

SPECIAL TACTICS



TWO-PERSON --- CLOSE QUARTERS TACTICS



**URBAN TACTICS FOR DEFENDING
AGAINST A DEADLY ATTACK**

DEVELOPED BY SPECIAL OPERATIONS VETERANS

TWO-PERSON

CLOSE QUARTERS TACTICS

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AGAINST A DEADLY ATTACK**

SPECIAL  TACTICS

Special Tactics, LLC

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To those who have gone before us, the living and the fallen



COURSE OVERVIEW

Importance of Two-Person Tactics

After publication of the *Single-Person Close Quarters Battle* manual, a large number of readers requested more information on two-person tactics. Given the rising frequency of deadly attacks and terrorist incidents, it is not unlikely that armed citizens and security professionals will find themselves in situations where they need to defend themselves with the help of a partner.

There are many cases where several members of a family are licensed to carry weapons. It can be very dangerous for two people to attempt to fight together as a team if they are not trained to do so and if they have not practiced and rehearsed beforehand. This book provides simple, common-sense principles for how to train and prepare to fight as a team with another person.

This book focuses on deliberate, defensive tactics designed to increase your chances of survival in a deadly attack. It does not go into the type of offensive tactics most useful for law-enforcement officers responding to an emergency call. As a private citizen, your first and best option is always to avoid combat and wait for first responders to arrive.

The techniques in this book should be considered only as a last resort when innocent lives are at risk and there is no option but to fight back. This book also focuses primarily

on the mechanics of tactical movement and two-person maneuver. It does not go into detail on how to establish a defensive position within your home, hide or barricade yourself and your family. Those topics will be covered in more detail in other manuals such as the *Tactical Home Defense* manual.

The techniques in this manual are useless and even potentially dangerous without frequent, dedicated practice. It is impossible to learn physical skills from a book without practicing those skills under realistic conditions. This book is only a guide to help facilitate an effective training program.

An Important Note on Classification, Security and Safety

Special Tactics is very serious about security and safety. This manual does not contain any classified information, sensitive information or information that might prove useful to criminals or terrorists. This manual focuses on defensive and emergency response combat scenarios appropriate for citizens and security professionals. If a criminal or terrorist used the tactics in this manual, he or she would find it more difficult to kill large numbers of innocent people. This is because the tactics in

this manual focus on deliberate procedures, designed to maximize the chances of survival rather than cause maximum destruction.

Special Tactics specifically designed the manual in this way to ensure it would be useful for citizens but useless to criminals and terrorists. Even if criminals or terrorists read this manual to learn how law enforcement and military personnel operate, they will learn nothing of use since the tactics have been largely modified and adjusted for civilian applications. Special Tactics has left out the offensive and team tactics specific to law enforcement and military personnel. However, this manual still provides a solid foundation in two-person tactics for any tactical professional.

The techniques described in this manual are dangerous and are intended only for use in an emergency situation when all other options have been exhausted. If you are a civilian, escape should always be your first option. Also, do not attempt to practice or apply these techniques without first consulting a law enforcement officer or security professional since improper application of these techniques can cause death or serious injury.

Content Summary

The following chapters will teach you the fundamentals of how to move, fight and survive as a two-person element in a variety of combat and emergency scenarios. Most of the instruction assumes that you will be carrying a pistol or rifle. The instruction begins

by discussing the “four pillars” of survival: proper mindset, situational awareness, skill proficiency and physical fitness.

The next sections explain two-person tactical techniques. The first three sections describe how to position outside of a room, how to clear a room without entry and how to conduct a delayed entry. The remaining sections show you various techniques for clearing hallways, stairwells and multiple rooms. The final sections describe how to move and fight in open areas, in the street and around buildings. Given the rise in deadly attacks in public places, it is useful to discuss how to move and escape danger in an open area.

The chapters in this book are intended to be somewhat self-contained so that the reader can use the book as a reference to go over specific techniques and apply them during training sessions. This also means that the book may be repetitive in some areas, since many techniques consist of very similar steps. However, from a training perspective, repetition is not necessarily a bad thing and going over techniques multiple times can improve knowledge retention.

The techniques in this book were developed by a team of experts with extensive combat experience and every technique has been vetted in real combat situations. However, no technique is perfect and there are many disagreements among professionals about which techniques are best for which situation. Therefore, you may not agree with all the points in this manual. If this is the case, simply take what is useful and adapt it to your own personal needs and situation.



INTRODUCTION

The “Four Pillars” of Survival

The “four pillars” of survival are proper mindset, situational awareness, skill proficiency and physical fitness. These pillars form the basis for success in all combat situations. This manual is intended not only to teach specific techniques, but rather to increase the reader’s actual chances of survival and success in a real-life emergency. An expert marksman who is not mentally prepared for the stress of combat and not ready to employ lethal force can lose to an untrained adversary. Lack of situational awareness, even for a moment, can cause an experienced fighter to fall victim to unskilled enemies. Therefore, any combat training program must rest on the following four pillars.

Proper Mindset

Proper mindset is the most critical of the four pillars. In the simplest terms, people with the proper mindset devote significant time and energy to protecting themselves and their loved ones from the worst-case scenario. Many people will learn to shoot a pistol or study a martial art but their skills decline quickly because they fail to practice frequently enough. Having the proper mindset means being tough, determined, never cutting

corners and taking every precaution to ensure survival. In a combat situation, having the proper mindset means being prepared to employ lethal force without hesitation and never quitting during the fight regardless of fear or pain. The training suggestions in this manual will help you develop the proper mindset.

Situational Awareness

Lack of situational awareness is one of the leading causes of failure or death in combat situations. In modern society, most people’s situational awareness is very low. They generally spend their day wrapped up in their own thoughts and problems and pay little attention to what is going on around them. People who live in relatively secure environments fall into even deeper levels of complacency and unpreparedness. The mentality of, “it can’t happen to me,” can ultimately prove to be disastrously wrong. Most victims of crime, terrorism and other deadly attacks lived their lives thinking, “it can’t happen to me.”

People with the proper mindset understand the importance of situational awareness and make disciplined efforts to cultivate it.

Situational awareness begins with awareness of the threat and awareness that bad things can happen to anyone. Situational awareness involves trying to remain alert at all times without being paranoid. Situational awareness also involves keeping up with local news, and studying trends in violent crime. Those committed to protecting their families might conduct research to identify registered sex offenders in their area. When you travel to a new city, it is useful to learn which neighborhoods have a higher crime rate and plan your route accordingly. The best way to improve your situational awareness is to make a conscious effort to continually cultivate and improve it.

Skill Proficiency

Once you have the proper mindset and maintain good situational awareness, the next step is to ensure you have the proper skills or “tools” to protect yourself in a combat situation. When striving to improve skill proficiency it is important to choose the best skills and techniques that are simple, effective, easy to perform and can realistically apply to a real-life scenario. Then you must practice these techniques repeatedly until they become second nature. This will maximize the

chances that you will respond immediately in a high-stress situation. The central focus of this manual is to help you build skill proficiency.

Physical Fitness

Fitness is a critical but often overlooked factor that affects your chances of survival in a combat situation. Even skilled fighters with the proper mindset and high levels of situational awareness can lose a fight simply because they run out of energy. In order to maintain adequate levels of combat fitness, you do not need to achieve the same fitness level as a professional or Olympic athlete. Rather, the key is merely to stay healthy, maintain a decent level of cardiovascular endurance, running speed, functional strength and coordination. Popular commercial fitness programs don't always focus on the most useful abilities needed for combat. For example, many people jog but how many also run sprints to build speed? Simply being able to run fast without falling is one of the most critical survival skills in a gunfight or emergency situation, yet most people rarely practice sprinting. For those interested in combat fitness, Special Tactics provides a range of books and courses on the subject.



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Positioning Before Entry

There are several reasons why it is very important for you and your partner to know the correct way to position yourselves near a door before entry. First, unlike in single-person operations where you only need to worry about yourself, in two-person operations you and your partner will want to synchronize your entry into the room. If you enter the room too quickly and leave your partner behind, you will be at increased risk as you pass through the doorway and your back will likely be exposed to unknown threats.

Therefore, proper positioning outside the entry door will help you and your partner synchronize your movements in order to reduce your vulnerability and gain the maximum advantage over the adversary. Proper positioning will ensure that each person knows where his/her partner is and confirm that both people are ready to enter the room.

Another reason why positioning outside the door is important is to make it easier to deal with closed doors. Generally, the best option is for one person to open the door for

the other. However, there are other situations where the lead person may want to open the door (self-breach) and then enter. Either way, proper positioning near the entry door simplifies and streamlines the process of opening closed doors.

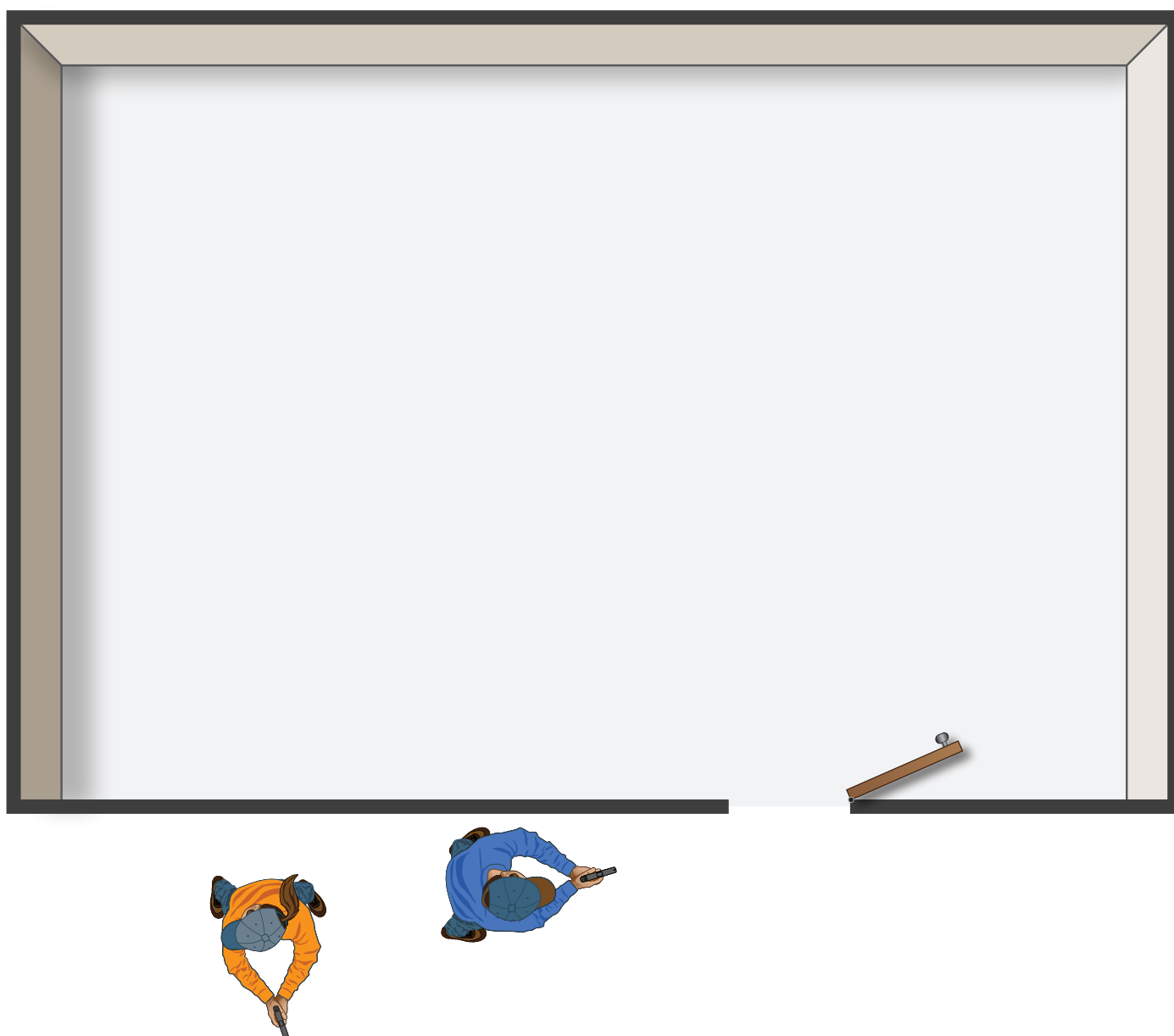
Finally, proper positioning prior to entry helps minimize vulnerability. There are many ways for you and your partner to position yourselves improperly and unknowingly increase your vulnerability. For example, it is generally important to keep as much distance from the door as possible since adversaries tend to spray bullets in the direction of doors and the walls surrounding them. If you have to move close to the door, it is best to not stay there very long and to make as little noise as possible while you are there.

It is also important to keep some distance between you and your partner. This way if the adversary fires an indiscriminate burst in your general direction, there is less chance that a single burst will hit both you and your partner at the same time. It is also less likely that a single bullet will pass through both of you.

POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR

OPTION 1 - Same Side of the Door

When preparing to enter through an open door, it is generally preferable to position yourselves on the same side of the door for several reasons. First, it is generally best not to cross in front of an open door if it is not absolutely necessary, unless conducting a sweep movement. Second, it is easier for the second person to provide rear security while the lead person covers the door. Finally, if an adversary runs out the door and you and your partner are on either side of the door, there is a chance of friendly fire as you both try to engage the target between you.



POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR

OPTION 2 - Opposite Sides of the Door

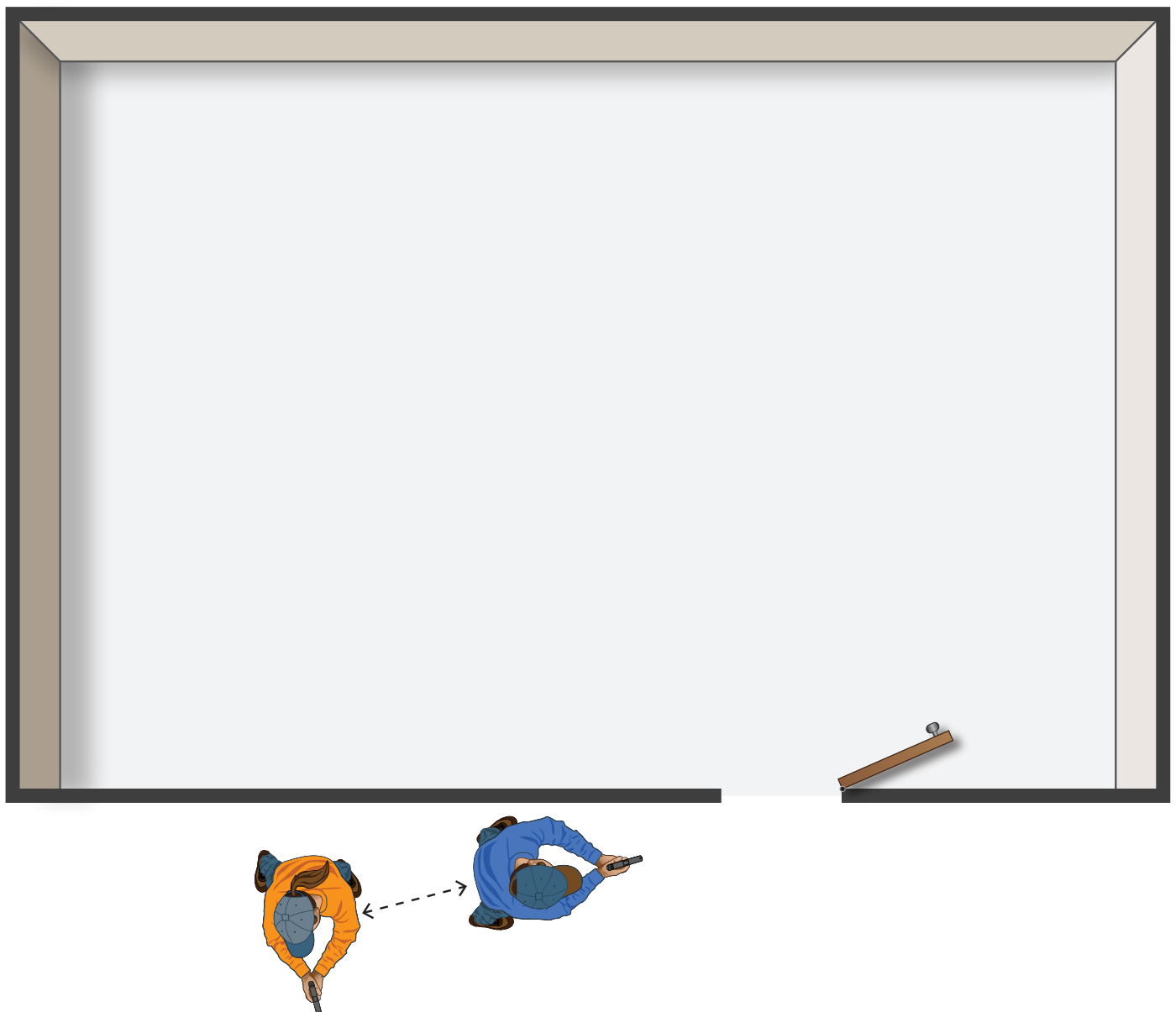
While it is generally preferable to position on the same side of the door, in some situations you might choose to position on opposite sides of the door. The most common situation is when you and your partner find yourselves already on opposite sides of a door and there is no reason to cross over the open door again to position on the same side. In addition, positioning on opposite sides of a door offers better angles of observation into the room. However, positioning on opposite sides of an open door increases the risk that you and your partner might shoot each other if an adversary runs out of the open door.



POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR

Maintain Correct Spacing

When positioning near the door, you should remain close to each other to facilitate control and allow fast and fluid movement into the room. However, you should still try to maintain some degree of spacing since a tightly packed formation is an easy target for one burst of automatic fire. Also, if you are so close together that you are in physical contact, there is the chance that you might trip over each other in a high-stress situation.



POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR

Using a Ready Signal

In some cases, it is useful to employ a hand signal to let the lead person know that the second person is nearby or ready to enter the next room. One of the simplest signals is a firm, positive squeeze with the non-firing hand. When conducting the squeeze, it is important to use a firm squeeze on the fleshy part of the arm or shoulder. It is also important to execute a squeeze and not a “tap” or “leg bump,” since an unexpected bump can throw off your aim. Also, in a high-stress situation, you might mistake incidental contact or an accidental bump for the ready signal and move out when your partner is not actually ready. After receiving a squeeze from your partner, it is best to wait for a moment before moving, allowing your partner time to bring both hands back to his/her weapon.

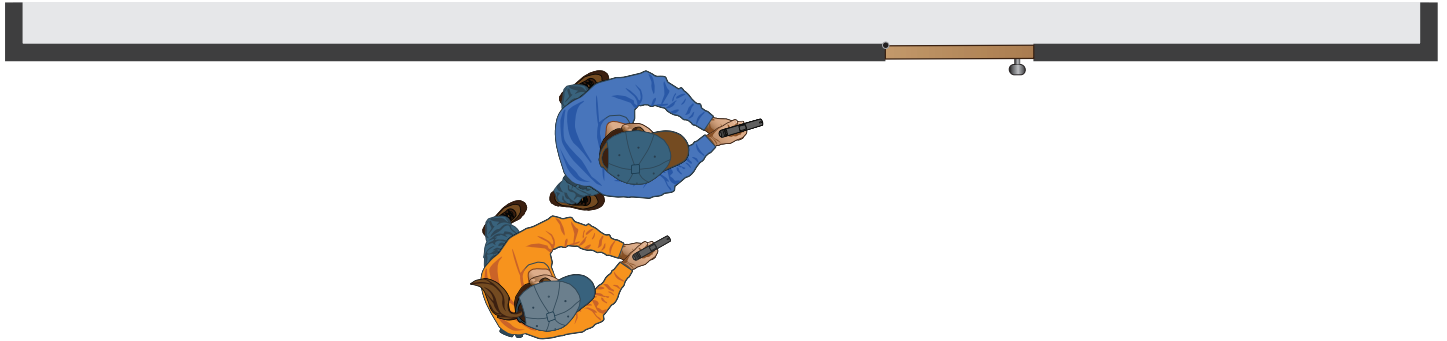


POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR

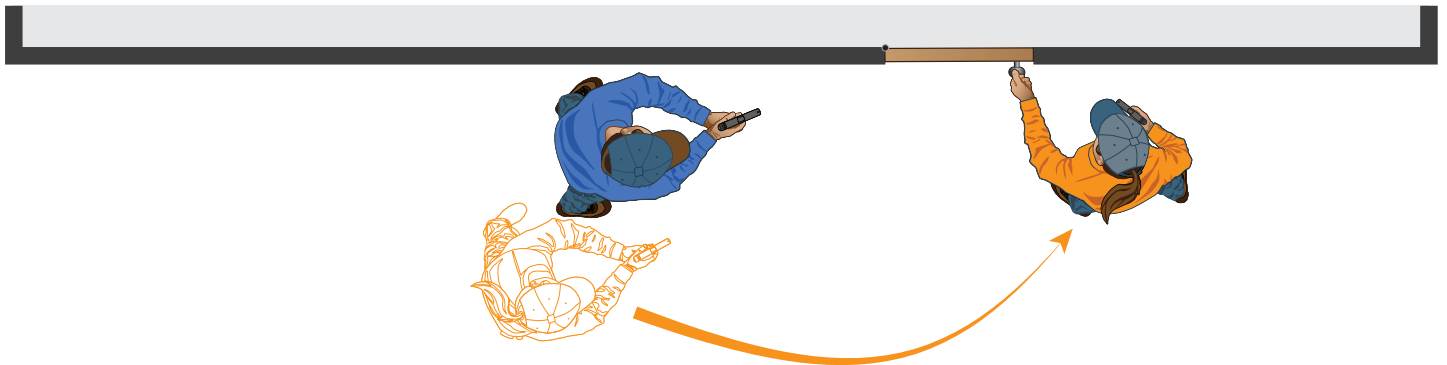
OPTION 1 - Second Person Opens for Lead Person

In some cases, the second person might decide to move across to act as the breacher and open the door. In these cases, the lead person will stop short of the door and provide coverage, focusing all attention on the door in case an adversary opens it. The second person will then move around the lead person to the opposite side of the door and open it. Because an adversary might open fire in the direction of the door as soon as it opens, it is usually a good idea for both persons to back away from the door after opening it.

1



2

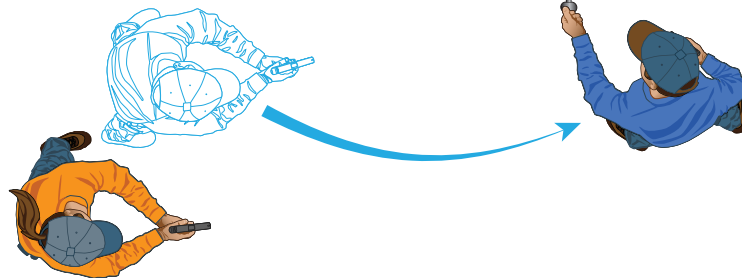


POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR

OPTION 2 - Lead Person Opens for Second Person

One of the quickest ways to enter the room is for the lead person to immediately move past the door to the other side to act as the breacher, opening the door for the second person to enter. In these cases, the second person will immediately assume the lead person's role and provide coverage on the door in case an adversary opens it. The two options of either the lead person or second person opening the door are interchangeable. Using the "free-flow" concept, you and your partner can base your actions off of each other. Therefore, if the first person stops to cover the door, the second person can automatically move around to act as the breacher. If the first person moves across the door to breach, the second person can automatically assume the lead person's position. As with the previous technique, it is generally a good idea for both persons to back away from the door after opening it.

1



2

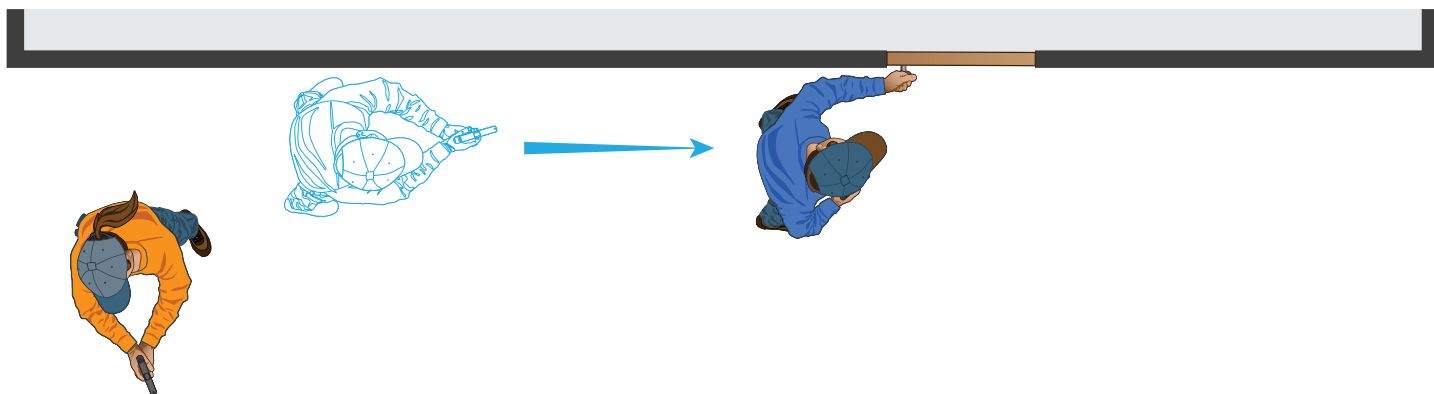


POSITIONING BEFORE ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR

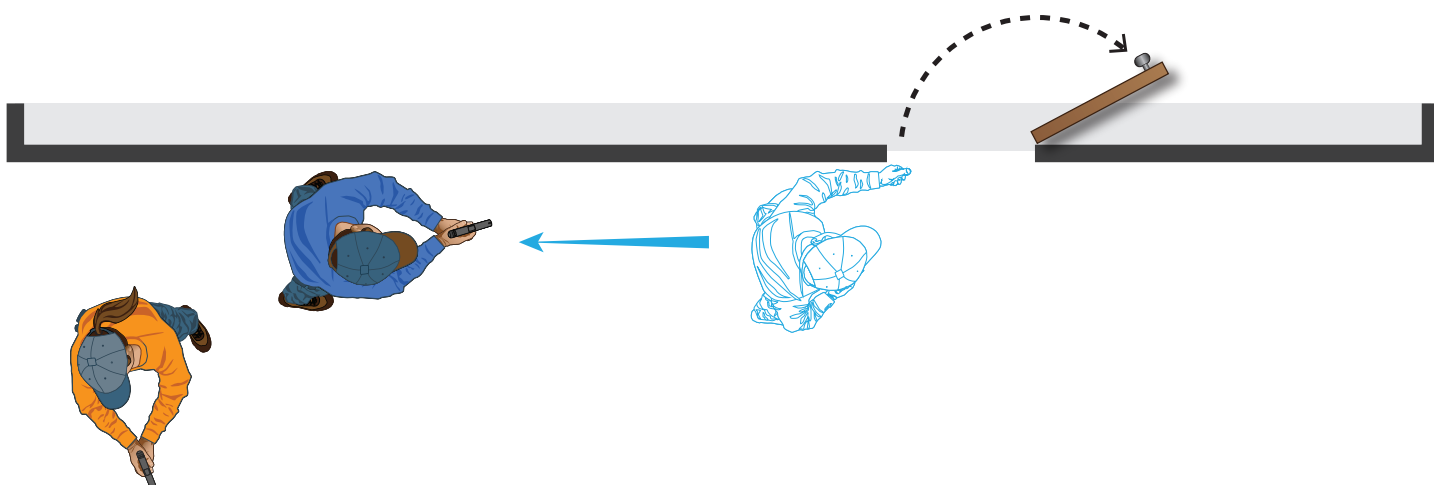
OPTION 3 - Lead Person Opens then Enters (Self-Breach)

In some situations, the lead person might open the door himself/herself and then lead the way into the room. This is called "self-breach." When conducting a self-breach it is particularly important to back away from the door after you open it if possible. This will help you get out of the line of fire, should an adversary decide to spray bullets in the direction of the doorway once the door opens.

