

## **Behavior Assessment and Response Team “BART” Response Matrix**

Following are some warning signs (indicators and red flags) associated with school violence in the United States.

These signs when observed by members of the University community should be reported to the NSU police department at 823-9000.

In the parenthesis are the units of the University that may be used to respond to these potential threats.

### **Violent fantasy content- (Police/CC/TAT)**

Writings (Stories, essays, compositions),

Drawings (Artwork depicting violence),

Reading and viewing materials (Preference for books, magazines, television, video tapes and discs, movies, music, websites, and chat rooms with violent themes and degrading subject matter), and role playing acts of violence and degradation.

### **Anger problems- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

Difficulty controlling anger, loss of temper, impulsivity

Making threats

### **Fascination with weapons and accoutrements- (Police/ TAT/ CC)**

Especially those designed and most often used to kill people (such as machine guns, semiautomatic pistols, snub nose revolvers, stilettos, bayonets, daggers, brass knuckles, special ammunition, and explosives)

### **Boasting and practicing of fighting and combat proficiency- (Police/ TAT/ CC)**

Military and sharpshooter training, martial arts, use of garrotes, and knife fighting

### **Loner- (Police, CC/ TAT)**

Isolated and socially withdrawn, misfit, prefers own company to the company of others

### **Suicidal ideation- (Police/ CC/ TAT/ CR)**

Depressed and expresses hopelessness and despair

Reveals suicidal preparatory behavior

### **Homicidal Ideation - (Police/ JA/ CC/ CR/ TAT)**

Expresses contempt for other(s)

Makes comments and/or gestures indicating violent aggression

### **Stalking- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT/ CR)**

Follows, harasses, surveils, attempts to contact regardless of the victim's expressed

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annoyance and demands to cease and desist.

### **Non-compliance and disciplinary problems- (JA/ TAT)**

Refusal to abide written and/or verbal rules

### **Imitation of other murderers- (Police/ CC/ TAT)**

Appearance, dress, grooming, possessions like those of violent shooters in past episodes (e.g. long black trench coats)

### **Interest in previous shooting situations- (Police/CC/ TAT)**

Drawn toward media, books, entertainment, conversation dealing with past murderers

### **Victim/ martyr self-concept- (Police/CC/ TAT/ )**

Fantasy that some day he will represent the oppressed and wreak vengeance on the oppressors

### **Strangeness and aberrant behavior- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

Actions and words that cause people around him to become fearful and suspicious

### **Paranoid Ideations- (Police/CC/ TAT)**

Belief that he is being singled out for unfair treatment and/or abuse; feeling persecuted

### **Violence and cruelty- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

A history of using violence to solve problems (fighting, hitting, etc.), abusing animals or weaker individuals

### **Inappropriate affect- (Police/CC/ TAT)**

Enjoying cruel behavior and/or being able to view cruelty without being disturbed

### **Acting out- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

Expressing disproportionate anger or humor in situations not warranting it, attacking surrogate targets

### **Police contact- (TAT/ JA)**

A history of contact with police for anger, stalking, disorderly conduct;

Past temporary restraining orders (or similar court orders),

A jail/prison record for aggressive crimes

### **Mental health history related to dangerousness- (Police/ TAT/ JA)**

A history of referral or commitments to mental health facilities for aggressive/destructive behavior

### **Expressionless face/ anhedonia- (Police/CC)**

An inability to express and/or experience joy and pleasure

### **Unusual interest in police, military, terrorist activities and materials (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

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Vehicles resembling police cars, military vehicles, surveillance equipment, handcuffs, weapons, clothing (camouflage, ski masks, etc.)

### **Use of alcohol/ drugs- (Police/ JA/ CC/ TAT)**

Alcohol/drugs are used to reduce inhibitions so that aggressive behaviors are more easily expressed

\*Coding Scheme Identifying What NSU Units Each Behavior Should Be Reported To.

**Police- Police Dept (NSU)**

**JA- Judicial Affairs**

**TAT- Threat Assessment Team**

**CC- Counseling Center**

**CR- Community Resources**