PULSE Nightclub Mass Shooting Sunday, June 12, 2016

Presented by

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CENTER FOR URBAN TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

Transit Safety and Security Priorities:

The Role of Transportation during Emergencies

Orlando

The City of Orlando, Florida, is home to approximately 270,934 people, and is the seat of Orange County, which has a population of approximately 1,288,126. Orlando has one of the largest convention centers in the nation, seven of the top 25 amusement and theme parks in the world, along with the city's location in the "sun belt" makes Orlando one of the most popular travel destinations in the United States.

Orlando Police Department

The Orlando Police Department (OPD) protects the city with 743 sworn officers across four bureaus. According to 2016 data, that year OPD officers responded to 389,505 calls for service and made 13,092 arrests. The OPD is a nationally recognized police department focused on the safety of its community. According to its website, "Our job is to protect the citizens of Orlando and we intend to accomplish that mission, even at risk to our own lives."

Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority – LYNX

- Founded in May 1972 as Orange Seminole Osceola Transportation Authority (OSOTA). Became Tri–County Transit in 1984. Began doing business as LYNX in 1992, and changed official name to Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority in March 1994.
- **Area Served:** Orange, Seminole and Osceola counties; an area of approximately 2,500 square miles with a resident population of more than 1.8 million people. Small portions of Polk and Lake counties are served as well.
- **Chair :** Viviana Janer/Osceola County Commissioner
- **Operating Budget:** $133,483,544 (FY18)
- **Fleet Size:** More than 300 air–conditioned coaches
- **Daily Service**
  - 76 local routes called Links serve the tri–county area
  - Earliest service begins at 4:00am / Overall 3:50am
  - Last bus leaves downtown at 12:45am / Overall 3:05am
  - Peak frequency is every 10 minutes on heavily used links
  - Average frequency in urban areas is every 30 minutes
  - Over 50% of ridership occurs on routes serving major tourism destinations

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Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority – LYNX

- **Core Services**
  - **Fixed route**– Bus service seven days a week and on holidays
  - **LYMMO** – Fare Free downtown circulator (a transportation partnership with the city of Orlando
  - **Xpress Bus – Vanpool** – **FastLink** – **NeighborLink** – **KnightLYNX**
  - **ACCESS LYNX** –Door–to–door paratransit van service for qualified individuals who cannot access other modes of transportation.
  - **Road Rangers presented by State Farm** – Roadside assistance program for disabled vehicles on I–4.
  - **Ridership –** More than 85,500 rides provided each weekday–27,378,046 passenger trips in FY16
  - **Miles Traveled –** More than 29 million vehicle miles traveled system wide in FY16
  - Operations run 22 hours a day and 7 days a week

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Inside the PULSE Moments Before The Attack

- As the time approached 2:00am, approximately 300 people—many from the Orlando–area LGBTQ and Hispanic communities—were still packed into the 4,500–square foot Pulse nightclub, enjoying the last 30 minutes of the Latin Night event. As Pulse was one of the few bars in the area open to those as young as 18 (rather than requiring patrons to be 21), its 300 patrons that night were an amalgam of diverse backgrounds and ages. Some were frequent patrons of the club; others were in town from neighboring cities for the Latin Night event; and still others were in Orlando on vacation.
- At each of the club's three bars, patrons lined up to get their last drinks of the night as bartenders had just announced last call; some were finishing their last bites of food. Others were dancing in the three sections of the club—the main dance floor located to the right of the front entrance, known as the "Jewel Box;" the smaller "Adonis Room," located directly behind the main entrance; and the fenced–in outdoor patio area located just off the Jewel Box. Live entertainment was taking place on stages in the Jewel Box and the Adonis Room. The club was relatively dark, except for the rotating strobe lights. Music was blaring, a different type of music coming from each DJ in the club.

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PULSE Nightclub

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PULSE Nightclub

- **0202 hrs.** First notification of shots fired. Orlando Police Department off duty officer on scene and backup enroute
- **0205 hrs.** Law enforcement begins removing victims
- **0213 hrs.** Fire Rescue begins receiving victims
- **0222 hrs.** Subject barricades himself in the rear of the club
- **0235 hrs.** Subject calls 911
- **0248 hrs.** Subject speaks to a negotiator
- **0256 hrs.** Orlando City Emergency Manager contacted
- **0316 hrs.** In conversation with a negotiator subject states there is a bomb in a vehicle outside
- **0502 hrs.** Explosive breach into club
- **0553 hrs.** Subject confirmed dead (Approximately 90 public safety personnel on scene)

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LYNX Response – Sunday, June 12th

- A request was made at 0629 hrs. for a cooling bus for first responders
- LYNX transported nightclub patrons/witnesses from the Pulse club to Orlando Police HQ
- Orange County EOC staffed with LYNX personnel
- Detour route was established for Links 3, 7, 11, and 40

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LYNX Response – Sunday, June 12th (cont'd)

- Request for (4) buses to shuttle people from a hotel (initial gathering place) to Beardall Community Center (original assistance center)
- LYNX sends staff to Orlando EOC
- LYNX transported equipment and supplies for emergency responders
- LYNX Marketing begins social media regarding transportation impacts on service delivery
- LYNX government affairs begins communications with all government partners regarding service delivery
- Emergency meeting at 1:30pm at LYNX Central Station to develop detours, maps and correspondence to board members and employees
- Facilities installed temporary bus stops between 6:00pm – 1:00am

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LYNX Response – Monday, June 13th

