of the caliber provided by Silverback Training Solutions. These lifesaving measures are never deemed necessary until one comes face to face with massive numbers of wounded, with ever-increasing frequency, in the world in which we now live. Take heed and take this training! I am so very proud to be a part of Silverback's endeavors.

Very respectfully,

Kathy Platoni

Kathy Platoni, Psy.D., DAIPM, FAIS

COL (RET), US Army

COL, Ohio Military Reserve/State Defense Forces



Logan County HazMat

1855 St. Rt. 47 West
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Phone: 937-593-5743
Fax: 937-592-1062

August 12, 2018

TAKING TACTICAL CASUALTY CARE TO A WHOLE NOTHER LEVEL.

In August 2017 I was prepared to go through another long mind-numbing course but was completely surprised. Right off the bat Troy's introduction and Troy's instructors gave me the feeling that I was not going to be sitting around for two days but this is going to be one of the most intense realistic hands on training that I have ever been a part of. Listening to Troy and Mike's, a Silverback instructor, real-world life experiences in the military, law enforcement, fire, and EMS gave me the ability to benefit from someone else's experience that has been there. The instructors, at the skills stations, showed me their most efficient way to complete the task to help save a life quickly. The wound packing station was an eye opener for me. The simulator was very realistic with fake blood pumping through it and the feel of the wound that I was trying to pack. The instructors spoke about the importance of proper tourniquet application for saving lives in an active shooter situation. I had never before heard a lot about the benefits of tourniquets. After listening to Troy and Mike's in-depth experiences about the pros and cons of tourniquets, I was instantly on board with applying tourniquets to save lives. The instructors took their time to ensure that I was putting on a tourniquet the right way. Troy and his Silverback instructors treated me and made me feel like I was the only one taking this course. As I was watching, I noticed Troy's instructors took their time with each individual to make sure the hands on skills are being done correctly. Typically, a large hands on class that I have been involved with, you just get pushed through the skill stations and this by far was not the case. On the second day everything came together with the MARCH assessment and final scenario. I was very anxious knowing the background of Troy and his instructors in creating a very real scenario that will challenge me in a very stressful environment. I have never been in combat or in an active shooter mass casualty situation before. The sounds, smells, victim actors make up and blood, and medic equipment that Troy and his instructors provided took this course and my tactical emergency casualty care training to a whole another level. It was very apparent that Troy's attention and very meticulous to detail with creating a scenario was very important in order to provide the best training available for First Responders. For me, being exposed to Troy and Silverback will not only give you the knowledge and skills to save lives but will also show you the importance of working with and communicating with other local First Responders that you may be working with. Don't wait, Silverback training is a must.

Matt Stonerock FF1, EMT-B, Hazmat Tech.
Logan County Hazmat Chief
Bellefontaine Fire and EMS Auxiliary



Bellefontaine Fire & EMS

201 West Sandusky Ave.
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311
937-599-6168

September 2, 2018

To whom it may concern,

In today's times, one must be prepared for anything that comes along. Whether it be a financial crisis, a large scale environmental event, or mass casualty incident, there needs to be some type of contingency plan in place. Can one plan and prepare for every unknown possible disaster? No, of course not. However, if there are possible hazardous situations that can be trained and prepared for, wouldn't you want to take the opportunity to do so?

One of those situations is a mass casualty event. We have all seen these events unfold on different media feeds. Maybe you have personally experienced one, such as an active shooter. Statistics show that public safety departments, business employees, and the average citizen, that are trained in how to respond to such events, to render medical care, the greater the positive outcome is with less loss of life.

I would like to take the opportunity to share my opinion of Silverback Training and Safety Solutions. After attending short 4 to 8 hours classes on TEMS (Tactical Emergency Medical Services), Silverback conducted the first full scale TEMS training that I received. The training was very straight forward, supplying myself and other students with the knowledge and skills necessary to react and give appropriate care in a stressful situation to save more lives. The Silverback training staff is very knowledgeable and very willing to share all of that knowledge and their skills with the students. The classroom instruction was very pertinent and the hands on scenarios were very realistic. In my opinion, these are 2 signs of very good training.

As a Fire Department supervisor, I cannot express the confidence I have in my firefighters to respond to these types of situations and render the care that is needed effectively and efficiently. This comes from the fact the received quality training from Silverback Training and Safety Solutions. If you want quality training, I would highly recommend them.

