

# SHELTERING IN PLACE EXERCISE

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*For office, department and classroom discussions.*

## DISCUSSION 1

A severe storm front has hit the campus. Tornadoes are a possibility, along with strong winds and large hail. Heavy rainfall is expected soon. **Where should you seek shelter?**

1. Tornadoes cause the least amount of damage to areas below ground and in inner rooms.
  - a. Move to the lowest part of the building.
  - b. Restrooms are often located in the inner-most part of the floor, so seeking shelter in restrooms is a good choice.
  - c. Cars are not a good choice when tornadoes are present.
2. If tornadoes are not an issue, seek shelter inside any sturdy structure.
3. If heavy rains start to cause flooding, change your strategy to move to higher ground. Seek upper floors, but stay near inner rooms for maximum protection.

## DISCUSSION 2

A tanker truck has been involved in a traffic accident just east of the campus. Its cargo is a poisonous chemical that is emitting toxic fumes that are blowing toward the campus. **Where should you seek shelter?**

1. Toxic substances that are airborne can travel considerable distances. However, the closer you are to the source, the greater the concentration.
2. Immediately move to rooms inside structures that can be sealed as much as possible.
3. Heating and air conditioning systems will be turned off by campus personnel, but you should still try to block the entrance of outside air as much as possible. Seal doors with whatever material you have on hand, such as coats, paper towels or rugs.

## DISCUSSION 3

An armed person has entered the campus on the north side and shot 2 persons. The gunshots could be clearly heard across campus. **Where should you seek shelter?**

1. Wherever you are, move AWAY from the source of the shooting.
2. Move quickly and encourage others to go with you.
3. For these situations, UST Public Safety will immediately respond, so you will be directed to move far away from the situation until it is resolved.
4. If you cannot move out of harm's way, LOCK the door, darken the room and be quiet.
5. If you cannot lock the door, you can use barricades, if available. Do not use yourself as a barricade.

PLEASE DISCUSS THESE ISSUES with your friends, family, students and faculty. Actions to survive these situations takes EVERYONE'S participation.

*Thank you,*

*Dan Meuwissen & Karen Lange  
University Action and Response Team Co-Chairs*