



## AN ANALYSIS OF ACTIVE SHOOTING EVENTS IN PLACES OF WORSHIP (2000-2017)

PLACES OF WORSHIP ARE UNFORTUNATELY SOFT TARGETS IN THE EYES OF ACTIVE SHOOTERS. THE MOST IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATION BARE DYNAMICS PROPOSES IS THE IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT OF BYSTANDER INTERVENTION. 5 OF THE TEN INCIDENTS CAME TO RESOLUTION AFTER A CITIZEN HAD INTERVENED. PREPAREDNESS CANNOT BE OVERSTATED. INTERVENTION IN OTHER ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS BY CITIZEN BYSTANDERS HAS RESOLVED MANY INCIDENTS.

WITH THE STOP THE BLEED INITIATIVE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PLACES OF WORSHIP BE TRAINED AND EQUIPPED IN BASIC BLEEDING CONTROL. FURTHER, PLACES OF WORSHIP SHOULD ALSO ADOPT AND TRAIN IN THE RUN, HIDE, FIGHT RECOMMENDED BY FEMA INCREASES THE CHANCES OF SURVIVABILITY IN ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS IN PLACES OF WORSHIP.

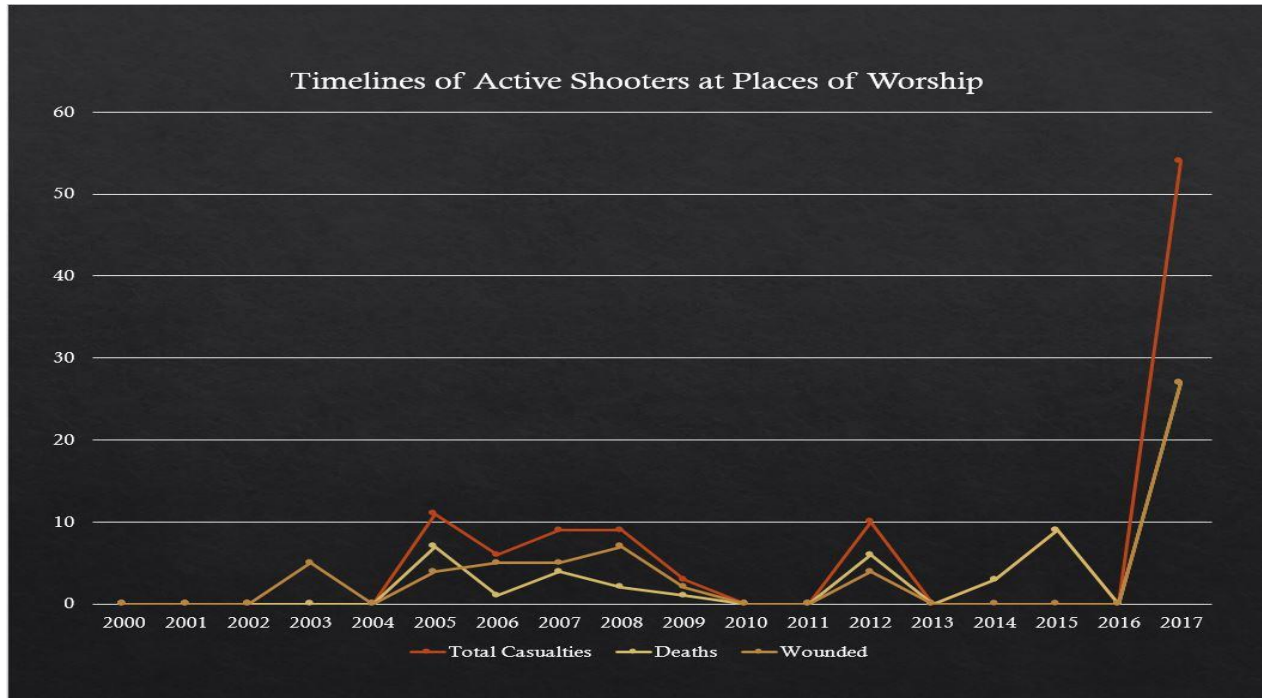
PLEASE CONTACT BARE DYNAMICS FOR TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS WITH RESPECT TO THIS ANALYSIS.