1



2



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Clear Without Entry



The techniques for how to safely clear a room without entering the room, or “clear without entry,” are the same whether you are alone or if you are operating with a partner. It is often a good idea to avoid entering a room if it is not necessary, in order to minimize your exposure and maximize your personal safety. This means you will clear the room (as much as possible) from the outside and avoid getting drawn into a fight with adversaries who might possess superior numbers and weapons. By remaining outside of a room you make it easier to break contact with the adversary and create distance if needed.

While one partner clears the room, the other partner will stand nearby in support, covering the rear and remaining on the lookout for other threats. Since the purpose of clearing a room without entry is to minimize exposure, it is generally a good idea for the partner not clearing the room to stay back at a safe distance and out of the line of fire. This way, even if one partner is shot, the other partner will be able to respond to the threat from a

safer position and move to conduct casualty evacuation if necessary.

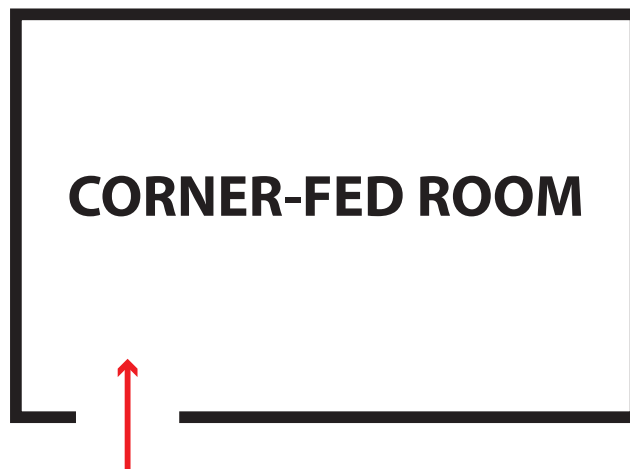
If the partner conducting the clear identifies a threat in the room or comes under fire, both partners may decide to fall back to a safer position or try to draw the adversary out of the room. Rushing into a room with known threats is generally not a good idea. Once a threat is identified from outside the room, both partners have time to move to more advantageous positions and decide how best to deal with the threat.

If the clear without entry technique reveals no threats, both partners can regroup and continue moving forward in the desired direction of travel. In some cases you might decide to leave the room behind and move in a different direction. In other cases, you might decide to enter the room you just cleared using one of the other techniques described later in this book. Either way, the clear without entry technique will have reduced your vulnerability and minimized the likelihood of being surprised by an unknown threat.

CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

Types of Door Configurations

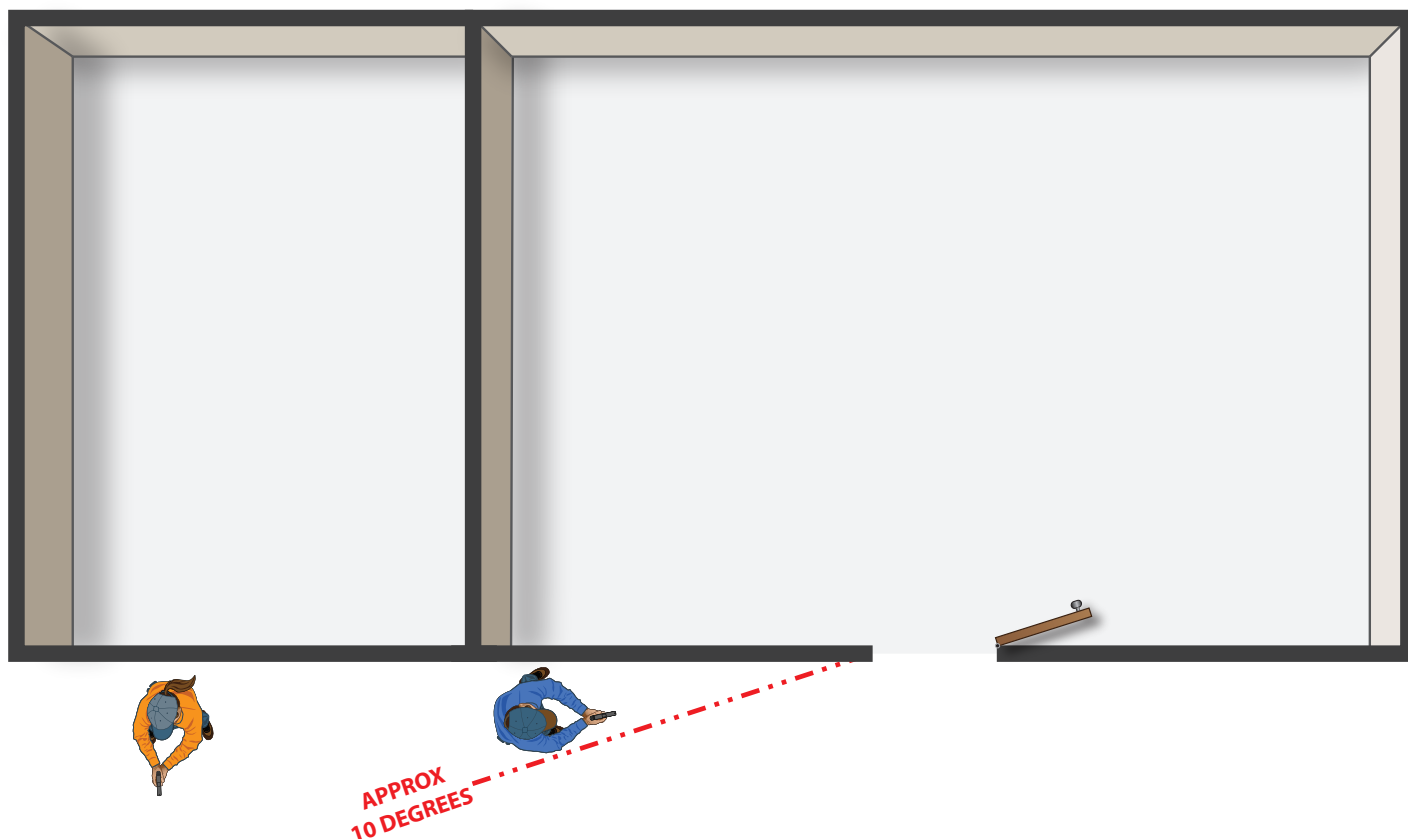
Rooms generally fall into two categories: center-fed and corner-fed. A center-fed room is a room where the door is in the center of the wall, allowing you to move either left or right when entering the room. A corner-fed room is a room where the door is in the corner of the room, which means you can only turn one direction when entering the room. A room where the door is very close to the corner but is not completely flush with the corner (see bottom example) is still considered a corner-fed room. However, even in these cases when the corner is very close to the door, it is still important to clear the corner and not bypass it. This is because if an adversary is hiding there and you bypass the corner, by the time you see the adversary it will be too late.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 1 - Approach the Door

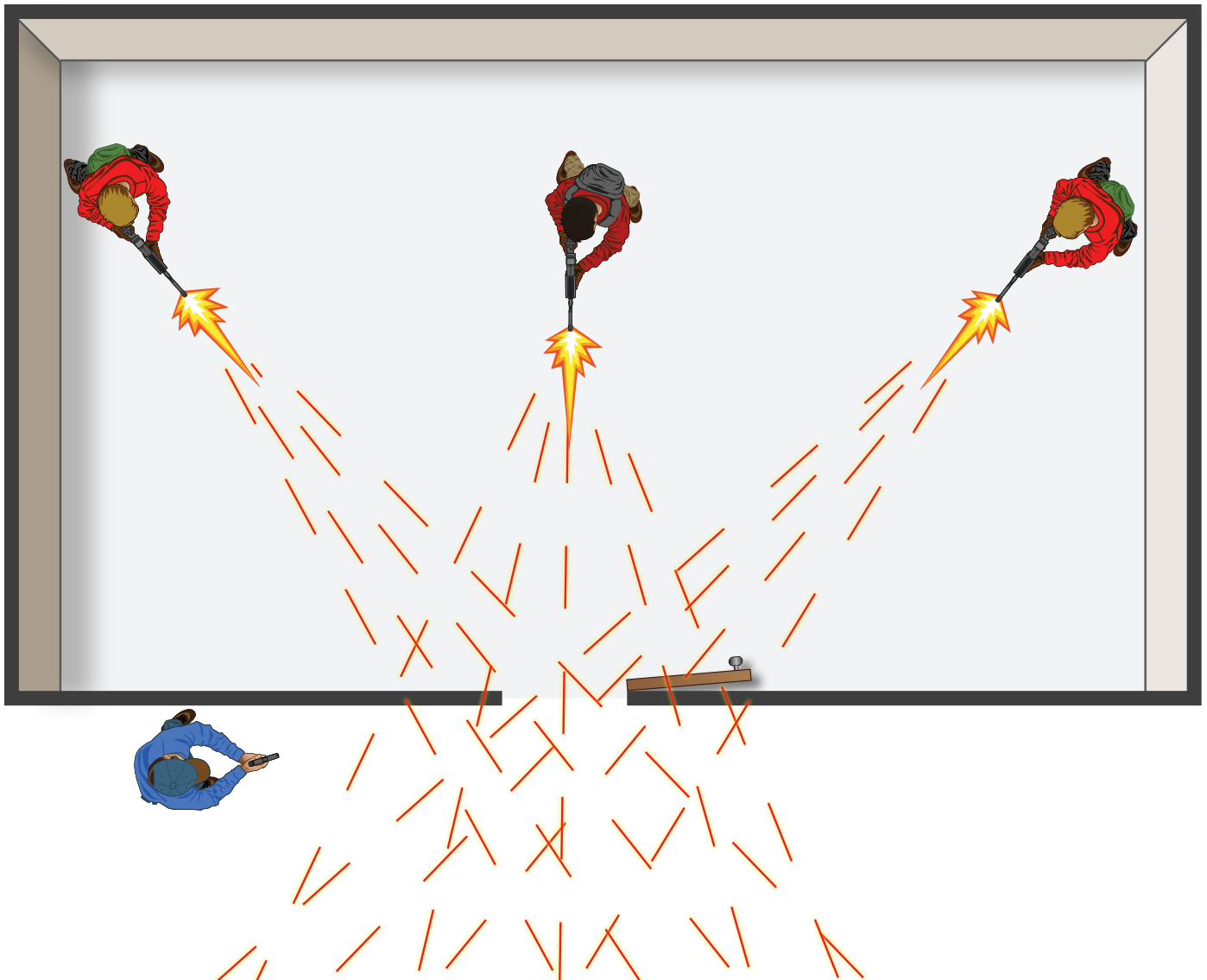
The lead person approaches the open door from the outside of the room, positioned close to the wall, several yards from the doorway. The lead person should avoid touching or bumping into the wall because doing so will make noise and might also increase the chances of getting shot, since bullets tend to travel along walls. For all “clear without entry” techniques, the lead person will clear the target room alone, with the second person nearby providing support or rear security until both persons are ready to continue movement.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 2 - Avoid Indiscriminate fire

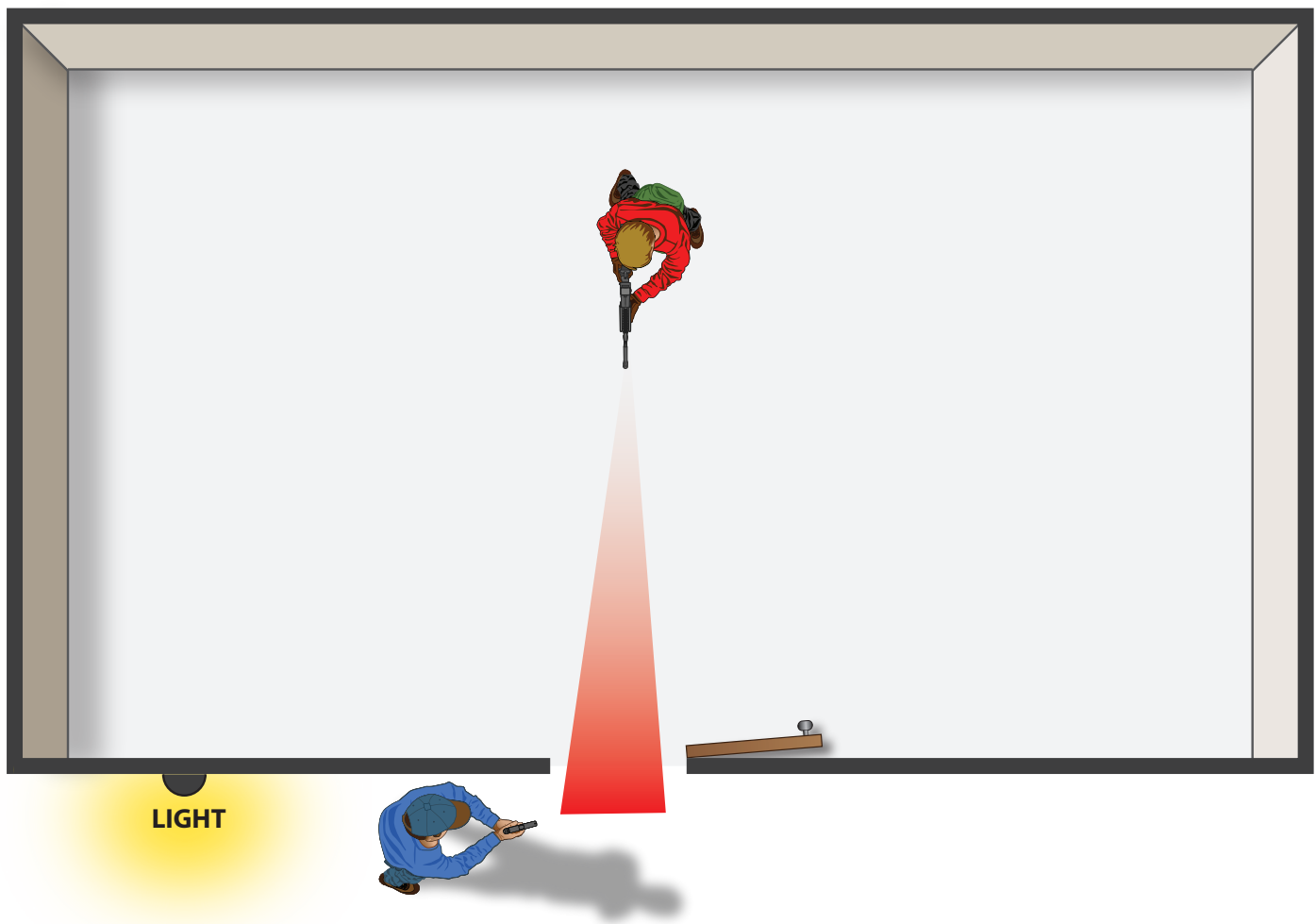
Staying away from the doorway is also important. Many adversaries, especially terrorists with automatic weapons, will not fire single, aimed shots but will rather spray bullets indiscriminately in the direction of any noise or potential threat. This spray of bullets will generally form an arc several yards wide. If you are detected close to a door, you might get hit with a barrage of bullets coming through the doorway and the walls surrounding the doorway. Remember, that most interior walls are not bulletproof and the chances of getting shot through a wall are very high. Staying several yards back from the door minimizes the chances of getting hit by indiscriminate fire. It is also critical to make as little noise as possible and not do anything that might alert an adversary to your position (maintain noise and light discipline).



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 3 - Watch For Shadow

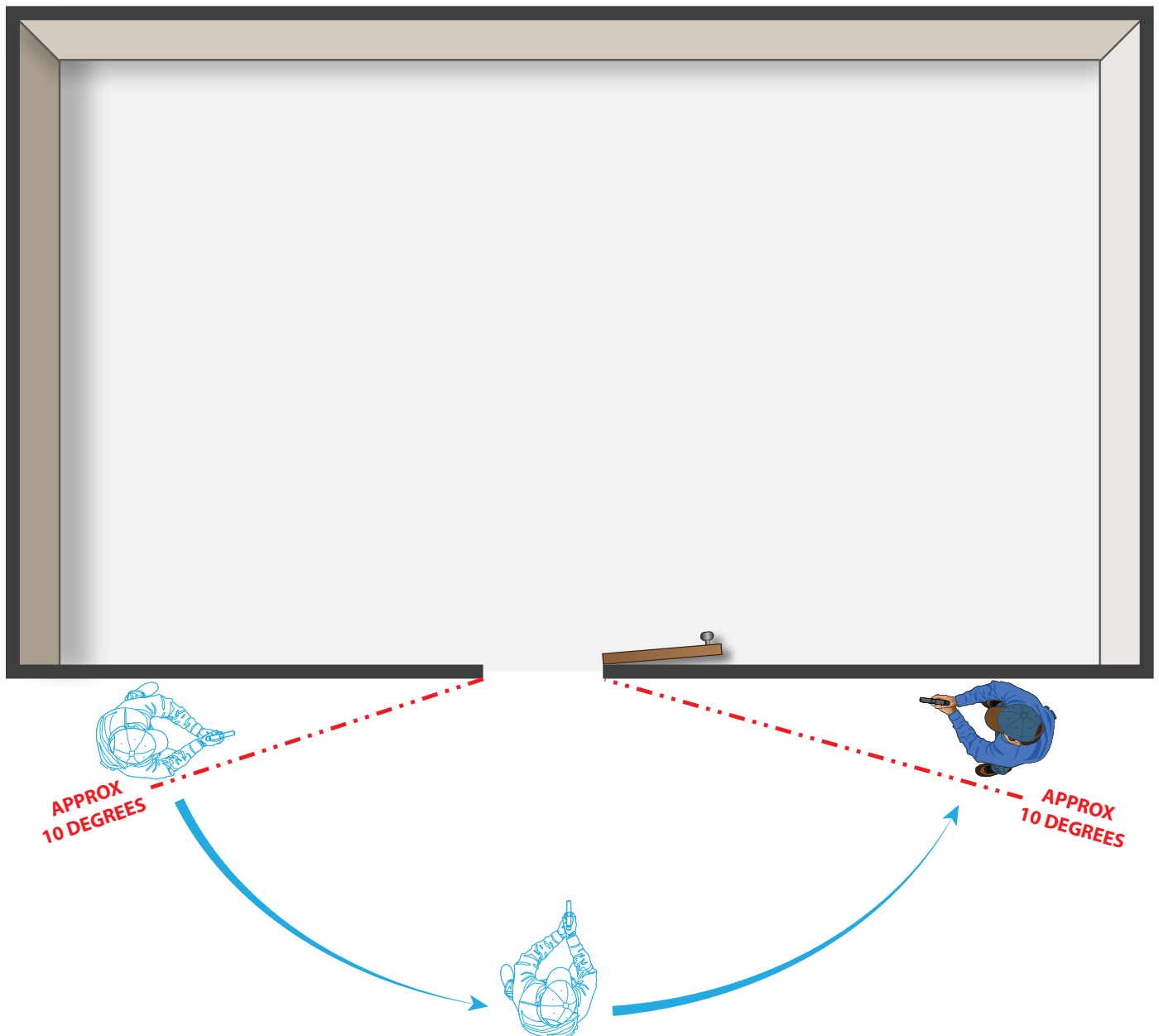
Staying back from the door also minimizes the chances of detection, especially in terms of shadows created by interior lights. Most buildings have multiple light sources in each room or hallway. This means that when you come close to an open door, someone standing inside the room can most likely see a shadow moving across the floor behind the opening. It is best to keep some distance from the door while remaining aware of shadows while moving. It is also critical to move quietly if possible and keeping away from the door makes it harder for adversaries to hear you.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 4 - Conduct "Sweep" Movement

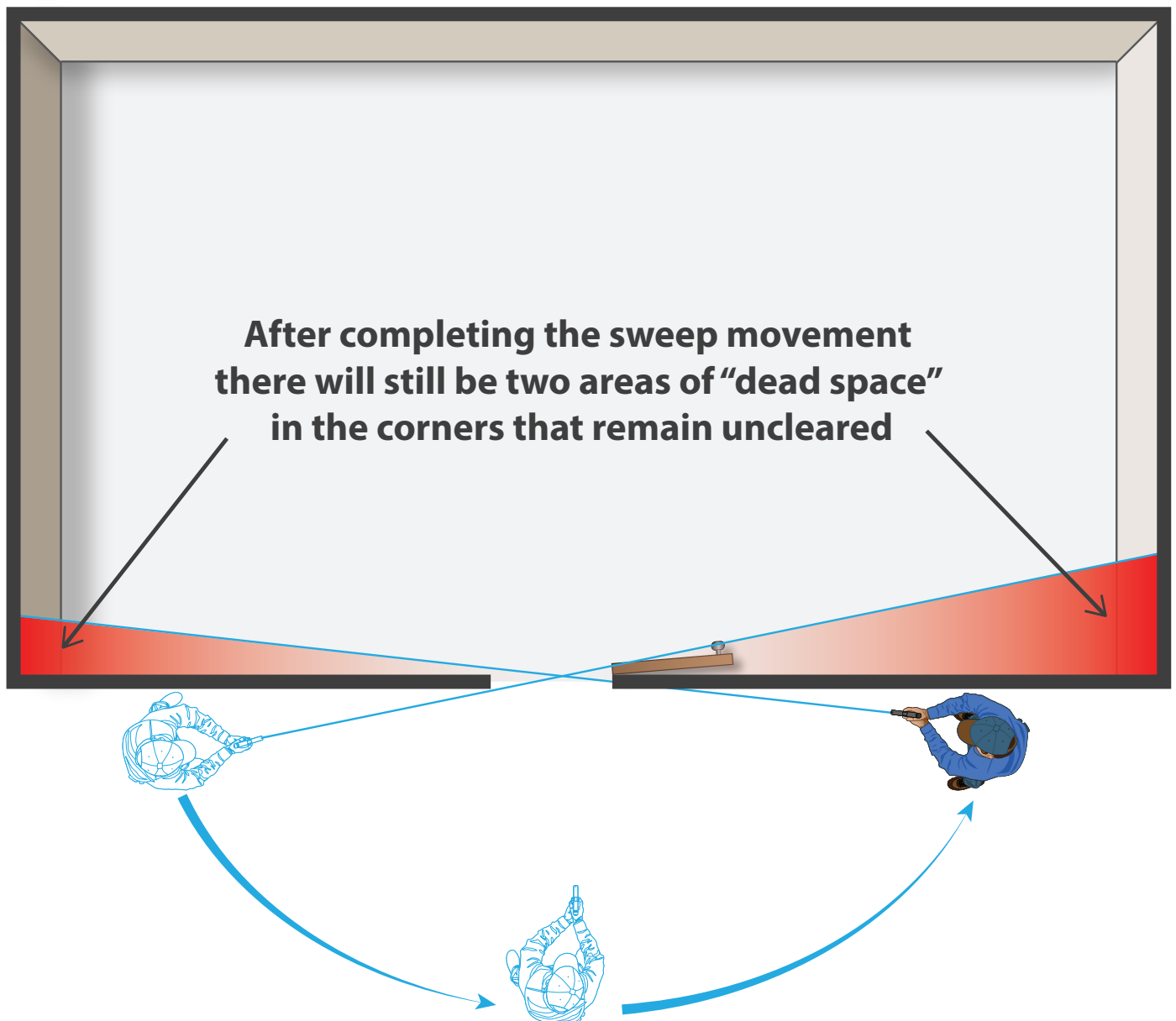
When ready to begin the clearing process, sweep out in a wide arc, keeping your weapon focused on the doorway. You should keep some distance from the door and move all the way across until positioned close to the wall on the opposite side of the door. The purpose of the sweep is to visually clear the room as quickly as possible to identify any threats inside and possibly draw those threats out of the room. When executing the sweep, you should move in an arc as fast as possible while keeping your weapon relatively steady and taking care not to trip. This means giving up some weapon accuracy in order to minimize exposure to hostile fire. Moving quickly will make it quite difficult for an adversary to shoot accurately, since you will be exposed for only a fraction of a second. If you stop moving you will be an easy target. With practice, you can learn to engage targets accurately as you sweep across the door.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 5 - Recognize “Dead Space”

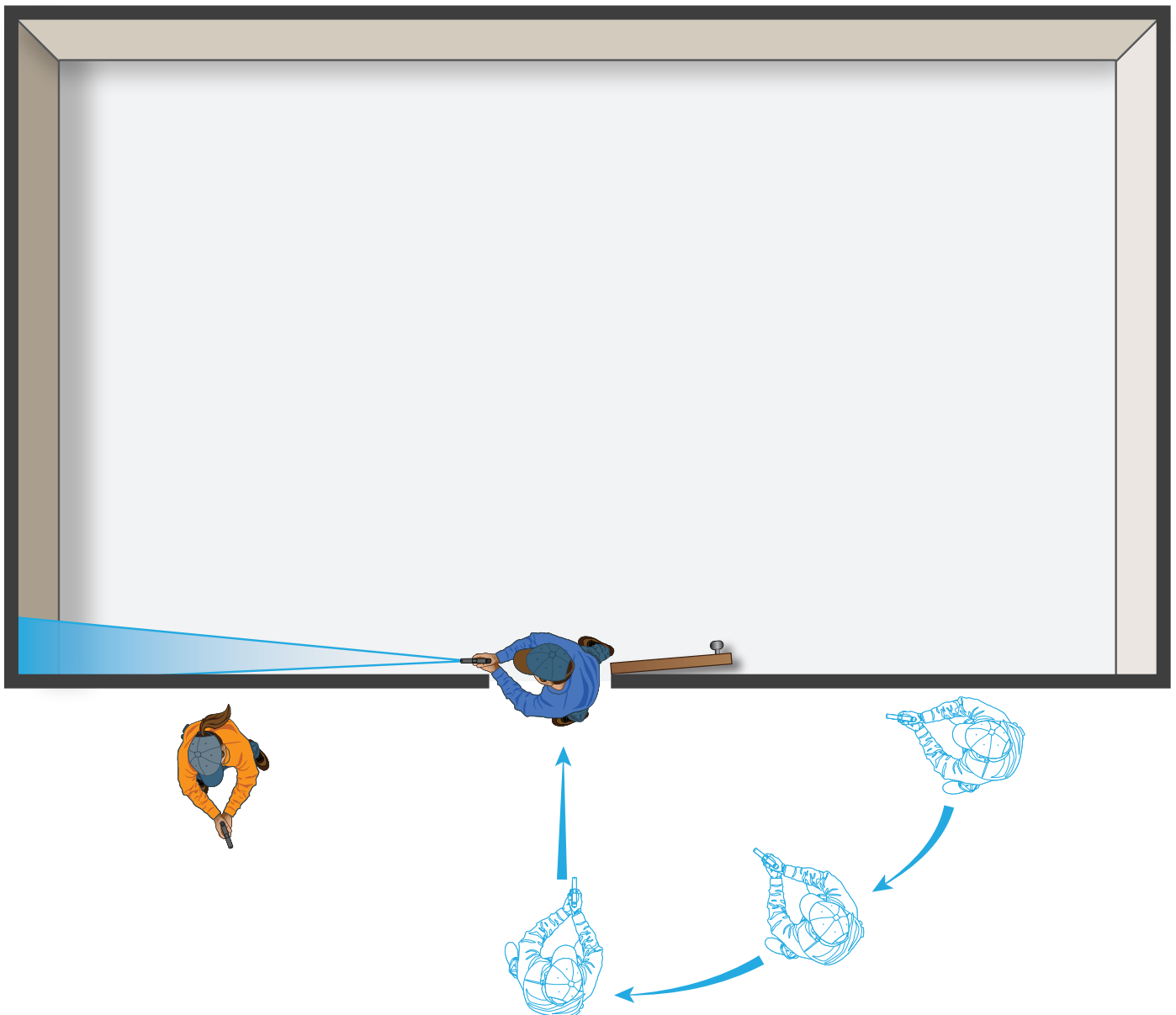
Once you reach the opposite side of the door, you should keep some distance from the door since the adversary might fire indiscriminately in the direction of the doorway. The weapon should be at the ready, focused on the door. One of the main advantages of the sweep technique is that it can draw adversaries out of the room, directly into your sights as you wait covering the door. So, once the sweep is complete, you can wait momentarily to draw adversaries out or listen to hear movement coming from inside the room. However, you should not wait too long since remaining in place for extended periods can make easier it is for adversaries to maneuver offensively. The task of clearing the room is not yet complete because even if the sweep revealed no threats, there will still be two slices of “dead space” that are not yet clear in each corner of the target room.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 6 - Clear the Corner Away from the Door

