

# THE REALITY

## SURVIVING A SCHOOL SHOOTING SCENARIO

An explosive popping shatters the quiet of your classroom and is followed by the chilling scream of a familiar voice. You hear more popping and more screams, this time they are closer. You begin to notice a smell. It is faint at first, and then stronger. You realize that acrid metallic smell is burnt gunpowder. As quickly as the chaos started it stops and is followed by an eerie silence. As fear settles into your bones you hear footsteps and then the door knob of your classroom room rattles. You are all alone and yet you are surrounded by 22 young lives. Your life and the lives of these children depends on what happens next.

The police have been called, but the first officer is still 8 minutes away. The SWAT team has been notified, but it will be hours before they can check or "clear" the building and get everyone one out. Did the door lock when you twisted the button? Did you even think about locking the door? Do you create a diversion or do you just hide and hope? In a shooting at school, you and your students are on your own until the police arrive.

Every year we practice fire drills. There is band practice, football practice, Juniors practice for the SATs and Seniors practice commencement. So why on earth don't we practice for what might be the worst day of our lives? Aren't we calmer and better prepared to act when we know what to expect? If you could cheat to beat a bad guy wouldn't you do it?

*The Reality – surviving a school shooting scenario* provides staff and administrators proven strategies to mitigate the threats of an active shooting situation and opens up discussions about policies, carrying out your safety plan and recovery should your worst day actually happen. This 4 hour realistic and intense training can be performed at your school to address your unique building and circumstances and enhance your ability to make sound critical decisions.

### Topics to be covered:

- Lessons learned from previous incidents
- Situational awareness
- School staff priorities
- Police priorities
- Creating and nurturing a school-police relationship
- "Things to do"
- Mental and emotional considerations (mindset)



## MG TACTICAL ADVANTAGE, LLC

Our School Safety division was born out of the working relationship between Mike Guido and Mike Hurley and has the unique advantage of drawing experience from both the law enforcement and the school safety and administration worlds. Mike and Mike met years ago through their jobs as a Police Officer (Guido) and the Director of Safety and Security for a local school district (Hurley). They realized that there were great differences in their positions and that those differences could be mutually beneficial if they worked together. MG Tactical Advantage has been providing quality school safety, consulting and emergency planning services for more than 15 years.

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### TESTIMONIAL~

*Participation in this mock scenario afforded me first-hand experience dealing with the sad reality of school violence. Most importantly, the mock scenario shared with colleagues, law enforcement and emergency responders provided me with a deeper understanding of what one might experience should violence come to our school. I was able to debrief with other professionals and I left with deeper knowledge related to school safety and response to violence.*

**Ms. Kim Truckenmiller, Principal  
Mooreland Elementary School  
Carlisle Area School District**