### SUMMARY

THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION ARE FROM FBI RELEASED ANNUAL REPORTS REGARDING ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS. THE DEFINITION OF AND ACTIVE SHOOTER IS OUTLINED IN "A STUDY OF ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN 2000 AND 2013 (BLAIR, J. PETE, AND SCHWEIT, KATHERINE W. [2014]. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY AND FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 2014)." AND DEFINED AS "AN INDIVIDUAL ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN KILLING OR ATTEMPTING TO KILL PEOPLE IN A CONFINED AND POPULATED AREA." IT IS IMPLIED IN THE DEFINITION THAT THE SUBJECT UTILIZED A FIREARM IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES. THESE ARE NOT NECESSARILY MASS SHOOTING OR MASS KILLING EVENTS, THOUGH SOME ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS MAY MEET THE DEFINITION OF A MASS SHOOTING. THEREFORE IT IS IMPORTANT TO REVIEW THIS INFORMATION WITHIN THE CONTEXT.

### TIMELINE

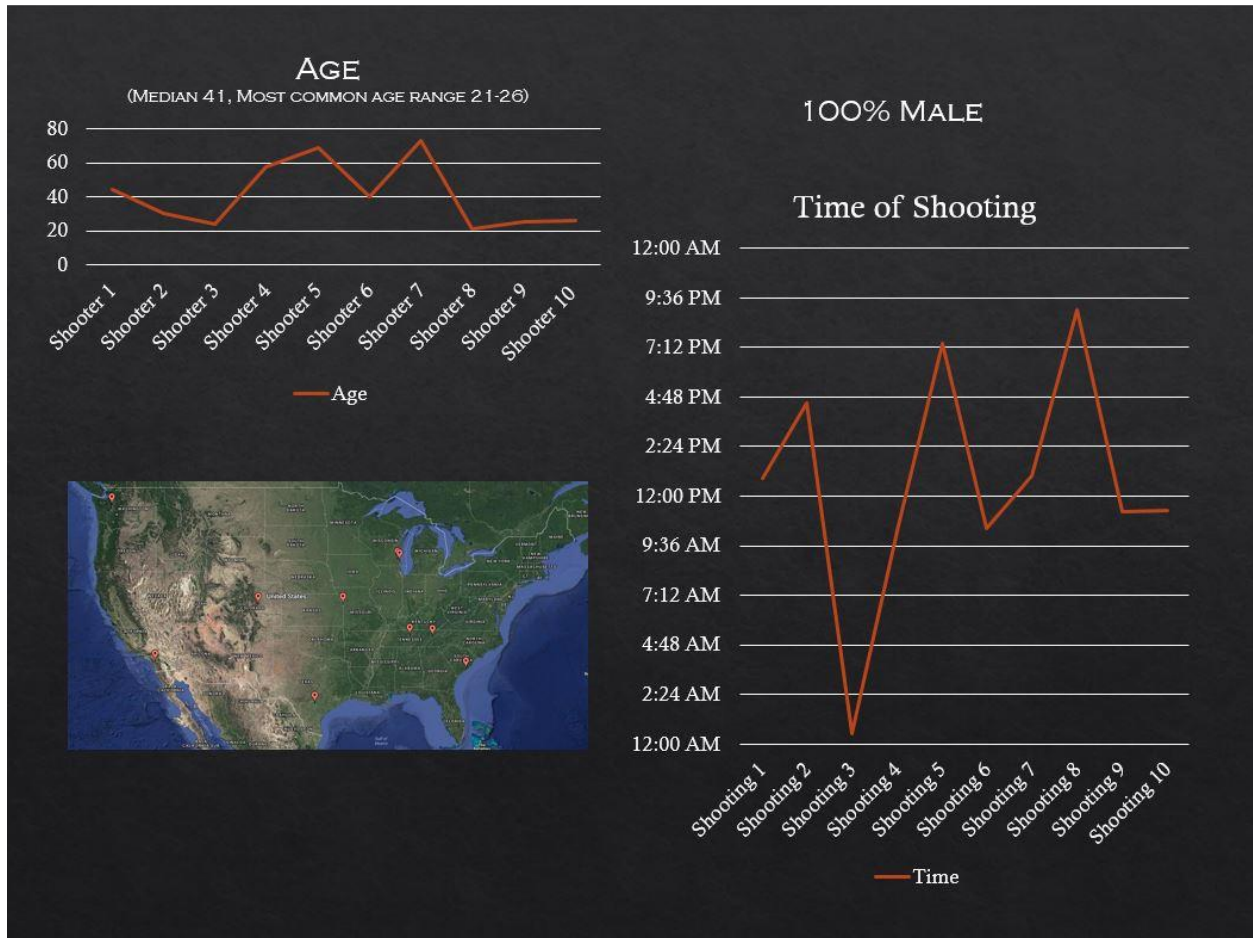
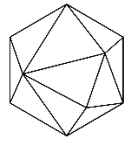
OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST 18 YEARS (TOTAL YEARS OF FBI PROVIDED DATA) THERE HAVE BEEN TEN TOTAL SHOOTINGS AT PLACES OF WORSHIP OUT OF A TOTAL 249 ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS. THE GRAPH BELOW REPRESENTS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASUALTIES, DEATHS, AND INJURIES THAT OCCURRED OVER THE COURSE OF THE 18 YEAR STUDY TIME.



