



# School Security Highlights

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# Maine School Security



# Learning Objectives

1. Review highlights of school security
  - What is the school security program?
    - Purpose and preparedness
  - Why is school security important?
    - Regulations
  - Where are reliable resources located?

This program supports the Maine DOE Strategic Plan core priority 5: coordinated and effective state support.

# Program Purpose

- The purpose of the Maine School Security Program is to work with schools to focus on security.

# A State Program

- School security is a state school security program that:
  - Provides emergency preparedness information for schools
  - Establishes practices for emergency preparedness in schools
  - Provides security information for schools
  - Serves on the State Emergency Response Team

# All-hazards Emergency Preparedness

- Purpose of an all-hazards emergency operations plan
  - To identify and respond to all-hazards incidents by outlining the responsibilities and duties of a school and its employees
- All-hazards emergencies fall into 3 categories:
  - Natural
  - Technological
  - Human

# All-hazards Emergency Preparedness (cont.)

## 1. Natural

- Weather or geological events, examples:
  - Floods
  - Ice condition
  - Snow storm
  - Earthquake

# All-hazards Emergency Preparedness (cont.)

## 2. Technological

- Infrastructure event, example:
  - Bridge collapse
- Chemical event, examples:
  - Anhydrous ammonia leak
  - Natural gas pipeline leak or explosion
  - Nuclear reactor leak or failure
- Mechanical event, examples:
  - Plane failure or crash
  - Train derailment or crash

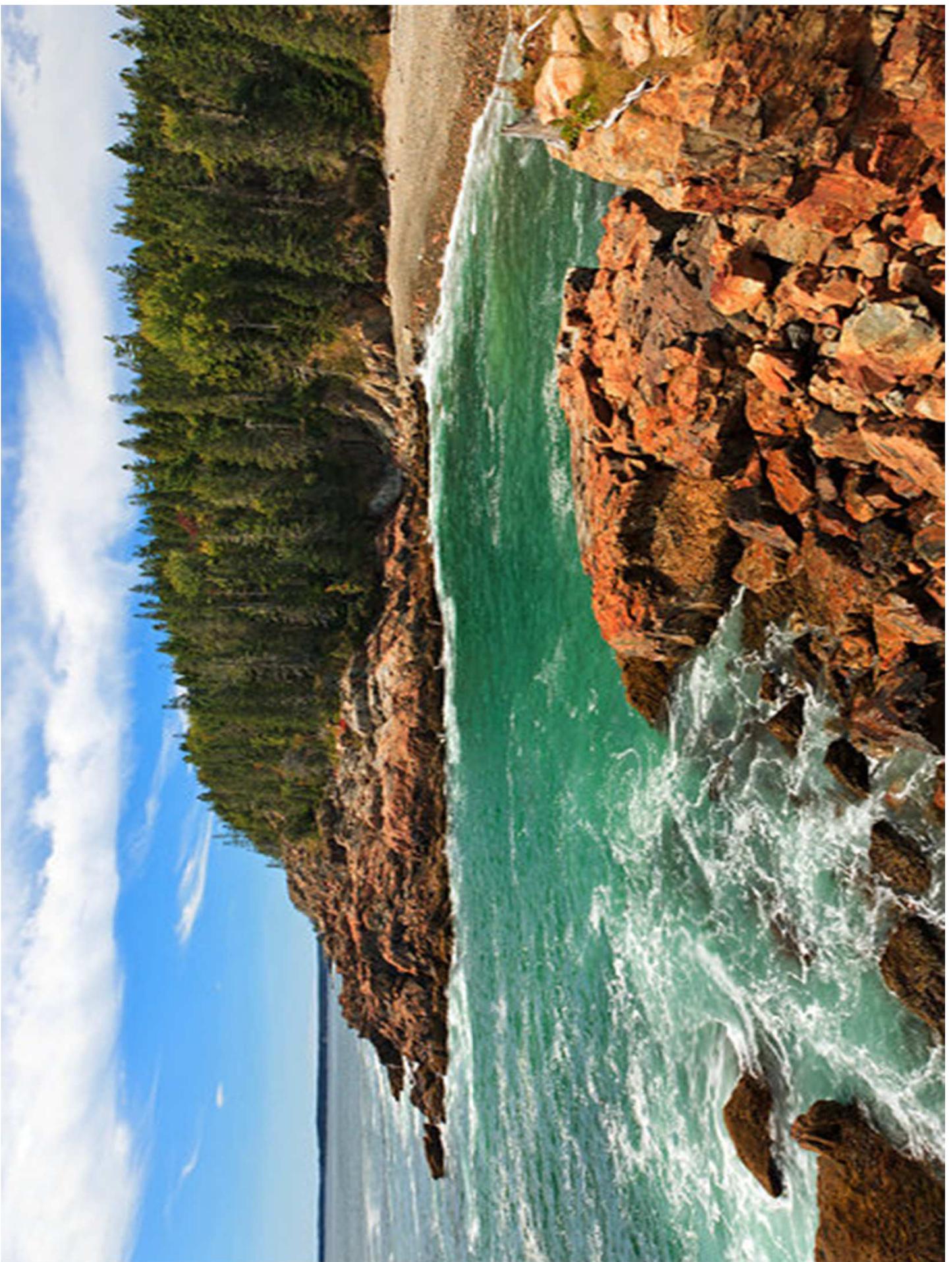
# All-hazards Emergency Preparedness (cont.)