- Supervisors monitored and roamed Orange and Pineloch and Orange and Gore
- Transportation staffed EOC at 7:00am
- EOC requested bus and driver station at the Beardall Community Center on standby
- Detour for the vigil at Dr. Phillips Performance Arts Center
- One bus on standby at Beardall Community Center

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LYNX Response – Tuesday, June 14th

- Transportation staffed EOC at 7:00am
- Supervisors stationed at Orange and Pineloch, and Orange and Gore
- Transported supplies from Beardall Community Center to City of Orlando Warehouse
- Meeting at Camping World to go over logistics for Family Assistance Center (FAC)
- Transportation worked with Access LYNX to provide four (4) vans to shuttle from the Hampton Inn, Beardall Community Center, Camping World and OIA
- Began wrapping one (1) bus with Orlando Strong design
- LYNX was used to transport additional supplies for the City of Orlando
- 4 vans provided for shuttle operations between hotels, the family assistance centers and OIA (for the next 8 days)

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LYNX Response – Wednesday, January 15th

- LYNX staffs the family assistance center (for the next 8 days)
- The Orlando United bus hits the streets
- Transportation staffed EOC at 7:00am
- Supervisors stationed at Orange and Pineloch, and Orange and Gore
- AccessLYNX provided four (4) vans to shuttle from the Hampton Inn, Beardall Community Center, Camping World and OIA from 8:00am to 8:00pm
- Supervisors are monitoring the AccessLYNX shuttle locations
- LYNX has discussions with Orlando International Airport regarding family transport and provides bus service

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LYNX Response – Thursday, January 16th

- LYNX provides 7 buses for POTUS visit
- Provided to shuttle services for surgeons from ORMC to Command Post
- LYNX receives notice of first weekend vigil at Lake Eola – initial crowd estimate of over 15,000 participants
- LYNX staff at EOC
- Transportation supervisors stationed at Orange and Pineloch, and Orange and Gore
- AccessLYNX provided four (4) vans to shuttle from the Hampton Inn, Beardall Community Center, Camping World and OIA from 8:00AM to 8:00PM
- AccessLYNX transported passengers from the ORMC to the Amway Center

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LYNX Response – Friday, January 17th and Saturday, January 18th

- Begin preparations for Sunday Vigil at Lake Eola
- LYNX contacts Orange County Public Schools for additional back up bus services
- LYNX provides 8 buses from 3 locations for the Lake Eola Vigil
- Bus detours needed due to protests
- 3 counties require pick–up locations for Vigil
- Provided additional five (5) LYMMO buses on the Orange and Grapefruit lines with extended hours
- Provided support staff for overall event (About 22+ hourly & salary)
- 50,000 attend

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LYNX Response – June 22th

- Daily transportation service restored
- During the PULSE mass shooting incident, LYNX maintained full revenue service

Relationship with Safety Management Systems (SMS)

- Prepare for all hazards approach
- In Florida, there is a potential for a wide variety of safety and security planning needed for non–traditional hazards
- The Pulse mass shooting is an incident that may not have a (well–planned) category in an agency Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, System Safety Program Plan or Security Program Plan
- Daily SMS coverage:
  - Notification to Operators
  - Development and use of Detour Routes
  - Notification to the Public
  - Signage at Bus Stops
  - Maintenance of Detour Routes
  - Continuity of Service

Tactical yet Flexible

- You will need to rearrange your priorities
- May need to alter service(s)
- Be ready to provide non–traditional service
  - For LYNX that included
    - Buses as equipment shuttles
    - Shuttle service
    - "Charter" service
    - Buses as barricades
    - Cooling services
    - On–call services/demand
    - Social media communication
    - NIMS/ICS structured use

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Be United

#ORLANDO UNITED

Orlando area providers would not have been successful without commitment to open communication and the efforts of placing 'community first'.

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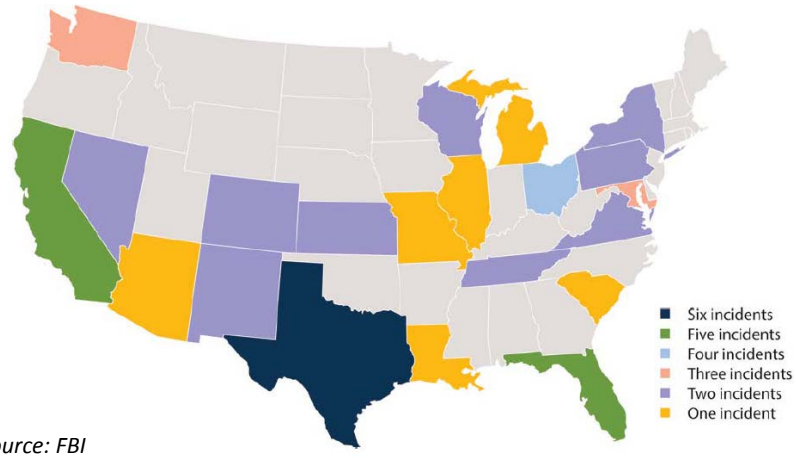
Mass Killings Around the Country



Source: FBI

By the Numbers (2016 – 2017)

- 50 incidents in 21 states
- 943 casualties (excluding the shooters) 221 killed; 722 wounded
- 13 law enforcement officers killed
- 20 law enforcement officers wounded
- 20 met "mass killing" definition
- 14 incidents ended with the exchange of gunfire between the shooters and law enforcement
- 50 shooters — all male
- 3 shooters wore body armor
- 13 shooters committed suicide
- 11 shooters killed by police
- 8 shooters stopped by citizens
- 18 shooters apprehended by police

Source: FBI

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