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North Tonawanda Police Department
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North Tonawanda Police to Host Civilian Active Shooter Response Town Hall

*North Tonawanda Mayor, Austin Tylec, and the North Tonawanda Police Department to host
informative training and Q&A session on June 9, 2022.*

NORTH TONAWANDA, N.Y.— May 25, 2022 — In light of the recent mass shootings both locally and around the country, and a heightened focus on public safety, the North Tonawanda Police Department will present a program aimed at arming it's citizens with knowledge on how to identify and respond in active shooter events to keep community members safe. The town hall will take place at the North Tonawanda Senior High School Alumni Center Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6 p.m., and all residents are encouraged to attend.

“In an active threat, there are three stages of crisis response: denial, deliberation, and decisive movement. Research shows that people who survive in active shooter situations go through these stages faster and take better actions at their decisive moments because they have prepared beforehand” said Keith Glass, North Tonawanda Chief of Police, and life-long resident. “The average law enforcement response time in these events is three minutes, which is extremely fast. Even then, a great way to reduce fatalities is to improve civilian response.”

Lumberjack Strong

“We have 30,000 residents that we need to keep safe,” said Mayor Tylec. “I believe it is important to educate our residents on how to handle tragic situations like we saw in Buffalo

and Texas, while bringing our community together in times of need. The best way to enhance preparedness is through a community approach and the best response is one that has been thought out and prepared before an emergency occurs; that's why the City of N.T. is hosting an event that teaches residents what an active threat looks like and how to best respond in the event they ever find themselves in a similar situation.”

Avoid, Deny, Defend

Law enforcement agencies are frequently requested by schools, businesses, and community members for direction on what to do if confronted with an active shooter event. The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events course was built on the Avoid Deny Defend™ strategy developed in 2004. The course provides strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event, with topics including the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, medical issues, and drills. The North Tonawanda Police Department will present this course at the North Tonawanda Senior High School Alumni Center on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6 p.m. The Alumni Center is located at 405 Meadow Drive, North Tonawanda. The course is open to the public and free of charge, but attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable or toiletry donation for the residents of Buffalo affected by last week's shooting at the Jefferson St. Tops.

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The names of the actual course and programs are trademarks of their respective owners.

For more information, press only:

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