

application ideas

WHY ACTIVE GUNSHOT MONITORING SAVES LIVES

GUNSHOT DETECTION SOLUTION

POE-GSD

- ▶ **SINGLE AND MULTI-SHOT EVENTS**
- ▶ **GROUP SENSORS INTO ZONES FOR LOCALIZED COLOR BEACONING**
- ▶ **AUTOMATED TEXT OR EMAIL ALERTS AND REPORTS**



In 2019 there were 28 active shooter events in the US with 247 casualties and 97 fatalities*. In response to these recent shootings, numerous businesses and school districts have developed active response plans that follow the FBI's Run, Hide, Fight model**. While some of these involve upgrades to physical security systems (access readers, cameras, and metal detectors) some also include armed first responders and active gunshot listening sensors.

While active shooter events are rare, when they occur, the single most important variable that affects the outcome is time-to-engagement. The Parkland School Shooting Report illustrates this well. In the first 1:39 seconds, 21 people were shot. While it only took 35 seconds after the first shot for 911 dispatchers to receive the first call; first responders took over 20 minutes to reach the first casualties. Keep in mind, first responders' first job is to neutralize the shooter. Only after the area is safe, do they tend to the wounded. Time is critical.

Although each shooting event has many differences, they all share similar lessons:

- ▶ The time to notify first responders must be short.
- ▶ First responders need to know when and where the latest shot was fired.

Gunshot detection with automated alerting gives first responders and victims instant information about the location of a live shooting event. This removes significant uncertainty about the source of the shooting. In every major shooting event, the situation is chaotic and stressful. First responders are often overwhelmed with inaccurate information provided by victims on the scene and radio chatter.

In the case of a mass casualty event, it takes significant time for the responding officers and medical personnel to set up a command center and collect information from everyone on site. By using automated detection, gunshot locations can be pinpointed to a building, floor, and room. Gunshot detection can tell people where shots are fired; it cannot say where the space is safe.

The sensors are activated by a high-pressure wave from a handgun or rifle. Lights in the zone with the sensor can instantly turn red to alert nearby people that this is a hot live-fire zone. While it won't give people the courage to act, the system provides real-time shot source information. It removes confusion about the source of the shots while providing continuous updates to first responders for an effective response.

How it works:

The Platformatics gunshot monitoring system relies on a pressure wave sensor manufactured by Shot Tracer. When the pressure sensor detects a shot, it sends an alert to the Platformatics monitoring system with the zone name, location, date, and time. This information is then broadcast to an emergency response system set up specifically for the customer. The system can notify E911 and send email and text messages to alert subscribers.

Armed Response Vaults in a Gun Free Zone:

For customers who have a no-gun policy, the Platformatics gunshot monitoring system can be tied to multiple firearm vaults that contain loaded weapons. These weapons are only unlocked when a gunshot is detected. Trained employees can use their ID cards/passwords to retrieve a loaded firearm and "Color of the Day" vest. The vest ensures that first responders know who is an authorized onsite first responder. This program enables soft targets to perform like hardened targets in the unlikely event of a shooter. It also allows the site to advertise that it is armed while remaining a "gun secured zone." With this technology, victims are empowered to protect themselves before first responders arrive.

* www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-incidents-in-the-us-2019-042820.pdf/view

** www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources



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