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## QUICK LINKS

[Respond! Web Campus](#)

[New Mexico Tech/EMRTC Web Site](#)

*“The midst of a crisis is not the time to start figuring out who ought to do what. At that moment, everyone involved – from top to bottom – should know the drill and know each other.”*

*Margaret Spellings,  
former U.S. Secretary of  
Education*

## Online School Bomb Threat Training

The Associated Press reported that on Monday, August 24, 2009 a California teen walked into his former high school with eight pipe bombs strapped to his body. Fortunately, no one was critically injured, in spite of the fact that he detonated 2 pipe bombs inside the school. This frightening incident serves as a somber reminder that a crisis unfolds so quickly that school staff may find themselves serving as first responders. Responding quickly and effectively is critical to ensuring the safety of our schools and students.

[Understanding & Planning for School Bomb Incidents](#) is a **no-cost, online course** for school resource officers, emergency responders, and school personnel. Major topics include

- **Warning signs of aggressive student behavior**
- **Threat assessment**
- **Critical bomb threat response actions**
- **Recognition of improvised (homemade) explosive devices**
- **Effective school bomb threat response plans**

[Understanding & Planning for School Bomb Incidents](#) is sponsored and certified by the Department of Homeland Security. In June 2009 this course was revised to reflect recommendations from NIMS, ICS and recent school bombing incidents. It was written and designed by [New Mexico Tech’s Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center](#), recognized for their expertise on explosives—the result of over 50 years of explosive testing and research.

FBI research on school perpetrators indicate there is no useful profile of individuals who may pose a threat to the safety of the school. The research indicates that **threat assessment should be focused on behavioral indicators rather than individual traits. Does your staff know these indicators? Is your school prepared?**

Questions?? Contact Barbara Kuhns at [bkuhns@emrtc.nmt.edu](mailto:bkuhns@emrtc.nmt.edu) (575-524-6815) or Richard Campbell at [rcampbell@emrtc.nmt.edu](mailto:rcampbell@emrtc.nmt.edu) (575-835-5054)