

Connecting the Dots

Threat assessment for Houses of Worship

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MYTH

“Violence is unpredictable. They just snap”

“There’s no way to prevent violence, so what can we do?”

“Violence is a mental health problem”

“We don’t have the resources for a threat management team”

FACT



“Perpetrators do not just snap”

“There are always pre behaviors before any violent act”

“There are many stressors outside of mental health”

“Start with one person”



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Carry out their plan (*execution*)

Practice their plan (*rehearsal*)

Plan their attack

Attend location (*surveillance*)

Identify the target (*Marking*)

The idea (*Manifestation*)

Pathway to Violence



First Baptist Church Sutherland Springs, TX 26 people killed November 2017





Carry out their plan (*execution*)

Practice their plan (*rehearsal*)

Plan their attack

Attend location (*surveillance*)

Identify the target (*Marking*)

The idea (*Manifestation*)

Pathway to Violence

“Does the situation pose a threat”

NOT

“Did the person make a threat”



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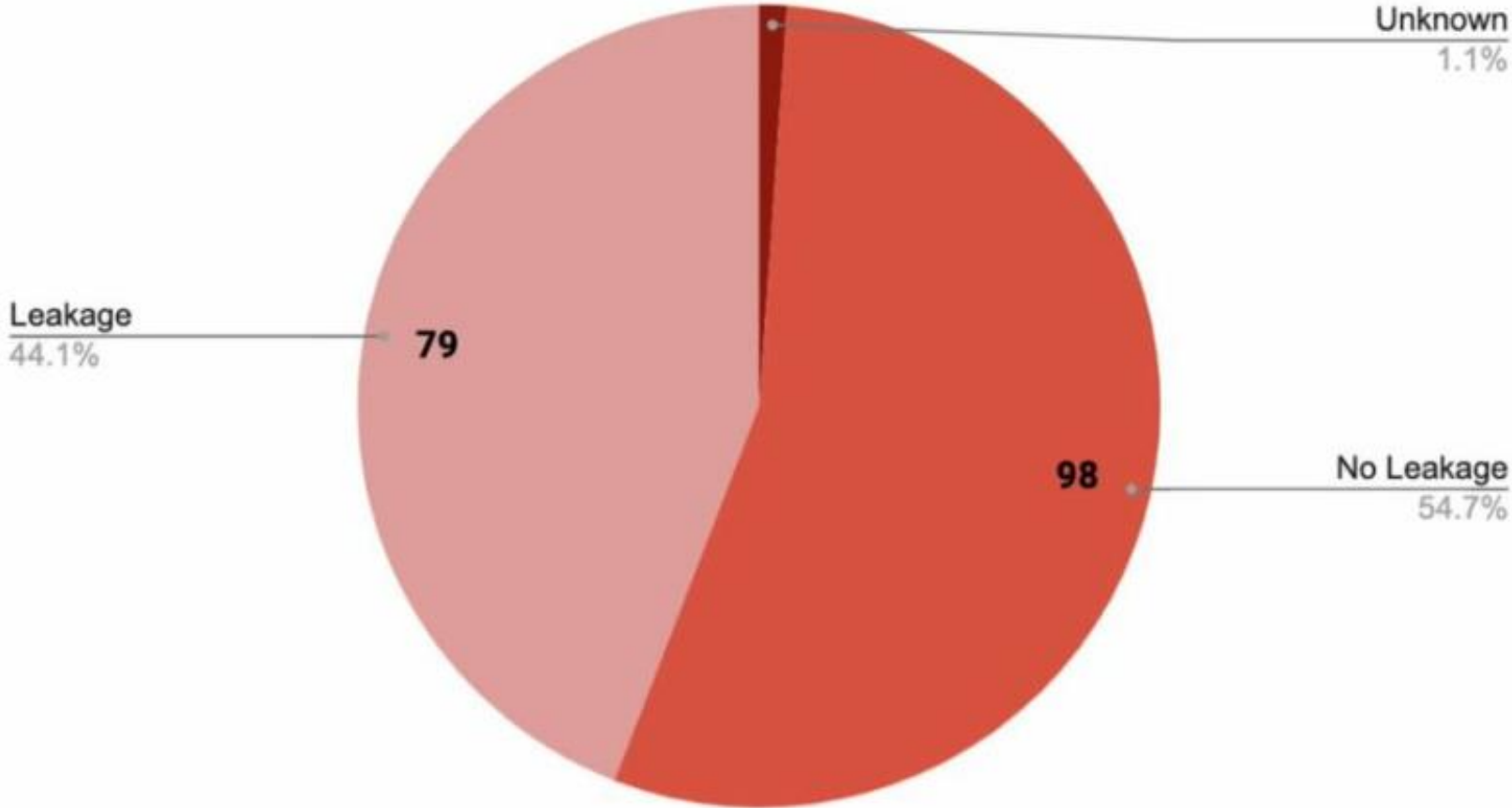
Access and Means

