Michael K. O'Shea
Law Enforcement Program Manager
US Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs
National Institute of Justice/Office of Science and Technology
810 Seventh Street, N.W. 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20531 FedEx 20001
Office Phone (202) 305-7954
Fax Phone   (202) 307-9907
E-mail: michael.oshea@usdoj.gov

NIJ's Office of Science and Technology: School Safety Publications and Software

PLEASE USE E-MAIL TO REQUEST MATERIALS

Publications:

-The Appropriate and Effective Use of Security Technologies in U.S. Schools: A Guide for Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies (Sandia National Laboratories, Sept. 1999)

This guide looks at the use of technologies such as Video Cameras, Video Recording, Metal Detectors, X-Ray Machines, Duress Alarm Devices, and the monitoring of entry-control approaches in schools. Guide is scheduled to be updated when funding is available. NOTE: We have a limited number of these guides (couple hundred) and are working on an updated guide which should be out in Fiscal Year '09.

Software:

-Incident Commander (2007)

Incident Commander (IC) is a critical incident simulation that includes a scenario for an active shooter in a school. What makes IC unique is the ability to down-load maps of the city, county or state where you live so that the scenario is played where you actually would respond to a critical incident and the ability to create your own scenarios based on your actual need. The active shooter in a school looks at the role that the schools and public safety most play in order to work towards the best outcome in this type of situation.

-Conflict Resolution for School Personnel (2003)

Conflict Resolution for School Personnel is an interactive software tool for school staffs that work with them to help them deal with everything from a suicide on campus to an active shooter on a campus.

-School Crime Operations Package (School COP) (2001)

School COP is an easy to use crime mapping program designed for schools. The program allows you to scan school floor plans and set-up parameters for monitoring crime in a school setting.

-A Critical Incident: What to Do in the First 20 Minutes

NIJ has formed a partnership with the North Carolina Center for the Prevention of School Violence (NC State University) and the North Carolina Attorney General's Office to produce and distribute this CD-ROM. This graphic video on CD-ROM illustrates the use of the police diamond formation in dealing with an active shooter(s) on a campus.

-School Safety Plan Generator (2007)

The School Safety Plan Generator is an easy to use interactive CD-ROM that produces a schools safety plan that can be printed for a three-ring binder or maintained electronically. It includes important information such as GPS coordinates for MedEvac Landing Sites, law enforcement response information to how to turn off fire alarms and HVAC systems if needed. A "one type plan" gives all first responders the same information in the same plan sections no matter where they respond which better provides for informed action(s).

-Meth = Death

NIJ has formed a partnership with the Attorney General's Office in Tennessee to produce and distribute this CD-ROM. This Meth Education Tool Kit allows law enforcement and education staff to educate our nation's youth to the dangers of Methamphetamines.

-Risk Assessment Tool for Schools

This is a computer tool for doing a facility risk assessment and was adapted from the tool that the State Department uses to do security/risk assessments of U.S. facilities overseas. We are currently doing a pre-release of the software for trial and evaluation with full production to occur sometime late winter 2008.

-A.S.T.R.O. Active Shooter Training for the Responding Officer

The goal of this project is to develop and evaluate a computer-based, prototype gaming solution that, through pilot testing is determined to be a useful, cost-effective and adaptable enhancement to training currently offered to school-based law enforcement officers. This adaptation will involve incorporating realistic and relevant scenario elements, subject matter expertise and current response protocols into a software tool that can be used to enhance training practices, allow for refresher training, and most importantly, improve the overall readiness of school-based law enforcement's ability to address the threat of the active shooter. The partners participating on this grant effort will develop a single, complex scenario to prove the efficacy of interactive training for school-based law enforcement. Law Enforcement Officers shall be placed in difficult circumstances, asked to increase their experience level with the active shooter situation, and be forced into responsive decision making in accord with didactic training received prior to experiencing the simulation tool. The Law Enforcement Officers shall learn by doing, applying knowledge gained through both instruction and exposure through the use of a virtual environment. Look for a Winter 2008-2009 release for test and evaluation with a full release summer 2009.