

## **SAI School Safety Conference**

**February, 2013**

Everyone is struggling with this issue right now --- malls, schools, businesses, work places and other public buildings.

Training needs to take place after plans are written,

Communication has changed dramatically. Train your staff, parents and community where they can go to get the right information. Controlling the information is important. However, you will not be able to stay ahead of the communication getting out before other people already know about it.

Training needs to be an annual event.

When exercises occur, allow yourself to fail. It's O.K. to fail in an exercise.

Allow 1<sup>st</sup> responders into your facility to train and practice.

Schools are still the safest place in the world for students.

One size fits all does not fit every district.

Access control is extremely important. Run people through one access point of control.

Slow someone down and save seconds. Seconds save lives.

ALICE Training. Unfortunately, some of the small rural districts will take 15 to 20 minutes before law enforcement arrives.

EMC Safety Visits to Iowa School Districts – “Big Six”

1. An overall lack of security and safety culture.
2. Lack of effective access control. Every door should be locked including main door.
3. Inadequate staff training.
4. Regular practices and drills are not occurring.
5. Inability to lock classroom doors.
6. Poor crisis plans and lack of knowledge. They should be concise, short and direct.

There have been several hundred school safety site visits conducted in Iowa by EMC over the years and they have always been able to get into a school building.

A statewide survey by SAI indicated that nearly all school administrators who work with School Resource Officers feel positive about employing a School Resource Officer (policeman).