Sincerely,


Assistant Chief Mark Layman
Bellefontaine Fire and EMS



Hanover Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

2175 West High Street, Newark, Ohio, 43055

Station 802 (Office) – P: (740) 763-4674 | F: (740) 763-4686

To Whom it may concern,

Our department has been fortunate enough to have had several of our members attend the Tactical Emergency Causality Care / Rescue Task Force Training lead by Mr. Troy Lowe. Troy and his cadre of instructors provide some of the most aggressive, medically proven, and fundamentally sound training that is available today.

Having staff that has education that keeps up with all the national trends in the area of tactical medicine, but also experience in combat zones and fire/ems situations SilverBack Safety's intense training in my opinion is some of the best available in the nation. It will help to permanently engrain the ideals of tactical medicine for anyone that attends.

The class room and hands on training is designed to be quickly recalled under situations of distress at the worst of times. During times of extreme distress, fine motor skills decrease and Silverback Safety helps to maximize its student's energy and those basic skills to do one thing... save lives. Lives that may not only be those of their follow co-workers at an active aggressor event but all those that may be present at their work place, from executives visiting to being a good Samaritan at the scene of an unfortunate tragedy.

We are truly grateful to have received this training and have many of our members also provide continuing education on this topic to our department on a regular basis, hopeful to never have to use it but fully capable if needed.

I highly recommend and suggest that if given the opportunity to attend or provide this training to your employees that you just do it. No one that attends this training will leave without gaining important information that may and could save lives.

Respectfully

Brian Spellman

Fire Chief

Ohio Hi Point Career Center
Facilities & Grounds
2280 State Route 540
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

September 2, 2018

Dear Silverback Training,

On behalf of my position as Facilities Director at Ohio Hi Point Career Center and my position on our Safety and Security team, I would like to extend a thank you to Troy and Silverback for the training they have provided to this facility.

Your recent training to our entire staff of teachers, administrators, and facilities personnel was over and above. The training you provided in the usage of Bitt Trauma bags and in tactical trauma training gave our employees the ability to confidently deal with emergency situations that they may have to face in this work environment. Ohio Hi Point is very proactive from the stand point of safety and security and the training that Silverback provided was an integral part of our efforts.

We also commend Troy and Silverback for utilizing our site to train local emergency responders and police.

We cannot express our appreciation enough and look forward to future training and refreshers!

Respectfully,

Robert Walker

Director of Campus Facilities & Grounds



Christ Our King Church

P.O. Box 132
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

To Who it may concern

My name is Micah Palmer I and Associate Pastor at Christ Our King Church in Bellefontaine, Ohio. In addition I serve on the Church Security team.

I had the opportunity to experience the TCCC training twice once as a back ground helper as a Chaplin for the Bellefontaine Fire Department and once as a participant. While experiencing the training as a helper I got to see the trainers out of a classroom setting to get to know them a bit and see what makes them tick. It was enlightening to understand the instructors have experienced what they are teaching in real life, from first responders to war combat to SWAT medics. These guys have seen and experienced the techniques they are teaching in real trauma situations and have seen what works and what doesn't thru the eyes of experience.

Then going through the TCCC training with a few of the others from my Church Security Team. I got to experience first hand the whole experience from morning PT to late night realistic application of what we learned that day in a stressed and distracted environment. (Complete with training with an FBI Agent on how to extricate a wounded individual with a vehicle from an active shooting situation) Please note that all of our Church Security Team has been through the TCCC training and that Myself and another on the team are NOT first responders. The teaching staff really displayed excellence in this area, they were able to work with experienced first responders as well as myself who has not been trained for first responding. They were patient and resourceful in explaining the curriculum. Then with the hands on lab type training, the information and techniques were able to be practiced and experienced. Then again practicing the the training hands on in a stressfull and disorienting situation again reinforces the training.

The training lay out is excellent and the information in the age we find ourselves is priceless. Having said that the most impressive are is the staff that has been assembled to teach and convey the information and techniques. They are very best in there field in knowledge experience and the techniques, they re without exception the cream of the crop! I left the training with a sense of confidence in my ability to help out in a dire situation. Which is a very great value to all of society.

