

BASED ON SILVER RAIL ELEMENTARY • BEND, OREGON • OCTOBER 15, 2026

# LONG GUN APPROACH AND DOOR BREACH

On October 15, 2026, a suspect carrying a long gun was seen crossing an elementary school parking lot, fired into the vehicle of a man who confronted him, went over a fence, and shot through the locked doors of the school entry. He killed three children and a teacher before an armed parent followed him inside and killed him. Police arrived three minutes after the first 911 call. This scenario puts the same sequence on your church campus.

## SCENARIO BRIEFING

Read this to your team before the drill. Do not read the expected outcomes aloud.

It is Sunday morning, 10:40 a.m. The second service is underway in the sanctuary. Children's ministry is running in the children's wing, which has its own exterior door that stays locked during services. Your team is on post with radios on: one team member in the parking lot, one at the main entrance, one in the sanctuary, and one in the children's wing.

A member sitting in a car in the parking lot sees a young man walking across the lot toward the children's wing carrying a long gun. The member gets out and yells at him. The young man turns and fires several rounds into the member's car, then keeps walking toward the children's wing door. That door is locked.

What do you do?

## POSTS AND ROLE PLAYERS

Team posts: parking lot, main entrance, sanctuary, and children's wing. Designate one of them as team leader.

Role players: the suspect, the member in the car, the children's ministry teachers, and one arriving police officer wearing a marked vest. The instructor runs the clock. A separate safety officer does not play.

## INSTRUCTOR INJECTS

|        |                                                                                                         |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T+0:00 | Member in the car sees the suspect crossing the lot with a long gun and calls out.                      |
| T+0:10 | Instructor announces "shots fired into a car in the parking lot."                                       |
| T+0:40 | Suspect reaches the children's wing door. Instructor announces "two shots at the children's wing door." |
| T+0:55 | Door fails. Suspect is inside the children's wing hallway.                                              |
| T+1:10 | Instructor announces "shots in the children's wing hallway."                                            |
| T+3:00 | Police officer role player arrives at the main entrance.                                                |
| END    | Suspect is stopped and police contact is complete, or the clock reaches T+5:00.                         |

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

### Success looks like this:

- The parking lot post puts it on the radio within seconds in plain language, with location and direction: "Man with a long gun in the parking lot, headed to the children's wing door."
- The children's wing post and teachers lock down without waiting for approval. Children move away from the exterior door and into rooms with locked doors, out of sight of the hallway.
- Someone calls 911 with the address, the suspect description, the weapon, and the direction of travel.
- The nearest armed team member moves toward the children's wing. Nobody walks to a car to get a gun.
- The engaging team member takes a position that keeps children out of the line of fire.
- After the suspect is down, the team member holsters, keeps hands visible and empty, and follows police commands. The radio carries "suspect down" and a description of what each armed team member is wearing.
- Team members apply tourniquets and pressure to the wounded and check on the member in the car.
- The team leader starts accounting for children and staff and prepares for police and a parent reunification.

### Unarmed team members:

- Lock down, barricade, and move children away from the doors.
- Make the 911 call and keep the radio traffic going.
- If the suspect enters a room, wait beside the doorway with others, then rush him together, control the gun, and pin him down with your full body weight. Use anything at hand as a weapon.

### Failure looks like this:

- Waiting for someone to confirm the gun or the shots before locking the doors.
- Treating the shots as fireworks or construction noise.
- Radio silence, or a code word half the team does not understand.
- A team member going to a vehicle to get a gun.
- The whole team converging on the parking lot while the children's wing has nobody.
- A team member still holding a gun when the officer comes through the door.

## DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

- How many seconds passed between the first sighting and the first radio call? Between the radio call and the lockdown?
- Who moved toward the children's wing, and how did they know it was their job?
- Which of your locked exterior doors could be shot open, and who responds to each one?
- What did the arriving officer see when they came through the door?
- If this happened on a weekday, who would be in the building, and who would respond?

## TRAINING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- Call your local law enforcement agency on its non-emergency line before the drill starts. Tell them the address, the start and end times, and that it is an active shooter drill, so a 911 call from a neighbor or a passerby does not bring an armed response. Call them again when the drill ends.
- Use only blue guns (inert plastic training replicas) or laser trainers. No live firearms, ammunition, edged weapons, or simulation rounds in the training area.
- Search everybody for weapons before the drill starts: every participant, instructor, role player, and observer, with no exceptions. Live firearms, magazines, ammunition, and knives go into a locked container outside the training area. Search everyone again after any break and before anyone re-enters.
- The safety officer does not play, watches the whole drill, and has authority to stop it at any time. Any participant who says "STOP" halts the drill.
- If any part of the drill runs outside, post signs that a training exercise is in progress.

**Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.**

PSALM 82:3-4 • ESV