### SHOOTING SPECIFICS

ALL SHOOTING SUBJECTS OF EVENTS AT PLACES OF WORSHIP WHERE MALE. TIMES OF EVENTS MOSTLY OCCUR IN THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING ACROSS THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES. A VARIETY OF WEAPONS WERE USED FROM HANDGUNS, RIFLES, SHOTGUNS, SMOKE BOMBS ALL CAUSING A TOTAL OF 114 CASUALTIES (BOTH KILLED AND OR WOUNDED)

SHOOTING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
HANDGUN	1	2	2		1	1	2		2	
RIFLE			1					1		1
SHOTGUN				1			1			
SMOKE GRENADE			x							
TOTAL CASUALTIES	11	6	9	9	3	10	3	9	8	46

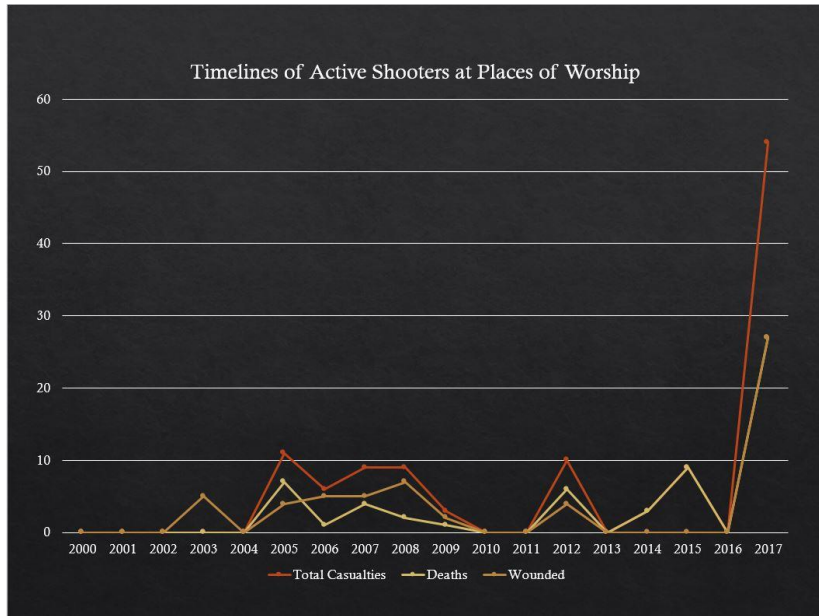


## CASUALTIES

ELEVEN HANDGUNS WERE USED IN 7 SHOOTINGS RESULTING IN 50 CASUALTIES. THREE RIFLES WERE USED IN 3 SHOOTINGS (ONE IN COMBINATION WITH TWO HANDGUNS) RESULTING IN 64 CASUALTIES (46 FROM ONE INCIDENT). TWO SHOTGUNS ACROSS 2 SHOOTINGS RESULTING IN TWELVE CASUALTIES OCCURRED.

11 HANDGUNS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AN AVERAGE OF 4.5 CASUALTIES. 3 RIFLES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROXIMATELY 21 CASUALTIES (AVERAGE). 2 SHOTGUNS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 6 CASUALTIES (AVERAGE).

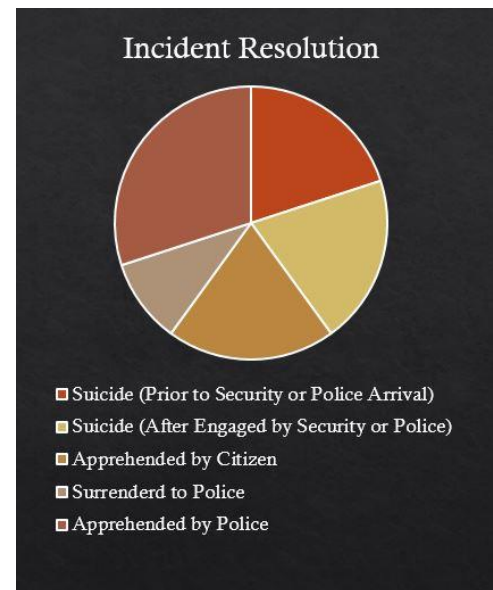
A TOTAL OF 114 CASUALTIES OCCURRED ACROSS THE 10 INCIDENTS (OCCURRING IN PLACES OF WORSHIP) IN THE PAST 18 YEARS. THE LATEST SHOOTING HAD BEEN EXECUTED WITH A RIFLE, RESULTING IN 46 CASUALTIES. THIS INCIDENT IS LIKELY A STATISTICAL ANOMALY AS IT DOES NOT COINCIDE WITH THE GROUP AVERAGES (WE CANNOT SPECIFICALLY STATE THIS INCIDENT WILL AFFECT THE TRENDS OF SHOOTINGS AT PLACES OF WORSHIP).



