

## Community unrest: How you can prepare for safety and security

Communities across the nation are experiencing social conflict and unrest as citizens protest the death of George Floyd during an arrest by law enforcement. On top of that, the country is feeling the effects of high unemployment, social quarantining and general uncertainty due to COVID-19. The two scenarios set the stage for conflict.

While we can't be sure of the future, we can prepare for any unrest that may affect our businesses and/or our personal lives. Businesses, for example, can prepare by:

- Ensuring emergency preparedness and business continuity plans are up to date
- Having an emergency communication plan for employees
- Ensuring evacuation procedures are current and properly communicated to all
- Having alternate sites to stand up essential company operations in case main facilities are not accessible
- Securing external resources in advance to assist in an emergency
- Considering supplies necessary to function and securing those items in advance

Individuals should consider the following tips if confronted with threatening protests or other unrest:

- Be alert and practice situational awareness
- Do not be distracted by your smartphone when out and about
- Be aware of your surroundings if you are entering what appears to be an unsafe situation
- Always be aware of escape routes for emergencies and quickly leave areas of unrest

- If you suspect a violent situation, stay away from locations likely to be the target site of protests, such as government buildings
- If violence occurs, evacuate the areas as fast as possible and seek shelter
- Keep your car full of fuel to facilitate evacuation just in case civil unrest disrupts the supply chain for critical services

Following these simple security tips can help keep you, your family and your business safe and secure.



Source: R3 Continuum