

Renegade Roundup



October 1 – A Sad Day

October 2, 2017

My dear BC Colleagues:

We woke this morning to news of the senseless loss of life in a mass shooting in Las Vegas at around 10:00 p.m. yesterday, October 1, 2017. As I write these words, 59 lives have been lost, the names of victims starting to be known. Another 527 were reportedly injured/wounded.

Exactly two years ago on October 1, 2015, we learned of a gunman who opened fire at Umpqua Community College in Oregon, taking the lives of nine and injuring seven others. The quiet little UCC campus is a gem among the 17 community colleges in Oregon and it's a place that I know well... having walked the beautiful campus grounds on countless occasions. A college campus...a familiar place.

Coming together for a concert, like those who attended the concert in Vegas, is also a familiar experience for us at BC. We come so often together on our campus to enjoy music. A familiar activity, a community gathering. We go to smile, we go to celebrate. We go to feel alive because music has this incredible way of feeding our soul.

October 1 – a sad day.

Many people had friends, family, acquaintances who were in some way a part of the terrible tragedy in Las Vegas. Coach Carl Ferreira shared that three of his students were at the concert when the shooting started. They were staying at the Mandalay Bay, and as it turns out, on the 32nd floor. They escaped uninjured but were witness to a horrific event.

We live in a new world in ways that are hard to understand. There are real threats, and with that, we must face the reality that it can happen to anyone – in any place – even familiar places and community.

Keeping our students, faculty, staff, and community safe is an ongoing and constant effort that will never be over. It requires constant awareness, understanding, and progress. We must also remember that our campus is an open institution and we are an integral part of our community. Active shooter training cannot be a taboo subject; we must engage

with the best practices, the drills, the exercises, and we must be prepared. Such efforts can save lives.

Please attend one of the active shooter training sessions, this week, offered by Chief Counts in conjunction with the Bakersfield Police Department (BPD).

Active Shooter Training Sessions

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 from 9:30AM - 10:30AM (Indoor Theater)

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 from 3:00PM - 4:00PM (Indoor Theater)

Thursday, October 5, 2017 from 9:00AM - 10:00AM (Indoor Theater)

Thursday, October 5, 2017 from 2:00PM - 3:00PM (Indoor Theater)

And if you've already attended one in the past, I'm encouraging you to go again. Understanding the principles outlined in the training sessions and discussing various scenarios will help us be prepared to respond instinctively and with focus if an unfortunate situation presents itself.

With much grief and warmth,
sonya

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