Introduction

Violence is becoming more and more common in the workplace. Workplace violence is a threat of violence against workers and this threat can stem from fellow employees, or the public.

While some occupations may seem immune, all are potentially at risk. Risk factors include; working alone, delivering goods or services, working late-night or early-morning hours and frequent contact with the public. Learning to recognize and avoid possible violent situations can help protect workers’ well being and reduce the odds of falling victim to workplace violence.

Protect Yourself

• Alert your supervisor or manager of any safety or security concerns you may have. Additionally, pay attention to any warning signs of violence.

• Avoid traveling alone, especially to unfamiliar locations whenever possible.

• Know who to contact in emergency situations

• Address potentially violent situations before they have the potential to escalate

• Know your workplace- ensure that you’re always aware and have access to a clear exit route.

• Promote respect and consideration for co-workers on a day-to-day basis.

• In the event of an active shooter, remain out of the shooter’s view and block the entrance to your hiding place by locking a door, if possible.

• As a last resort, and only in the event of imminent danger, attempt to incapacitate the shooter or person causing harm.