



SCHOOL SAFETY AND THREAT ASSESSMENT

The purpose of West40's School Safety and Threat Assessment team is to enhance the overall safety and security of every school. We strive to help proactively protect students and staff from threats and acts of violence to foster the best learning environment possible. We can provide coaching and training tailored to your needs in areas of safety, security, and threat assessment, including but not limited to:

- Independent Physical Security Assessments
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Development and Flip Charts
- Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM)
- Assembling an Effective Threat Assessment Team
- Threat Assessment Plan Assistance
- Behavioral Warning Signs of Violence
- Suicide and Violence Prevention through Social Media Awareness
- Training on Security Awareness, Emergency Preparedness, Crisis Response, and Security Operations
- Incident Command System (ICS) Training/Certification
- Assistance with Reunification Planning and Process
- Tabletop and Full-scale Exercises Where Participants Test Functional Roles They are Expected to Play in Real-time Events
- Security Related Procedural Needs
- Evaluation of Staffing Requirements Needed to Address Security
- Physical Security Architectural Planning Considerations
- SRO and Law Enforcement Partnership Support

"Many schools believe that 'hardening' the school with items such as cameras and metal detectors is the best way to make schools safe. But 'heartening' of schools is also important. It's what you do to build relationships and connections, ensuring students feel that they belong, have a voice, feel safe, and feel connected to adults."

- Phil Abraham, West40 Director of Comprehensive Education Services

MEET THE TEAM

The School Safety and Threat Assessment Team is part of West40's Comprehensive Education Services Department, led by **Steve Bogren, Chief Comprehensive Educational Services Officer**, who handles all contracts and services provided. If you have any questions regarding fees or contractual information, Steve can be reached at sbogren@west40.org. Additionally, **Alex Campos, a CES/STAT Specialist**, provides technical and support services.



PHIL ABRAHAM
Director of Comprehensive
Education Services

With over 25 years of experience in teaching, coaching, and school administration, Phil built strong relationships with students and staff. He created effective partnerships with parents, law enforcement, and the community. Phil conducted school safety drills continuously throughout the school year, well above the required amounts directed by the state. As a teacher in 2000, Phil helped form a districtwide safety committee for the first time, where he initiated the organization of conducting active shooter drills and carried it out throughout his years as an administrator. Phil has extensive experience and training in Crisis Prevention Intervention, Incident Command Systems, Social Emotional Learning, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, Restorative Practices, and Health/Life Safety. Phil is responsible for conducting over 150 school buildings' health/life safety inspections yearly as Director at West40. Additionally, he performs building Physical Security Assessments and provides ongoing training to enhance school safety through prevention and intervention.



WIL GAGE
Director of School Safety and
Threat Assessment

Wil brings over 30 years of experience in law enforcement, safety, and security in both the public and private sectors. As a police officer, Wil was a Medal of Merit recipient, earned the Firearms Proficiency Award, and held several specialty positions, including Field Training Officer (FTO) and Evidence Technician, and was involved in the department's Community Oriented Policing initiative. Wil has held several regional and international management-level positions in the private sector, handling safety, physical security, theft and fraud investigation, interview/interrogation, and corporate security. He also holds current certifications as a Specialist in School Security, Safety/Security Assessment, Crime Prevention, Community Policing, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). He is a current member of ATAP, the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals, and is trained and well-versed in Behavioral and Digital Threat Assessment. Wil is part of the Homeland Security Prevention Committee and is an active member of several state-wide and federal steering committees related to Threat Assessment, school safety, physical/building security, and Safe2Help Illinois.



RANDY BRAVERMAN
School Safety and Threat
Assessment Specialist

Randy has over 40 years of managing security operations in various roles, including as a law enforcement officer, Director of Security and Campus Safety, and currently as a School Safety and Threat Assessment Specialist. Randy has overseen full-scale emergency crisis exercises and coordinated the efforts of local, county, and state authorities, military forces, hospitals, and school personnel within these exercises. An Emergency Preparedness Specialist, Randy conducts vulnerability assessments using the ALPHA™ vulnerability assessment methodology and provides technical assistance for emergency and crisis plans for school districts, municipalities, and corporations. Randy is an instructor for the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute: Illinois School and Campus Training Program. Additionally, Randy serves on the FBI Threat Assessment Group (ITAG), the Homeland Security Prevention Committee, Safe2Help Illinois, and co-authored the "Safe Colleges" training program.



ERIC ARNOLD
School Safety and Threat
Assessment Specialist

Eric has over 24 years of experience in school and campus safety, law enforcement, and Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM). Most recently, Eric directed the Illinois School and Campus Safety program through the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) and the Interpersonal Violence Training Initiative at the Executive Institute. He was also the Program Director for the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) Executive Institute at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois. Additionally, Eric co-chairs the newly formed Prevention Subcommittee of the HSAC as well as serves on the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid, Emergency Management, and Cyber Security Subcommittees. He is a current instructor for both the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) on the topic of interpersonal violence as well as the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) on the topics of active threat response and reunification. Eric has presented extensively at state and national conferences on a variety of school and campus safety issues, BTAM, and law enforcement leadership development topics.

WE ARE READY TO HELP.
Contact any of us to learn how.

Steve Bogren - sbogren@west40.org

Phil Abraham - pabraham@west40.org

Wil Gage - wgage@west40.org

Randy Braverman - rbraverman@west40.org

Eric Arnold - earnold@west40.org

Alex Campos - acampos@west40.org

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HOW WE HELP

"Working with Randy Braverman was fantastic. Our staff, families, and students learned a lot from his expertise, and our school buildings are safer and more secure after working with him last year. Randy was thorough, professional, and knowledgeable regarding school safety and security."

Director of Growth and Talent

We appreciate the expertise of the new West 40 School Safety and Threat Assessment Team. The work of this team has provided us with a detailed security and safety analysis through the physical security assessment. We appreciate the opportunity to continue to work with the West 40 experts to address these critical needs based on initial assessment and planning for improvements. I have recommended to several West 40 colleagues that they may want to pursue this in their districts as well. The expertise and customized approach to school safety and security is very much what I need and value as a West 40 district member.

Superintendent, West Cook

Currently, we have competing priorities - 1A Literacy and 1B Safety. We are faced with a barrage of information on best practices. A dedicated team like West40 allows us to navigate these times to ensure our safety plan has a clear vision and direction. The West40 Team was essential in updating our programs.

Superintendent, West Cook