

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office  
Dave Phalen, Sheriff  
221 E. Main St.  
Lancaster, OH 43130

Contact Person: Sheriff Dave Phalen  
Phone: (740) 652-7900, Ext. 7252  
Fax: (740) 687-6856

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – PROTECTING YOURSELF IN ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS**

[Lancaster, Ohio, July 23 2012] In light of the recent number of incidents involving “active shooters” that have made headlines (gunman at a Salt Lake City shopping mall, Virginia Tech tragedy, Amish schoolhouse shootings, Aurora, Colorado, etc.), the question on many people’s minds has been whether they were prepared to deal with such a situation. Certainly, active shooter threats present unique scenarios that extend far beyond the common break-ins, vandalism and disputes that most law enforcement officers handle on a regular basis.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has issued some basic safety tips to help you in coping with an active shooter situation:

- Be aware of your environment and any possible dangers
- Take note of the two nearest exits in any facility you visit
- If you are in an office, stay there and secure the door
- If you are in a hallway, get into a room and secure the door
- As a last resort, attempt to take the active shooter down
- When the shooter is at close range and you cannot flee, your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him/her.

**CALL 9-1-1 WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO!**