# SHUL SAFETY 101

#### 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

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• Keep your hands visible

## 2. HIDE

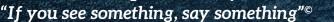
- Hide in an area out of the active shooter's view
- Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors

Call 911 when it is safe to do so.

## 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

#### Stay alert and develop a security consciousness.









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.