

New York State Workplace Violence Prevention Information

The New York State Workplace Violence Prevention Act

http://www.nycosh.org/health_safety_rights/NYS_Violence_Prevention_Act_2006.htm

The examples of workplace factors that might place employees at risk of occupational assaults and homicides all pertain to libraries:

- working in public settings
- working late night or early morning hours;
- exchanging money with the public;
- working alone or in small numbers;
- uncontrolled access to the workplace; and

Excerpted from OSHA guidelines of what training should cover:

- Risk factors that cause or contribute to assaults;
- Early recognition of escalating behavior or recognition of warning signs or situations that may lead to assaults;
- Ways to prevent or diffuse volatile situations or aggressive behavior, manage anger;
- Ways to deal with hostile people such as coworkers and patrons;
- The *possible* location and operation of safety devices such as alarm systems, along with the required maintenance schedules and procedures;
- Ways to protect oneself and coworkers, including use of the “buddy system;”
- Policies and procedures for reporting and recordkeeping;
- Information on multicultural diversity to increase staff sensitivity to racial and ethnic issues and differences;