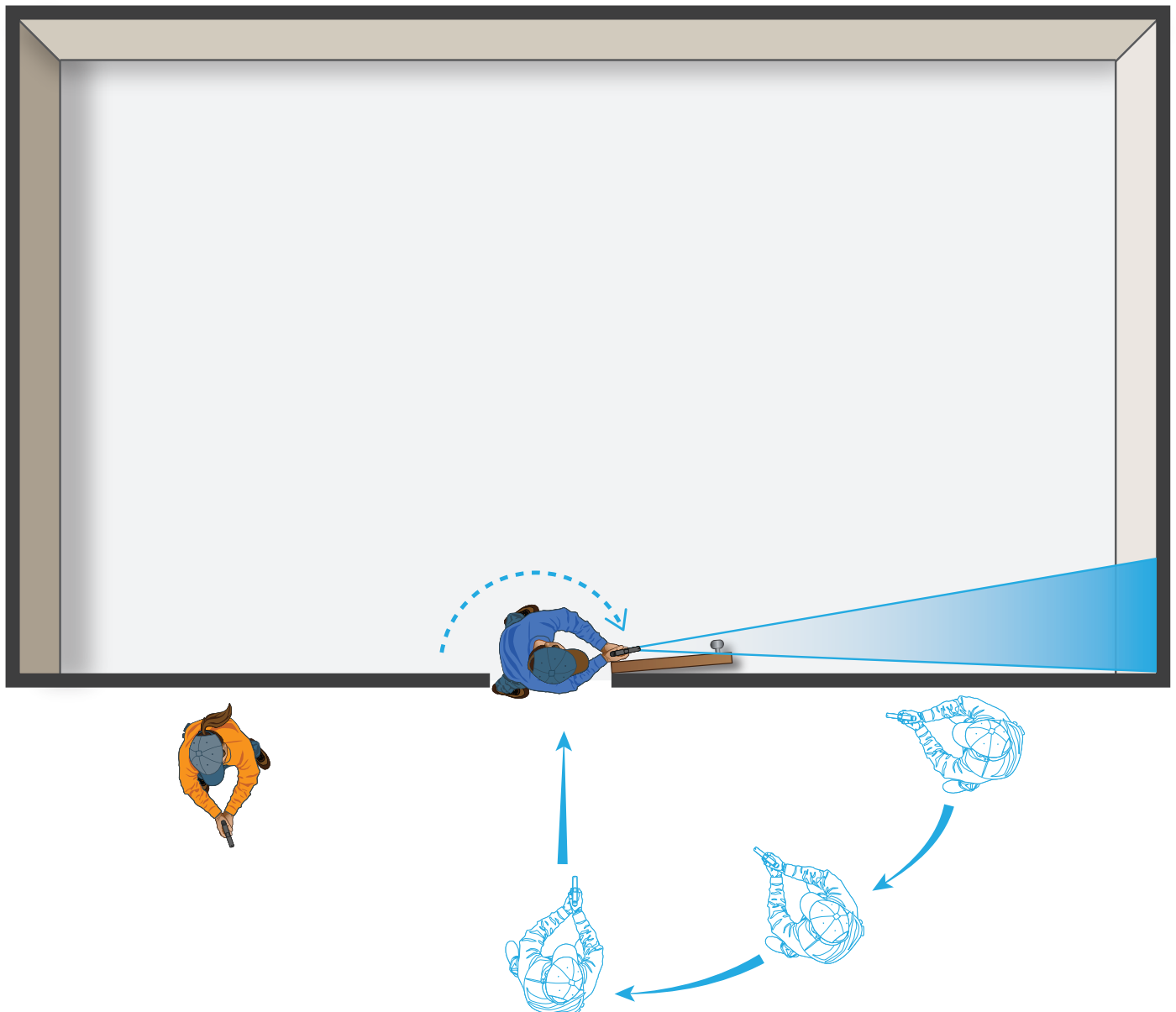
To clear the two remaining corners, you will sweep along the arc in the opposite direction until you are facing directly towards the door. Move towards the door and once reaching the threshold, lean into the room to clear one of the two corners. It is critical to expose as little of the body as possible. Generally, if the door opens inward, it is best to clear first in the direction opposite the swing of the door. However, if you hear noise or see light or movement coming from either direction, you might want to clear in that direction first, regardless of which way the door opens.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 7 - Clear the Corner Towards the Door

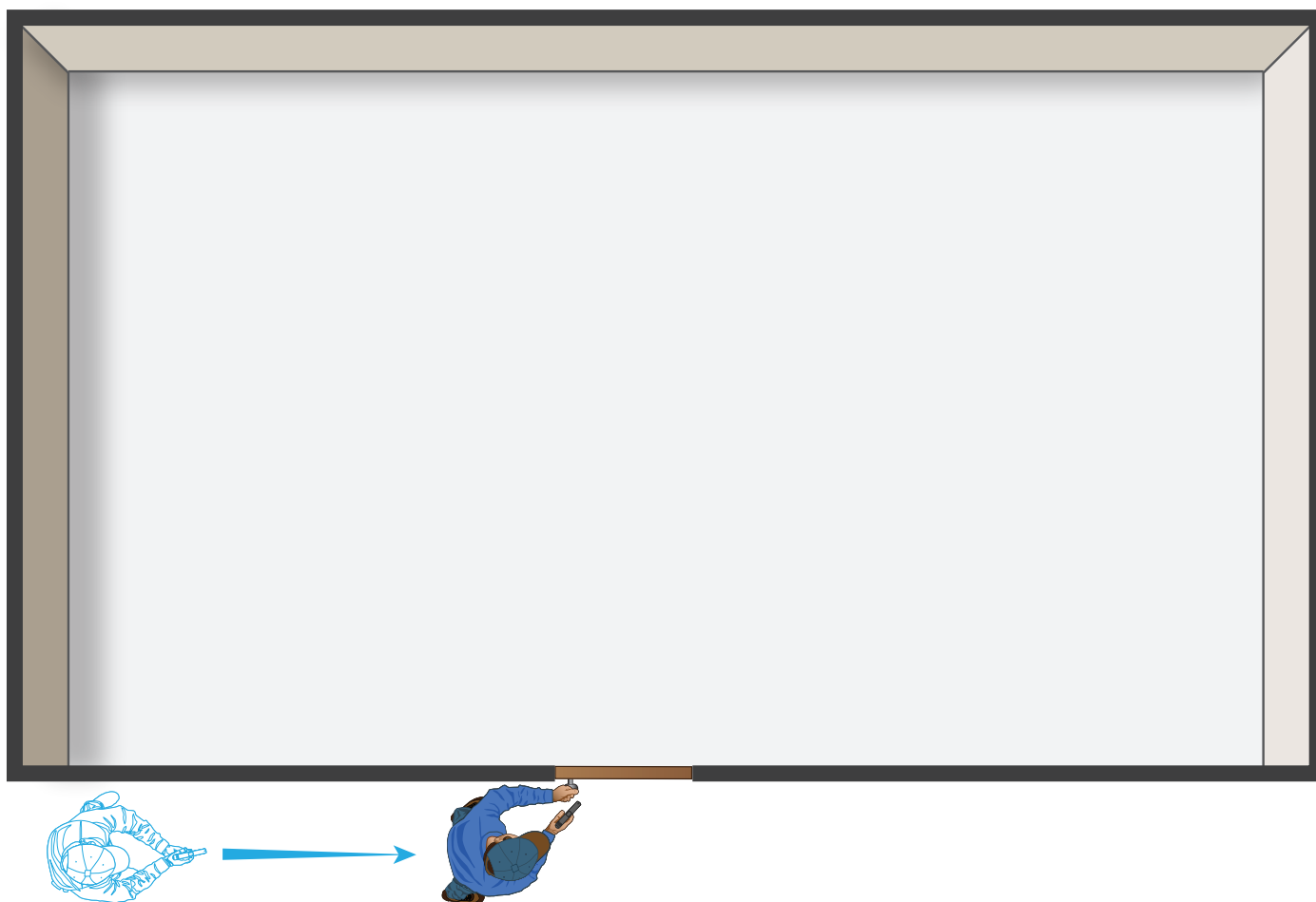
After you clear one corner, rapidly turn 180-degrees and clear the opposite corner. You should then immediately back away from the doorway, just in case an adversary is hiding in the room behind furniture. You can then regroup with your partner and continue movement in your desired direction of travel. The “clear without entry” technique is useful for clearing a room from the outside without committing to entering the room. It also allows your partner to stay back at a safe distance to prevent both of you from being hit at the same time by a single burst of fire.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

STEP 1 - Open the Door

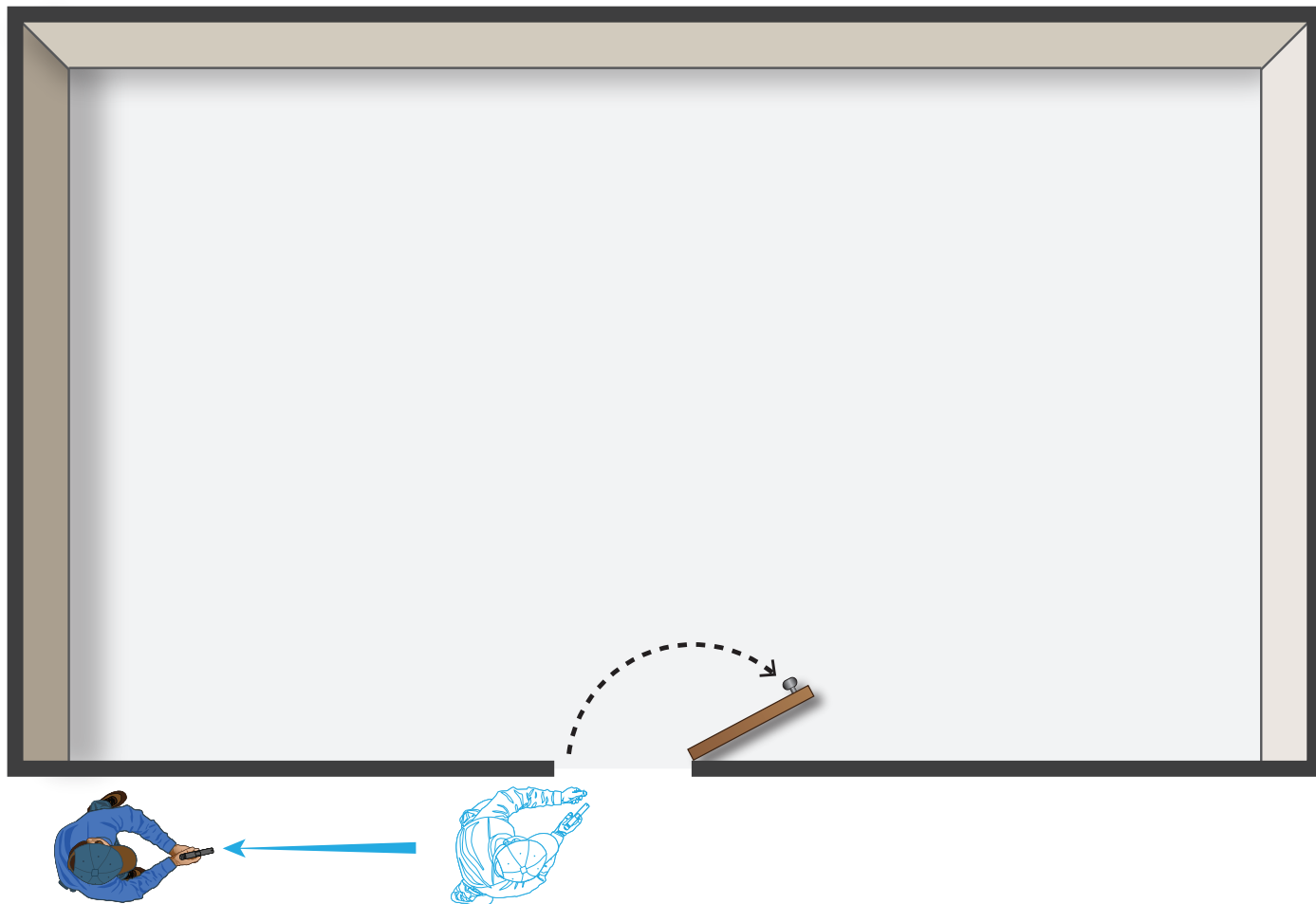
The technique for clearing a center-fed closed door is almost the same as the technique for clearing the open door with a few minor adjustments. The first difference is that because the door is closed, you must first open the door before conducting the sweep. To open the door, position close to the wall and away from the door, just as in the last technique. Keep the weapon at the ready and oriented towards the door just in case the door opens and an adversary walks out. Then move quickly towards the door, grasp the doorknob with the non-firing hand and swing the door open. As explained in the first section, either person can open the door. In the example below the lead person conducts a self-breach.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

STEP 2 - Back Away

Once the door is open, back away from the door immediately. You should push or pull the door as hard as possible to ensure it swings completely open as you back away. As the door opens, the first objective is to draw the adversary out or provoke a response that makes it easier to detect the adversary while still keeping distance from the door.

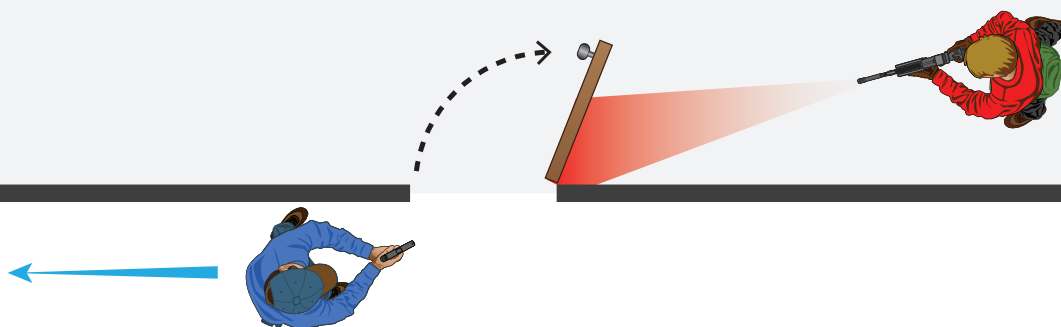


CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

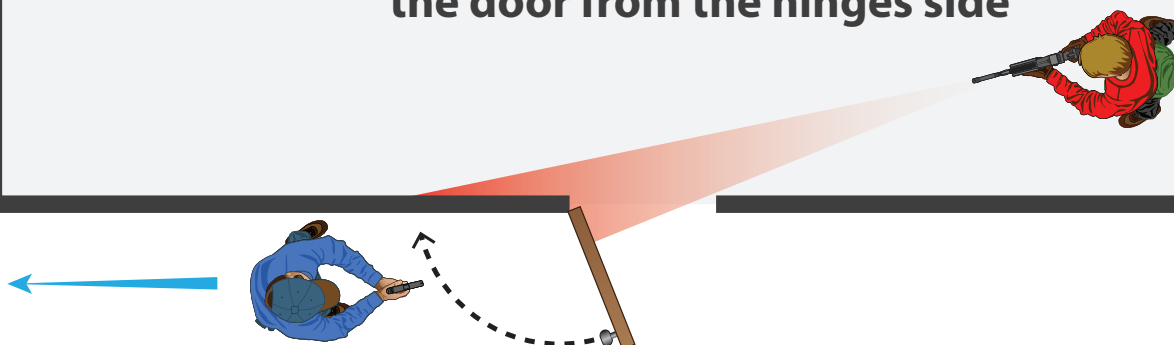
STEP 3 - Take Advantage of the Door

Which way the door opens and which side the hinges are on is not critical. However, if the door opens inward it is ideal to open the door from the doorknob side if possible. This is because if the door swings inward, the opening door will momentarily conceal you as you back away. If the door opens outward, it is ideal to open the door from the hinges side (opposite the doorknob) for the same reason. The opening door will provide at least some degree of concealment and protection, even though it is probably not bulletproof. It will also give you a moment to bring your hand back to your weapon before you are exposed. When opening the door towards the body, it is critical to step out of the way and let the door swing open freely so it does not block your vision or weapon.

If the door opens inward it is best to open the door from the doorknob side



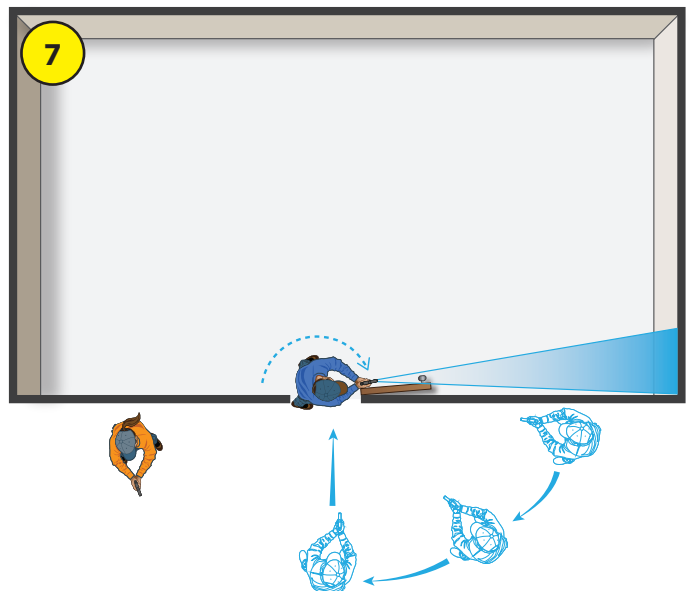
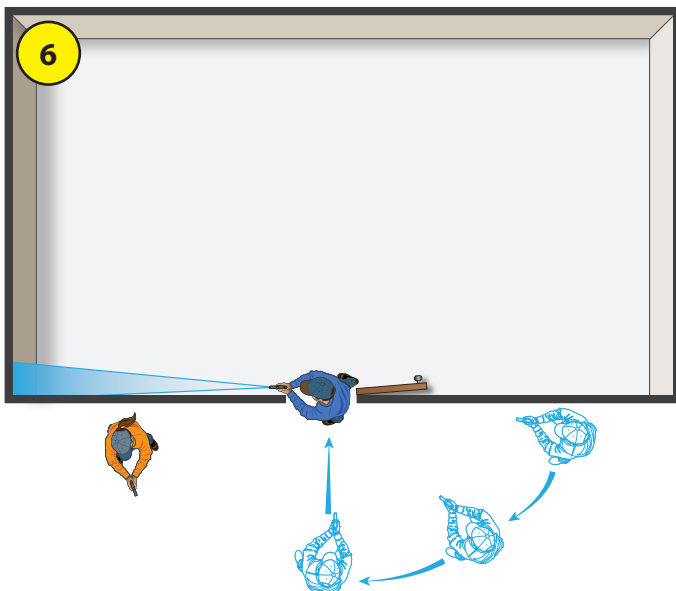
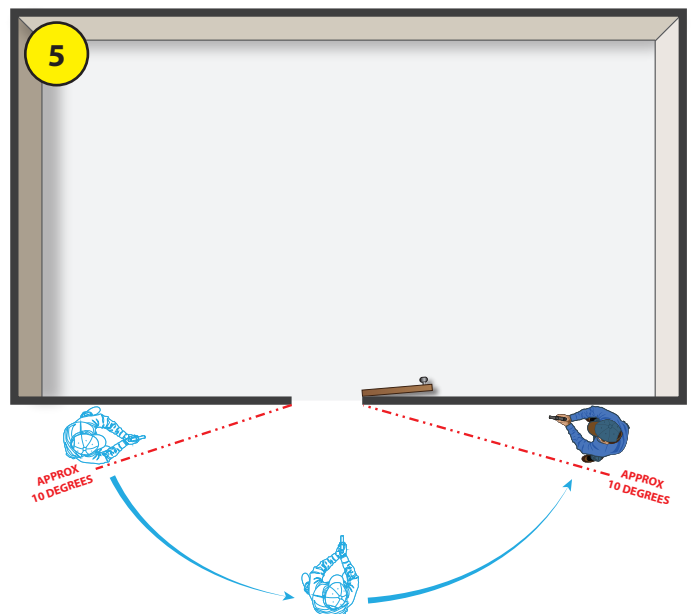
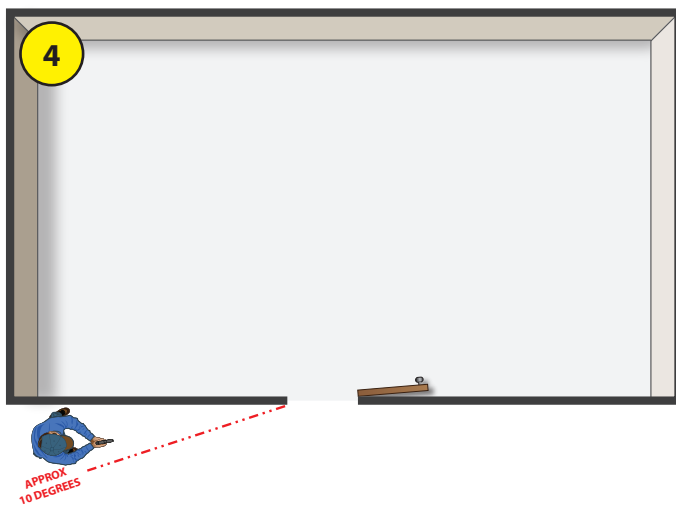
If the door opens outward it is best to open the door from the hinges side



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

STEPS 4 to 7 - Sweep and Clear the Corners

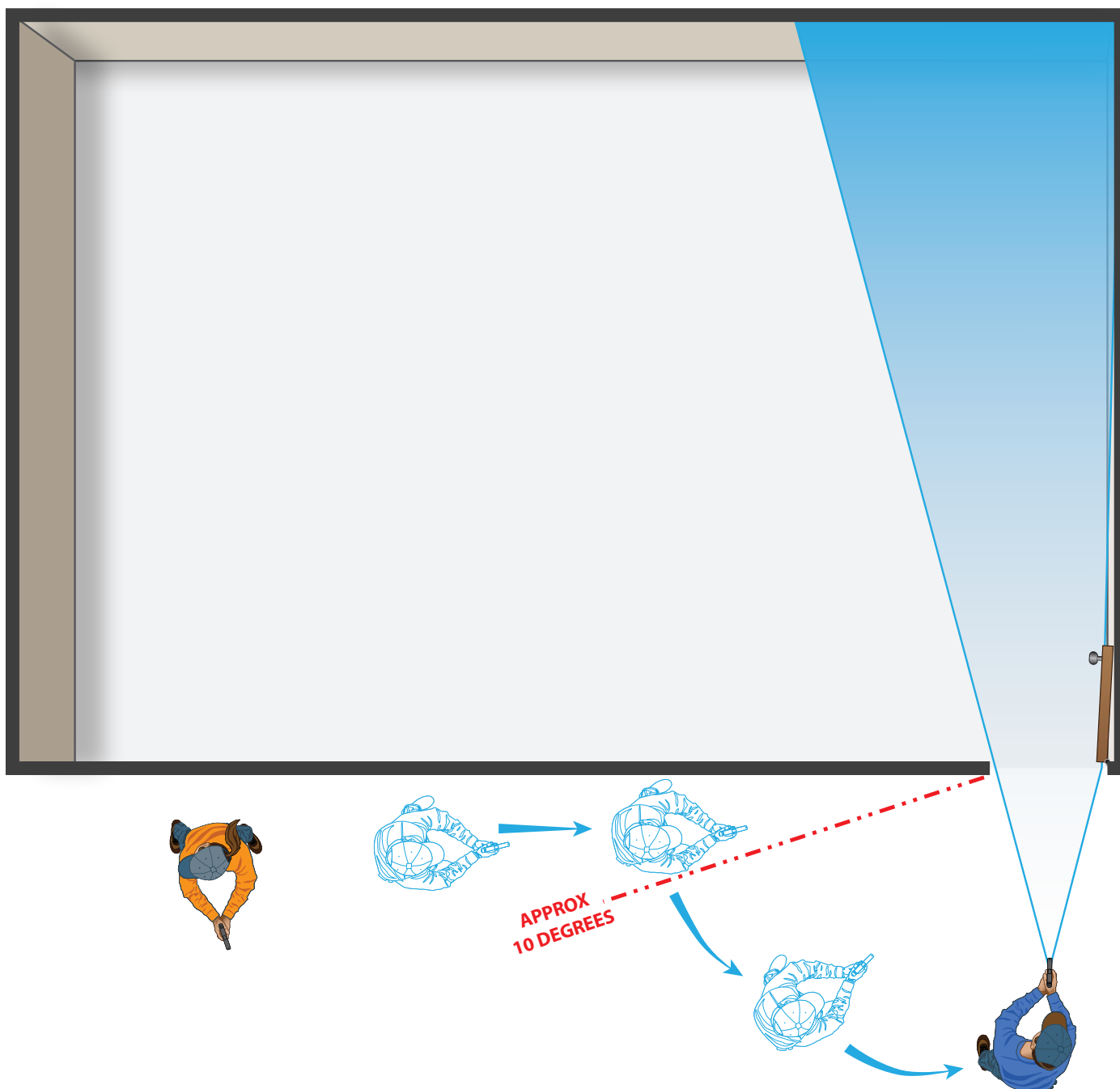
Once the door is open, you will be in position to clear the room in exactly the same way described for the center-fed open door. Therefore, when clearing without entry, the main difference between a closed door and an open door is that you will have to quickly approach the door, open it, and back away before starting the clearing process. As already shown in the first section, it is also possible for your partner to open the door for you from the opposite side and then back away.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CORNER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 1 - Half Sweep