Script and Validation

Crisis and Suicidality

Trauma and Abuse

Leakage of Plans prior to Shooting?



Data from The Violence Project's Mass Shooter Database
<https://www.theviolenceproject.org/mass-shooter-database/>



Security X Interviewing
Conversational Interviewing



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“Closed Door”



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“Open Door”



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5WH Questions

Who?

When?

What?

Why?

Where?

How?



“Welcome to Great Clips what brings you here today?”

Closing message

The people who carry out these deadly attacks are often the same individuals the Lord calls us to protect and support.

Friday 24,
February 2023



Weekly Church Crime Updates

Plan, Prepare and Protect



ASSAULTS AND SEXUAL CRIMES

GIVE INSTRUCTION TO A WISE MAN AND HE WILL BE STILL WISER, TEACH A RIGHTEOUS MAN AND HE WILL INCREASE HIS LEARNING - PROVERBS 9:9

(February 24) Leon County Brothers, Clergy Accused Of Sexual Assault Of Multiple Children | Leon County, TX

Two Leon County brothers with pastoral leadership positions at churches in Centerville and Buffalo were arrested following grand jury indictments Wednesday.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 23) Chickasha Pastor Accused Of Molesting A 7-Year-Old Girl | Chickasha, OK

A Chickasha pastor is behind bars, after being accused of molesting a seven-year-old girl. Matthew Reiber, the pastor of New Life Christian Church is facing three counts of lewd or indecent acts to a child under the age of 12.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 22) Piano Teacher From Normal Sentenced To 88 Years For Sexual Assault | Bloomington, IL

A Normal man was sentenced to 88 years in prison on Wednesday for criminal sexual assault of a minor and possession of child pornography.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 21) Husband Of Retired Children's Ministry Director Accused Of Sexually Abusing Minor In Church | Raleigh, NC

The call comes after 61-year-old former church member Kenneth Newcomer, husband of the church's retired children's ministry director, was recently charged with two counts of first-degree sex offense with a child and three counts of indecent liberties with a child for allegedly sexually abusing a child

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 17) Church Volunteer Charged With Sex Crimes | Cleveland, Ohio

An 81-year-old Parma pastor who sexually assaulted several female victims over the course of nine years – often in his church – and preyed on their vulnerabilities will likely spend the rest of his natural life in prison.

Read the full article [click here](#)

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FINANCIAL CRIME

GIVE INSTRUCTION TO A WISE MAN AND HE WILL BE STILL WISER, TEACH A RIGHTEOUS MAN AND HE WILL INCREASE HIS LEARNING - PROVERBS 9:9

(February 23) Church Needs Help Identifying Suspects Who Stole Donation Money Box By Altar | Denver, CO

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church shared surveillance video with CBS News Colorado in hopes of helping police find the thief or thieves.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 21) Woman Accused Of Stealing More Than \$6K From South Carolina Church | Oconee County, SC

Nikki Elisha Harrison, 41, was arrested on Feb. 13, and charged with financial identity fraud. She's accused in arrest warrants of stealing the money for personal use.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 20) Former Secretary Gets 5 Years For Stealing \$200,000 From Church | Foley, AL

A former secretary was sentenced to five years in prison Thursday for embezzling over \$200,000 from a Baptist church in Alabama.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 20) Radnor Police Reports: Theft And Burglary At A Church | Wayne, PA

On Sunday, Feb. 19, at approximately 12:55 p.m., the complainant discovered a vehicle was broken into at the Second Baptist Church in Wayne. Police determined that the car was unlocked. Loose change and a work ID were stolen.

Read the full article [click here](#)

(February 20) Sacred Statue Stolen From Montgomery County Church | Darnestown, MD

Tucked away on the side of Our Lady of Visitation Parish is a small concrete slab where a statue of the church's namesake should be.

Read the full article [click here](#)

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