

# **ANNEX V**

# **ACTS OF VIOLENCE**

## ANNEX V – ACTS OF VIOLENCE

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### PROMULGATION STATEMENT

Annex V: Acts of Violence, and contents within, is a guide to how the University conducts an emergency response specific to an act of violence. The Annex is written in support of the Texas A&M University (TAMU) Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and shall be considered an interactive support document to the EOP.

### APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION

The University's Assistant Vice President for Safety and Security shall be responsible for annex oversight and coordination with applicable stakeholders. The annex is flexible in that part of the plan, or the entire plan, may be activated based on the specific emergency and decision by University senior leadership.

This Annex and its supporting contents, are hereby approved, supersedes all previous editions, and effective immediately upon the signing of all signature authorities noted below.

Approved: Signature on File Date: May 28, 2015

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Texas A&M University

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This annex outlines additional operational concepts and procedures specific to Texas A&M University as otherwise not stated in Annex V: Terrorism of the Brazos County Interjurisdictional Emergency Management Plan.

### **SECTION I: GENERAL**

The threat associated with acts of violence and most notably an active shooter on campus presents an immediate danger to students, faculty, staff and visitors of Texas A&M University (TAMU). When these life threatening incidents occur, they will require specific and immediate response actions in order to stop the attack, minimize injuries and loss of life, and begin recovery efforts.

The Acts of Violence Annex reflects and incorporates the primary goal of the University to protect lives, preserve property, and provide for the resumption of essential services and normal activities as soon as possible. Implementation of this Annex as a response to acts of violence incidents involves making management and executive decisions during emergencies which may affect campus operations, schedules and work assignments in the campus community. This annex applies to all University-sponsored incidents on campus and all public or private University-sanctioned activities on University property.

### **SECTION II: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

Acts of violence include, but are not limited to, the following: an active shooter incident, explosive incident or bomb threat, barricaded subject, or armed intruder. The University Police Department is the primary law enforcement agency of jurisdiction for acts of violence on the College Station campus and will respond in accordance to University Police procedures.

#### **A. BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT TEAM**

Texas A&M University's behavioral assessment team is known as the Special Situations Team. Under the purview of the Division of Student Affairs, their charge is to assess circumstances, enhance communication, and initiate appropriate response to specific behavioral problems that may involve threats to the safety and security of the University.

The Special Situations Team is comprised of a variety of members to include general counsel, student health services, student counseling services, disability services, human resources, faculty representatives, student affairs representatives, and university police.

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The team is **not** an emergency response group and meets as needed depending on the reported circumstances.

The Tell Somebody Campaign and website is the reporting mechanism for the campus community to notify the Special Situations Team in a confidential manner persons exhibiting concerning, threatening, or aberrant behavior. This is **not** a system to be used for reporting emergencies. Emergencies should be reported immediately by calling 911 (9-911 from a campus phone).

### **B. INCIDENT RESPONSE**

University Police is responsible for on-scene incident management of all tactical response and rescue operations. The Incident Commander may choose to establish a Unified Command dependent on the circumstances of the incident.

If the situation exceeds the response capability of the University Police, mutual aid will be requested from the following supporting local and state law enforcement agencies:

- College Station Police Department
- Bryan Police Department
- Brazos County Sheriff's Department
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Brazos County Constables

Depending on the duration and circumstances of an act of violence, the Incident Commander, the Assistant Vice President for Safety and Security or the President may activate the CEOC to provide centralized coordination and communications, public information services and obtain external resources to support on-scene tactical response.

The Incident Commander and university administration should consider the following:

- Frequency and content of notifications and warnings
- Interoperable communications with outside agencies
- Emergency public information to include:
  - Frequency of media releases and press conferences
  - On-site media management

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- Activation of university call centers
- Traffic management, including alternate bus operations
- Perimeter control and building security
- Mass casualty and mass fatality management

### **C. RECOVERY**

Recovery from an act of violence incident involves more than just repairs to physical facilities and infrastructure (See Annex J: Institutional Continuity Plan). University administration should consider the following:

- Crime Scene Investigations
- Interruption or disruption of critical infrastructure
- Mental health and crisis counseling for first responders, as well as, students, faculty, and staff
- Resumption of teaching and research
- Memorial services

## **SECTION III: ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

### University Police Department

- Mitigate threat and save lives
- Establish an Incident Command Post and Staging Area (as needed)
- Provide incident scene control and security
- Coordinate tactical communications
- Ensure emergency notifications are timely and accurate
- Approve public information releases
- Coordinate with supporting agencies

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### University EMS

- Provide medical support and resources
- Coordinate medical response with the CEOC and local hospitals

### Facilities Services/ SSC Service Solutions

- Provide building and facility plans as requested to support law enforcement response
- Supports response of various departments with a departmental communications center
- Provide equipment and personnel as requested
- Provides support in custodial/remediation/clean-up in the recovery process

### Utilities & Energy Services

- Provide access to utility shut offs as requested by law enforcement

### Transportation Services

- Provide traffic management and pedestrian control support to law enforcement
- Provide mass transit capacity to the University community
- Provide additional support with communications and manpower as needed

### Division of Student Affairs

- Provide counseling and crisis intervention services for students
- Provide support for family assistance center, as needed
- Assist with relocation of on-campus residents, as needed
- Assist law enforcement with accessing emergency contacts and next of kin information

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### Human Resources

- Provide counseling and crisis intervention services for affected staff and faculty
- Assist law enforcement with accessing emergency contacts and next of kin information
- Provide support for family assistance center, as needed

### Marketing and Communications

- Serve as the primary point of contact for news media
- Manage the Joint Information Center and all press conferences
- Update appropriate websites and maintain the university's social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)