## 3. Human

- Violent human act, examples:
  - Bomb
  - Cyber attach
  - Shooter
  - Terrorism attach

# Security Messages

- Superintendents will occasionally receive security messages that are *not* for public dissemination
  - For emergency preparedness decision making
  - Developed by:
    - Maine Information and Analysis Center (MIAC)
    - MIAC works federal, state, county, and municipal public partners, as well as relevant private sectors to analyze and appropriately share intelligence between the federal government and the State of Maine



# Regulations – Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

- Title 20-A §1001 §§16
  - “Each school board shall annually approve a comprehensive emergency management plan [AKA: EOP] developed by the school unit administration working with school teachers and staff and local, county and state public safety officials, fire-fighting personnel, emergency management officials, mental health officials and law enforcement officials . . . . .”

# Regulations – Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) (cont.)

- Title 20-A §1001 §§16
  - “The **approval** of a comprehensive emergency management plan [AKA: EOP] under this subsection is public information.”
  - “. . . Release of the **contents** of a comprehensive emergency management plan [AKA: EOP] . . . is subject to limitations set forth in Title 1, subsection 402, subsection 3, paragraph L.

# Regulations – School Bomb Threat Response Policy

- Title 20-A §1001 §§17
  - “. . . each school board in the State must have adopted a school bomb threat policy that is consistent with the prototypical policies developed by the commissioner under section 263.”
    - For guidance see the resources page of the Maine DOE School Security website

# Regulations – Bomb Threat Information In Student Handbooks

- Title 20-A, § 1001 §§ 18
  - “. . . each school board shall include in its student handbook a section that addresses in detail the school’s bomb threat policies and protocols. The section of the handbook must contain an explanation of the portions of the policies and protocols relevant to students and their families and explain to the students the educational and legal consequences of making a bomb threat to a school.”



# Regulations – Response to School Bomb Threats

- Title 20-A §263 §§1
  - “The commissioner shall . . . develop guidelines, policies and protocols for school administrative units to present to their communities when those communities are considering implementing local policies that concern prevention of and response to school bomb threats.”
  - Prototype guidelines, policies and protocols
    - For guidance see the resources page of the Maine DOE School Security website

# Regulations – Response to School Bomb Threats (cont.)

- Title 20-A §263 §§2
  - Reporting of school bomb threats
  - “The office of the superintendent or the headmaster receiving a report of a bomb threat at a school must report that threat to the commissioner within **2 business days** of the occurrence of the bomb threat”
    - Bomb threats are reported in the NEO Bomb Threat Report