Micah Palmer

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Micah Palmer', written over a horizontal line.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a volunteer firefighter in West Liberty, a small town of about 1500 people. As a response to the active shooter situation we had at West Liberty-Salem High School in January of 2017, our fire department decided to join Silverback's TECC/RTF training course

We are blessed that no one died in that situation, but the key to preparedness is training. We were sent reeling as we found out just how unprepared we were to respond to a situation like this, as most of our volunteers are not medically trained. As a firefighter and an EMT, this is the most direct and applicable training I have ever taken with regard to massive trauma care.

Troy and his crew hit hard with facts and data in the classroom, and they don't waste any time getting you the hands on experience you need to retain the knowledge. The stress inoculations tied it all together and give you the opportunity to test your new skills and methods against your own mental barriers. Multiple evolutions give students the chance to gain confidence, stay calm, and make the decisions necessary to save lives.

Knowing what to do when chaos ensues, and specifically, knowing how to save someone's life in a very real way is invaluable to me, my department, and my community. The largest impact of this training involves preparing people with no medical training to employ these methods alongside Paramedics and other first responders in order to save the most lives in the quickest fashion. Silverback's training will prepare you and your team for a competent and effective response when an emergency presents itself in your context.

Josh Shoemaker

West Liberty Fire Department
Volunteer Firefighter

SILVERBACK

SAFETY & TRAINING SOLUTIONS, INC.

troy@silverbacksafety.com

(740) 252-2956

... "He effortlessly puts forth contagious enthusiasm that motivates even the most uninterested student. He is able to break down complicated concepts into digestible bits and ensures that even when students err, they learn from their mistakes and are able to do better their next round through." Dr. Brian L. Springer



... "Mr Lowes' expertise in the prevention and response of active shooter situations is known throughout the United States and he has been instrumental in providing training and consultation to numerous agencies across the United States"

—Jackson County Emergency Management

... "I must say, this was the absolutely the best training I've ever seen. Troy started with the basics and provided a clear understanding of how to handle the crisis situation being taught. I saw his communication skills firsthand in that wasn't a show of his immense knowledge; but rather transferring that knowledge to the student. I was incredible and just the exact skill a true leader possesses. The setting he created for the training was realistic. Every participant left there better prepared for a crisis situation." - K.Kelsheimer, Police Sergeant, Retired



COMPLIANCE

Active Shooter Training Can Help Save Lives

August 2, 2018 • Thomas Renner • 3 min read



Whether it's playing the piano, hitting a baseball or selling automobiles, it's important for people to practice their craft. That paradigm is also true in training for an active shooting incident, and companies, schools, churches and even first responders are learning more about the importance of practicing survival training.

"The main thing is to practice and train for it; that's the only way to be prepared," said Sgt. Kathy Kelsheimer, a retired Marine police sergeant who is an expert on active attacker response and survival training. "To borrow a quote from Mike Tyson, 'Everyone has a plan until they get punched in the face.'"

Training to survive an active shooting incident is more critical than ever before. An FBI report released in May stated that more than 200 people were killed and 722 wounded in 50 active shooter incidents in the United States in 2016 and 2017. The shootings occurred at schools, nightclubs, concerts and even churches.

"What place is safe in our world?" said Dr. Kathy Platoni, a clinical psychologist and retired U.S. Army colonel, who is also an expert on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). She survived the shootings at Fort Hood, Texas in 2009, which killed 14 people. "A school? A corporation? A hospital? It doesn't exist."

Why is practice necessary? Kelsheimer said heightened tension in an active shooting situation can dramatically impact a person's fine motor skills. Even for experienced first responders, the difference between book and classroom training and a well-choreographed simulated incident can be revealing. "When you lose your fine motor skills, and you go to lock a door and you can't, that's surprising. The classroom is a lot different than a real situation."

The difference between book and classroom training and a

well-choreographed simulated incident can be revealing.



Kelsheimer attended a recent training session where an emergency rescue worker froze during a simulated training exercise. The drill mirrored the events of the 2016 shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida. Fifty people died in that attack. The simulated training includes the nightclub haze, loud music and an area jammed with people – all reminiscent of the atmosphere at the time of the attack.