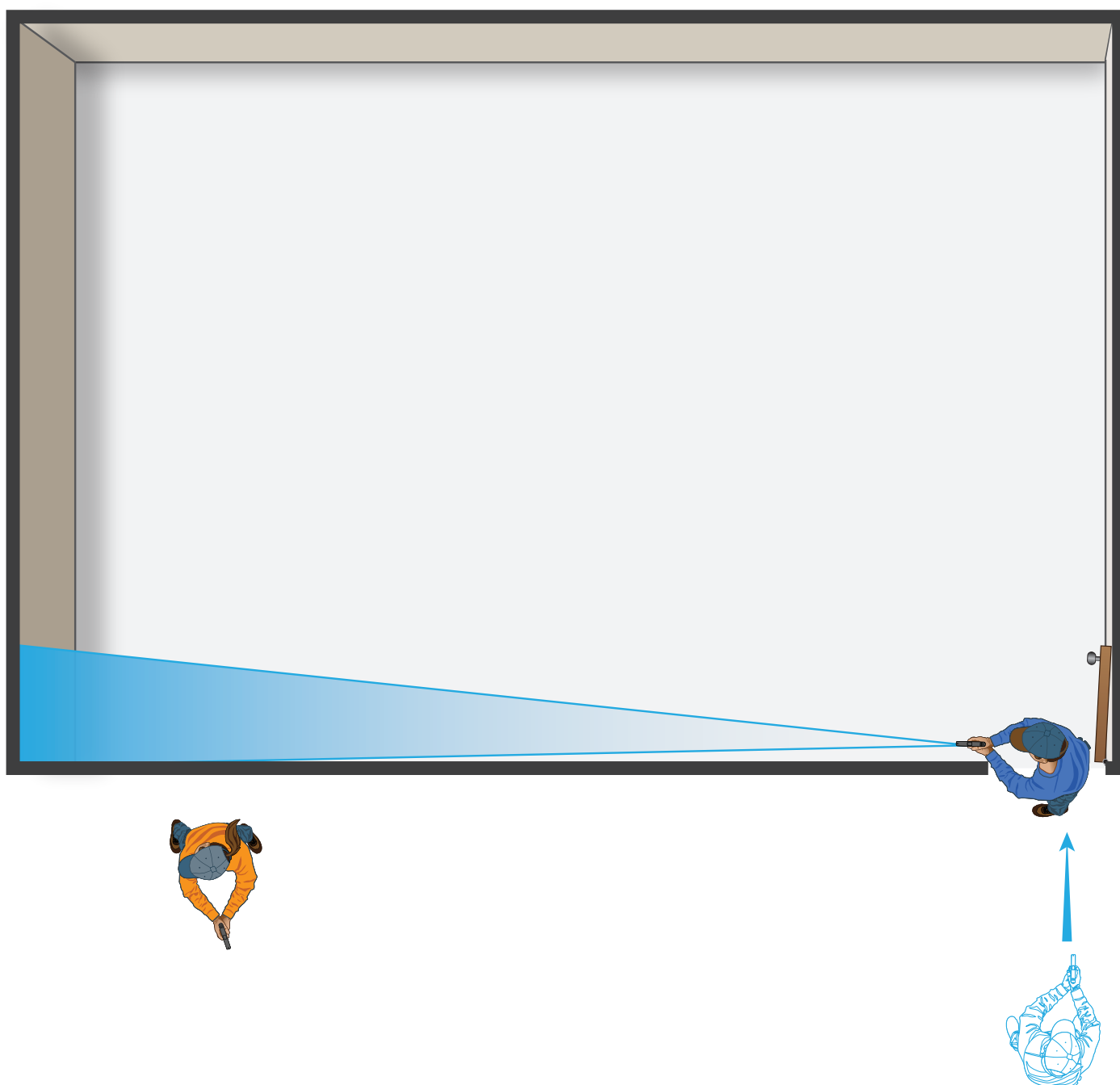
Clearing a corner-fed open door is similar to clearing a center-fed open door. When clearing without entry, the term “corner-fed” or “center-fed” usually refers to the room you start in as opposed to the room you are clearing. Since you are not entering the room, the internal configuration of the target room will have less effect on movement. When clearing a corner-fed door you can only approach from one side. Start close to the wall while staying several yards away from the door. As in the previous techniques, sweep out in a quick but smooth arc, keeping distance from the doorway while clearing the interior of the room.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CORNER-FED OPEN DOOR

STEP 2 - Clear the Corner

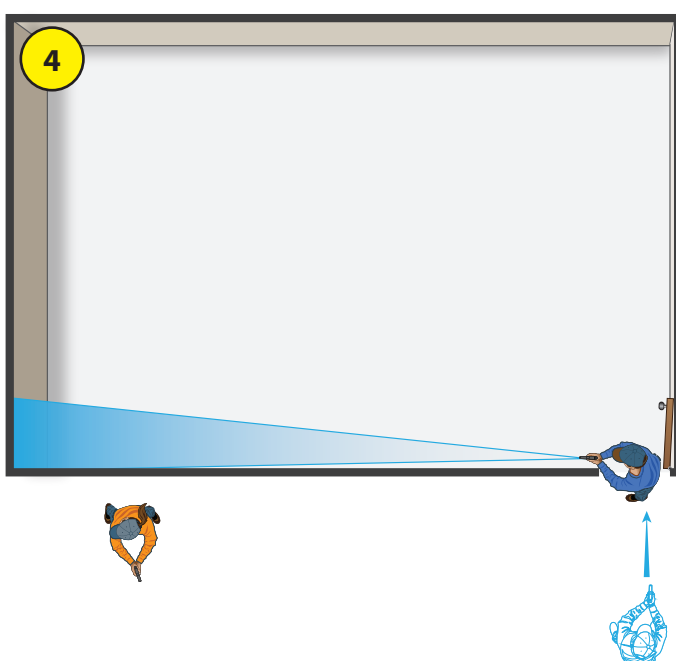
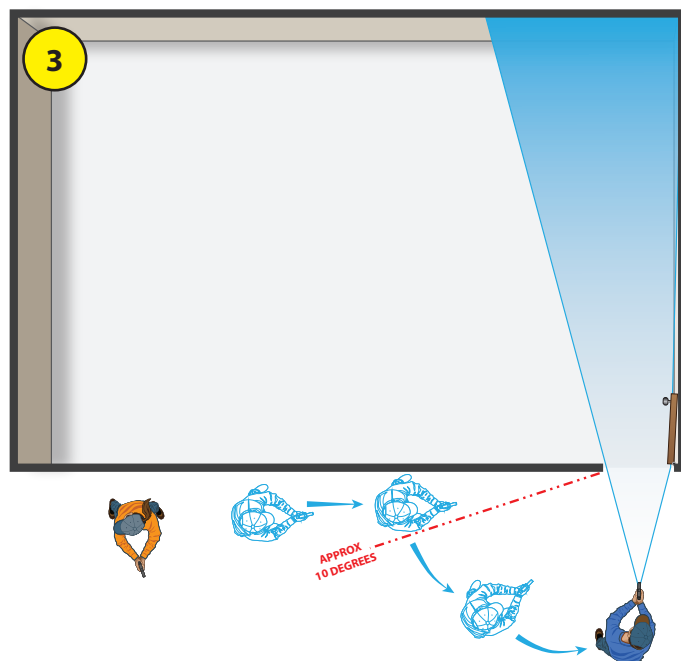
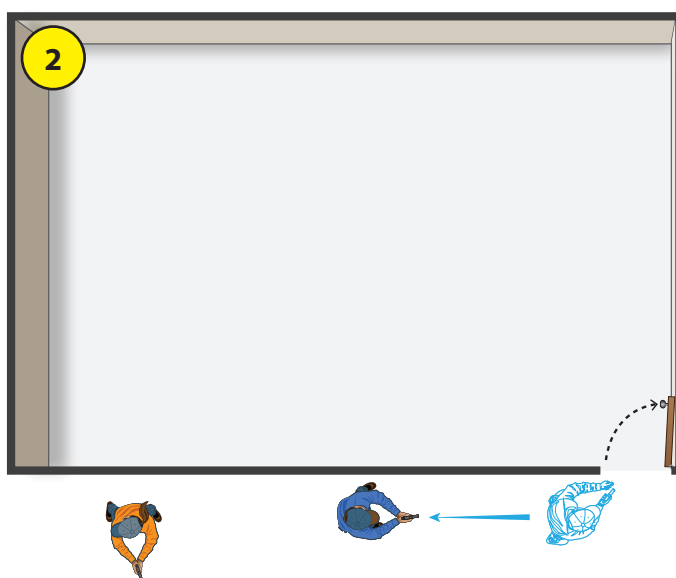
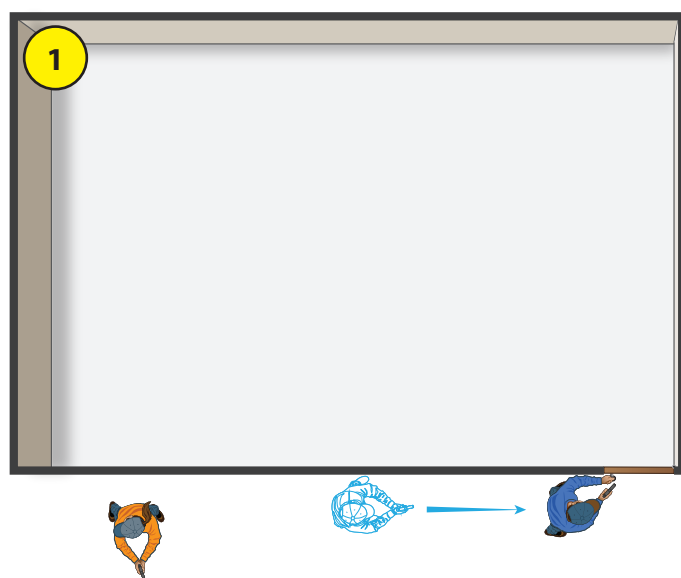
When clearing a corner-fed door, you will only be able to complete half of the sweep. Once the half sweep is complete you will be facing the open door and will then only have to clear in one direction. Move towards the door, focusing in the uncleared direction while moving. Upon reaching the threshold, quickly lean into the room to clear the corner, then back away from the door in case an adversary is hiding somewhere in the room. However, be advised that sometimes corner fed rooms have a small space between the door and the wall where someone could be hiding. In these cases, make sure to clear both corners just as in a center-fed room.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: CORNER-FED CLOSED DOOR

STEPS 1 to 4 - Open the Door Sweep and Clear

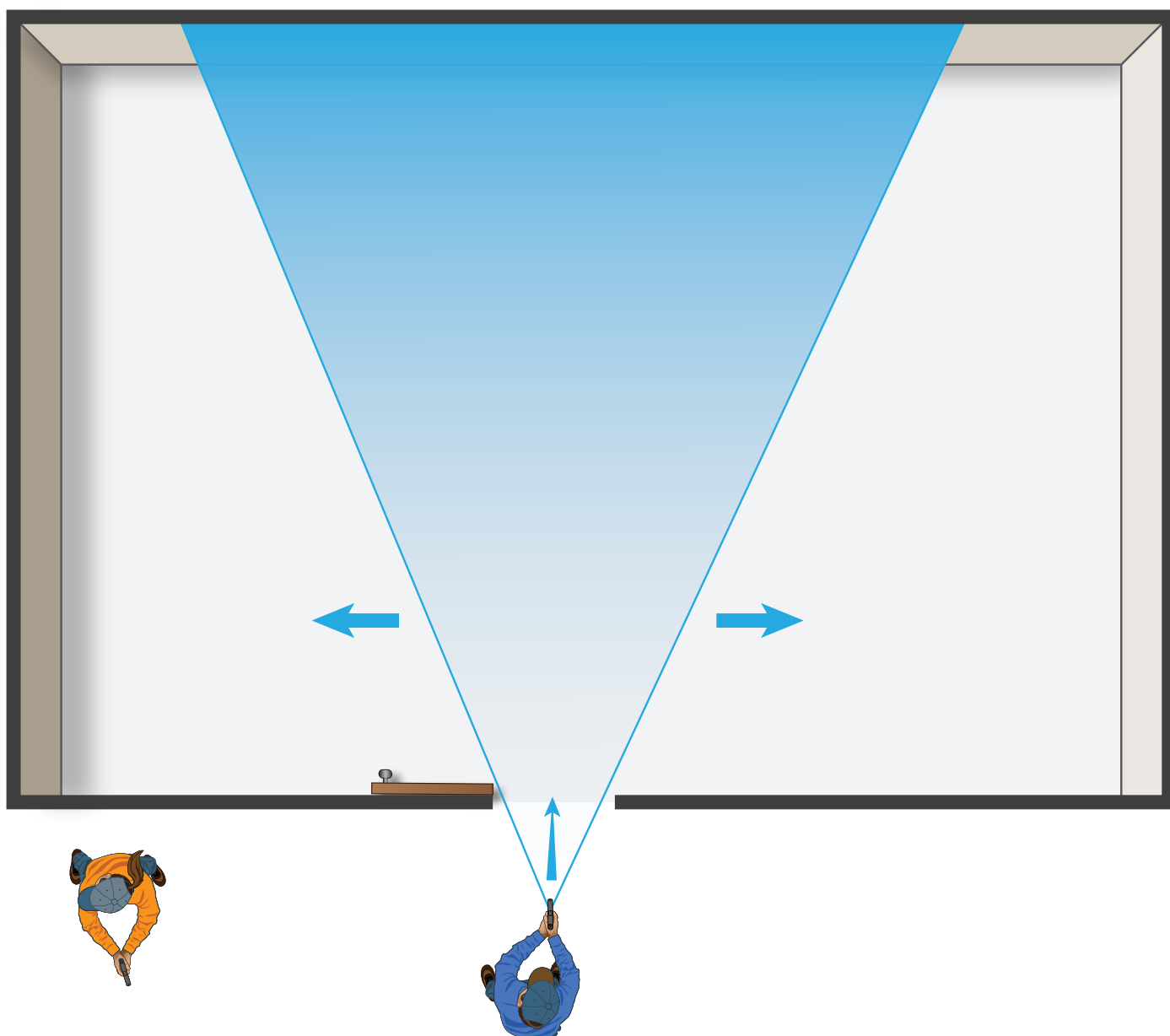
Clearing a corner-fed closed door is very similar to clearing an open door, except that you will need to quickly approach and swing the door open before starting the clearing process. The method for approaching and opening the door is exactly the same as for a center-fed room. Open the door and back away quickly to avoid getting hit by indiscriminate fire. Once the door is open, proceed to clear the room in the same manner described for the previous technique.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: QUICK CLEAR

STEP 1 - Clear the Center of the Room

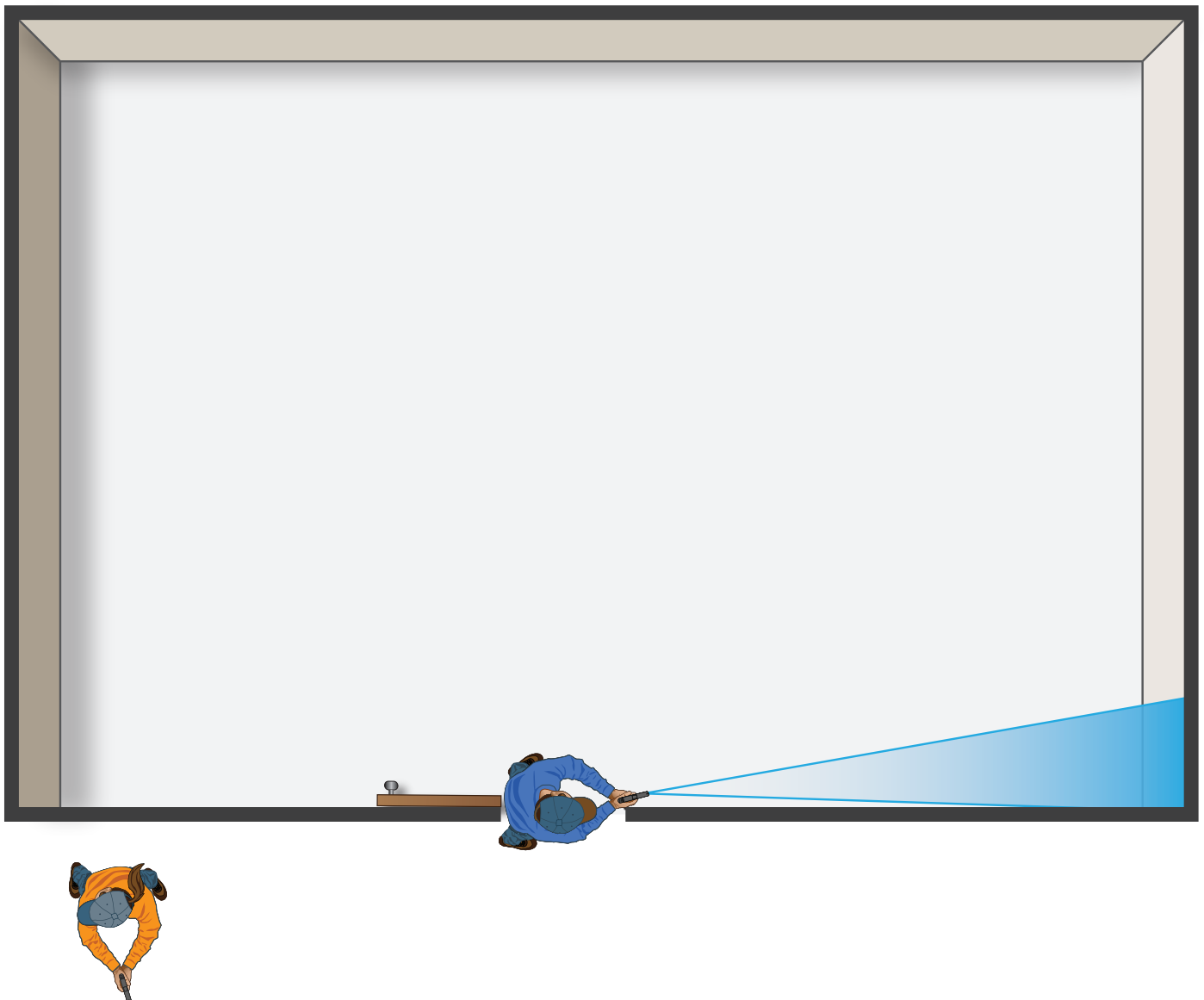
While it is ideal to conduct a full sweep before approaching a doorway, if time is critical or if the room configuration or furniture makes it impossible to conduct the sweep, you can clear a room more quickly simply by approaching the door head-on and then clearing each corner in succession. First, approach the door directly. As you approach, more and more of the room will come into view as your angle of vision widens.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: QUICK CLEAR

STEP 2 - Clear the First Corner

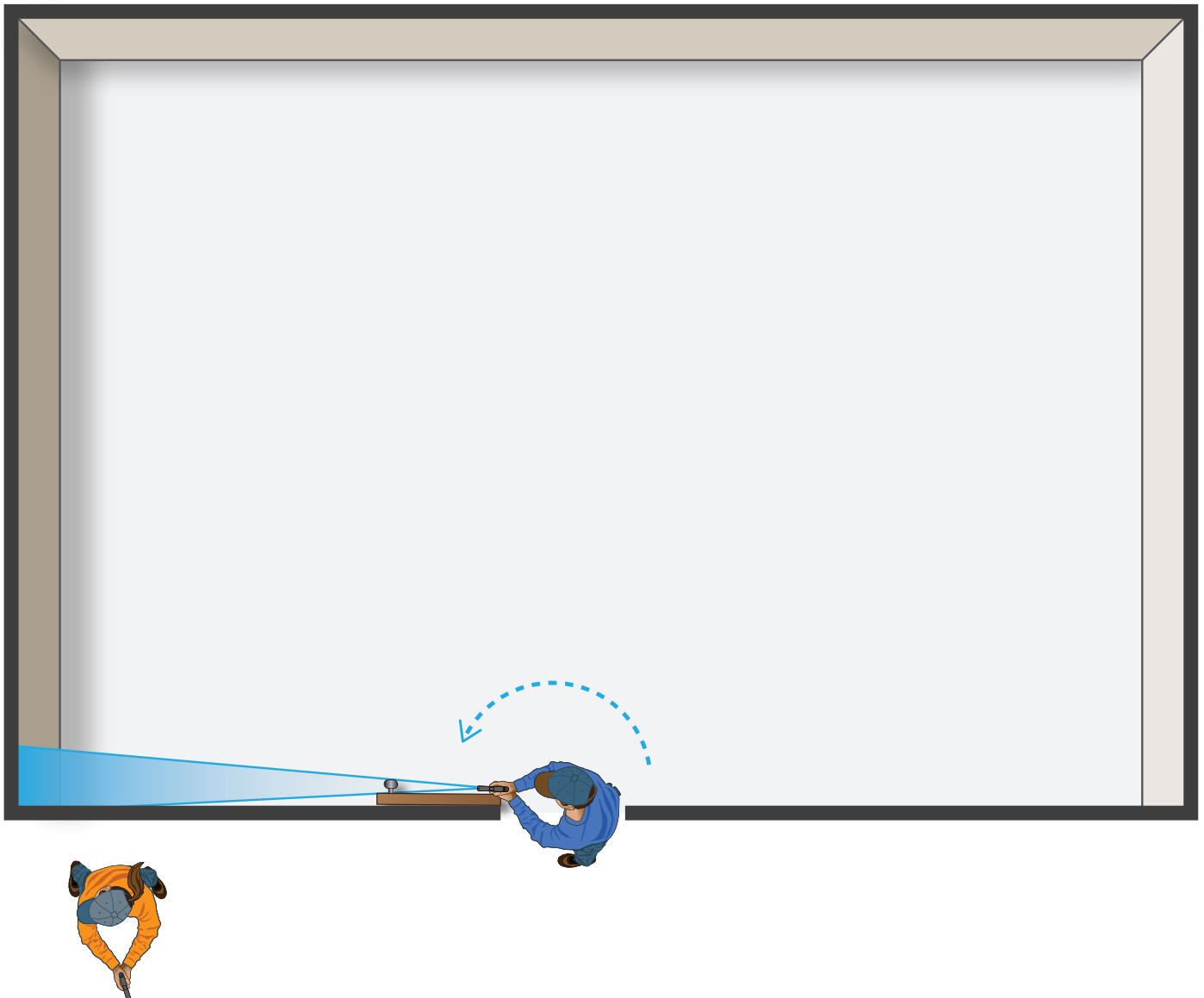
When you reach the door, quickly turn to clear one of the two corners. If you see signs of a threat in either corner, clear that corner first. Otherwise, it is generally a good idea to clear first in the opposite direction that the door opens since the door can sometimes provide a degree of concealment for your exposed back.



CLEAR WITHOUT ENTRY: QUICK CLEAR

STEP 3 - Clear the Second Corner

After clearing the first corner, quickly turn and clear the second corner. With practice, it is possible to learn to rapidly clear both corners in a very short time. Once the second corner is clear, leave the doorway and move on with your partner.





TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Two-Person Delayed Entry

When entering a room with only two people, without the benefit of support or backup, “delayed entry” is the preferred technique. Unlike the immediate entry techniques developed by military and law enforcement tactical teams, delayed entry techniques reduce vulnerability and minimize exposure. Delayed entry involves clearing as much of a room as possible from outside the door before committing to enter the room.

Delayed entry begins with the same “sweep” technique used when clearing without entry. Once the sweep is complete, you and your partner can decide whether or not you want to enter the room. If you decide to enter the room, you will attempt to do so at the same time so the second person through the door can cover the lead person’s back.

While entering the room, you and your partner will scan from the center of the room outward to the corners. This allows you to clear the room as it becomes visible around the edge of the door. If you turned directly to the corners, you would be vulnerable to threats in the center of the room.

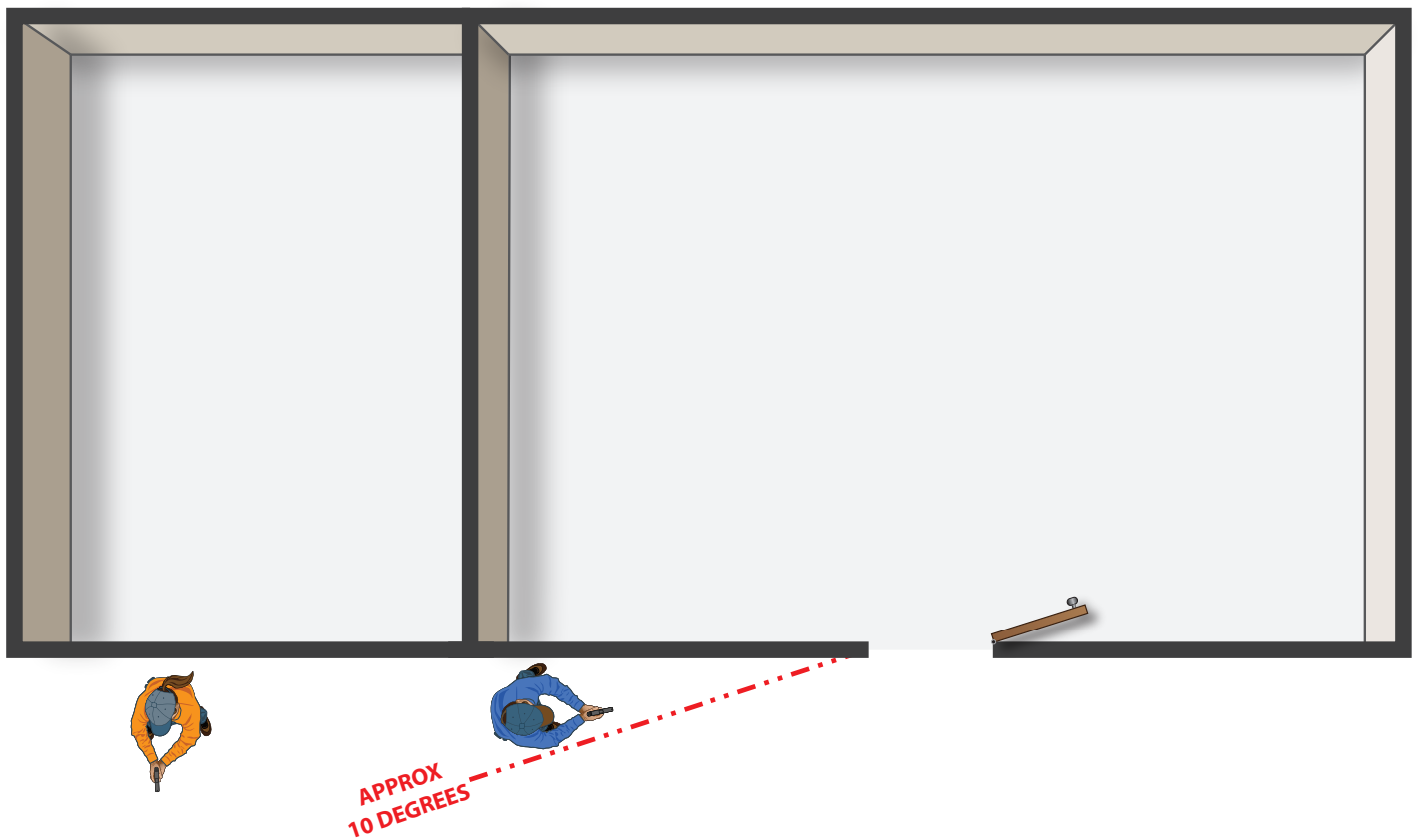
If the door opens inward, the first person to enter the room should move in the opposite direction of the door if possible. The second person (who moves in the direction of the door) should control the door immediately upon entry and clear the room while continuing to control the door. If the second person bypasses the door, it is possible that someone hiding behind the door will be able to shoot the second person in the back.

