



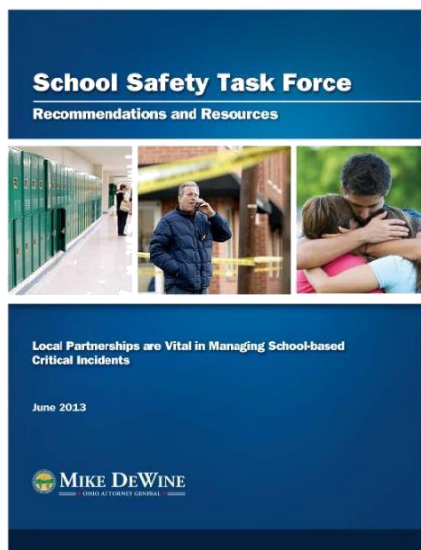
# **Active Shooter Recommendations**

Ohio Attorney General – Mike Dewine

A "Lockdown Only" response to an Active Shooter  
No Longer meets Government Recommendations

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## Ohio Attorney General (2013)

- *Ohio School Safety Task Force Report – Mike Dewine (2013)*

## Agencies Participants in Authoring this Document

- Ohio Department of Education
- Ohio School Board Association
- Buckeye Association of School Administrators
- Ohio School Resource Officer Administration
- + 33 additional Task Force Members

See what this government Agency recommends for Active Shooter response.

### Findings

Included in the Ohio Attorney General's (AG) recommendations is the concept that Lockdown is no longer a stand-alone strategy to secure in place.

The AG's and his Ohio School Safety Task Force's new recommendations encompassed all of the training protocols found in ALICE including barricading, evacuating and countering. It empowers and authorizes decision making by those people under attack.

### Background

In December 2012, after a tragic shooting that cost 26 lives at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine formed this task force to make recommendations on school safety. Included is a recommended safety plan.

### Lockdown is no Longer Enough

*"Lockdown is not a stand-alone defense strategy."*  
[Page 50]

*"When securing in place, this procedure should involve barricading the door and readying a plan of evacuation or counter tactics should the need arise."* [Page 50]

*"Do not place students in one location within the room. In the event that entry is gained by a shooter or intruder, students should consider exiting by running past the shooter/intruder."* [Page 59]

*"Staff and students may utilize methods to distract the shooter/intruder's ability to accurately shoot or cause harm, such as loud noises or aiming and throwing objects at the shooter/intruder's face or person."* [Page 50]

*"If students and school personnel are outside of the school at the time of a LOCKDOWN, teachers should move students to the designated off-site location."* [Page 51]

*"If an intruder enters and begins shooting, any and all actions to stop the shooter are justified. This includes moving about the room to lessen accuracy, throwing items (books, computers, phones, book bags) to create confusion, exiting out windows, and confrontation (assault, subdue, choke) to stop the intruder. Tell students to get out any way possible and move to another location."* [Page 59]

Is your School exercising an appropriate “*Standard of Care*” in its “*Duty to Protect*” staff and students?

## Schools: A Duty to Protect

Since Jefferson founded public education for the citizens of the United States, schools have been charged with the safety of children in their care - a duty to protect. Teachers and administrators have a responsibility to anticipate potential dangers and to take precautions to protect their students from those dangers.

## What is the Standard of Care?

If a school district fails its duty to protect students from injury and an appropriate standard of care was not used, the district can be found negligent. The standard of care is not a statute or regulation that can be pointed to and expounded upon. The standard of care is a concept that is argued in courtrooms requiring school districts to answer questions like:

1. Did you comply with federal & state recommendations?
2. Is your policy consistent with comparable schools?
3. Did you comply with your own stated policy?

## ALICE: the New Standard of Care

Historically, government agencies have recommended a lockdown-only approach that includes students hiding under desks or against walls. Some of these techniques originated during the cold-war as a method of protection from a nuclear threat. As ridiculous as this now seems, it was accepted in the era.

Today, government agencies (including the US Department of Education) have spent considerable resources researching active shooting events. Their findings have resulted in a change in guidance - a movement away from the cold war era techniques typically used in a lockdown-only approach. ALICE protocols are used almost exclusively in all new guidance.

Following current federal and state recommendations is a major step in limiting a school districts liability by demonstrating they have met today’s standard of care.

## Endorsed by Law Enforcement across the Country

ALICE is endorsed by law enforcement across the country and in line with recommendations from the: Department of Homeland Security (DHS); Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); US Department of Education; along with many state agencies across the US.

## About ALICE

The ALICE program was authored by a police officer to keep his wife, an elementary school principal, safe after the tragic events at Columbine. Since these humble beginnings, ALICE continues to be the leading active shooter response program in the US.

ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training helps prepare individuals to handle the threat of an Active Shooter. ALICE teaches individuals to participate in their own survival, while leading others to safety. Though no one can guarantee success in this type of situation, this new set of skills will greatly increase the odds of survival should anyone face this form of disaster.

## Get ALICE Certified

Being an ALICE certified organization demonstrates to your stakeholders that you are serious about safety: including the safety of your employees; visitors; and in the cases of schools – our children.

The ALICE Certified mark, which is backed by our research and years of experience, indicates to your stakeholders that you have gone the extra mile to practice safety training that has been deemed to be critical to help survive today’s violent intruder events. To learn more please visit us at [www.alicetraining.com](http://www.alicetraining.com)



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