Businesses, schools and even churches are doing more to educate people about how to properly respond during an active shooting situation. Greg Buxton helped bring a training session to his employer, an automobile manufacturer in Ohio. About 35 employees and local fire department/EMS and law enforcement attended a two-day training exercise. “It’s not getting any better,” said Buxton, an engineering coordinator and medical team captain for his employer. “You can damn near every day hear another story about workplace violence. The company realized that we need training.”

Marvin Rutter spent 26 years in law enforcement and now is the director of safety and security at his school and church, also in Ohio. His team includes 42 people divided into four teams. On any given Sunday, the number of worshippers at church services can approach 1,200 people. “Some of those who know we do the training are thankful for

what we do,” Rutter said. “Maybe 20 to 25 percent are not even aware that we carry concealed. For the most part, they’re willing to recognize the need and have a level of comfort that people can render aid.”

Training programs vary. For example, the Federal Emergency Management Agency conducts a one-hour course that “provides guidance to individuals, including managers and employees, so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation.” The training sessions in which Buxton and Rutter participated included hands-on drills taught under life-like scenarios with the complete set of tools needed for survival and trauma treatment. Those tools included pre-made kits with tourniquets, dressings, gloves, tape, chest seals, and step-by-step directions to help walk the user through the treatments and guidance for communication with outside EMS.

Hopefully, businesses, schools and other organizations will never need to apply their active shooter training. But if a crisis situation does occur, having more people with the skills and knowledge to respond appropriately can save lives.

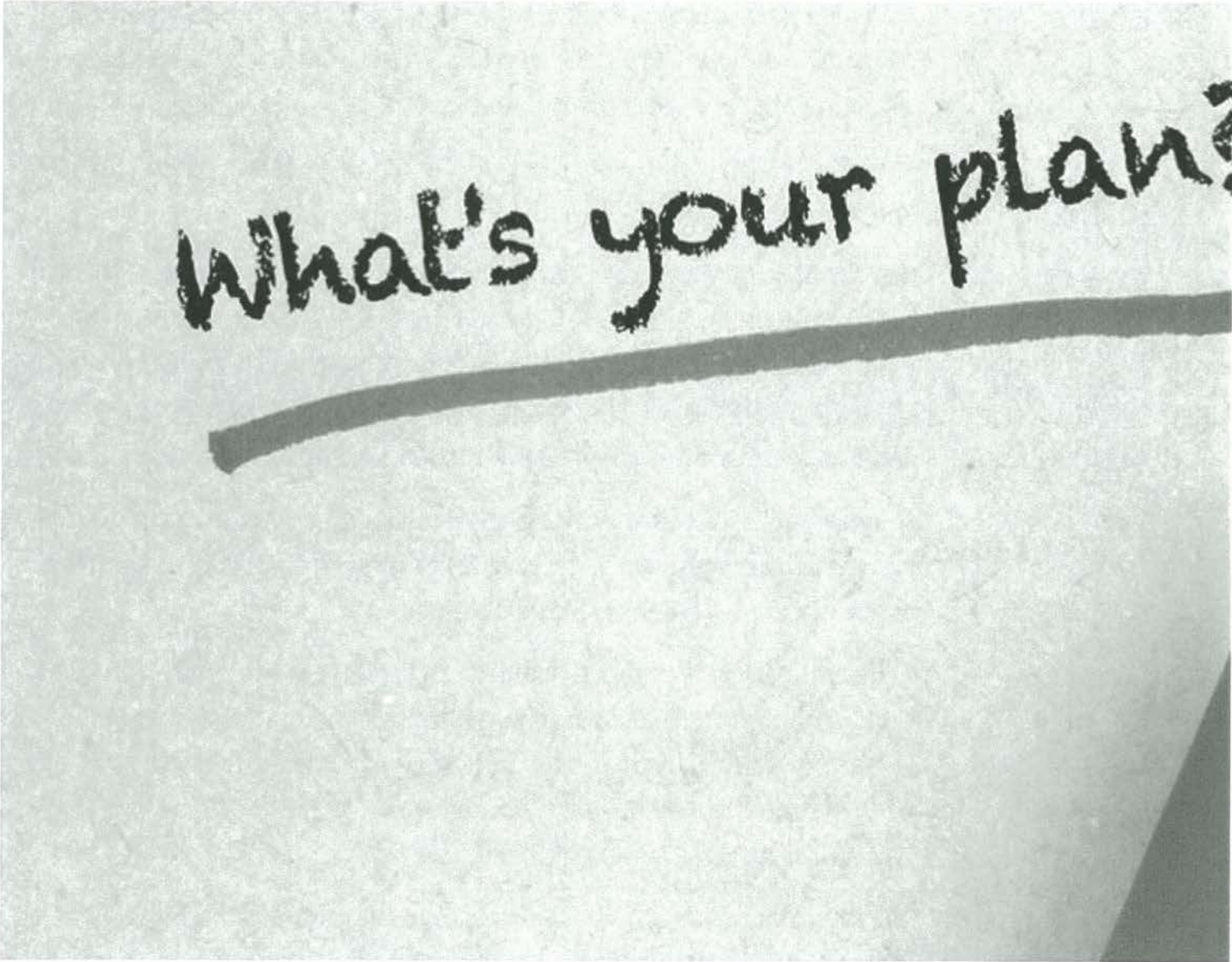
“When the stress inoculation occurs, it allows a responder to take all the new skills and put them together in life-saving situations,” said Kent Grant, a retired detective. “Through repetition and constant encouragement, a responder gets to where it all starts to come together for them. They are able to remember training, be calm and apply the medicine to save lives.”

