



GROCERY INDUSTRY

# GROCERY SAFETY



## Preparing Your Team for Workplace Violence.

Angry customers. Active shooters. Organized retail crime. Workplace violence is a growing concern for grocery stores.

### Organized Retail Crime

According to [Buy Safe America](#), retailers are reporting high rates violence associated with organized retail crime.

- 86.2% of retailers said someone engaging in organized retail crime verbally threatened an associate.
- 75.9% of retailers said someone engaging in organized retail crime physically assaulted an associate.
- 41% of retailers said engaging in organized retail crime used a weapon to harm an associate.

### Prioritize Safety

- Hire security as needed.
- Install adequate lighting both inside the store and in the parking lot.
- Keep exits clear so people can evacuate if necessary.
- Install security cameras.
- Consider safety issues associated with late hours and skeleton crews.

### Active Shooters

- According to the [FBI](#), there were 40 active shooter incidents in 2020. This is an increase from 30 in 2019 and 20 in 2016.
- Grocery stores are vulnerable to active shooting incidents. Between 2000 and 2018, 26.7% of active shootings occurred in businesses that were open to pedestrian traffic.

### Train Your Workers

- Run. Hide. Fight. The [FBI](#) offers a training video on the run-hide-fight strategy that can be used during an active shooter situation.
- De-escalation. During tense situations, verbal de-escalation tactics can help prevent violence.
- Avoiding confrontation. When employees confront suspected thieves, they risk assault. Train workers on what to do when they witness or suspect a crime.
- Emergency planning. Your workers should know where to go, what to do and who to contact during an emergency.

**Joe Scarpello:**

[jscarpello@riskpointins.com](mailto:jscarpello@riskpointins.com)  
**253.444.5584**

**CONTACT US TODAY!**

**Melissa Johnson:**

[mjohnson@riskpointins.com](mailto:mjohnson@riskpointins.com)  
**253.444.5654**

**RISKPOINT**  
INSURANCE ADVISORS

Advocate | Protect | Defend | Advise