

Cawood Assessment and Response Grids

ASSESSING CONCERNING BEHAVIORS

Is your organization proactively identifying concerning behaviors and objectively investigating/assessing risk?

As tragic stories of violence and suicide continue to circulate throughout our nation, schools, colleges and organizations are reviewing their programs for identifying and intervening with students and/or employees who show signs of distress or aggression, and evaluating their policies and procedures for investigating and assessing red flags, suspicious behaviors, violence, risks, etc.

TIPS is helping your teams get information and coordinate and document actions taken, but do your teams have objective procedures for assessing individuals and determining if the incident is a low, moderate or high priority risk? How do you know if a situation is going to escalate?

The Cawood Assessment Grids can be used by Behavioral Intervention Teams and Threat Assessment Teams to improve the way reports are assessed, investigated and responded to ongoing.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Step 1: Once an Incident Report has been received in TIPS, team members can easily click the ASSESSMENT GRID button to utilize the 8 assessment categories to analyze the risk level.

Step 2: Users evaluate each assessment category and select the behavior/observation that fits best with their individual assessment. Team members are encouraged to share details explaining why each selection was made so other team members can access a comprehensive overview of the behaviors noted.

WHO IS JIM CAWOOD?

Mr. Cawood is President of Factor One which is a California based corporation specializing in violence risk assessment and management, threat assessment, behavioral analysis, security consulting, and investigations.

Mr. Cawood has worked in the area of threat and violence risk assessment and management, behavioral analysis, violence prevention, security analysis, and incident resolution for more than 25 years. He has successfully assessed and managed over 4000 violence related cases for federal and state government agencies, universities and colleges, public and private corporations, and other business entities throughout North America. Mr. Cawood has also provided consultation and training to these same types of organizations on the design and implementation of threat assessment, violence risk assessment, and incident response protocols.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

All team members will participate in a one-day training with Jim Cawood to learn how to utilize the grids to their full potential and understand what behaviors, risk factors, etc. to look for during initial assessment.

The screenshot shows a navigation bar with three buttons: 'SET REMINDER', 'ASSESSMENT GRID', and 'ASSIGN TEAM'. The 'ASSESSMENT GRID' button is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is an 'Add Action:' field with a dropdown arrow and a 'SUBMIT' button. Underneath is a 'Supporting Document(s):' section with a 'Browse...' button and a link to 'Add Additional Documents'. Below that is an 'Action List' table.

Name	Date/Time of Action	Action/Details	Document(s)
Awarely Admin	8/18/2013 10:59:56 AM	ex bought a new car and it is a blue corvette	--
Awarely Admin	7/25/2013 12:29:31 PM	follow up on current status	--
School Administrator	5/28/2013 3:34:55 PM	scheduled follow-up with Johnny	--

The screenshot shows the assessment grid form with several categories and their details:

- Escalating Aggression:** Intimidating style, at least occasionally. Details: Intimidating style, at least occasionally (Details): [Text field]
- Weapons Involvement:** Weapon(s) in vehicle. Details: Weapon(s) in vehicle (Details): knife kept in glove box
- Negative Mental Status:** Select One
- Negative Organization Related Status:** Select One
- Personal Stressors:** Select One
- History of Violence and Conflict:** Select One
- Buffers:** Select One
- Organizational Influences:** Select One

Cawood Assessment and Response Grids

Assessment Grid Details	
Assessment Specialist:	Katie Johnson
Victim/Witness:	Julie Andrews (update)
Aggressor Name:	John Doe (update)
Aggressor ID:	0099 (update)
Aggressor is a:	Student
Aggressor is:	Known
Aggressor Height:	5'8 (update)
Aggressor Weight:	180 (update)
Aggressor Gender:	Male (update)
Aggressor Age:	22 (update)
Report Summary: Continues to make threats towards students and faculty - recently lost job as well	

ASSESSMENT GRIDS

Step 3: Assessment team can use grids to perform additional assessments over time and track an individuals behavior to determine if the threat is escalating. As the situation is analyzed and investigated, if additional assessment grid interviews are completed, all details are attached within the same report for review and analysis.

Step 4: Team members can review a documented trail of all assessment grid reports to determine if the overall level of risk is escalating or de-escalating.