If a crisis situation does occur, having more people with the skills and knowledge to respond appropriately can save lives.

SECURITY

SOLUTIONS FOR ENABLING AND ASSURING BUSINESS

Active Shooter: What's Your Plan of Action?



What's your plan?



August 1, 2018

Diane Ritchey

On June 28, Wendi Winters lost her life when a man shot her and some of her colleagues in the *Capital Gazette* newspaper office.

Yet, Winters is being hailed as a hero, according to some who witnessed and survived the shooting, because Winters reportedly fought the gunman, and “charged forward holding a trash can and recycling bin,” reported the *Capital Gazette*.

And weeks before the shooting, said the report, Winters had taken active shooter training at her church.

While FBI statistics show that mass shootings remain rare, training for one is critical. An FBI report released in May said that more than 200 people were killed in active shooter incidents in the United States in 2016-17. There were 50 shootings, and 722 people were wounded. The shootings occurred at schools, nightclubs, concerts and even churches.

Increasingly, citizens are taking survival training outside of traditional areas, such as workplaces, in order to increase their ability to survive an active shooter event, if it should happen.

“The main thing is to practice and train for it, that’s the only way to be prepared,” says Sgt. Kathy Kelsheimer of the Mascoutah, Ill., Police Department, (Ret.), who is an expert on active attacker response and survival training. “To borrow a quote from Mike Tyson, ‘Everyone has a plan, until they get punched in the face.’”

“In this day and age, there is no safe place in the world,” says Dr. Kathy Platoni, a clinical psychologist and retired U.S. Army colonel, who is also an expert on PTSD. She survived the shootings at Fort Hood, Texas, in 2009, where 14 people were killed by a U.S. Army Major. The Fort Hood

massacre is the deadliest mass shooting on any American military base. "What place is safe in our world?" Platoni says. "A school? A corporation? A hospital? It doesn't exist."

Kelsheimer says heightened tension in an active shooting situation can dramatically impact a person's fine motor skills. Even for experienced first responders, the difference between book and classroom training and a well-choreographed simulated incident can be revealing. "When you lose your fine motor skills, and you go to lock a door and you can't, that's surprising. The classroom is a lot different than a real situation."

Kelsheimer relates the story of a course attendee whose body froze during a simulated training exercise. Designed by Silverback Safety & Training Solutions, the drill was developed to mirror the events of the shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, in 2016. Fifty people died in that attack. The nightclub haze, loud music and an area jammed with people were all reminiscent of the atmosphere at the time of the attack.

"This course attendee might have gotten an A in the written test," Kelsheimer says. "But in the moment of truth, he froze. Because of the training, he will know that if he has to go into a situation like that, his body could shut down. He will know that if an event does occur, he will be expected to handle the noise and the pressure. After a few repetitions, he rose to the occasion and performed well. He came away from the training with a newfound confidence that he is now capable of performing life-saving tasks."

