



## Violence in Places of Worship

248 Deadly force incidents in  
2015 at Faith Based  
Organizations  
76 deaths

Charleston South Carolina  
June 17, 2015

Emanuel (AME) Church

Nine people Murdered

Motive

Igniting a Race War

The Alter Church  
Coeur d' Alene Idaho  
March 6, 2016

Pastor  
Tim Remington  
Killed

## Motive

Pastor believed to be  
an Alien from Mars

ST. Peter's Missionary Baptist  
Dayton, Ohio  
February 28, 2016

Pastor  
William Schooler  
Killed

## Motive

Family Inheritance

Keystone Fellowship Church  
North Wales, Pennsylvania  
April 24, 2016

Congregant  
Robert Braxton III  
Killed

Motive

Seating Dispute  
CCW

Bellevue Baptist Church  
Memphis, Tennessee  
Easter March 27, 2016

Rifle and Handguns  
To Worship Service

## Motive

"people in society are a threat to him and that he must be vigilant."

## Profile

**SYNOPSIS**

**20 cases**

## GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Colorado, Missouri, Idaho,  
Pennsylvania, Washington,  
Louisiana, Florida, Georgia,  
Michigan, Ohio, Texas, South  
Carolina, Tennessee, Kansas,  
Illinois, Wisconsin

**EVERYWHERE**

Day of the Week

**Everyday**



## Time of Occurrence

Ranges from  
12:30 AM  
To  
12:00 AM

## Size of Congregation

Ranges  
from 12 members  
To  
10,000 members

## Type of Congregation

Ranges from  
Store Front  
To  
Mega Church

## Age and Sex of Victim

16 year old female  
To  
78 year old male

## Age of Shooter

**Males:**

Range from 16 - 79

**Female:**

Range from 32 - 65

## Sex of Shooter

**Predominately Males**

**Some Females**

## Ethnicity of Shooter

Caucasians, Black,  
Pacific Islander, Hispanic,  
Middle Eastern

## Background of Shooter

- Pastor
- Pastor's wife
- Pastor's son
- Former Church contract employee
- Neighbor to the church
- Energetic Volunteer
- Zealot

## Motives

- Jealousy
- Politics
- Sermon content
- Domestic issues
- Revenge
- Abuse
- Parking
- Race
- Mental Illness

## CONCLUSION

THE SHOOTER CAN BE ANYONE

THE VICTIM CAN BE ANYONE

IT CAN HAPPEN AT ANYTIME

## Statistics

### **FBI Uniform Crime Reports**

- National Incident Based Reporting System
- Summary Reporting System
- Hate Crime Statistics  
(Race, religion, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity)

## 2014

- **1,014 Religious hate crimes in U.S.**  
15.6% Inside Houses of Worship  
158 incidents  
Anti-Jewish, Anti-Muslim, Anti-Catholic
- **21,372 crimes occurring at  
Church/synagogue/Temple/Mosque**

## Offenses

- 5787 Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of property
- 7063 Larceny/Theft
- 3886 Burglary/Breaking and Entering
- 1931 Assaults
- 947 Fraud Offenses
- 674 Drug/Narcotics violations
- 377 Motor Vehicle Thefts
- 249 Sex Offenses
- 88 Arson
- 74 Counterfeiting/Forgery

## Offenses

- 71 Robbery
- 68 Weapons Offenses
- 58 Stolen Property Offenses (buying/selling)
- 48 Embezzlement
- 17 Kidnapping/Abduction
- 14 Pornography/Obscene Material
- 9 Prostitution
- 5 Extortion/Blackmail
- 5 Sex Offenses (non-forcible)
- 1 Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter

21,372 Total Crimes

## Choices

- Hope for God's Grace and Protection
- Paid security guards
- Off duty police
- Paid Security Staff member
- All volunteer security team
- Combo meal

## Creating a Security Team

The "Go-To People"



# Duties and Responsibilities

- Background checks
- Offering security
- Mission trip threat assessment
- Personal Safety
- Protect Church property
- Medical First Responder

## Team Makeup

- Staff member/ Volunteers
- All Laity Volunteers
- Security Guards
- Off-duty Law Enforcement

## Considerations

- Liability
- Weapons / Concealed carry
- Visibility.....Deterrent
- Training
- Rules of Engagement

## Liaison Partnerships

- Other Internal Ministries
  - Missions
  - Ushers
  - Children / Youth
  - Parking / Greeters
  - Congregational Care
- Other Churches
  - Share lessons learned

## Tools

- Surveillance Cameras
- Radios
- Flash lights
- AED
- First aid kits
- Panic Buttons
- ID/Access Cards

## Plans and Procedures

- Put it in writing
- Practice the Plan
- Review periodically
- Amend and Adapt

## Suspicious Behavior ?

What does it look like?

## Suspicious Behavior

- Appears to be nervous and looking around.
- Has on inappropriate clothing or wearing sunglasses indoors.
- Carrying bags, backpack or oversized purse.
- Is not focusing on the service and does not participate in the activities.
- Leaves the service to wander through the facility.
- Is not friendly.
- Does not make eye contact.
- Appears to be angry.

## Suspicious Behavior

- Someone wearing a hat or hooded sweatshirt.
- Someone who is not focusing on the service, but on the congregation or offering.
- Someone who walks briskly.
- Individual talks to themselves.
- Does not pray during communal prayer.
- Exaggerated gesturing.
- Someone who arrives late and/or leaves early.
- Someone who has the "1000 yard stare".
- Intuition – Someone who makes the hair stand up on the back of your neck.
- Anything that Just Doesn't Look Right (JDLR).

# PICK THE SERIAL KILLERS





## Suspicious Religious motives?



SUSPICIOUS  
OR  
INNOCENT  
BEHAVIOR?



## Now what?

- Notify Law Enforcement
- Document what was observed
- List witnesses present with contact information
- Preserve any physical or photographic evidence for Law Enforcement.
- **Be a Good Witness**

## Warnings

- “There will be a terrorist diaspora sometime in the next two to five years like we’ve never seen before.”

-FBI Director James Comey 9/27/2016

- “Recent attacks indicate that extremist remain interested in attacking “soft” targets, such as: ...places of worship...”

- US State Dept. “Worldwide Caution” 9/9/2016

## QUESTIONS AND IDEAS