



# Office of the Sheriff

MONROE COUNTY  
"ONE TEAM"



Sheriff Todd K. Baxter

Undersheriff Korey K. Brown

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## THE MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ACTIVE SHOOTER THREAT AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS COMMUNITY TRAINING: ESSENTIAL FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

*Maintaining a Survival Mindset*

**Rochester, NY (April 15, 2019)** – The Monroe County Sheriff's Office is continuously enhancing its practices and trainings involving active shooters. MCSO has conducted 66 Active Shooter and Situational Awareness trainings with local schools, colleges, businesses, churches, and non-profit agencies since Sheriff Todd K. Baxter took office in January, 2018. Of those trainings, the MCSO SWAT Team has conducted 19 active shooter trainings and presentations, MCSO Crime Prevention Officers have conducted 41, and Sheriff Baxter has personally trained 6 local fire departments in Active Shooter Threats and Situational Awareness.

Incorporating comprehensive community training with officer preparedness is essential for public safety. In addition to community training, MCSO Road Patrol deputies receive Active Shooter Training in the Police Academy and bi-annual refresher trainings on Team Tactics. Over the past year, deputies, including recruits, have been trained in Solo and Two-Person Response to Active Shooters. The tragic mass shooting February 14, 2018 at a high school in Parkland, Florida reinforced MCSO's commitment to train for solo officer active shooter incidents, in which there is a race against time to save lives.

*"We will offer trainings as often and frequently as possible," said Sheriff Todd K. Baxter. "We will train until there are no more threats. It's not enough that our men and women in blue train to prepare for these tragic incidents involving active shooters. I want my wife, my sons, my neighbors, and every person I serve in this community to have a plan for survival, and with that plan, the courage and mindset to take action when faced with an active shooter threat."*

Sheriff Baxter believes preventative strategies are vital to a holistic approach to addressing potential threats. The February 2010 murder-suicide of seven-year-old Hunter Resch of Greece, NY by his father, is the inspiration behind the Rochester Threat Advisory Committee (ROCTAC). ROCTAC's threat-analysis



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strategy encourages government and private entities to coordinate and cooperate in identifying and stopping persons on a path to violence and preventing acts of violence before they occur. ROCTACS's belief is tragedies, such as the loss of Hunter, could have been prevented if there had been a collaboration of resources and coordination of information available by a number of individuals that knew Mr. Resch was struggling.

MCSO is committed to keeping the citizens of our community safe. Training individuals to maintain a survival mindset should they encounter an active shooter is just one of the ways we serve the public. For years, a training goal has been to offer active threat trainings, not only to our community, but to a broader audience. A tremendous opportunity to do just that surfaced this year when MCSO conducted active shooter threat training to the employees of Paychex, Inc. MCSO collaborated with Paychex to train all of its employees, globally. Together, MCSO and Paychex developed a training video to help individuals and businesses develop a plan, learn the law enforcement expectations, and take action. This video is now available to everyone on the MCSO website at: <https://www2.monroecounty.gov/sheriff-threat-info> and on the MCSO YouTube Channel.

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