

## After Action Reports confirms Active Shooter drill Successful

The After Action Report resulting from the April 10 Active Shooter/Hostile Intruder exercise at the Kent County Administrative Complex confirmed initial findings that it was successful and drill objectives had been achieved.

City of Dover Police Major Tom Stump wrote *“I would describe this exercise as a huge success. From the evaluator’s perspective as well as my own, I feel like the employees handled themselves very well. The first floor area quickly emptied out upon the first shots being fired and employees found exits that were nearest to them. Their exits seemed to be swift but orderly. Both Kent County Levy Court and the Dover Police Department were able to identify strengths and as well as areas of improvement which is always one of the benefits of conducting these exercises. This was a great collaborative effort that should improve upon the overall working performance of all agencies involved. The County should be commended on their effort and I will be using this experience as the model moving forward on future Joint Exercises.”*

According to Kent County Public Safety Director Colin Faulkner it was clear that employees remembered the words – **Avoid/Deny/Defend** during the active shooter exercise, and the County paramedics involved were able to receive valuable “real life” experience responding as a “Rescue Task Force” teamed with the Dover Police Department to practice important skills in a warm zone – where advanced life support is provided with nearby police activity.



The event also offered Kent County employees the opportunity to practice the skills they learned at A/D/D training provided in 2017 and again earlier this year. The deficiencies identified in the report are being corrected by County staff.

According to the report, the exercise included 1 shooter, 9 victims portrayed by 9 Delaware Technical Community College paramedic students, approximately 150 County employees, Dover Police Department SWAT team, Dover Police Department Administrative Staff officers, Dover Police Department Public Information Officer, Dover Police Department Victims services, Dover Police Department hostage negotiators, Kent County SWAT medics, Kent County Paramedics, Kent County Dispatchers, 2 Kent County medic Units, 1 Special Operations unit, Kent County Mobile Command Post, Kent County Public Information Officer, 2 Delaware Technical Community College Paramedic Technology instructors, 2 Tents, 11 Kent County Special Operations Team members to construct tents and assist with logistics, Del-DOT signage, 3 staff from the Kent County wastewater treatment facility, Kent Count Emergency Management staff, 1 ambulance affiliated with St. Francis Hospital contracted with the City of Dover for real world emergency response, 1 member of the Media, and 1 representative of Delaware State Police.

Now that the long anticipated exercise has been completed, employees should continue to talk about their personal experience and share observations with coworkers. Remember, if you had been in a position to have to “Defend” yourself, it may have needed to be a team effort. If

you have a question or recommendation about the nationally certified hostile intruder training program or the exercise, please email Chief Faulkner.

Kent County facilities employ a number of security measures including building access control, video monitoring, fencing and controlled gates, and an armed security guard at the main entrance to the Administrative Complex and the Recreation Center to protect employees and visitors from potential threats of violence.

For more information, check out the Workplace Violence Prevention policy in the County Policy Manual or the Avoid Deny Defend video link on the County website or contact the Personnel Office at 744-2310.

*(Posted 05/29/19)*

