

# SHUL SAFETY



## What Can Your Shul Do?

- Promote security consciousness among all staff and congregants
- Provide clear emergency response communication and training to congregants
- Develop and implement a detailed security/emergency plan
- Keep doors and windows locked at all times
- Limit open access to the shul by only allowing congregants and visitors to enter through the main entrance
- Hire a trained and experienced guard and evaluate if he should be armed
- Install and maintain panic buttons, alarm systems, and surveillance cameras
- Keep prepaid charged cellphones available in different locations at all times
- Install physical deterrents, such as bollards and/or barriers
- Hire a security professional to perform a thorough security evaluation
- Hire a security coordinator or designate a congregant to oversee and implement all security policies and measures
- Develop relationships with local police and fire departments and encourage them to become familiar with your facility
- Hire extra security for Shabbos, Yom Tov, events, and lectures
- Perform lockdown, evacuation and fire drills regularly, even on Shabbos and Yom Tov

## Active Shooter Response

**IMMEDIATELY DETERMINE THE BEST ACTION TO TAKE TO PROTECT YOUR OWN LIFE.**

Consider whether it is more dangerous to run outside or shelter inside.

### 1. RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Keep your hands visible

### 2. HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the active shooter's view
- Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors

### 3. FIGHT

- As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the active shooter
- Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter

Call 911 when it is safe to do so.

Stay alert and develop a security consciousness.

*"If you see something, say something"*©



Frank Storch, author of *Keep Your School Safe*, *Keep Your Camp Safe*, and *Stay Safe in Israel*.

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In loving memory of Hatomim Hakodosh Aharon Yosef Ben Chananya Sinai Dovid Halberstam, HY"D.