If the second person has to bypass the door, he/she must still readdress the door as soon as possible during the room clearing process. If the door is completely flush with the wall and there is no way to hide behind it, you may choose not to clear behind the door if time is critical. However, it is possible for smaller adversaries to flatten themselves tightly to the wall behind the door. In other cases, buildings are designed in a way that leaves a small space or indentation behind the door. Finally, in a high-stress situation, you may think the door is flush against the wall when it actually is not. Because of these factors it is always preferable to check behind the door.

DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 1 - Approach the Door

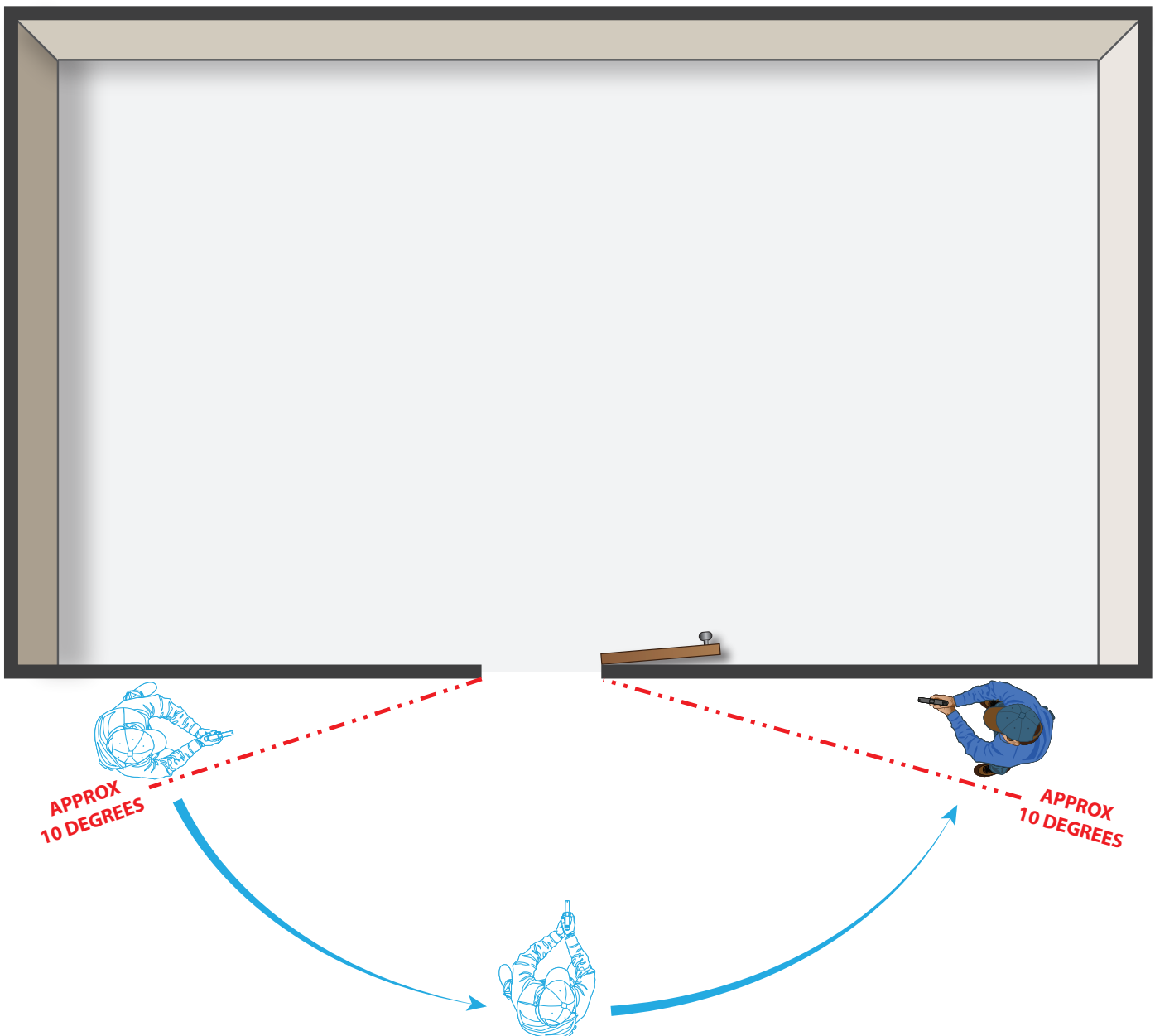
The lead person approaches the open door from the outside of the room, positioned close to the wall, several yards from the doorway. The lead person should avoid touching or bumping into the wall because doing so will make noise and might also increase the chances of getting shot, since bullets tend to travel along walls.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 2 - Conduct Sweep Movement

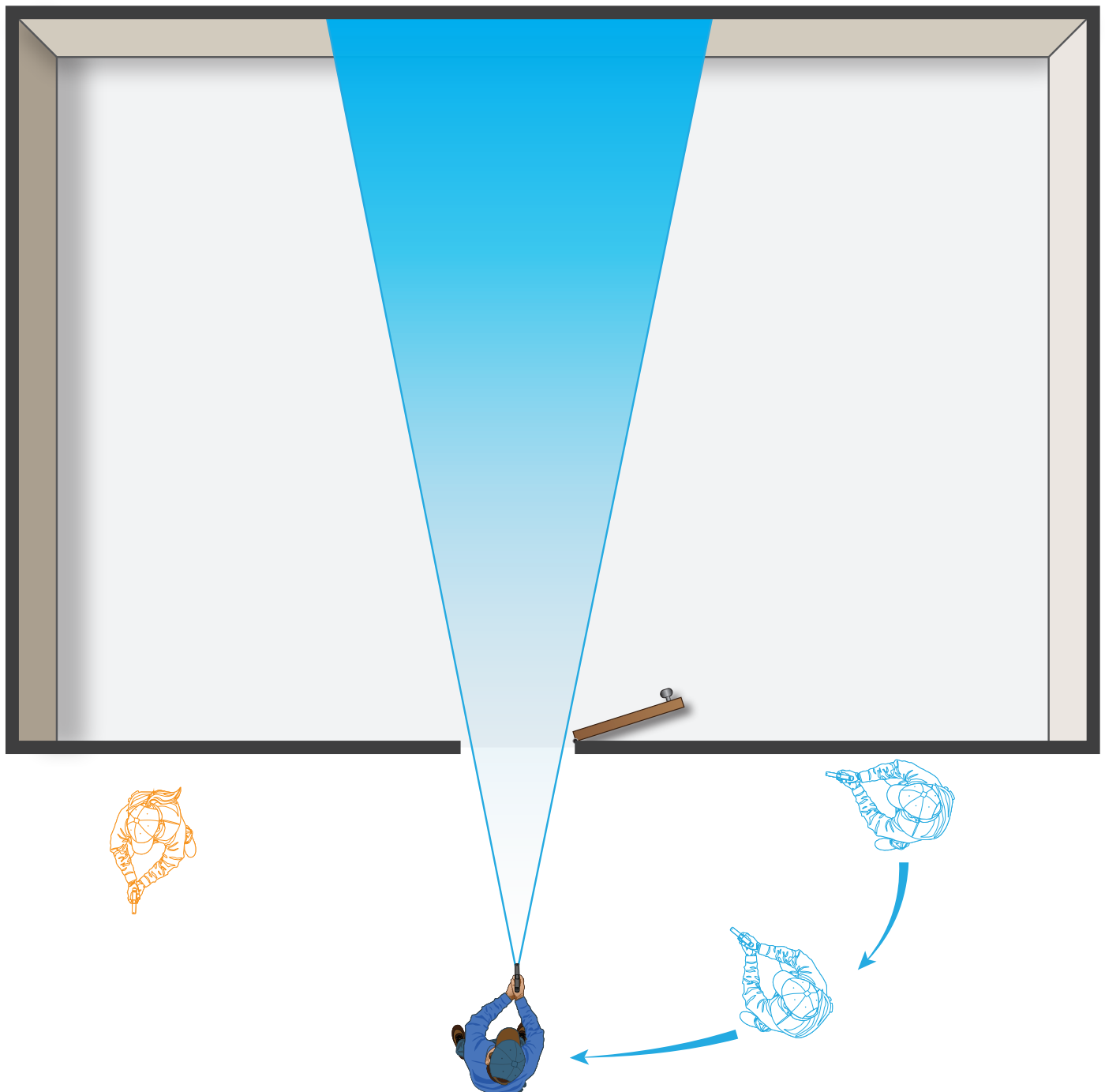
Next, the lead person will sweep out in a wide arc, keeping the weapon focused on the doorway and moving all the way across to a position close to the wall on the opposite side of the door. The purpose of the sweep is to visually clear the room as quickly as possible to identify any threats inside and possibly draw those threats out of the room. When executing the sweep, you should move in an arc as fast as possible while keeping the weapon relatively steady and taking care not to trip. It is sometimes necessary to sacrifice some weapon accuracy in order to minimize exposure and vulnerability through speed. Moving quickly along the arc makes it difficult for an adversary to engage effectively and will leave you exposed for only a fraction of a second. After completing the initial sweep, you can conduct additional sweeps if needed to check the room more carefully.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 3 - Clear the Doorway and the Center

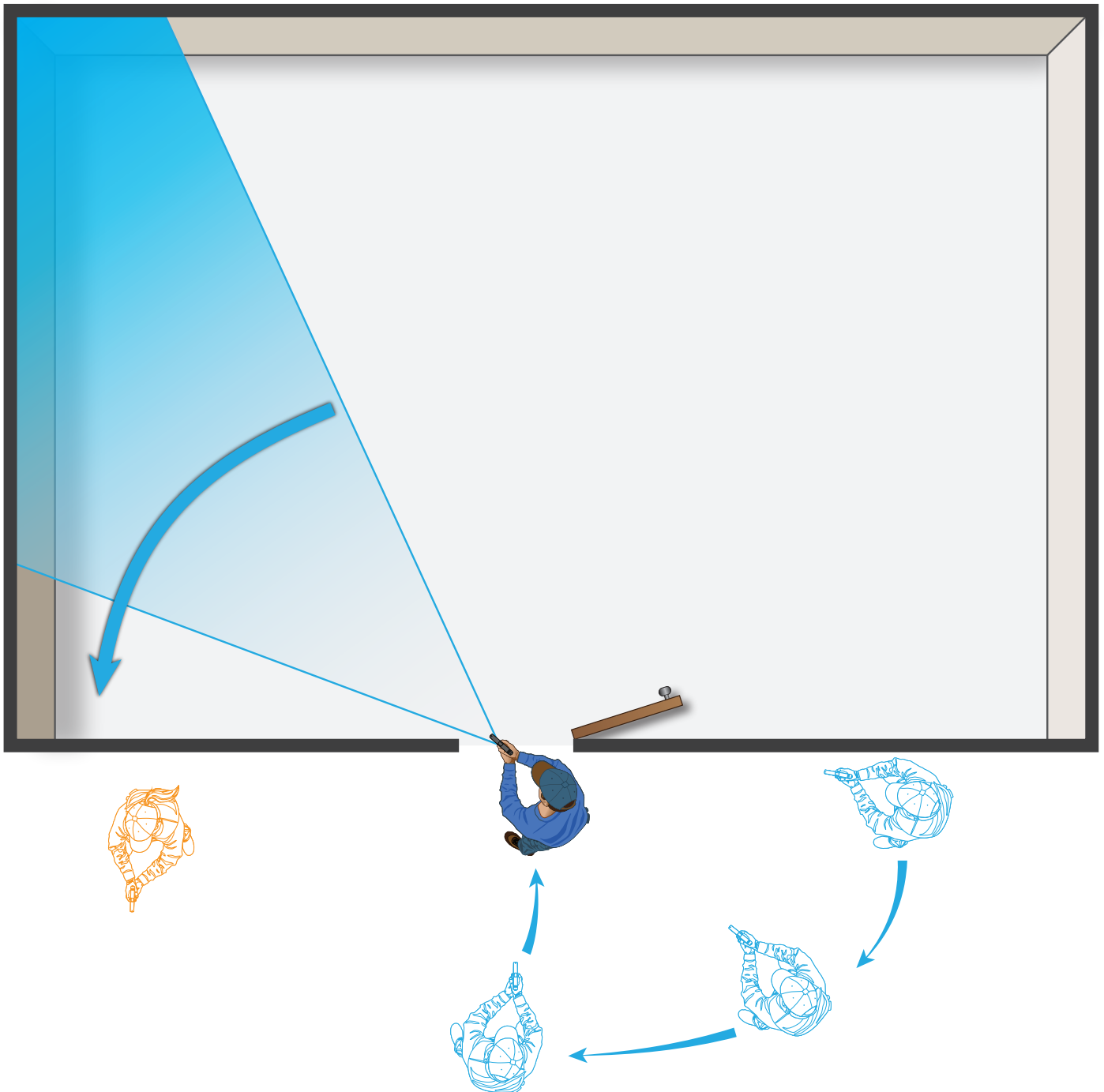
The lead person steps outward slightly to have a better angle of vision into the room while ensuring that the doorway is clear. If the first person steps out slightly before entering and takes a moment to clear the doorway and the area around it, he/she will be able to engage any immediate threats or threats in the center of the room before entering the room.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 4 - Scan Outward

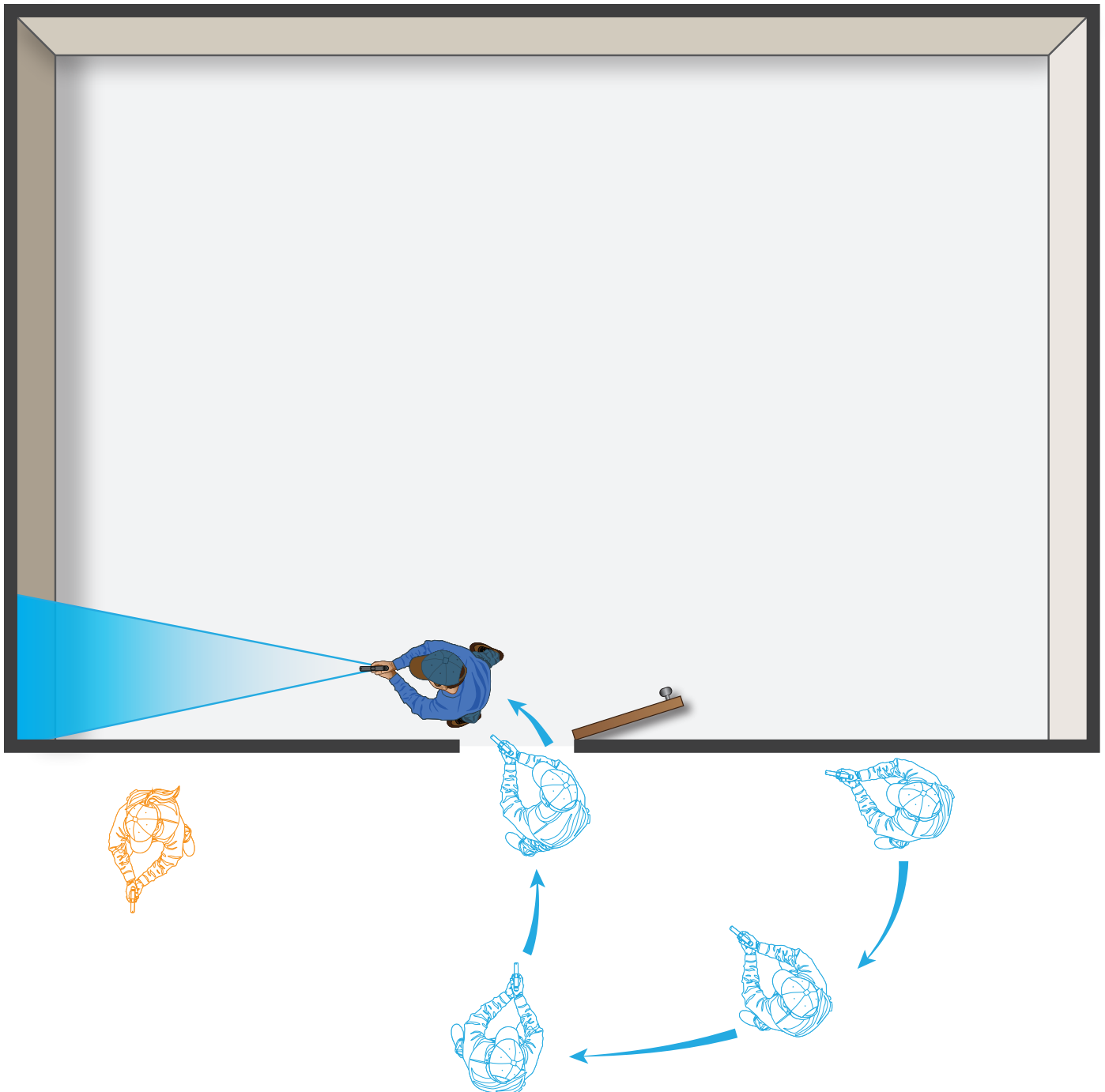
The lead person will scan from inside to out while moving into the room. Clearing the center of the room and scanning outward lets you use your approach angle to take advantage of cover and concealment provided by the wall while moving into the room. The lead person should not predetermine which direction to turn, but can instead move in either direction and the second person will go in the opposite direction. However, as a general rule, if the door opens inward the lead person should try to move in the opposite direction that the door opens.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 5 - Clear the Corner

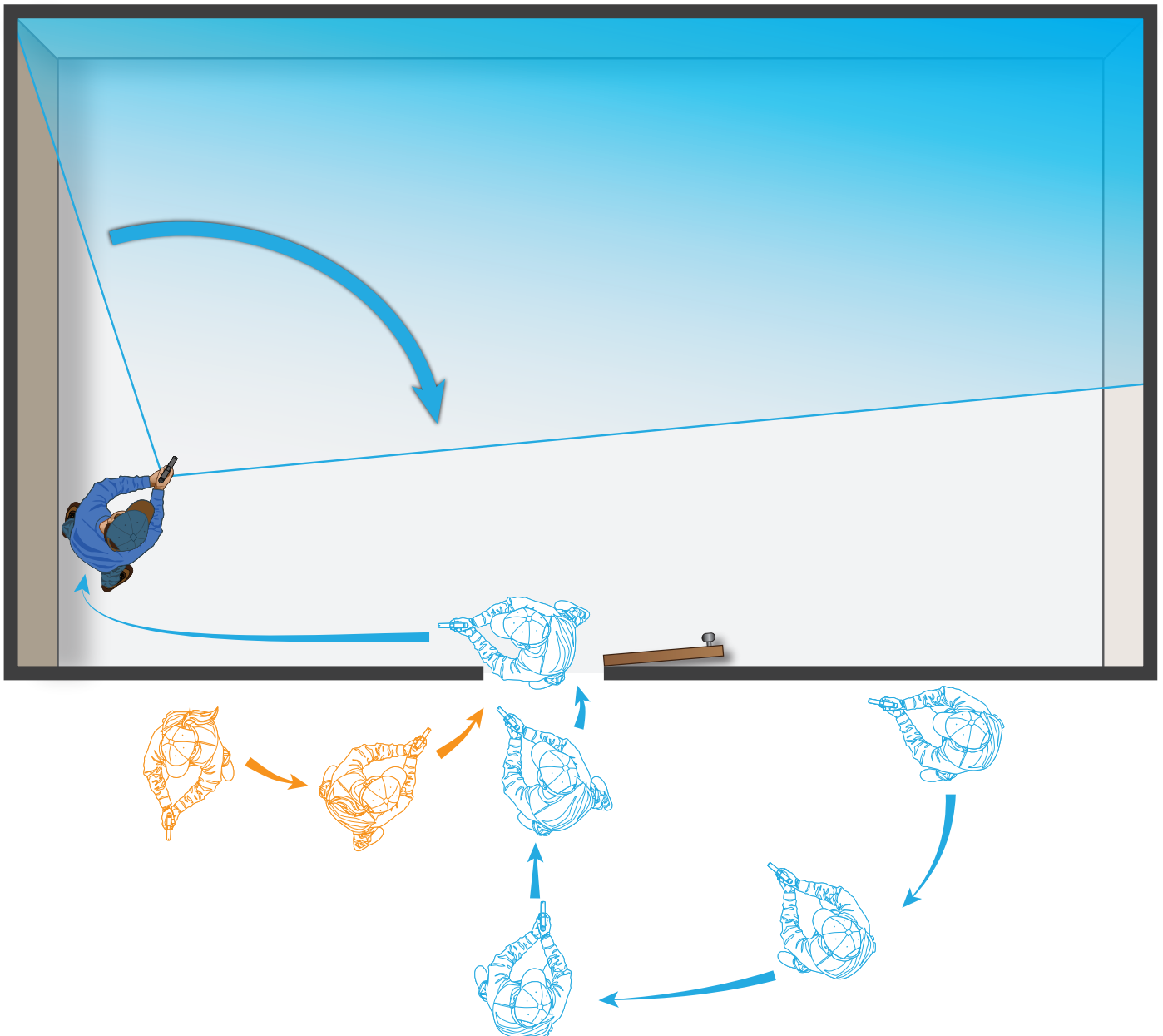
By the time the lead person comes through the doorway, he/she should already have finished the outward scan and be clearing the corner engaging any threats in the corner until they are neutralized.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 6 - Scan and Dominate

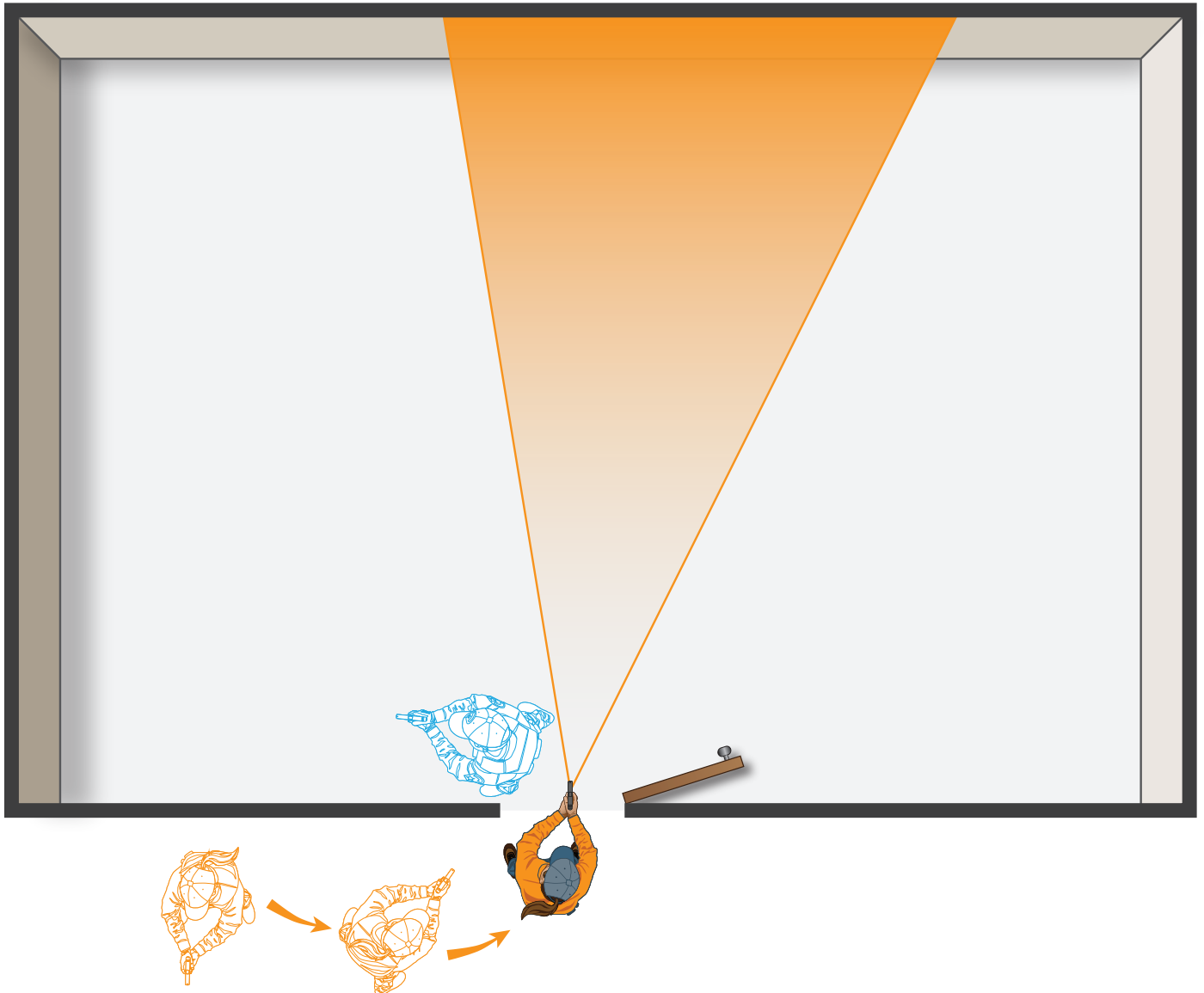
Once completing the initial sweep, if you decide to enter the room, sweep along the arc in the opposite direction until you are facing directly towards the door. Then move towards the door remaining alert for deep threats in the center of the room. Once approaching the threshold, you will scan outward all the way to the corner and then scan back while moving to the domination point.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

