

Old St. Paul's Parking Lot Disturbance Scenario

Setting: 10 AM Worship Service, 10 minutes into the service. Attendance at service is 135 people: Team 3 is on duty with Team Leader at narthex door, 1 SST member watching cameras, 1 SST member on parking lot patrol and 1 SST member on patrol inside facility. Weather is sunny and 75 degrees.

Event: A black Dodge Ram Truck pulls into parking lot and stops in front of rental house at back of parking lot. A black man emerges from truck and walks up to house porch and knocks on door. Words are exchanged thru the closed door and conversation soon escalates to loud hollering with the man using profanity. SST member patrolling the parking lot hears the disturbance and yells at the man to hold down the profanity because he is on church property. Man leaves house porch and starts toward SST member pulling small caliber pistol from his front pocket. He fires 1 round in the direction of the SST patrol member, who ducks behind parked auto. He is estimated to be 50 feet from suspect. Suspect jumps into his truck.

Event Actions:

- Team Leader hears gunshot, takes cover and radios team members as to location of gunshot
- Parking Lot Patrol communicates that a shot was fired at him by man in parking lot. He is not wounded. He has taken cover, drawn weapon and is at the ready.
- Team Leader calls for a Church lockdown, Alarm is sounded, congregation is advised by PA speakers and 911 is called.
- Suspect jumps into his truck and speeds through parking lot and hits several cars before exiting church property via the back driveway.
- Team member on phone with 911 operator advises that the suspect has left property and is proceeding northwest on Old St. Paul's Church Rd. at high rate of speed. Description of vehicle and driver is communicated to operator. License plate number is unknown at this time.
- Team Leader leaves cover and checks on SST member in parking lot
- Newton Police arrive on site and Team Leader updates police on situation
- Newton Police secure shooting crime scene.
- Team Leader goes inside sanctuary and updates congregation on situation outside. Church remains on lock down.
- Detectives arrive on site and interview SST members and people at the house. They obtain the name of the suspect.

- SST provides detectives with a copy of camera tape showing shooting. Detectives locate bullet hole in SUV belonging to the Bill Black. Expired bullet is later located in back seat lower seat cushion.
- Detectives allow SST to vacate sanctuary. Congregation must leave site thru a controlled exit. All vehicles inside the crime scene tape must remain on site until investigation complete.

Results of Actions:

- Bill Black auto detained by police for 1 week. Vehicle has bullet hole damage on drivers side back panel. Estimated Cost to repair \$500.00
- 3 other auto's belonging to church members were damage and had to be transported by rollback. No estimated cost of repairs at this time.
- Other vehicles located inside crime scene tape area that were not damaged were released later in day
- Suspect apprehended next day without incident. He was charged with 3 felony charges and 6 minor charges. He is in jail under \$300,000.00 bond.
- 10 Church Members must find alternate transportation home.
- News media flood site looking for statements
- 1 SST member shaken up after being shot at.

Aftermath:

- Team 3, SST members must spend time interviewing with DA and several days in court testifying.
- Church and SST members hounded by news media
- SST holds debrief session with Newton Police. Several lessons learned on communications with 911 operator.
- All damages must be paid for by individual members or by the church. The suspect had no insurance on his auto.
- SST Debrief Lessons Learned:
 1. SST should never approach anyone in parking lot alone. 2- man rule in affect for all parking lot surveillance in the future.
 2. SST failed to get a license plate number for the truck. Member on cameras tried but things developed to fast to see on cameras.
 3. Congregation is somewhat disturbed by gunfire and lock down for about 20 minutes without knowing outside situation. SST needs to work on communication to congregation during lockdowns.

Facts & Liability:

- Church members or OSP must assume cost of all repairs associated with this event.
- SST, Team 3 will be called as witnesses for the prosecution and camera tape will be used as evidence.
- Event will be shared with Sheepdog Church Security
- Event will be aired on all local news media
- Lawsuits could be filed by church members for emotional distress.