**RESOLUTIONS**

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ANALYSIS, THE PLACE OF WORSHIP ACTIVE SHOOTING EVENT IS CONSIDERED RESOLVED WHEN THE SHOOTER IS DECEASED, OR APPREHENDED. AN EVENT CAN BE CONSIDERED RESOLVED BY APPREHENSION BY EITHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OR CITIZEN BYSTANDERS.

THE TABLE BELOW SHOWS THE FATE OF THE SHOOTER, AND IF CITIZEN BYSTANDERS HAD INTERVENED. IT DOES NOT GO INTO DETAIL IF SUICIDE OCCURRED PRIOR TO LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVAL.



SHOOTING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SUICIDE	X		X							X
APPREHENDED BY POLICE				X	X		X	X	X	
SURRENDER		X								
KILLED BY POLICE						X				
BYSTANDER INTERVENTION			X	X	X				X	X



## APPENDIX

### **Living Church of God (House of Worship)**

On March 12, 2005, at 12:51 p.m., Terry M. Ratzmann, 44, armed with a handgun, began shooting during a Living Church of God service at the Sheraton Hotel in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Seven people were killed; four were wounded. The shooter committed suicide before police arrived.

### **Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle (House of Worship)**

On July 28, 2006, at 4:00 p.m., Naveed Afzal Haq, 30, armed with two handguns, began shooting in the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle in Seattle, Washington. He had forced his way in by holding a gun to a 13-year-old girl's head. One person was killed; five were wounded. The shooter surrendered to police and was taken into custody.