Violence Assessment Summary					
Priority	Date of Assessment	Assessment Specialist	Summary Comments	Response Grid	Tasks
🟡	10/7/2011 2:15:41 PM	Katie Johnson	Continues to make threats towards students and faculty - recently lost job as well	Response Grid	New Open Task
🟡	10/7/2011 2:04:38 PM	Katie Johnson	Threatening comments towards students - no credible threat at this time.	Response Grid	--

ASSESSMENT GRID SUMMARY HISTORY

Assessment Grid Field Details			
Category	Risk Level	Field Description	Details
Personal Stressors	Low Risk	Mild financial problems	no income
Negative Organization Related Status	Moderate Risk	Unstable employment in last year	lost campus parking enforcement job - was fired for missing work several days in a row
Escalating Aggression	Moderate Risk	Repeated pattern of harassing others	Continually harassing professor and students
Negative Mental Status	High Risk	Depression unrelenting or with notable anger	Seems depressed with angry outbursts against college and faculty members
Buffers	NA	Responded favorably to limit setting, especially recently	did seem positive about applying for new job

Assessment Specialist: Katie Johnson	Date/Time: 10/7/2011 2:15:41 PM	Risk Level	Field Description	Details
Personal Stressors	Low Risk	Mild financial problems	no income	
Negative Organization Related Status	Moderate Risk	Unstable employment in last year	lost campus parking enforcement job - was fired for missing work several days in a row	
Escalating Aggression	Moderate Risk	Repeated pattern of harassing others	Continually harassing professor and students	
Negative Mental Status	High Risk	Depression unrelenting or with notable anger	Seems depressed with angry outbursts against college and faculty members	
Buffers	NA	Responded favorably to limit setting, especially recently	did seem positive about applying for new job	
Assessment Specialist: Katie Johnson	Date/Time: 10/7/2011 2:04:38 PM	Risk Level	Field Description	Details
Escalating Aggression	Moderate Risk	Two or more threats with increasing specificity (e.g. time, target, methodology)	TEET - Threatened to harm students at cafeteria	
Weapons Involvement	Low Risk	Long term, sanctioned use (e.g. hunting, target shooting, etc.)	Hunting license	
Negative Mental Status	Moderate Risk	Regular mood swings, aphasia, or erratic behavior	Frequently lashes out in class	
Negative Organization Related Status	Low Risk	Previous discipline, negative performance review, suspension, expulsion or termination, nonattendance related	Floor class attendance, failing several classes	
Personal Stressors	Low Risk	Inconsistent support system	Family is removed	
History of Violence and Conflict	Low Risk	Behavior related job/school lawsuits	attended several schools as a teen due to behavior issues	
Buffers	NA	Wants to avoid negative consequences for threatening behavior (e.g. jail, legal actions)	Has said he can't get in trouble	

Category	Description	Assign Task	Assignment Status
Assessment	1. Organization representative initial data intake	Assign Responsibility	Katie Johnson (Complete Task)
Assessment	2. Organization informant interviews	Assign Responsibility	Katie Johnson (Complete Task)
Assessment	3. Employment/organization related file review, if applicable	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Assessment	4. Violence risk assessment specialist phone or on-site consultation with Core or Full IRT	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Assessment	5. Organization management "reality check" meeting with subject of concern	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Assessment	6. Violence risk assessment specialist on-site interviews with targeted individual (s) and informants	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Assessment	7. On-site formal violence risk evaluation ("stress for duty") or on-site evaluation by violence risk assessment professional or team	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Human Resources or Employee Relations Actions (After Threshold Assessment)	1. Organization representative(s) meeting with subject to inform of status and next steps in organizational process	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Human Resources or Employee Relations Actions (After Threshold Assessment)	2. Possible post "stress for duty" referral for treatment	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Human Resources or Employee Relations Actions (After Threshold Assessment)	3. Post action constituency communication & debrief as necessary	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Human Resources or Employee Relations Actions (After Threshold Assessment)	4. Post evaluation employment or organization action/counseling	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task
Legal	1. Legal audit of employment or organization related issues and actions, including Title VII, public harassment, etc.	Assign Responsibility	No users have been assigned to this task

OBJECTIVE ANALYSIS AND PREVENTION

Incident reports can be tracked over time to evaluate the risks/threats within a school/organization. The assessment and response grids provide objective measurements to help your team members determine the best overall response. This tool can help your school/organization develop clearly defined procedures for investigating and assessing risks and give you a objective tool to explain why you took the actions you did (with all the documentation to back it up!)

RESPONSE GRIDS

Step 5: Response grid responsibilities/tasks are assigned to individual team members based on their roles. Individuals are notified of task assignment and can login to the secure platform to review report and complete their task, set reminders, take notes, etc. All actions, tasks completed, questions, reports, interviews, etc. are tracked/documentd within the report.

SCHEDULE A DEMO FOR YOUR TEAM

To schedule an online demonstration of the TIPS platform with Assessment and Response Grid functionality for your threat assessment or behavioral intervention team, please contact info@awareity.com.