



International Festivals & Events Association

Tragedy in Las Vegas Special Edition

In light of the heartbreaking tragedy and mass shooting at the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas, something, as event professionals, we dread ever having to deal with at our own events, many questions remain unanswered and many debates and dialogues will continue for weeks, months and years to come, as we do our best to understand and prevent any possible reoccurrence of this frightening scenario. As mass violence has become unacceptably too common in the United States and around the world, we send our deepest sympathies, prayers and support to all those affected, directly and indirectly, by this tragedy, through friends, families and loved ones.

While we know that all of you are looking for resources and direction in protecting your own events and attendees, at this stage, for this particular type of incident, there are no new guidance points, other than to continue your vigilance and proactive steps of working with local, regional and national law enforcement agencies and representatives on updated safety and security plans, that should include table-top exercises and fully-formulated communications plans with your local law enforcement and security teams, staffs, volunteers, attendees, media, hospitals and medical personnel, and any other critical stakeholders, in the event of such a tragedy closer-to-home.

Driven by this most recent incident, the DHS is expanding conversations regarding the formation of a new "Soft Target Working Group" here in the U.S., to address these growing threats and what additional and appropriate responses may be developed to minimize these increasingly common occurrences. The IFEA will continue to be in communications with all appropriate agencies and to share with all of you any new developments or suggestions on those fronts.

While we cannot predict or prevent every tragedy, we can do our best to limit these types of incidences by sharing knowledge and information through our global IFEA network. In the coming weeks, we will be building a new Safety & Security / Risk Management Resource page on our www.ifea.com web page. If you have access to any plans, policies, resources, templates, etc., that you are willing to share with others in our industry, with the goal of making all of our events safer, [please send them to us](#) (with a brief description of what they contain) and we will work to grow a valuable new library of resources for everyone.

As part of that effort to share information and as many viewpoints as possible toward understanding recent events and what we may begin to learn from that in the aftermath, we have dedicated this week's *IFEA Event Insider* to coverage of the Las Vegas shootings.