**An Overview of the Definition of the ISP Intervention Model**

**And**

**The Confusion Between:**

**“Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability, and or Risk Assessment”**

**and**

**The ISP Student Intervention Process**

**Nearly every school safety expert, safety statute and or governmental agency confuse the “Comprehensive Threat Assessment, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment” process with the process of assessing individuals in the school community that may be developing into a targeted violence threat.**

**Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment**

**Threat Assessment as Viewed by Various Agencies**

***A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates***

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***United States Secret Service and United States Department of Education***

***This usage and or definition suggests that the process relates to identifies, supports and monitors individuals that may be developing into a “targeted threat” the others in the school community!***

**“The Guide is intended to provide school administrators and law enforcement officials guidance in incorporating the threat assessment process for investigating, evaluating, and managing targeted violence into strategies to prevent school violence.” 1**

**“As developed by the Secret Service, threat assessment involves efforts to identify, assess, and manage individuals and groups who may pose threats of targeted violence. 1**

**The United States Secret Service & Department of Education**

**The United States Secret Service and United States Department of Education use “threat assessment” to refer to the process of investigating, evaluating, and managing students that may be developing into a threat to carryout school violence. In this context “threat assessment” refers to the process of identifying and supporting students that are exhibiting the “Early Warning Behaviors.”**

**The above assertions, from several agencies, frames the conflicting application of the “Threat Assessment” term.**

**Indiana Statute and the Indiana Secured School Safety Board**

**Indiana Statute and the Indiana Secured School Safety Board utilize “Threat Assessment” to refer to the process of identifying threats that impact school campuses (i.e., policy, environmental factors, perimeter security, drills, student driving, etc.). Simply, it is utilized to refer to an overarching approach to safety.**

**The Indiana Department of Homeland Security**

**In managing the “Secured School Safety Grant” the Indiana Department Homeland Security defines “Threat Assessment” as a process of examining conditions in the school community that may pose a threat to school campuses. This overarching approach considers all threats that may arise from the environment, physical plant, policy, training, etc.**

**Indiana Secured Schools Safety Grant**

**“The program supports a dedicated state grant fund that provides matching grants to school corporations, accredited non-public schools, charter schools or a coalition of school corporations and/or charter schools applying jointly to: Employ a school resource officer\* (salary, benefits and basic 40-hr training course); Conduct a *threat assessment*; and/or Purchase equipment to restrict access to the school or expedite the notification of first responders; Support firearms training in districts that choose to implement such programs (new for FY20); Support the implementation of a student and parent support services program (new for FY20); Fund the one-time startup costs of an active alert warning system (new for FY 20)” 2**

**Indiana Statute also utilizes “Threat Assessment” in the overarching application:**

**Indiana in statute also suggests that “Threat Assessment” is an overarching approach to identifying threats in the school community that may impact the school system’s various campuses.**

**Indiana Code 10-21-1-2 Purpose of Indiana Secured School Fund**

1. **The board may award a matching grant to enable a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or a coalition of schools applying jointly) to establish a program to employ a school resource officer, provide school resource officer training described in IC 20-26-18.2-1(b)(2), conduct a threat assessment, or purchase equipment to restrict access to the school or expedite the notification of first responders in accordance with section 2(a)(1) [IC 10-21-1-2(a)(1)] of this chapter.3**

**Common Confusion**

**The Comprehensive Usage of “Threat Assessment”**

**The Overarching Approach to Assessment**

**Simply, the term “Threat Assessment” is utilized across the “School Safety Spectrum” to describe the comprehensive examination of threats existing in the school community that impact school campuses.**

**The Targeted School Violence Threat Generated by Individuals**

**The conflict arises when other “School Safety Entities,” utilize “Threat Assessment” to identify, students that may be developing into a threat.**

**The Approach of the Indiana State Police**

**For this reason, the Indiana State Police refer to the process of identifying students that need assistance and support as the “Intervention Process.”**

**The Indiana State Police refer to the process of identifying threats in the school community as “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment.”**

**Why is clarifying the definition so important?**

**The Relationship of the ISP “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment to the School Safety Plan**

**It is important to note that the ISP “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment” (CTVRA) process represents the foundation for developing the school district’s “Comprehensive Safety Plan.”**

**Simply, to develop a safety plan, a school must first identify the threats generated by the various factors in the school community. Typically, the spectrum of threats generated in the school community are very broad in nature.**

**The product of the “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment” (CTVRA) is the “Comprehensive Safety Plan.”**

**It is extremely rare to find a school corporation that first conducts “A Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment;” Then develops the corporation’s “Comprehensive Safety Plan” to address the threats identified by the “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment.” Typically, the process is reversed.**

**School may utilize the “Comprehensive Threat, Vulnerability and or Risk Assessment” to examine the district’s adopted “Comprehensive Safety Plan” after it has be implemented to address the threats first identified by the CTVRA.**