SECOND PERSON STEP 1 - Clear Doorway and Center

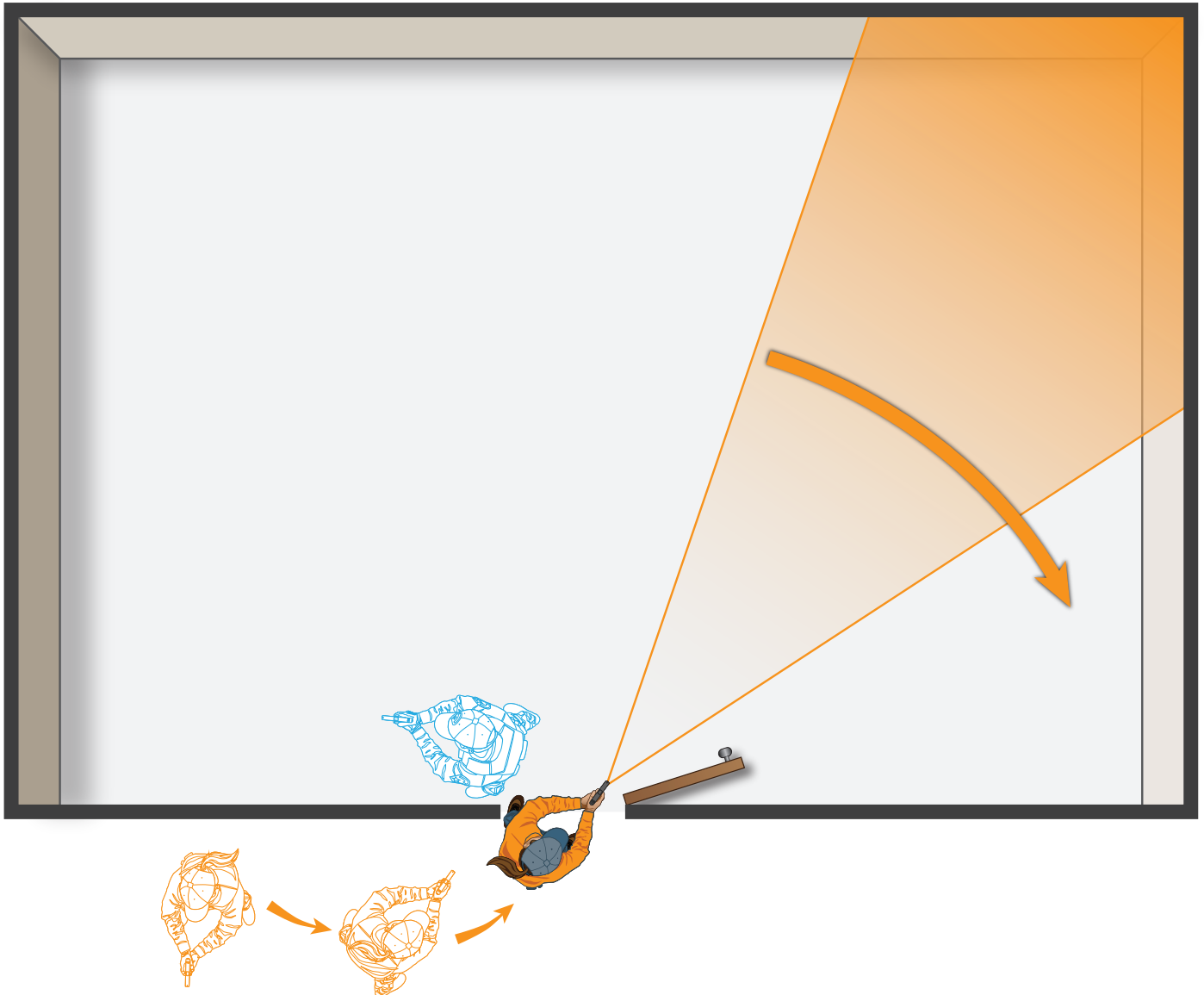
The second person will initially keep some distance from the door and allow the lead person time and space to conduct the sweep. If the lead person decides to enter the room, the second person will wait until the lead person completes the reverse sweep and is moving head-on towards the door. At this point, the second person will also begin to approach the door, timing his/her entry to cover the back of the lead person. Upon reaching the door, the second person will turn in the opposite direction of the lead person scanning outward.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

SECOND PERSON STEP 2 - Scan Outward

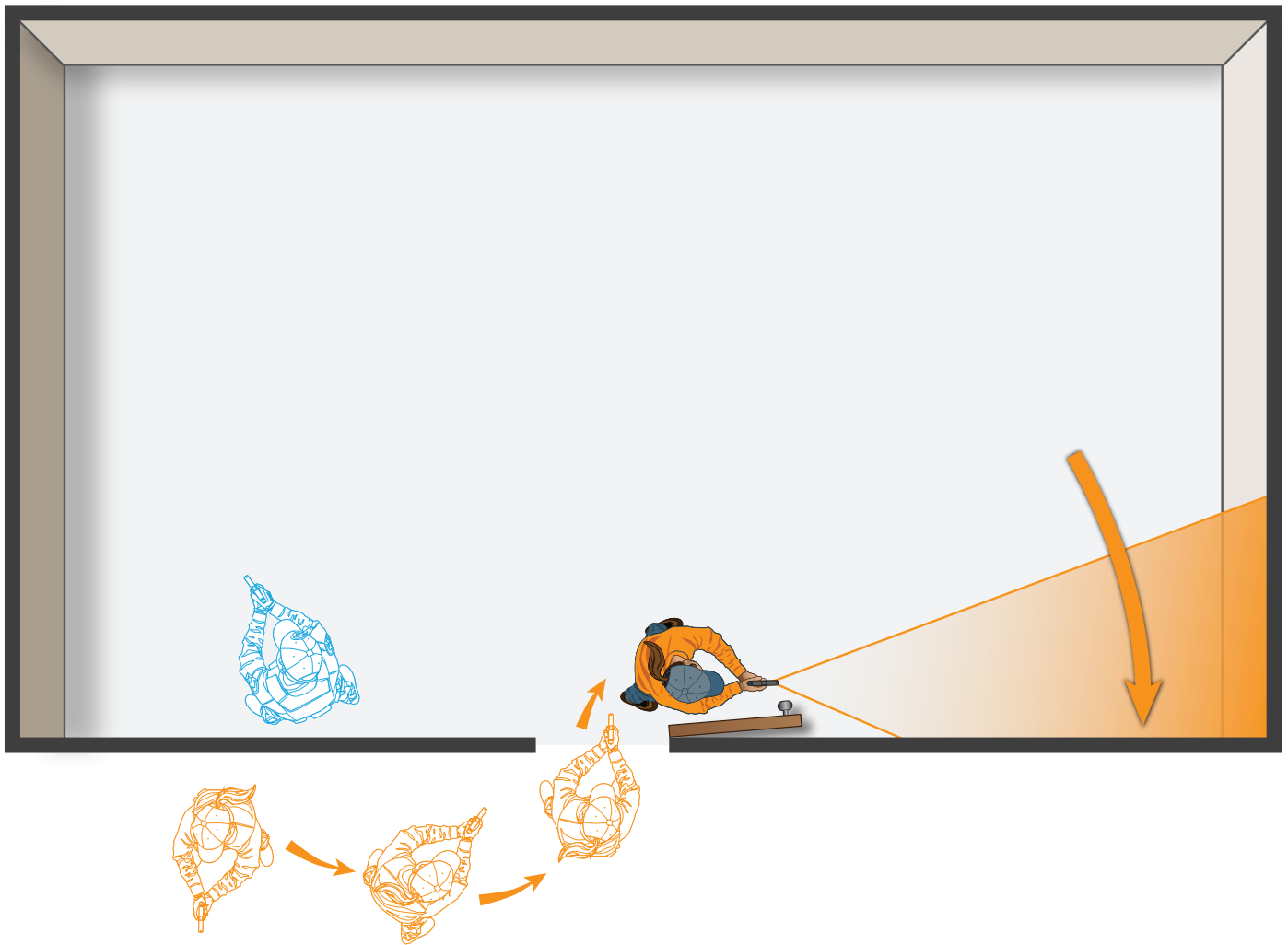
After clearing the center of the room the second person will scan from inside to out while moving into the room. Clearing the center of the room and scanning outward lets you use your approach angle to take advantage of cover and concealment provided by the wall while moving into the room. This movement is similar to a "sweep" or "slice the pie" but is faster and the arc is tighter.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

SECOND PERSON STEP 1 - Scan Outward, Control Door

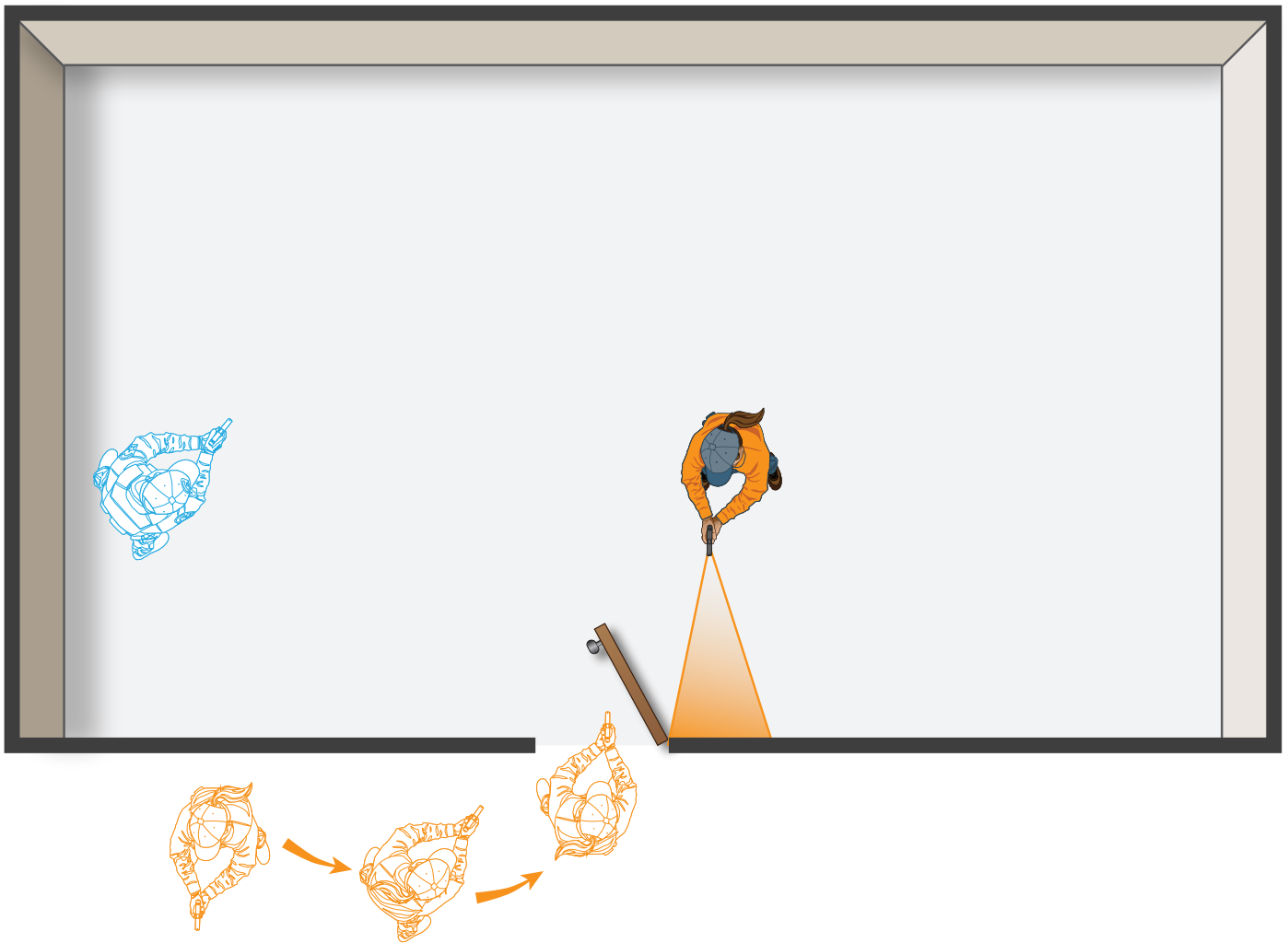
After scanning outward, the second person will clear the corner and then scan back inward to double-check that the room is clear. If the door opens outward, the second person will continue moving to the domination point. If the door opens inward, it is preferable for the second person to control the door while conducting the scan.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED OPEN DOOR

SECOND PERSON STEP 2 - Check Behind the Door

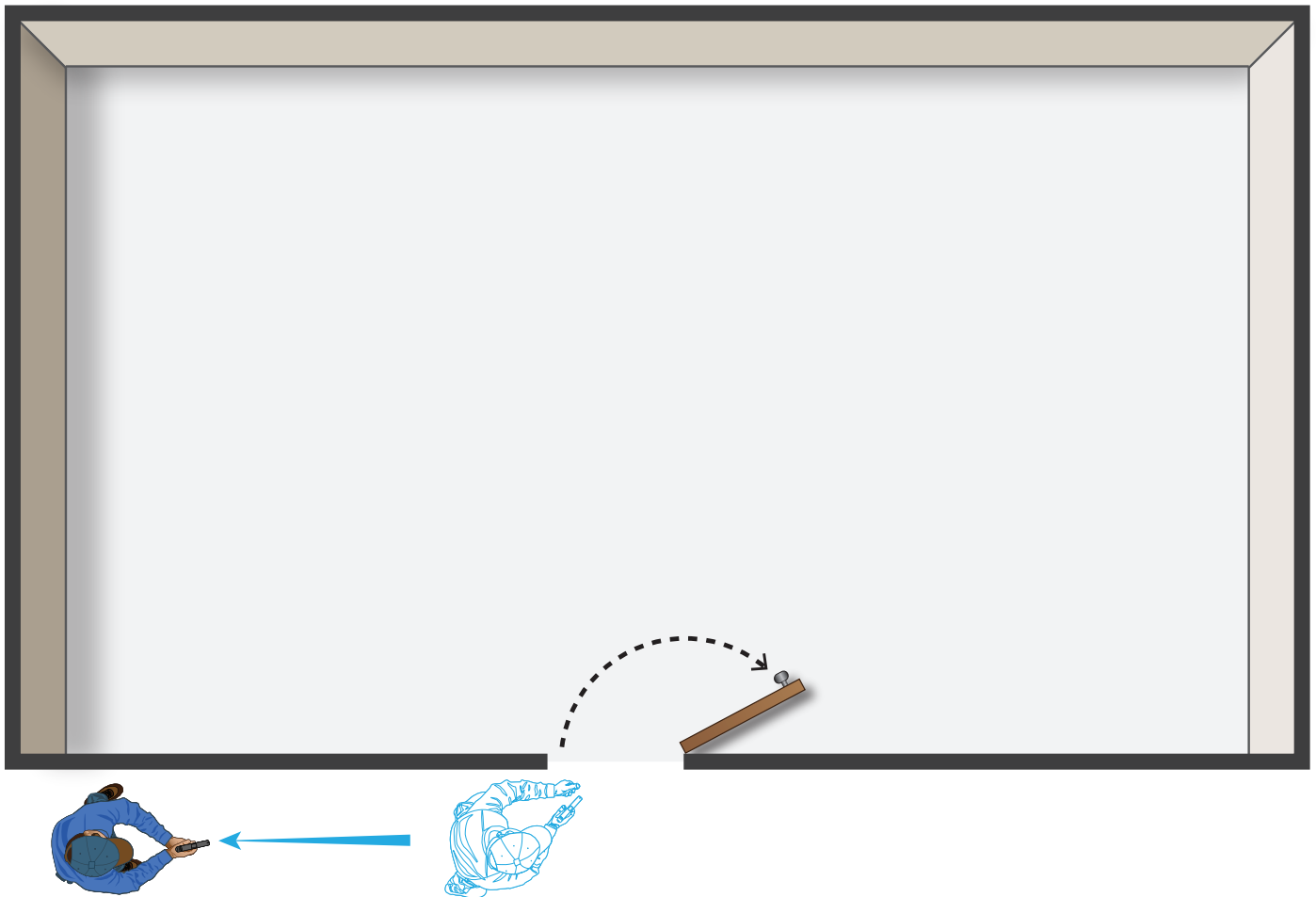
Once both you and your partner have completed your scans, as the second person, you will still be controlling the door. If you detect an adversary or any kind of resistance behind the door, you may have to step back and clear behind the door immediately. Otherwise, finish scanning the room first, then turn around and check behind the door. It is critical that you step back when checking behind the door to ensure that an adversary is not close enough to jump out and grab your weapon.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 1 - Open the Door

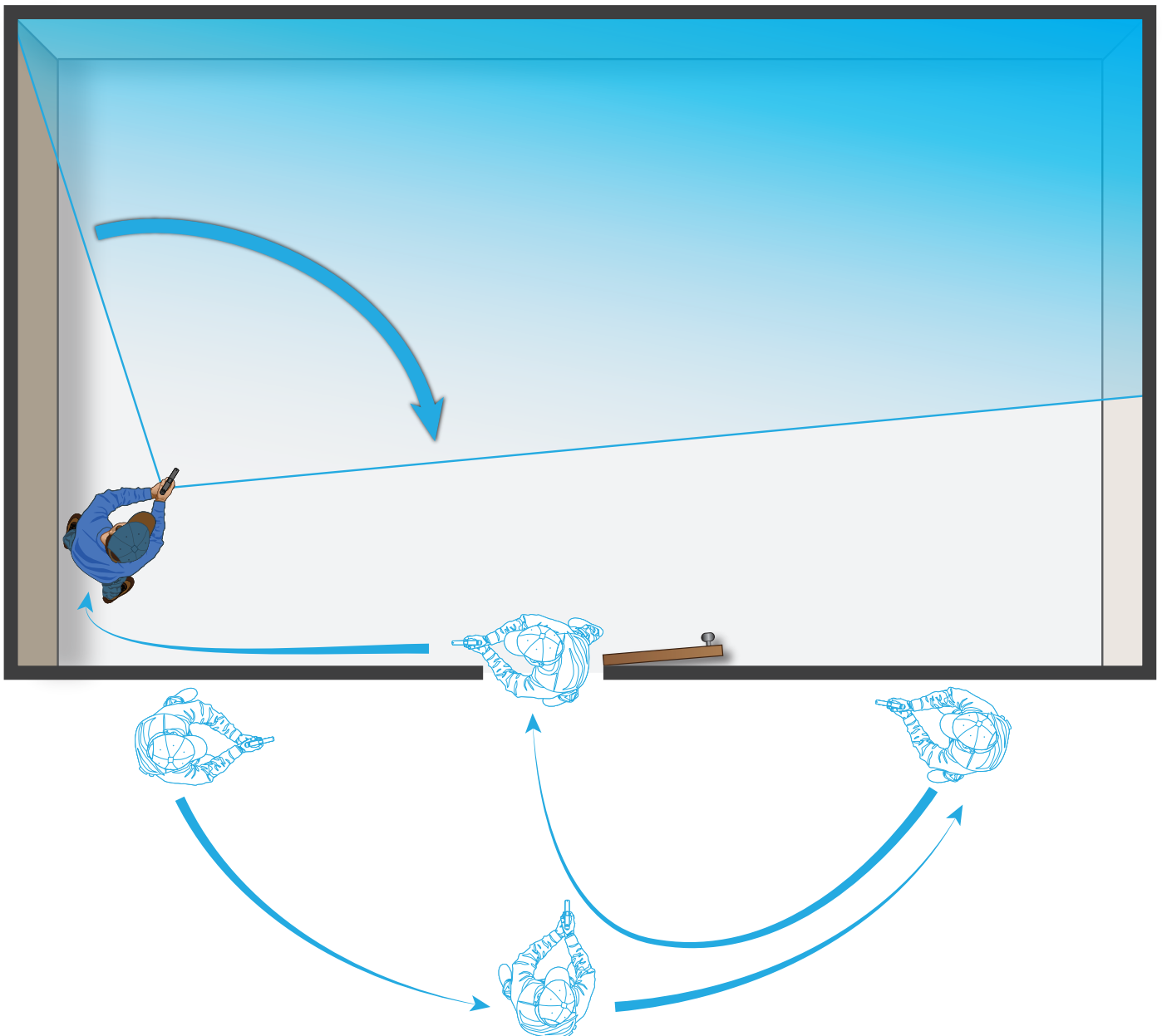
The technique for a center-fed closed door is almost the same as the technique for clearing the open door with a few minor adjustments. The first difference is that because the door is closed, you must first open the door before conducting the sweep. As explained in the first section, either person can open the door. In the example below the lead person conducts a self-breach. To open the door, position close to the wall and away from the door with weapon at the ready and oriented towards the door just in case the door opens and an adversary walks out. Quickly move towards the door, grasp the doorknob with the non-firing hand and swing the door open. Then back away just in case an adversary fires towards the door.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 2 - Sweep and Enter the Room

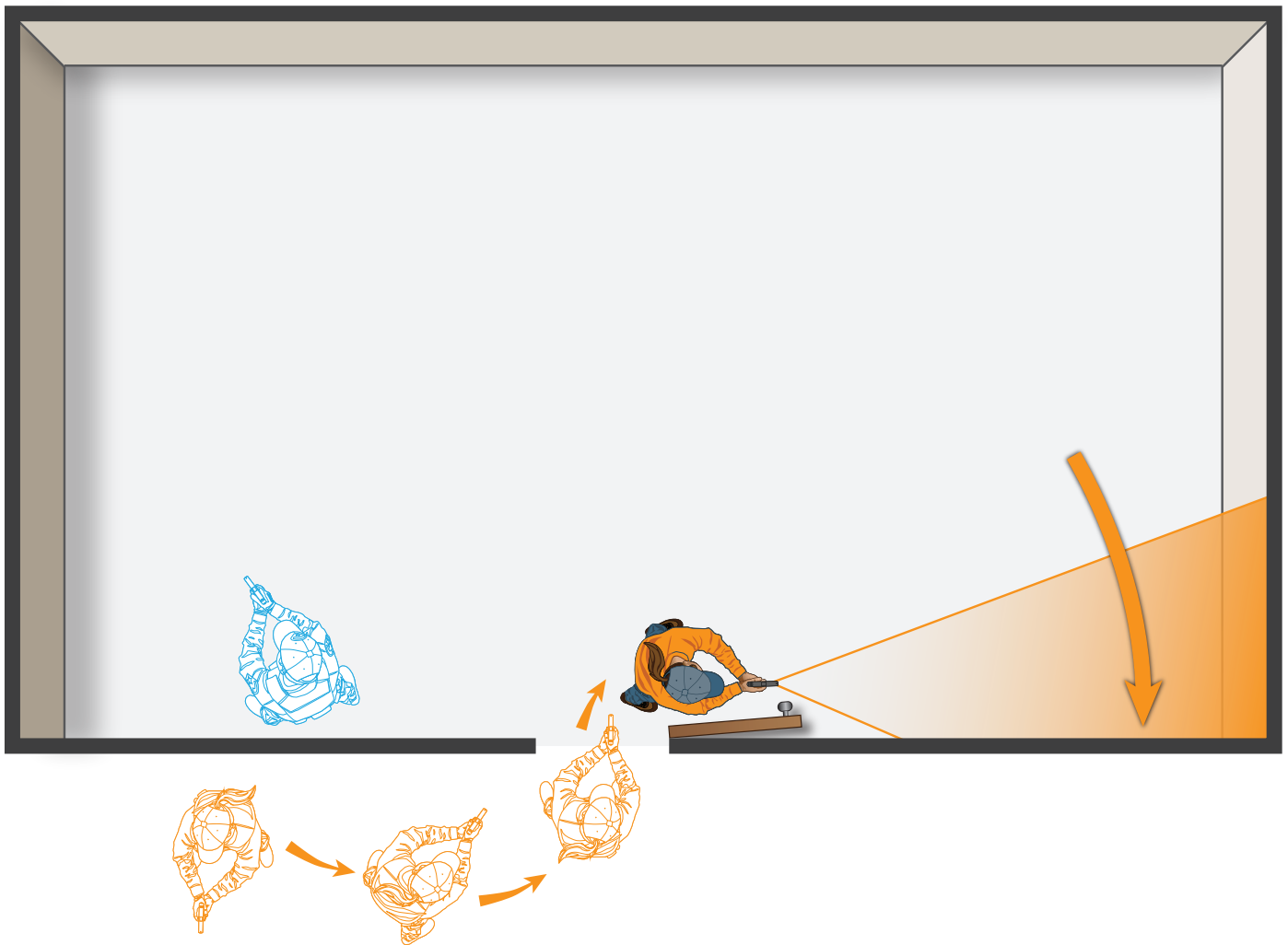
Once the door is open, the clearing technique is the same as for a closed door. As the lead person you will conduct a sweep across the door, then sweep back in the opposite direction and enter the room. You will scan outward to the corner and then scan inward while moving to the domination point.



DELAYED ENTRY: CENTER-FED CLOSED DOOR

SECOND PERSON - Clear the Corner and Control the Door

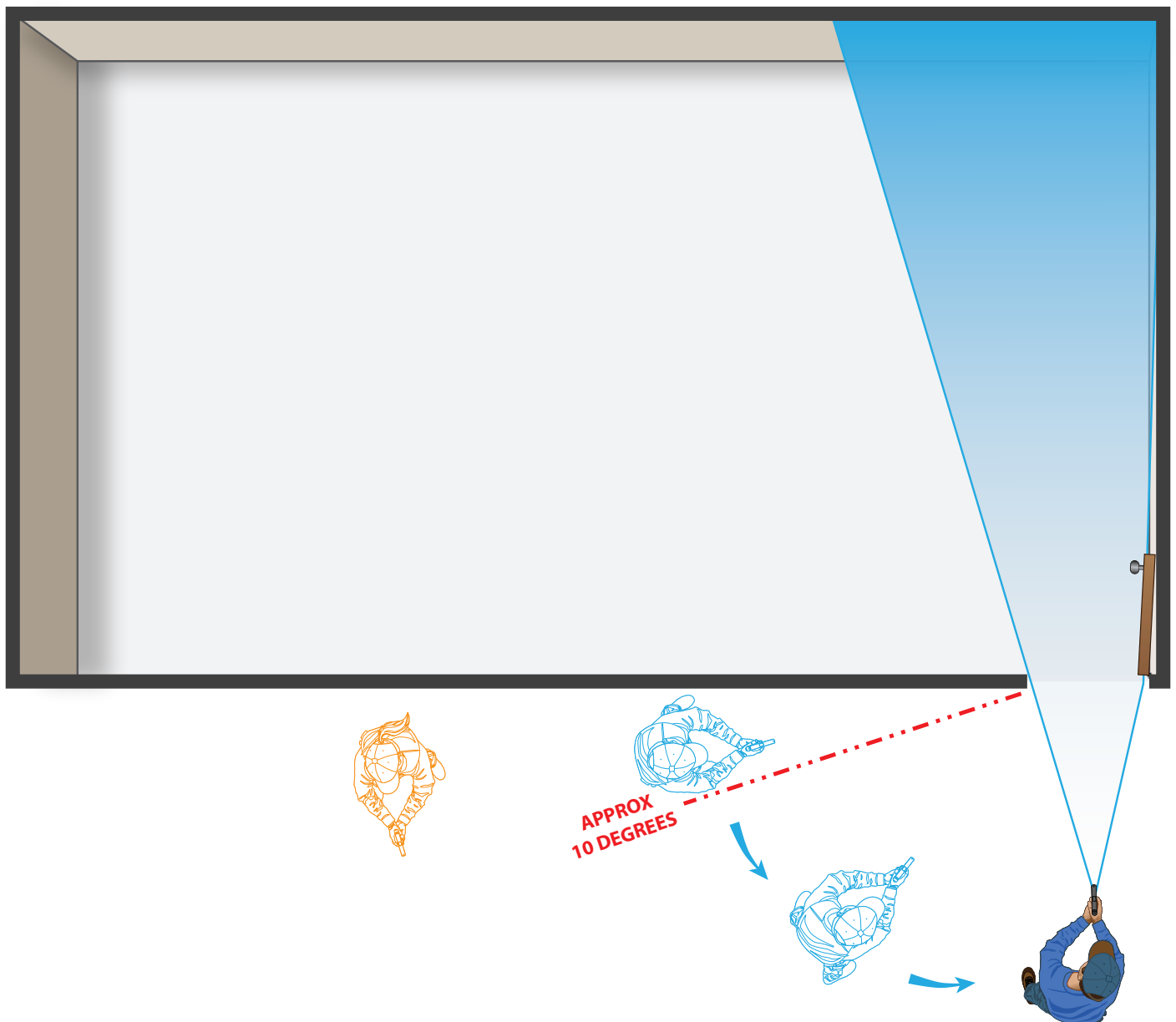
As the second person, you will initially keep some distance from the door and allow the lead person time and space to conduct the sweep. If you decide to enter the room, wait until the lead person completes the reverse sweep and is moving head-on towards the door. At this point, you will also begin to approach the door, timing your entry to cover the back of the lead person. Upon reaching the door, turn in the opposite direction of the lead person, scanning outward all the way to the corner and then scan back while moving to the domination point. If the door opens inward, you should control the door while conducting the scan, then check behind the door once the scan is complete.



