



# *ALICE Instructor Safe Scenario Guide 2019*

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APPROVED BY:	Shawn Slezak	ISSUE DATE:	2018-04-11
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## **PURPOSE**

The purposes of these scenarios are to give the participants a controlled but accurate glimpse into what an Active Shooter event would look and feel like. This guide will help ensure that all scenarios are conducted consistently regardless of who is providing the instruction.

## **SAFETY**

In all scenarios, everyone is responsible for the safety of themselves and others. The words “*SAFETY– SAFETY – SAFETY*,” should be used to verbally identify situations that anyone deems to be unsafe. All participants should be instructed to stop their actions immediately upon hearing those words.

Before starting the scenarios, the Trainer must confirm that no one (including law enforcement officials) has any weapons (guns, knives, Tasers, etc.) of any kind and have everyone check each other for weapons. The Trainer should explain that the Nerf balls fired from the Nerf guns may sting, which is why we recommend wearing thick clothing such as sweatshirts and jeans.

Additionally, Trainers must inquire if any of the participants have an existing injury or any other reason that they may need to refrain from participating in the live scenarios. If this is the case, these individuals may act as observers and lend additional input during debrief sessions. Do not force any participant to take part in the role-play scenarios. Any participant may opt to be an observer, assisting with safety protocols.

Lastly, emphasize that if a participant is observed not following safety protocols, is deemed to be unsafe for any reason, or not following the direction of the Trainer, they will be asked to sit out and become an observer.

## **NOTIFY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Local law enforcement should be notified that an active shooter training exercise is being conducted including the time and location prior to initiation of the training. Additionally, the name of the Trainer should be provided as a point of contact.

### **Safety equipment shall include:**

- Safety glasses for everyone
- Long pants and sleeves are advised
- Caution tape to signify areas of rooms that are out of play
- Caution tape for sashes to be worn by any attendees who are observing only
- First-aid kit
- Safe area is identified

### **Aside from the safety equipment needed you will also need:**

- Nerf Guns (or replacement/equivalent)
- Nerf Balls
- Spare Battery for Nerf Gun
- Air horn
- Foam stress balls
- Hand-held radios (walkie-talkie)
- Insurance Waiver (if applicable) forms to be signed by all attendees

## **SELECTING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER VOLUNTEER**

In most cases, the preferred Active Shooter for the scenarios is an experienced law enforcement officer or someone highly trained. This gives credibility to our research by taking into account that most active shooters have had some limited training but typically not near the level of law enforcement.

However, Scenario #100 should be conducted with a shooting novice as the Active Shooter to illustrate how easily a passive and static response can cause people to become casualties.

## **ACTIVE SHOOTER ROLE PLAYER INSTRUCTIONS**

When an Active Shooter Role Player is selected, the Trainer shall provide them with the appropriate scenario instructions. Additionally, the Trainer shall brief them on the equipment.

Active Shooters may be equipped with two guns and additional magazines as they may need to go to a secondary weapon or reload. Be sure to tell the Active Shooter they should attempt to engage all available targets to ensure valid research documentation.

Ensure the Active Shooter understands the participants may be in very vulnerable positions (lockdown responses) and therefore very easy targets. In these situations, the Active Shooter should attempt to shoot only below the waist. Make sure the Active Shooter is confident they will be able to shoot participants in vulnerable positions. On some occasions in the past, Active Shooters Role Players have become overwhelmed with the realization of what they are doing and have stopped shooting, or they have even been overwhelmed by emotion.

## **SCENARIO FOLLOWUP**

Participants should be brought back to the safe area to debrief each scenario. For scenarios that are being documented for research purposes, the Trainer may be required to record results on a data collection form for that scenario. Always confirm after each scenario that no one has been injured and they are willing and able to move forward to the next scenario.

## **TYPICAL REACTIONS**

Trainers should be aware that participants will react to stress differently. Be prepared to deal with emotional issues should they arise but attempt to keep the group on track.

## **MEDIA AND OTHER OBSERVERS**

Be sure hosting agency approves the media presence. Brief media personnel on where you want them to locate. Remind the AS Role Player that the media personnel (wearing warning tape sashes) are out of play in the scenarios. If the media want to attend the scenario, they **MUST** participate in the safety briefing and **MUST** wear full eye protection. Media personnel will not be allowed to role-play in the scenarios. Find out if anyone in the group works undercover, and if necessary, advise the media to not film them. The media may conduct interviews after all the scenarios are complete. Inform media personnel that you would appreciate them not interviewing the participants until all the scenarios have been run, and that they are welcome to film the debriefs. Participants agreed to be filmed during the registration process.