Troy Lowe, a SWAT Medic Team Leader and Tactical EMS Coordinator, designed the training with his team at Silverback Safety & Training Solutions. He is also the inventor of The Barracuda Intruder Defense System that has become popular within many U.S. schools, businesses, public buildings and even prisons. The locking device is manufactured by The BILCO Company. He also has put together gunshot treatment kits that have been used in real-world events to save lives. These kits – The

Protector II IFAK and Original BITT kit – have been member-tested and recommended by the National Tactical Officer Association as well as the Ohio Tactical Officer Association.

Mike Wisner, an Army veteran and instructor in tactical medicine, says training for active shooting situations is similar to CPR training in that it's a "force multiplier." "There are a lot of CPR classes so that multiple people know how to do it," he says. "This is kind of the same concept. The more people we can teach, the better results we'll get. We need to push this down the tracks."

Jamie Wilson is the only district nurse for the entire school district in Licking County, Ohio. Other staff members in the district have been trained on how to help people who have been hurt in active shooting incidents. "My job is training people how to save lives that don't have any medical background," Wilson says. "After the training, people feel like they can actually save a life. It gives them the skills to utilize those skills if there is an emergency."

Hopefully, business, schools and other organizations will never need to use the training. But if a crisis situation does evolve, having more people who have the skills and knowledge to respond appropriately can save lives.

"When the stress inoculation occurs, it allows a responder to take all the new skills and put them together in life-saving situations," says Kent Grant, a retired detective. "Through repetition and constant encouragement, a responder gets to where it all starts to come together for them. They are able to remember training, be calm, and apply the medicine to save lives."

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School Safety: Safety Measures



By Gene Birk | Posted: Tue 4:28 PM, Sep 18, 2018 | Updated: Tue 7:00 PM, Sep 18, 2018

CAMPBELLSVILLE, Ky. (WBKO) -- "Slide 'em under the doors. Put your pin in." The Barracuda Intruder Defense System blocks intruders from getting into classrooms. And Taylor County recently put them in every school they have. And they did it without raising taxes. The superintendent put a request out on his personal Facebook page and on the school system's website, asking for donations to buy the Barracuda Intruder Defense System.

"And we had a huge response from the community members," said Taylor County Schools Superintendent Charles Higdon, Jr. "All the stakeholders in the community got behind that. And within a week we had enough to purchase one for the entire district... and really we didn't have to twist any arms or beg anyone. We actually ended up having more donations than what we even requested."

And with that extra money they added extra video cameras, door-locking systems, and other student safety measures. "Our educational vision is to have students prepared to do something when they finish up here," said Higdon, "whether it's going straight into their job, going into a career pathway, going to a vocational school, or going into college. We want to have them prepared for life, in our school district. But on the meantime, we want to make sure that we can assure all parents that their kids are gonna be safe."

Kristin Jewell, Taylor County Primary Center Guidance Counselor

"We can do small group lessons for students who are feeling fearful," said Taylor County Primary Center Guidance Counselor Kristin Jewell, "and we have a group called Worry Warriors and that's for students who just have a general sense of worry so we know that those are students who may be more easily triggered when they hear about things like school shootings. And then just on an individual basis... We partner with Kids SpOt in the community and they provide mental health counseling."

"It's a very difficult conversation to have as a parent," said Jennifer Godsey with The Kids SpOt Center, a mental health counseling facility in Campbellsville. "My nine-year-old is aware of what's happening in the communities you know, and so she wants to know what she can do in order to stay safe at school too. And so the fact that the school system has taken the initiative to be able to provide these for schools just, it's very reassuring as a parent."

And Jewell says the students are doing great. "They bounce back. They're resilient. They adapt easily. We spent a little bit of time in our drills talking about the Barracuda. And now they've moved on... This is one more reason that you're safe in this school. You can feel safe here because we have adults in this building who care about you and how to protect you. We keep all our doors locked, and we have a Barracuda if we have to use it that will keep someone out."

Jennifer Godsey: "As a parent it's heartbreaking to know that that's what's required of the schools now in order to keep our kids safe."

Gene Birk: "But they're doin' it."

Jennifer Godsey: "They're doin' it. And doin' it well."



The safety measures also help the Taylor County Schools faculty and staff, by allowing them to concentrate on educating the children, without worrying about their safety. They say they are very grateful to the community for their strong support of their efforts in the classroom.

And Superintendent Higdon says if other administrators and leaders across the commonwealth reach out to their communities, those communities would support these safety measures as well.

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