

# SANDY HOOK



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The tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary lasted about ten minutes. At the time of the event, Sandy Hook had a **buzz-in** and **camera** system in place.

This system was designed as a filter and deterrent against unwanted visitors. In addition, the system was supposed to provide faculty and staff valuable time to implement their security plan.

**Unfortunately**, this wasn't enough.

During the event, there was confusion about what was occurring. There was very little time available to evaluate the situation due to the fact that the intruder was able to enter the building in only a **few seconds**.



# SANDY HOOK TIMELINE BASED ON 911 RECORDINGS

- **0935** Sandy Hook School. Caller is indicating she thinks there's someone shooting in the building.
- **0936** Units responding at Sandy Hook School. The front glass has been broken. We're not sure why.
- **0937** All units, the individual I have on the phone is continuing to hear what he believes to be gunfire.
- **0938** All units responding to Sandy Hook School at this time. The shooting appears to have stopped. The school is in lockdown.
- **0940** I will need two ambulances at this time.
- **0940** The shooter is apparently still shooting in the office area.
- **0941** Take exit 10... continue on Riverside Road, Dickerson Dr. Make sure you have your vest on.
- **0942** Last known shots were in the front of the (inaudible)
- **0943** We have one fatal in room one... (inaudible) received wound to foot...
- **0946** I got bodies here (Van Horn 15)



# SANDY HOOK CASE STUDY

If you look at the underlined and italicized portions of the 911 recording, you will not only notice the **short amount of time** the tragedy took from beginning to end but the staff and the first responders had **no way to assess** what was actually taking place.

The reason for this was the **weak point of the entry way** was never addressed, rendering all of the proactive steps and precautions the school took, useless. With **one shot** to the glass door, the intruder **quickly and easily** entered the school and results were devastating.

If they had had the ability to secure the glass to **either buy them time** to implement their plan, assess the situation, or even deter the intruder so the tragedy never happened that would have **saved many lives**. The decision makers at Sandy Hook are not to blame. They should be applauded for the measures they took prior to the event that day. Sandy Hook should be looked at as a **valuable case study** on how we can improve our schools in a safe, sensible, effective, and non obtrusive way.

