

After Columbine the International Chiefs of Police addressed the problem with the response and came up with the "Quad" or diamond formation.

With the quad, the first four officers to respond entered the building with coverage in all directions. This was critical to address the concerns of officers who previously would not enter and just wait for SWAT.

The problem with formations, the training would only be once in the career of an officer and they would most likely forget what to do during an active shooter event. Also, formations move slowly and we now know that time is critical.

Finally, there is the iconic picture of four officers in the quad formation moving down the hallway of a school. The problem with that photograph is that it's missing the hoards of students running down the center of the hallway were the team would be.

In reality, the team would have to split up to the sides of the hallway.

SAY:

After reviewing a lot of active shooter incidents, the environment and the shooter dictates the tactics.

ADD:

The majority of incidents were over in minutes. There is a need to get there fast.

SAY:

History shows when a suspect is confronted by any armed individual (police, security, concealed carry person) they either shoot it out with that person or kill themselves.

Either way, the shooting of innocent bystanders must stop.

Now, the first officer or two officers on scene will immediately go to confront the shooter.

Military tactics work well in this situation. The two man "bounding overwatch" is our response.

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