DELAYED ENTRY: CORNER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 1 - Conduct Half Sweep

Clearing a corner-fed open door is similar to clearing a center-fed open door. When conducting a delayed entry, the term “corner-fed” or “center-fed” refers to the room where you start, as well as the room you are clearing. In some cases, when clearing a corner-fed door as the lead person, you only be able to approach from one side and conduct only a “half sweep.” Position close to the wall while staying several yards away from the door. Then sweep out in a quick but smooth arc, maintaining distance from the doorway while clearing the interior of the room.



DELAYED ENTRY: CORNER-FED OPEN DOOR

LEAD PERSON STEP 2 - Approach the Door and Enter

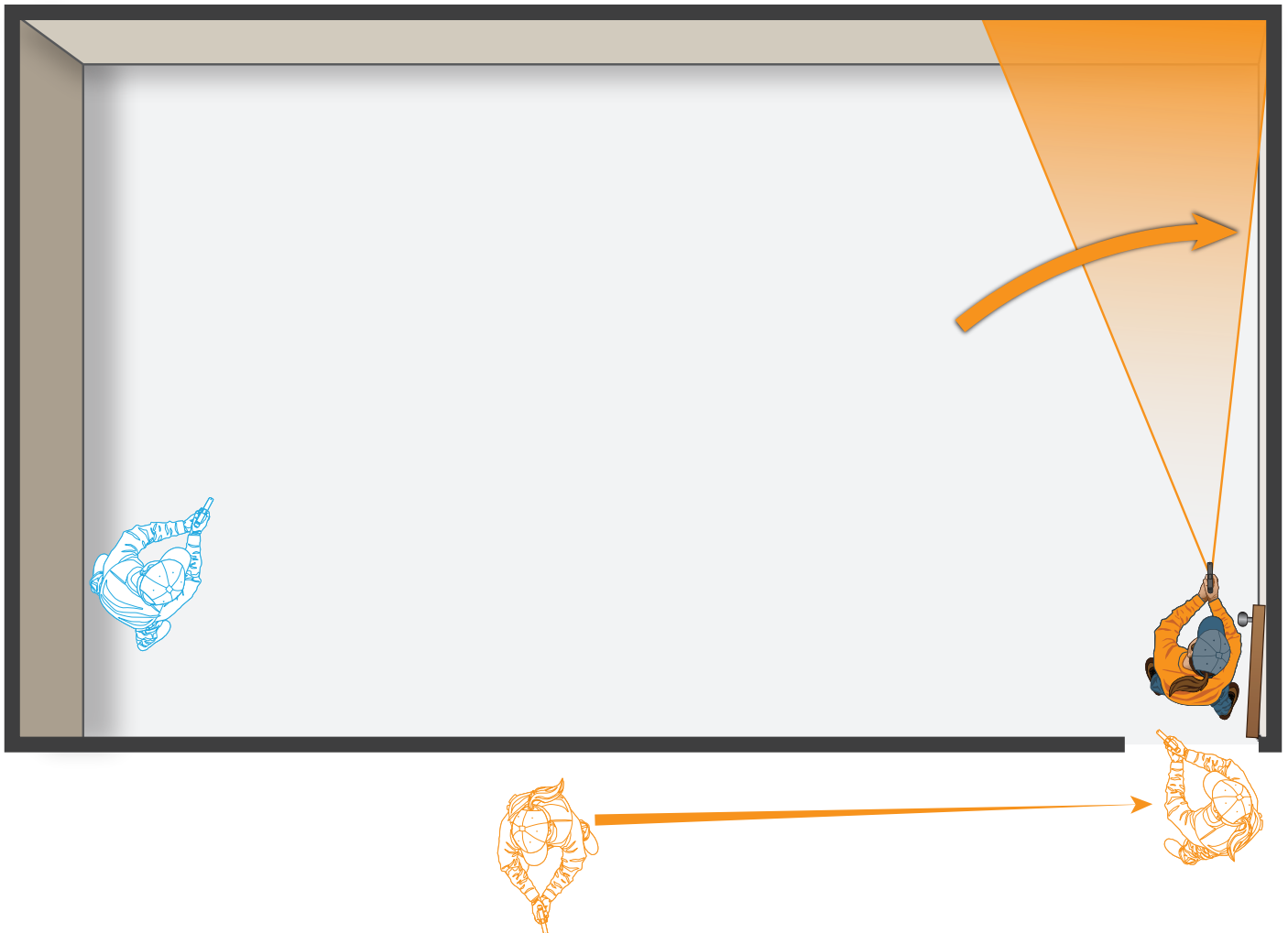
Once completing the initial half sweep, if you decide to enter the room, move towards the door remaining alert for deep threats in the room. Once reaching the threshold, scan outward to the corner and then scan inward while moving to the domination point.



DELAYED ENTRY: CORNER-FED OPEN DOOR

SECOND PERSON - Clear the Corner and Control the Door

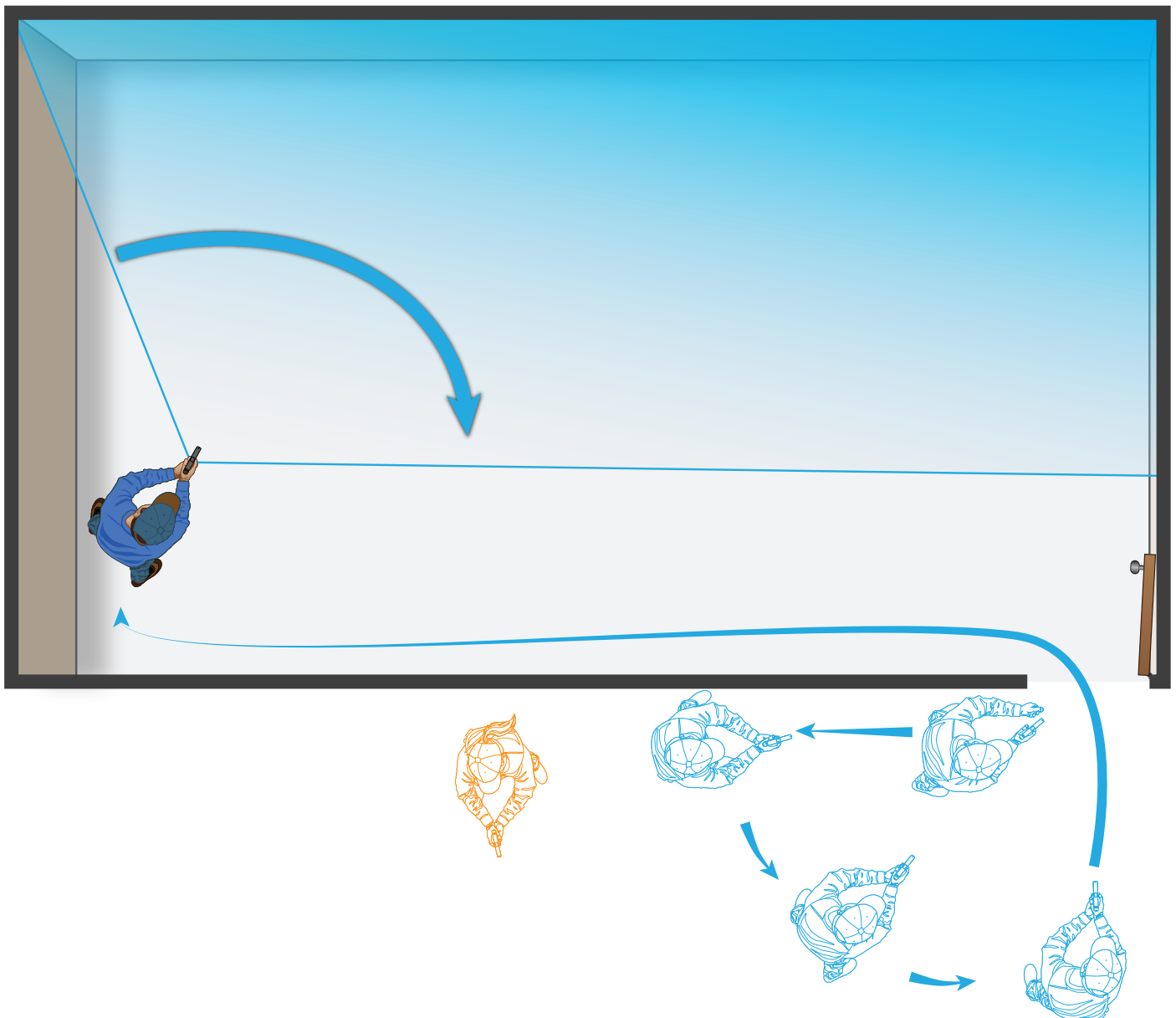
As the second person, you will initially keep some distance from the door and allow the lead person time and space to conduct the sweep. If you decide to enter the room, wait until the lead person completes the reverse sweep and is moving head-on towards the door. At this point, you will also approach the door and enter right behind the lead person. Once you enter the room, turn in the opposite direction of the lead person and scan from the center of the far wall to the deep corner and engage any threats until they are neutralized. Then scan inward and move to the domination point. If the door opens inward, you should control the door while conducting the scan, then check behind the door once the scan is complete.



DELAYED ENTRY: CORNER-FED CLOSED DOOR

LEAD PERSON - Open the Door and Enter

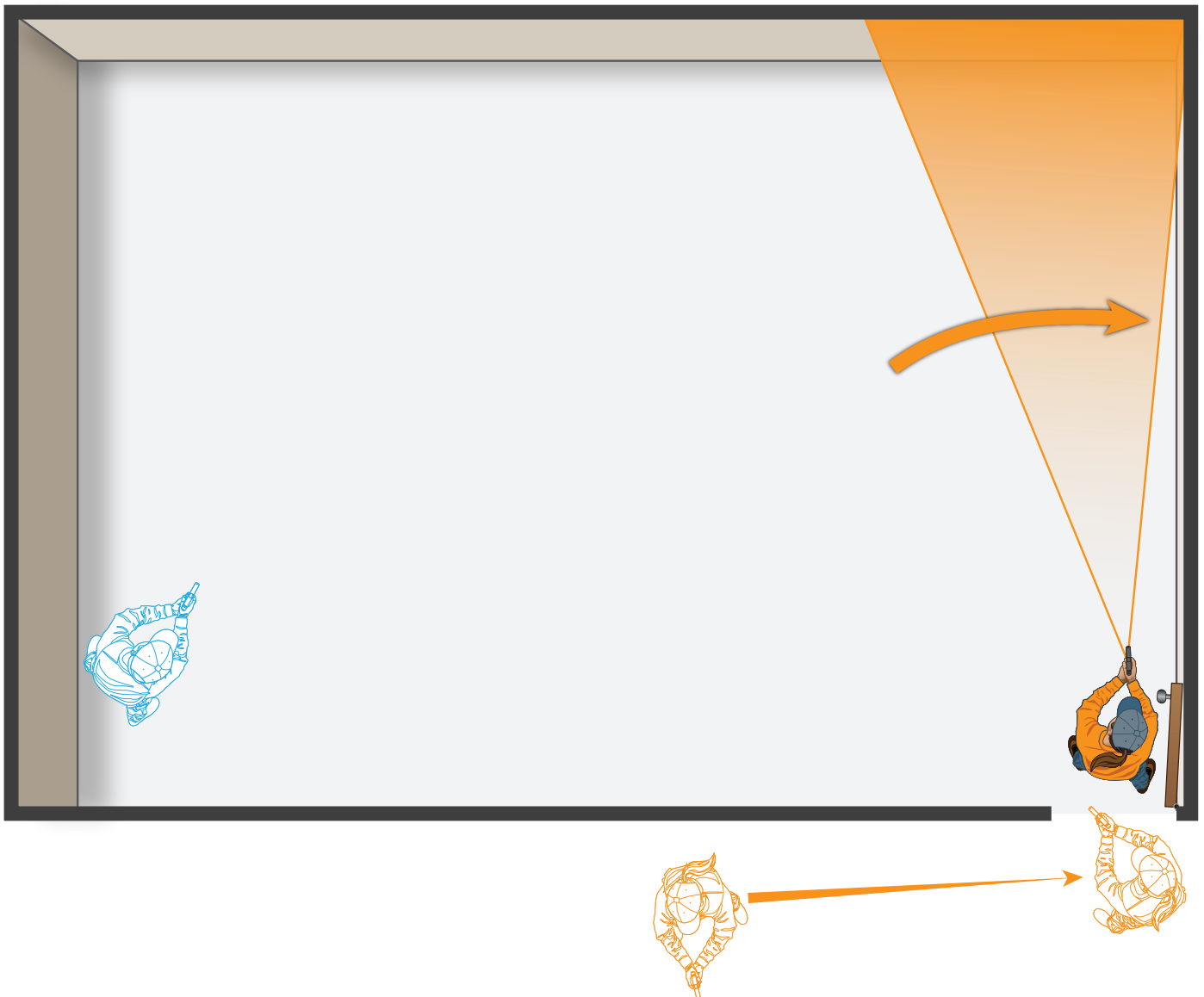
The technique for a corner-fed closed door is almost the same as the technique for clearing the open door but because the door is closed, as the lead person you must first open the door before conducting the sweep. To open the door, position close to the wall and away from the door with weapon at the ready and oriented towards the door just in case the door opens and an adversary walks out. Move towards the door quickly, swinging the door open and then back away. Once the door is open, the clearing technique is the same as for a closed door. Conduct a sweep across the door, then sweep back in the opposite direction and enter the room. You will scan outward to the corner, then scan back inward while moving to the domination point.



DELAYED ENTRY: CORNER-FED CLOSED DOOR

SECOND PERSON - Clear the Corner and Control the Door

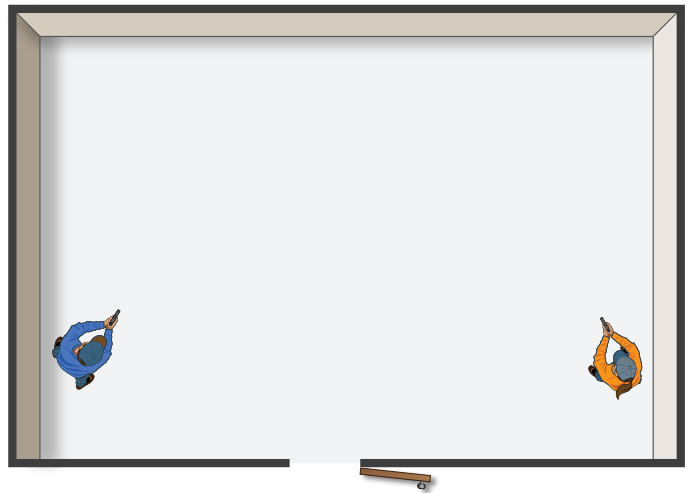
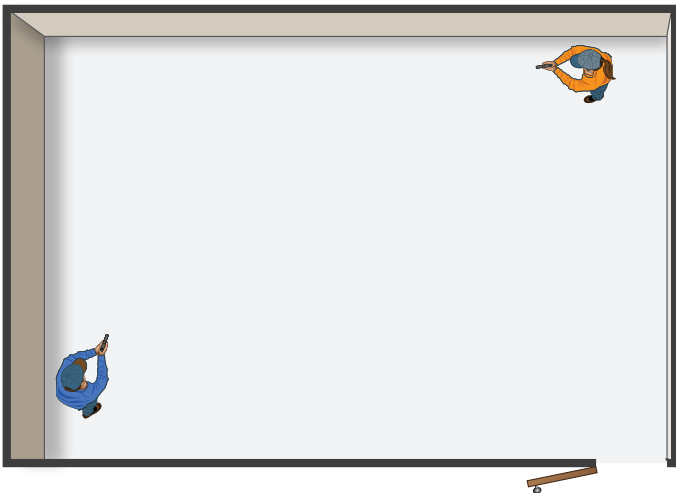
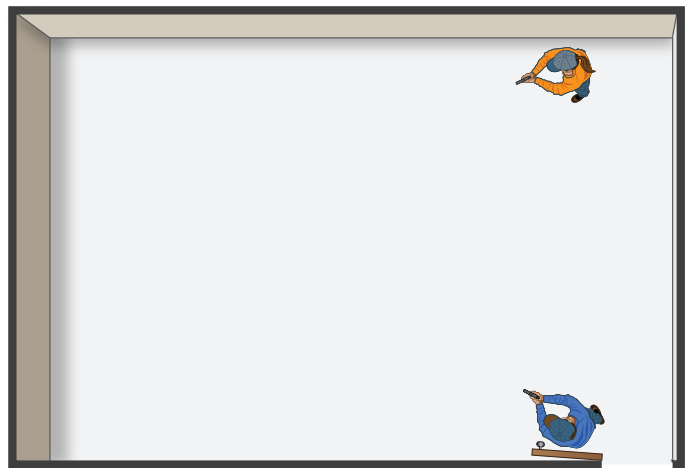
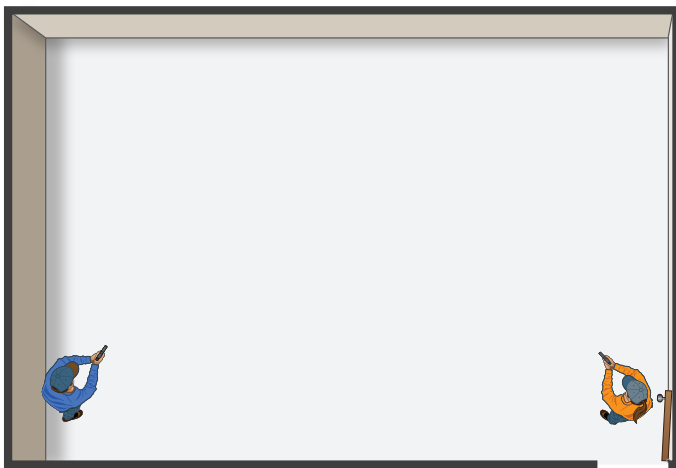
As the second person, you will initially keep some distance from the door and allow the lead person time and space to conduct the sweep. If you decide to enter the room, wait until the lead person completes the reverse sweep and is moving head-on towards the door. At this point, you will also approach the door and enter right behind the lead person. Once you enter the room, turn in the opposite direction of the lead person and scan from the center of the far wall to the deep corner and engage any threats until they are neutralized. Then scan inward and move to the domination point just as in the immediate entry technique. If the door opens inward, control the door while conducting the scan, then check behind the door once the scan is complete.



DELAYED ENTRY: VARIOUS CONFIGURATIONS

Different Door Configurations

If a corner-fed door opens inward, it can affect your positioning in the room. There are no formulas or fixed rules to determine positioning, however, below are some examples of how you and your partner might position yourselves in a room based on the door configuration. It is also possible for the first person to control the door while the second person moves into the room. If the door swings out, both you and your partner can dominate deeper in the room, or one person can stay at a shallow domination point.





TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Multiple Room Delayed Entry

If you and your partner must move from room to room, it is safest to use a delayed entry technique to minimize risk. This means you will clear as much of the next room as possible before entering into it. It is also useful in that it might allow you to draw adversaries out of the room while you remain in a position of relative safety or behind cover and concealment.

When conducting a delayed entry through an open door, you will conduct a sweep in the same, smooth arc movement described in the clear-without-entry section. You might choose to conduct additional sweeps as needed to check the next room more carefully for threats. It is also possible for one partner to conduct a sweep and then the other partner conduct a sweep. In other situations, because of the room configuration or the positioning of furniture, you might only be able to conduct a partial sweep.

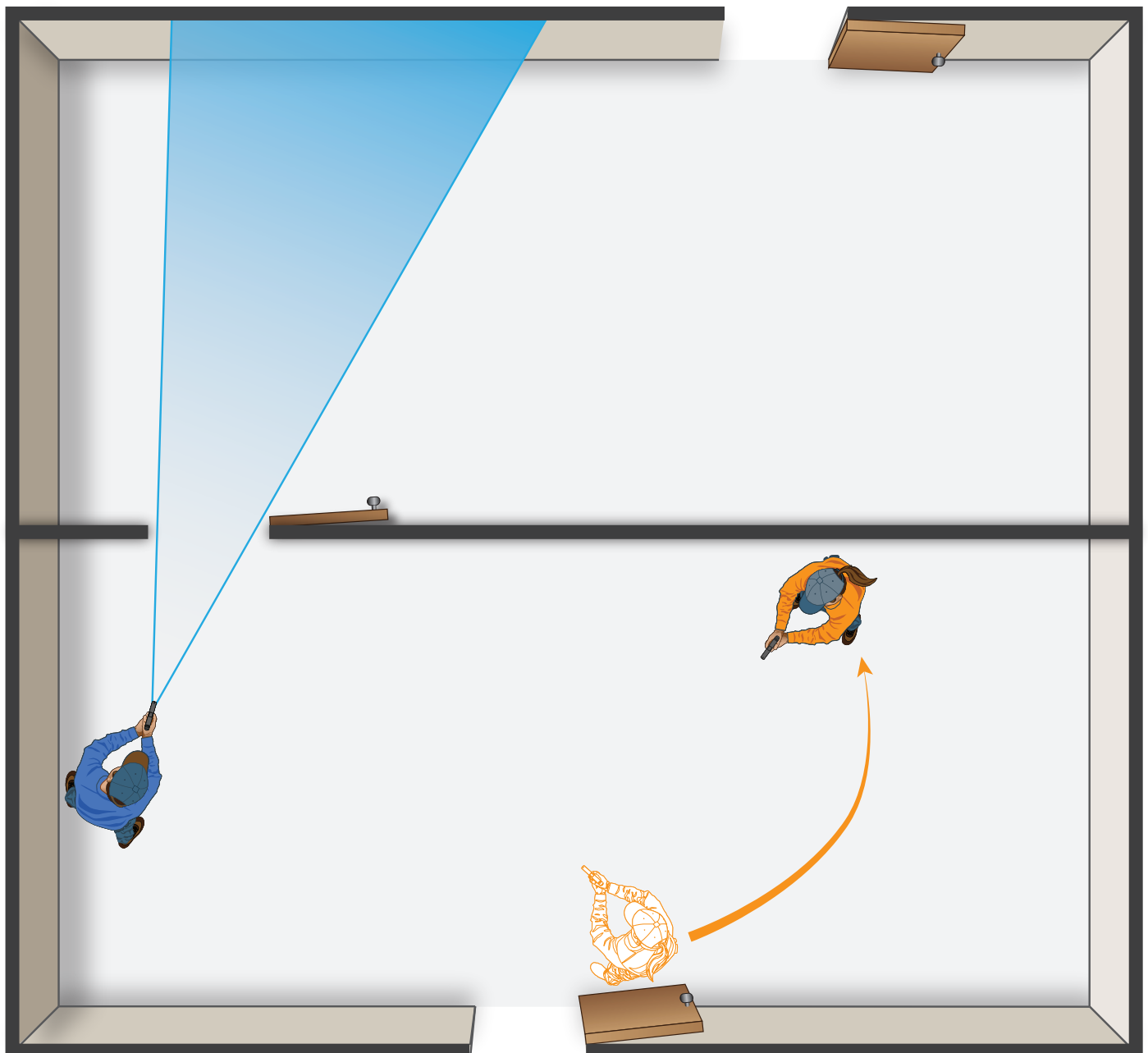
While the illustrations in the following sections focus on multiple rooms with open doors, the procedures for a closed door are similar. The difference is that you or your partner will need to open the door and back away before conducting the sweep. A closed door also makes it easier and safer to position yourselves in the room prior to approaching the next door. Once one person opens the door, both people should remain alert in case an adversary emerges from the door.

Whether the door is open or closed, while the first person conducts the sweep, the other person should move away from the door to minimize exposure while providing rear security and watching for additional threats. The second person must also remain alert and be prepared to converge on the door to follow the lead person into the room if the lead person decides to make entry.

DELAYED ENTRY: OPEN DOORS

STEP 1 - Dominate Room, Back Away from the Door

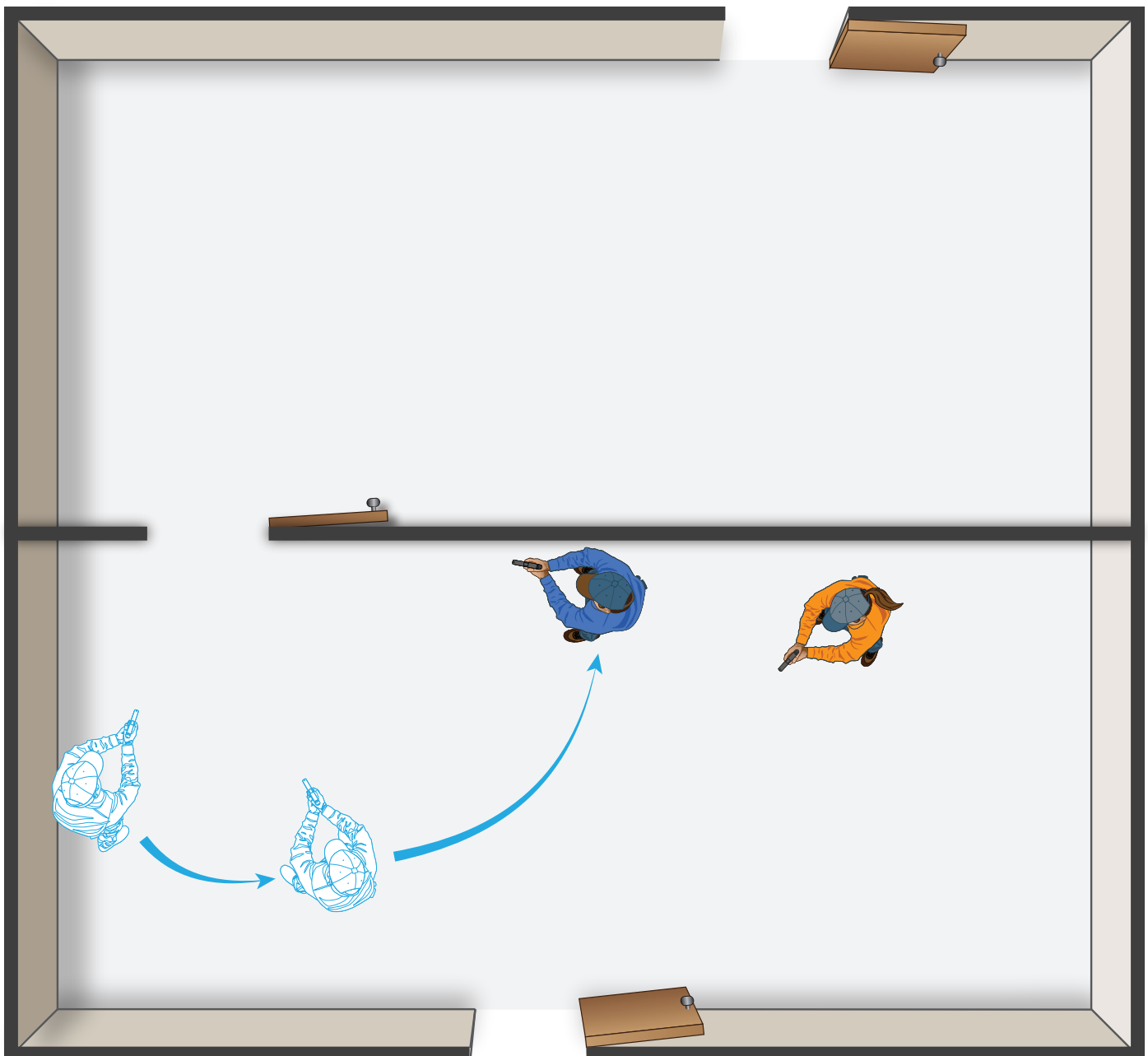
Enter and dominate the first room using one of the methods already described. Once you and your partner are at your domination points, one of you will have a better angle of observation through the open door than the other. In most cases, the person with the best observation angle should be the one to conduct the sweep while the other person stays out of the way. However, in other cases you might choose to give up angles of observation and choose a more protected position, further from the entry door. There are no fixed formulas.



