Is Your Township Crisis Ready?
Ohio Township Association Winter Conference
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Introductions

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  -Former Springfield Township Administrator, Hamilton County
• Rob Browder, Police Chief – Springfield Township, Hamilton County
• Rick Bley, Assistant Police Chief – Springfield Township, Hamilton County
Summary

- Crisis Management Overview - 5 Steps to Take To Ensure Your Township is Prepared
- Mass Shooting and Officer Involved Shooting Events
  - Critical Aspects and Elements of Each Event Type
  - Response
  - Investigation
  - Secondary Impacts
  - Township Role/Impact
    - Elected and Appointed Leadership
    - Police Department/Sheriff/Other
    - Other Departments
    - Residents/Businesses
Crisis Management

Not if…

but when?
Is Your Township Crisis Ready?

From the impact of acts of terror to mass shootings, natural disasters to cyberattacks, there is no shortage of potential adverse situations that could confront your community.

ARE YOU CRISIS READY???
Steps to be Crisis Ready

- **Community Discussion and Risk Assessment**
  - Leadership Discussion
  - Define Crisis
  - Identify Crisis to which you are most prone or vulnerable
  - Define factors that will escalate and de-escalate the event
Steps to be Crisis Ready

- Understand Your Community’s Role and Capacity
  - Enabling Legislation
    - Required, Permitted and Prohibited Actions
  - Leadership and Staffing Capabilities
  - Community Expectations
  - Intergovernmental Relationship and Agreements
    - Local
    - County
    - State
    - Federal
Steps to be Crisis Ready

- Understand and Implement the NIMS/Incident Command System and Regional Coordination of Mutual Aid
Steps to be Crisis Ready

• Create Emergency Operations Plan
  • County-Wide Plan
  • NIMS Based
  • Customized to Your Community and Personnel
  • Step by Step SOP Field Manuel and Log for Each Position
  • Volunteers -CERT and Plan to Coordinate
  • Update Yearly
Steps to be Crisis Ready

- **Training, Training, Training**
  - Review Plan with State, County and Community Elected Officials, Staff and Community Stakeholders
- **Mock Desk-Top Exercises**
Mass Shootings
What are they?

**Mass Shootings/Active Shooter**

- Individuals engaged in killing
- Death toll reached 4 or more
Response to Mass Shooting/Active Shooter

CALLING ALL CARS!

• Be prepared that multiple agencies will be responding
• Are you NIMS ready? Regional coordination of mutual aid
• Training from the front line to elected officials
  • Solo engagement. STOP THE THREAT ASAP
  • What resources are you going to rely on for the response and the entire duration of the event including the follow up investigation.
• Make sure you know: Who’s in Command?
Investigation Mass Shooting/Active Shooter

Know who will be in charge of the investigation?

- Your own local jurisdiction?
- State Jurisdiction? (BCI)
- Federal Jurisdiction? (FBI)
- Combination of any or all
Officer Involved Shootings
Officer Involved Shooting

- A discharge of a service weapon by an officer during a hostile encounter or an accidental discharge, while on-duty or off-duty, irrespective of injuries to suspects, officers, or third parties.
Response to Officer Involved Shooting

• Again be prepared that multiple agencies may be involved or responding to the incident. Who’s in Charge?

• Does your staff know how to respond and what their role will be?
  • Assisting officer(s)
  • Front line supervisors
  • Investigators
  • Command Staff
  • Township Administration/Elected Officials/Law Director
  • What immediately happens to the officer involved?

• Policies in place ahead of time that determine the course of the investigation to ensure fairness and transparency for the officer involved, the department, the community, and the person shot.
Investigation of Officer Involved Shooting

Multiple Investigations taking place at the same time
Each one has their own distinct outcome and require different procedures

1) **Criminal Investigation** (Includes local prosecutors office)
   - Know who’s going to do it.
   - Your own agency
   - Another local agency
   - State

2) **Internal Investigation** (Agency where the officer is commissioned)

3) **Coroner’s Investigation** (Know their expectations and involvement will be)

4) **Union Involvement** (Know what their involvement is going to be)
   - Know the involved officer’s rights ahead of time
   - Understand the Union’s procedures ahead of time
     - Helps the process to go smoother with interviews etc.
     - Avoids feeling of lack of support from home agency
Secondary Impacts

- Media
- Public Record Requests (Including personnel files, emails, texts)
- Social media
- Is there video of the incident and can it or must it be released
- Community Reaction (Likely going to get negative phone calls emails etc.)
- National Reaction
Secondary Impacts

- Lawsuits
- Agency Personnel, including fire, public works, and administration
- Families Involved
  - Peer support outlets
  - Counseling available
- Continual follow up with officer (PTSD)
How to Make This Applicable in Your Township?

- Township Police Department/Fire/EMS Department
- Joint Police/Fire/EMS District
- Contracted Police Service
- County Sheriff Department
- Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI)
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
Contact

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