



Santa Clara Police Training Flash



2024 Active Shooter Protocol

Attached to this training flash is a link to the 2024 Active Shooter Protocol in our “K” drive under “County Protocols” ([K:\County Protocols](#)). Several things have changed in the 2024 Active Shooter Protocol so please familiarize yourself with the entire protocol.

Some key points we should take away from this new protocol are the definitions. Having clear communications during an active shooter incident is critical when working cohesively with Fire and Medics. If we don't use the same nomenclature, we might delay critical resources needed during an Active Shooter incident. Our goal after stopping the killing is to declare “Warm Zones” as soon as possible to stop the dying. Some key definitions are listed below:

Hot Zone/Active Threat

- Area where direct & immediate threat exists (only Law Enforcement may enter this zone)
- Hot Zone are for Contact Teams working to isolate, capture, or neutralize the active threat
- Fire personnel will not intentionally work in this zone
- Incident Command shall ensure Hot Zones are established & communicated to everyone

Warm Zone/Cleared

- Area where potential threat exists, but the threat is not direct or immediate
- Warm Zone is area that Law Enforcement Contact Teams have cleared
- Fire (with LEO) may enter Warm Zone as part of Rescue Task Force/Rescue Strike Team

Cold Zone/Secured

- Area where no significant danger or threat can be reasonably anticipated
- Any response personnel may enter the Cold Zone
- Cold Zone achieved by distance, geographical location, or inaccessible areas from incident
- Cold Zone is location for Staging Area, Incident Command, treatment, & transport of patients

Cleared Area = Warm Zone

- Area initially cleared by Contact Team & determined safe for Rescue Task Force/Rescue Strike Team
- Cleared area may contain Casualty Collection Points

Secured Area = Cold Zone

- Area systematically cleared by Law Enforcement & free of threats
- Secondary searches & security has been actively maintained

Casualty

- Person injured or effected by an event or situation

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Reviewed By: MRC A12

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