### **Youth with a Mission Training Center/New Life Church (House of Worship)**

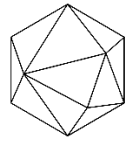
On December 9, 2007, at 12:29 a.m., Matthew John Murray, 24, armed with a rifle, two handguns, and smoke bombs, entered the Youth with a Mission Training Center in Arvada, Colorado, and began shooting. Two people were killed; two were wounded. He then walked seven miles overnight to the New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and began shooting again. The shooter had been expelled from the training center three years prior to the incident. Two additional people were killed there; three more were wounded. The shooter committed suicide after being shot by church security. A total of four people were killed; five were wounded.

### **Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (House of Worship)**

On July 27, 2008, at 10:18 a.m., Jim David Adkisson, 58, armed with a shotgun, began shooting in the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. Two people were killed; seven were wounded. The shooter was restrained by citizens before police arrived and took him into custody.

### **Kkottongnae Retreat Camp (House of Worship)**

On April 7, 2009 at 7:23 p.m., John Suchan Chong, 69, armed with a handgun, began shooting at residents in the Kkottongnae Retreat Camp in Temecula, California, where he was employed as a handyman. The shooter walked from cabin to cabin shooting residents until he was restrained by citizens. One person was killed; two were wounded.



## **Sikh Temple of Wisconsin (House of Worship)**

On August 5, 2012, at 10:25 a.m., Wade Michael Page, 40, armed with a handgun, began shooting outside the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, Wisconsin and then moved inside and continued to shoot. The shooter exited the building and confronted the responding police officer, wounding him. He then fired on a second responding police officer, who returned fire and wounded the shooter. Six people were killed; four were wounded, including one police officer. The shooter committed suicide after being shot in the stomach by the second responding officer.

## **Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and Village Shalom Retirement Community (House of Worship)**

On April 13, 2014, at 1:00 p.m., Frazier Glenn Miller, Jr., 73, armed with two handguns and a shotgun, began shooting in the parking lot of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City in Overland Park, Kansas, killing 2, and then drove to a nearby parking lot of the Village Shalom retirement community, killing 1. A total of 3 people were killed; no one else was wounded. The shooter was apprehended by law enforcement at a nearby elementary school.

## **Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (House of Worship)**

On June 17, 2015, at 9:00 p.m., Dylann Storm Roof, 21, armed with a rifle, allegedly began shooting at prayer service at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Nine people were killed; no one was wounded. The shooter fled the scene and was apprehended by law enforcement the next day.

## **Burnette Chapel Church of Christ (House of Worship)**

On September 24, 2017, at 11:15 a.m., Emanuel Kidega Samson, 25, armed with two handguns, allegedly began shooting in the parking lot of the Burnette Chapel Church of Christ in Antioch, Tennessee. After killing one person, the shooter entered the church and shot six people. A citizen who attempted to subdue the shooter was pistol-whipped. During the altercation, the shooter accidentally shot himself. While the shooter was preoccupied, the citizen, who possessed a valid firearms permit, retrieved a handgun from his car and held the shooter at gunpoint until law enforcement arrived. One person was killed; seven were wounded. The shooter was apprehended by law enforcement.

## **First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas (House of Worship)**

On November 5, 2017, at 11:20 a.m., Devin Patrick Kelley, 26, armed with a rifle, exited his vehicle and began shooting outside the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. He then entered the church and continued shooting at members of the congregation. The shooter exited the church and was confronted by a citizen who possessed a valid firearms permit. The citizen shot the shooter twice, causing the shooter to drop his rifle and flee the scene in his vehicle. The armed citizen, together with the owner of a pickup truck, pursued the shooter. The chase ended when the shooter's vehicle struck a road sign and overturned. Twenty-six people were killed; 20 were wounded. The shooter committed suicide with a handgun he had in his vehicle before police arrived.