



# HASC Briefs

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## A Recap of HASC's Recent Events

### 2013 Security & Safety Committee Hosts Successful Active Shooter Drill

One of the region's most anticipated health care emergency drills was staged on the old campus of the LAC + USC Medical Center on March 19. Presented by HASC's Security and Safety Committee and with more than 230 security, clinical, administrative and law enforcement staff attending, the standing-room only event was designed to simulate an active shooter incident and ensure that those in attendance leave with some tools to create a response plan for their organization.

Drills were conducted in an emergency room and office environment to maximize the learning experience. Representatives from the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff, Special Enforcement Bureau and Ventura City Police were on hand to respond to the staged incidents that included simulated gunfire. Attendees were assigned roles that varied from non-participating observers/note takers, to clinical personnel (doctors, nurses) and visiting family members who were



Members of the Los Angeles Police Department prepare for the event, above. At left: Larry Stock, MD, Antelope Valley Emergency Medical Associates with Elizabeth Reid, Executive Director, Emergency, Trauma and Critical Care Services, Antelope Valley Hospital.



Director of Healthcare Services for the Southwest Region of AlliedBarton Security Services, Chair, HASC Security and Safety Committee, and author of the article [Are You Prepared for an Active Shooter at Your Hospital?](#) "Often the office component is overlooked when providing training for hospital

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instructed to respond to the events in ways that incorporated both their training and instincts. Safety officers and facilitators ensured the drill was conducted safely.

"Facilitating an active shooter drill in both a medical and office setting was very important," said Daniel J. Holden,

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staff, yet it is a real risk and the two venues offer completely separate experiences.”

Classroom sessions led by disaster preparedness experts Lisa Angell and Caryn Thornburg, both of the California Hospital Association Hospital Preparedness Program; and PsySTART Rapid Mental Health Triage creator Merritt Schreiber, PhD, provided background information about existing regulations regarding security and safety assessments from the State of California, The Joint Commission and the Division of Occupational Safety and Health; and they underscored survival techniques highlighted in the drill. A panel discussion and debriefing ended the day.

According to federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, more assaults occur in the health care and social services sectors than any others, citing that hospitals are difficult places to secure. As of July 2010, the California Department of Public Health requires licensed general acute-care hospitals to conduct annual security and safety assessments and maintain an updated security plan that protects personnel, patients and visitors from aggressive or violent behavior.

Drills and educational programs like the HASC Security and Safety Conference provide insight and valuable guidelines for creating awareness of the importance of being prepared for the unthinkable.



Daniel J Holden, AlliedBarton Security Services and Chair, HASC Security and Safety Committee.

“One of the major lessons was how quickly an active shooter episode unfolds from start to finish,” said Pat Wall, Vice President of Membership and Education Services. “The event is often over before law enforcement arrives and therefore employee awareness and quick decisions are essential.”

Though no two events are alike, some key guidelines emerged from the drill that can help increase your chances for survival:

- Phone for help as soon as it is safe to do so.
- The three most important personal choices made during an active shooter event are to “run, hide, or fight.” (Based on the video, *Run, Hide, Fight* by the city of Houston, <http://www.policeone.com/active-shooter/articles/5882617-Run-Hide-Fight-Video-shows-how-to-survive-a-shooting-attack/>)
- Situations and circumstances change rapidly during active shoot-

- er events. Have several survival plans ready, not just one.
- Know your exits and hiding spots.
- Cooperate with law enforcement.
- Get psychological help after an active shooter event.

A video of the event and other materials will be included as part of a free educational package for hospital executives and security managers later in the year. A clip from the event can be viewed at Campus Safety Magazine’s website: <http://www.campussafetymagazine.com/Channel/Hospital-Security/News/2013/03/21/What-s-Your-Biggest-Hospital-Security-Concern.aspx>.

The HASC Security and Safety Committee thanks the event sponsors AlliedBarton Security Services, AVADE® Training, Proper Authorities, MAXXESS Systems, and Lynx Systems, and acknowledge the support received from the CHA Hospital Preparedness Program and the Southern California Association for Healthcare Risk Management. HASC thanks LAC + USC Medical Center for hosting this exercise.

View photos of the event online: <http://www.hasc.org/special-event/2013-hasc-hospital-security-safety-conference-active-shooter-drill>.