# Resources – Federal

- FEMA School Emergency Operations Plan sample
  - <https://www.training.fema.gov/programs/emischool/el361toolkit/assets/sampleplan.pdf>
- FEMA Multihazard Emergency Planning for Schools toolkit
  - <https://www.training.fema.gov/programs/emischool/el361toolkit/siteindex.htm>
- Federal resources have been prepared by national experts, are high quality, and no cost - **free**



# Sample School Emergency Operations Plan

November 2013

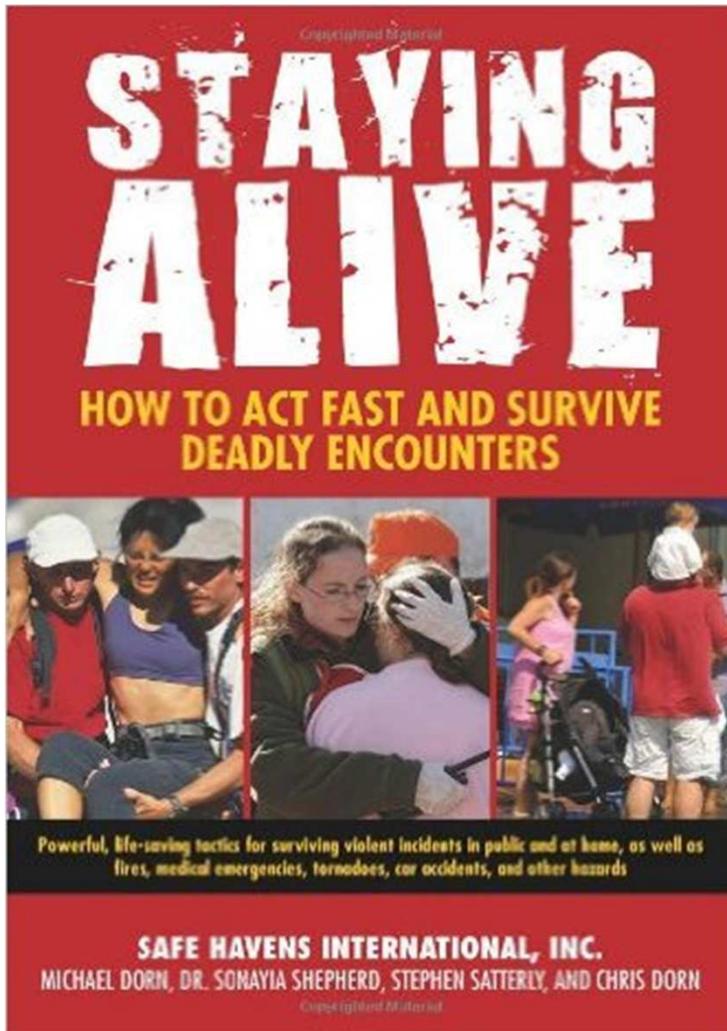
For Training Purposes Only with  
E/L361 and G364: Multihazard Emergency Planning for Schools



**FEMA**

# Resources – Maine

- Maine School Security Guide, Twenty Strategies
  - <http://www.maine.gov/doe/security/resources/index.html>
- Maine School Security Report, LD 905
  - <http://www.maine.gov/doe/security/resources/index.html>
- Maine DOE School Security website
  - <http://www.maine.gov/doe/security/>
- Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
  - <http://www.maine.gov/mema/>
  - Annual conference in April is **free**



Source: Nonprofit that uses evidence based and research backed information

# Summary

- School security is about **emergency preparedness**
  - Natural, technological, and human events
  - Developing, maintaining and exercising the plan empowers employees in an incident to act quickly and knowledgeably
- Regulations cover comprehensive emergency management plans [AKA: **EOP**] and bomb threat reports (**BTR**)
- Resources are available on **websites**
  - Maine DOE school security
  - FEMA



# Contact Information

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