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## Health Care Worker Fatigue Forum Convenes Nurse Leaders and Executives

HASC convened its first forum on health care worker fatigue on March 19 at the HASC-LA offices, led by Jaime Garcia, HASC Los Angeles Regional Vice President, and Julia Slininger, RN, BS, CPHQ, Vice President, Quality/Patient Safety. Attendance was limited to ensure an active and candid discussion of this issue that impacts turnover/retention rates, patient satisfaction and quality at some of our organizations today.

An additional forum was held in

Santa Barbara / Ventura on March 26 at Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center. The final forum is scheduled for March 29 in the Inland Empire. Register online: <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=ATHO10E>.

The issue of health care worker fatigue has received increased attention during the past year by researchers, regulators and legislators. The free forums, presented by

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Julia Slininger, HASC’s VP of Quality and Patient Safety, leads the discussion on factors contributing to worker fatigue.

HASC and CHA, are intended to explore how we can decrease the safety risks and reduced productivity associated with the issue. Objectives include:

- Frame the discussion about this issue including an overview of its evolution
- Establish a shared understanding of the issue and what it looks like in our hospitals
- Consider how we might reframe the issue
- Talk through possible solutions and next steps

Seating is limited and attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. CNOs, HR executives, risk managers and employee wellness managers are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Karen Ochoa, (213) 538-0765, [kochoa@hasc.org](mailto:kochoa@hasc.org).

*Final Health Care Worker Fatigue Forum:*

**Inland Empire**  
 March 29, 2013  
 2 – 3:30 p.m.  
 Parkview Community Hospital  
 Medical Center, Founders Center



Attendees at the Los Angeles Health Care Worker Fatigue forum review and take notes on this important topic.

Zweig Room 1  
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## HASC Testifies on Behalf of Hospitals Regarding Waste Recycling

HASC testified before a joint meeting of the Los Angeles City Council’s Energy & Environment and Ad Hoc on Waste Reduction and Recycling Committees regarding the proposed plan to implement a city-wide franchise system for trash removal.

HASC believes the proposed arrangement, under which hospital-generated solid and recycling waste streams would be managed by a private hauler contracted by the City of Los Angeles – Bureau of Sanitation, will impede a hospital’s ability to negotiate a contract or sole source agreement

with a hauler of its choice that can deliver on price and service. This ordinance also comes at a time when hospitals are being asked under the Accountable Care Act to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

The Joint Committee will reconvene on April 17 and it is expected to include a discussion on whether to exclude hospital-generated solid and recycling waste streams from the exclusive franchise.

Hospitals located within the city of Los Angeles are encouraged to attend the April 17 hearing. Councilmembers

who make up the Joint Committee are: Councilmembers Huizar, Zine, Alarcon, Koretz, Krekorian and LaBonge. Hospitals in these council districts are encouraged to share their concerns regarding the complexity of hospitals, which are distinctly different from other businesses/offices from a public health perspective.

A link to the preliminary report is available at: [http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2010/10-1797-S15\\_RPT\\_BOS\\_03-15-13.pdf](http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2010/10-1797-S15_RPT_BOS_03-15-13.pdf).

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## Save the Date: SHIP Chapter Mixers

Two local chapters of the Society for Healthcare Improvement Professionals (SHIP) are hosting free chapter mixers for members and those interested in Lean and performance improvement in the health care community.

**SHIP Los Angeles**

Thursday, March 28  
 6 – 8 p.m.  
 Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
 Educational Conference Center, Room B, North Tower

**SHIP Inland Empire**

Wednesday, May 22  
 6:30 – 9 p.m.



IPE president Jennifer Wortham, DrPH, with SHIP - Inland Empire Chapter president Michelle Bowman, Director, Transformational Care for Community Hospital of San Bernardino, at the March chapter meeting.

St Bernardine Medical Center  
 Rezek Center

SHIP is a virtual community dedicated to the professional development of performance improvement, Lean and Six Sigma health care professionals from across the country. Each chapter event features the opportunity to network with peers and hear from a local Lean practitioner on a topic concerning the broader community. Currently there are SHIP chapters in Los Angeles, Inland Empire, Portland and Tennessee.

Membership is free. Sign up at [www.shipus.org](http://www.shipus.org). For more information about these events, please contact Dominique Diaz at [ddiaz@ipeus.org](mailto:ddiaz@ipeus.org).

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