DELAYED ENTRY: OPEN DOORS

STEP 2 - Lead Person Conducts Sweep

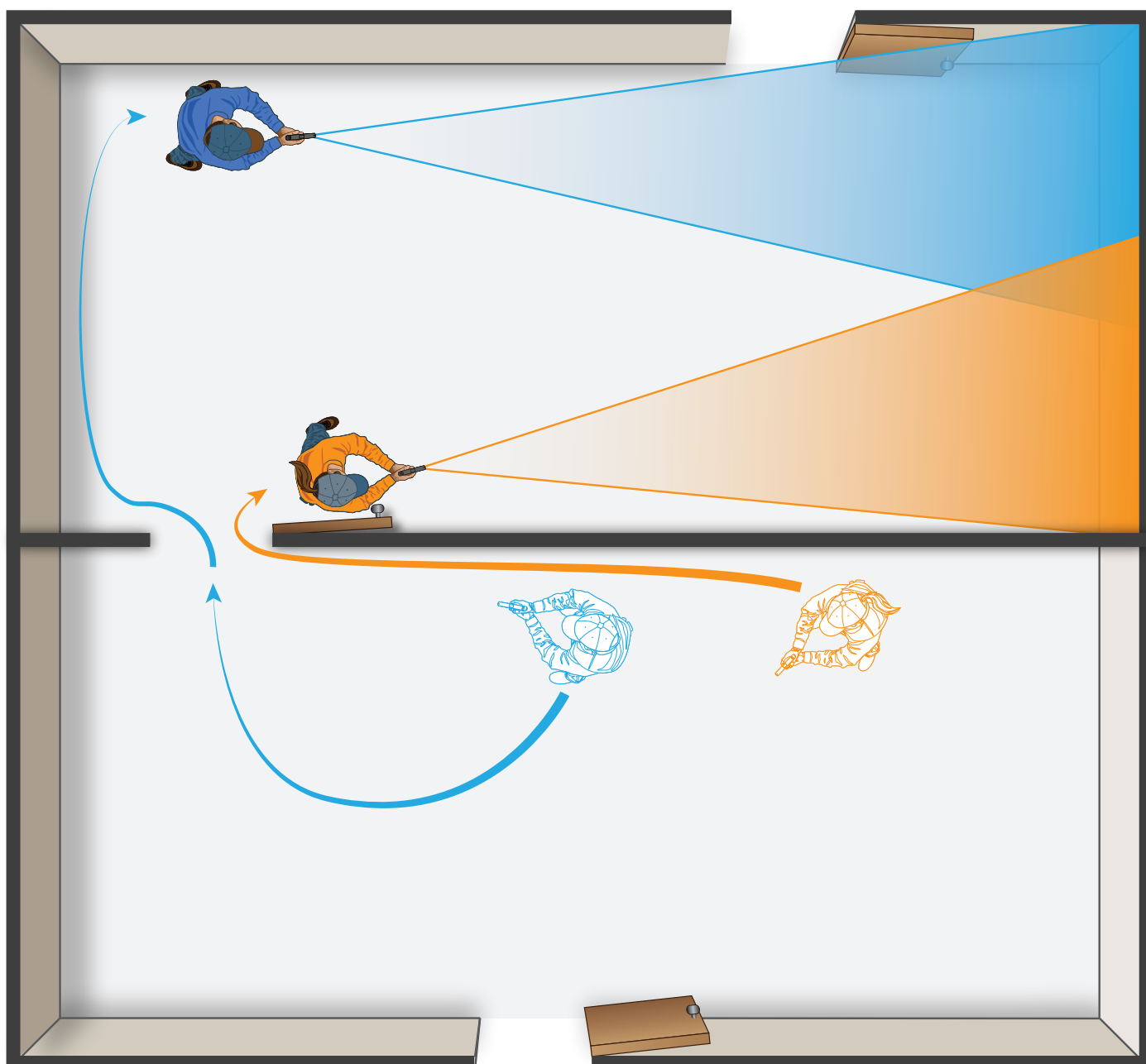
In this example, the second person stays back providing rear security to give the lead person room to conduct a sweep of the next room. The lead person may conduct a single sweep or multiple sweeps. If the lead person decides to enter the next room, he/she will begin moving directly towards the open door.



DELAYED ENTRY: OPEN DOORS

STEP 3 - Enter and Clear

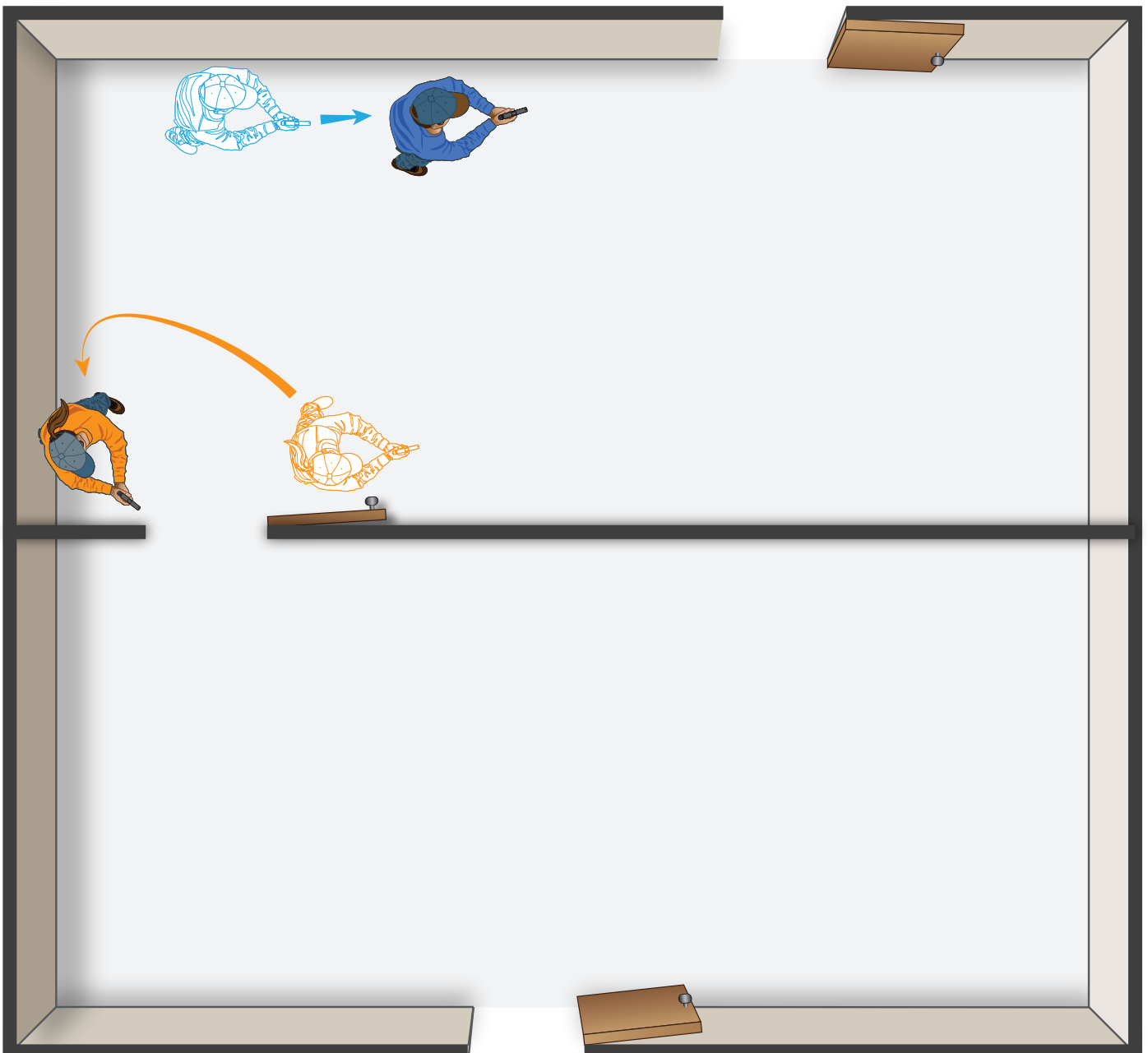
Once the sweep is complete and the lead person is moving towards the door, the second person will give up rear security to follow the first person into the next room. You and your partner will clear the room using the techniques already described. If the door opens inward, one person should stop to control the door and check behind it once the room is clear.



DELAYED ENTRY: OPEN DOORS

STEP 4 - Reposition as Necessary

Once the room and the area behind the door are both clear, you and your partner can reposition as necessary to prepare to conduct a sweep of the next room.



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Hallways Immediate Entry



Hallways are considered danger areas because they generally have many doors running along their length. An adversary could emerge from any one of these doors without warning. More importantly, an adversary could simply extend his/her weapon around the corner and spray indiscriminately. Because of the shape of the hallway, there is a greater chance that this type of indiscriminate fire will cause casualties.

Therefore, in general you should try to move through hallways quickly, maintaining dispersion. The objective should be to get out of the hallway and into a room that offers better protection. When moving as a two-person element, you should maintain “cross coverage” while moving and use the “clear and hold” or “clear on the move” techniques as needed when passing open doors.

When moving from a hallway into a room, or moving from a room into the hallway, you and your partner must remain alert for potential threats coming from either direction. If the door is closed, one person can move across the door to open it from the other side. However,

if you do not want to expose someone’s back to the hallway, the lead person can open the door (self-breach) and then lead the way into the room.

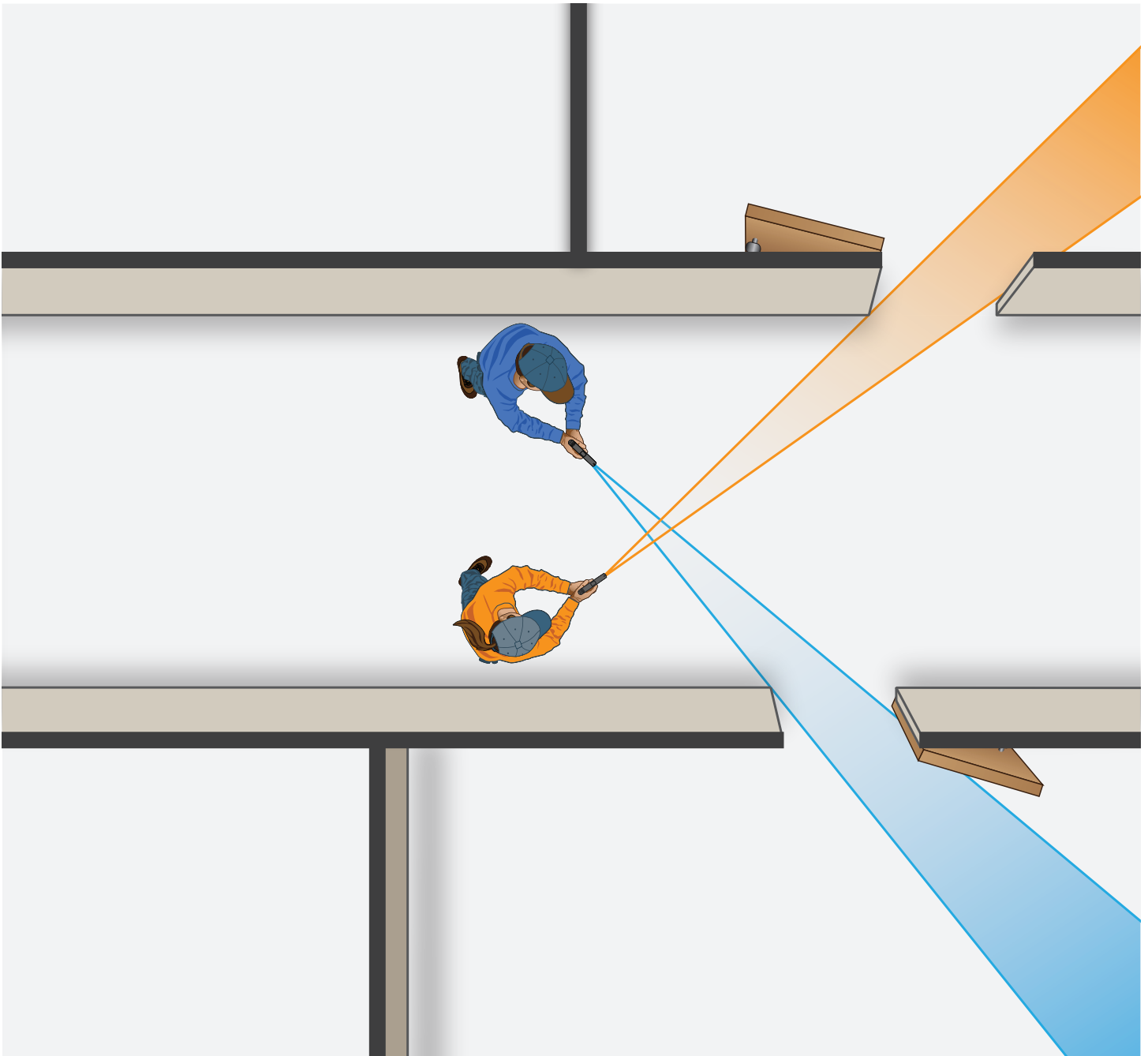
Probably the most dangerous hallway configurations you will encounter are hallway intersections. Intersections are danger areas for all of the same reasons as a single hallway. However, when you pass through an intersection, you will be exposed from several directions instead of just two, increasing the level of risk and presenting more angles for you to cover. This is particularly the case in intersections with multiple hallways or unusual configurations. Therefore, you should try to move through intersections as quickly as possible to get away from the intersection to a safer location.

There are many different intersection configurations but the most common are the L-shape intersection, T-shape intersection and the X-shape intersection. There are also some intersections with uneven corners or unusual configurations.

HALLWAY MOVEMENT

Cross Coverage

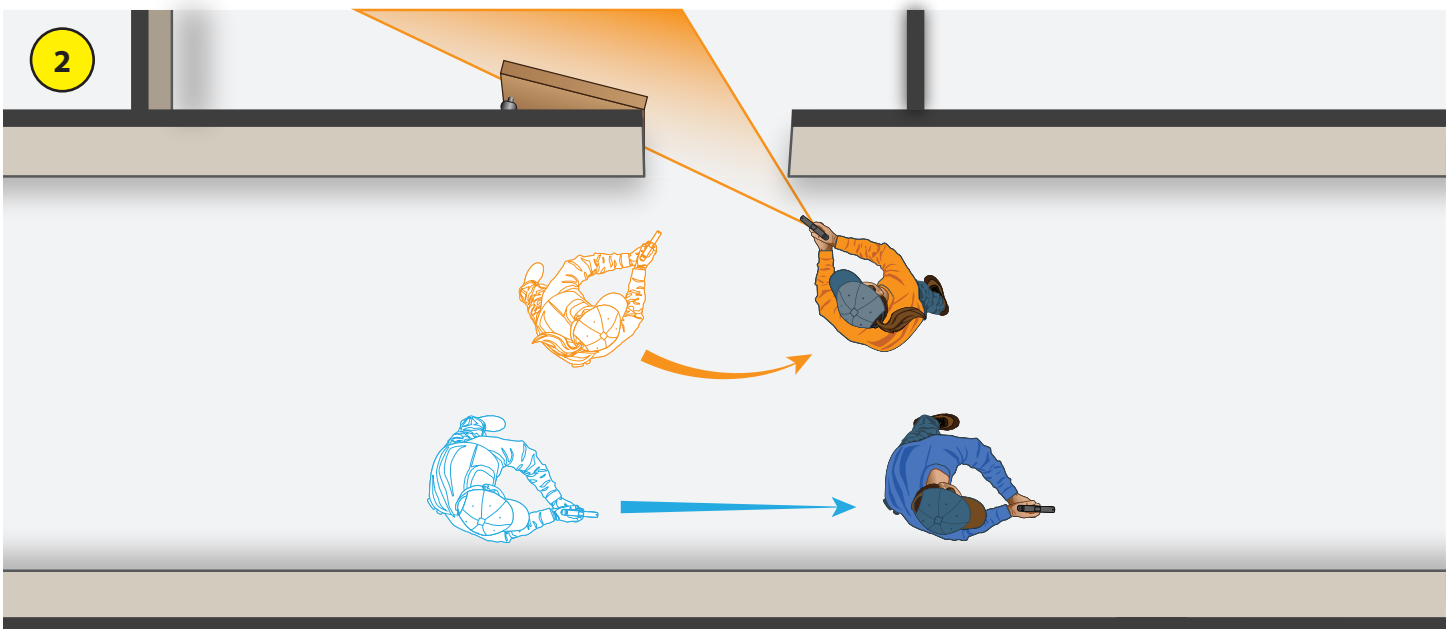
When you and your partner are moving down a hallway, position yourselves directly across from each other on each side of the hallway. This allows for cross coverage, which means that the person on the right will cover to the left and the person on the left will cover to the right. This is because you have a better angle of observation through doors and openings across the hall than you do on the same side of the hall. In a two-person element, at least one person should periodically look over the shoulder to check the rear.



HALLWAY MOVEMENT

Moving Past Open Doors - Clear and Hold

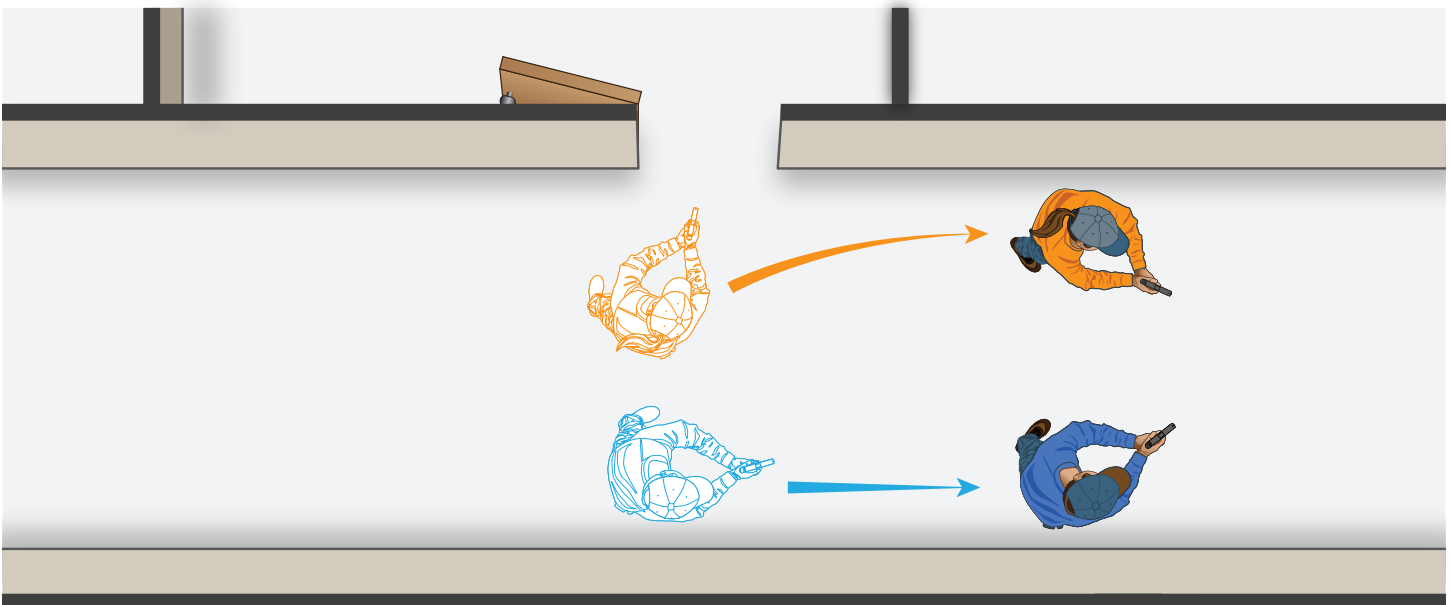
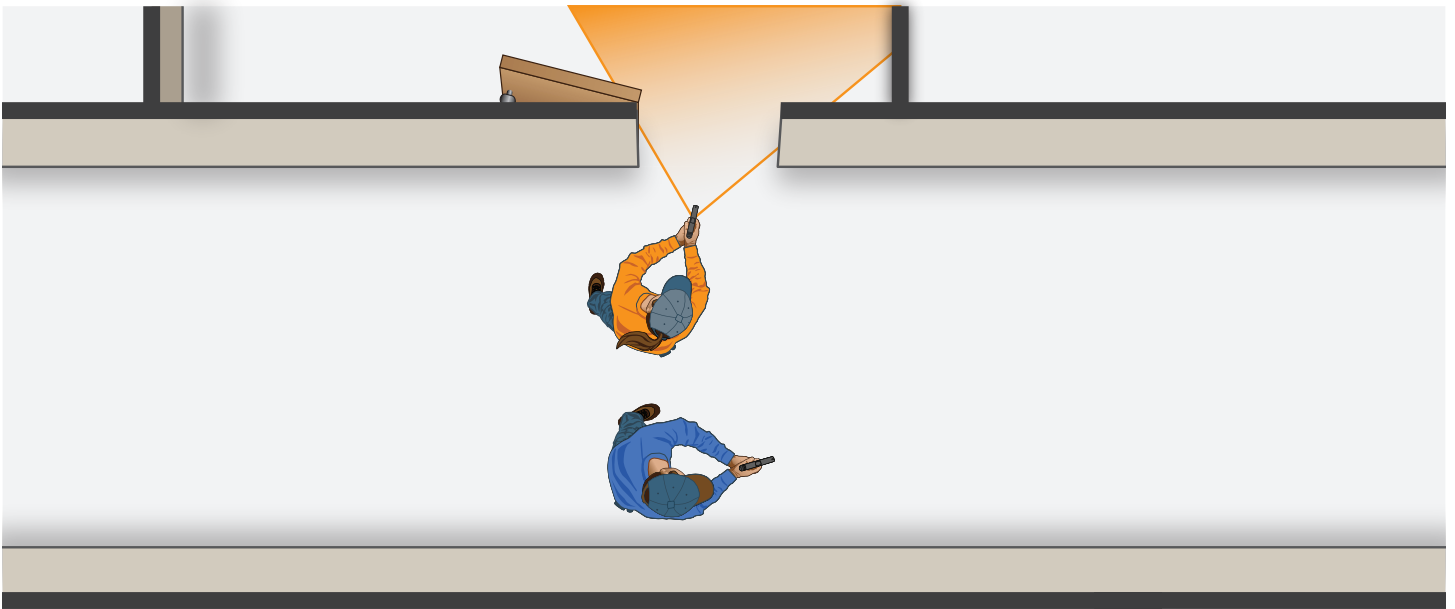
As you and your partner approach an open door, maintain cross coverage until you reach the door. On the approach, the person across the hall will have the best angle of vision through the open door. However, this person will have to momentarily give up cross coverage once reaching the door. The person on the same side as the door will quickly turn and *stop momentarily* to provide coverage. The covering person can adjust as needed to achieve the best angle and minimize exposure.



HALLWAY MOVEMENT

Moving Past Open Doors - Clear on the Move

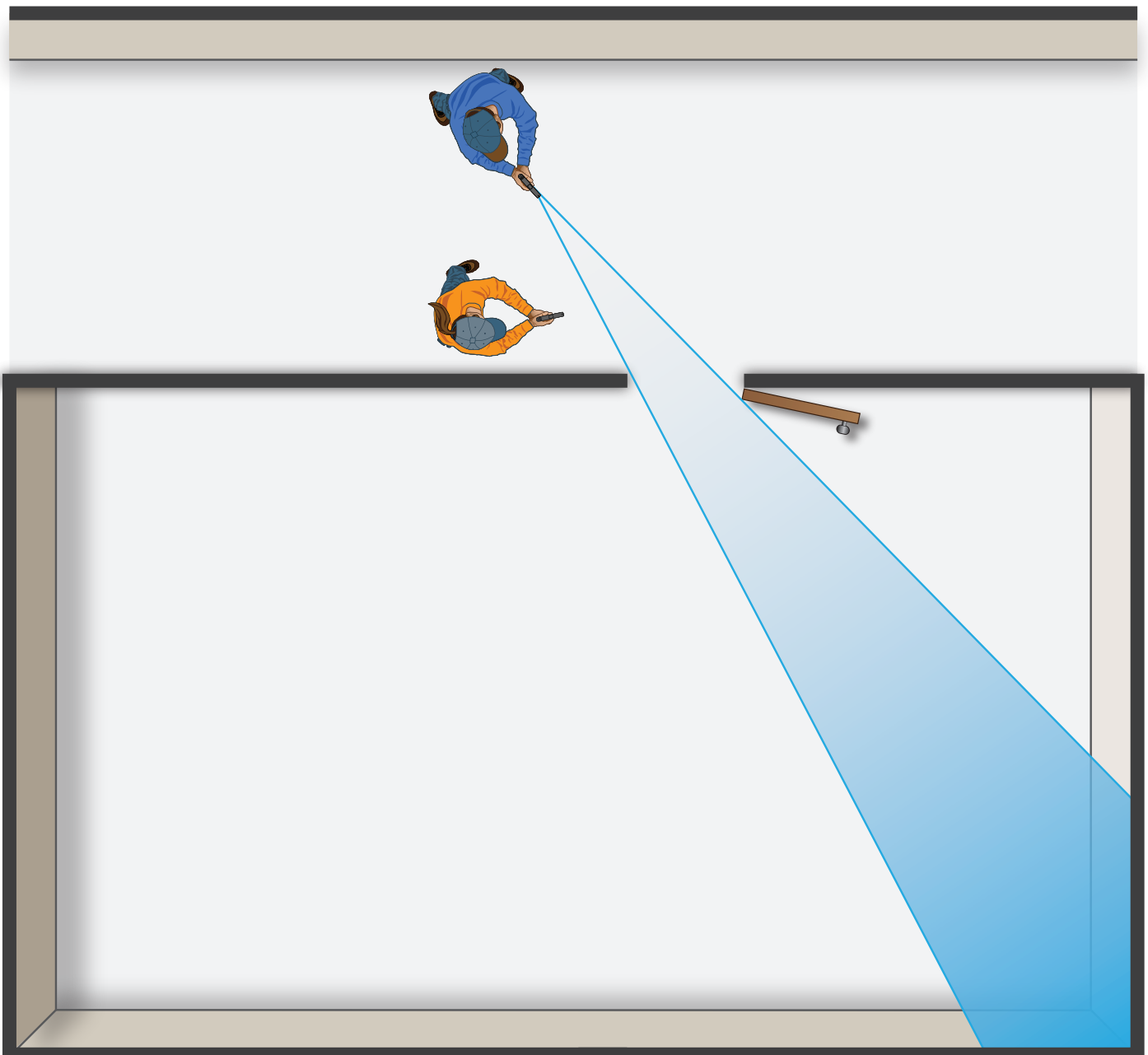
The clear on the move technique is less secure but it is faster and easier to execute. You and your partner will still maintain cross coverage as you move down the hall. However, when one of you passes an open door, you will not stop to cover it but instead you will momentarily pivot to clear the doorway without stopping, continuing movement down the hallway.



ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR FROM THE HALLWAY

STEP 1 - Approach the Door

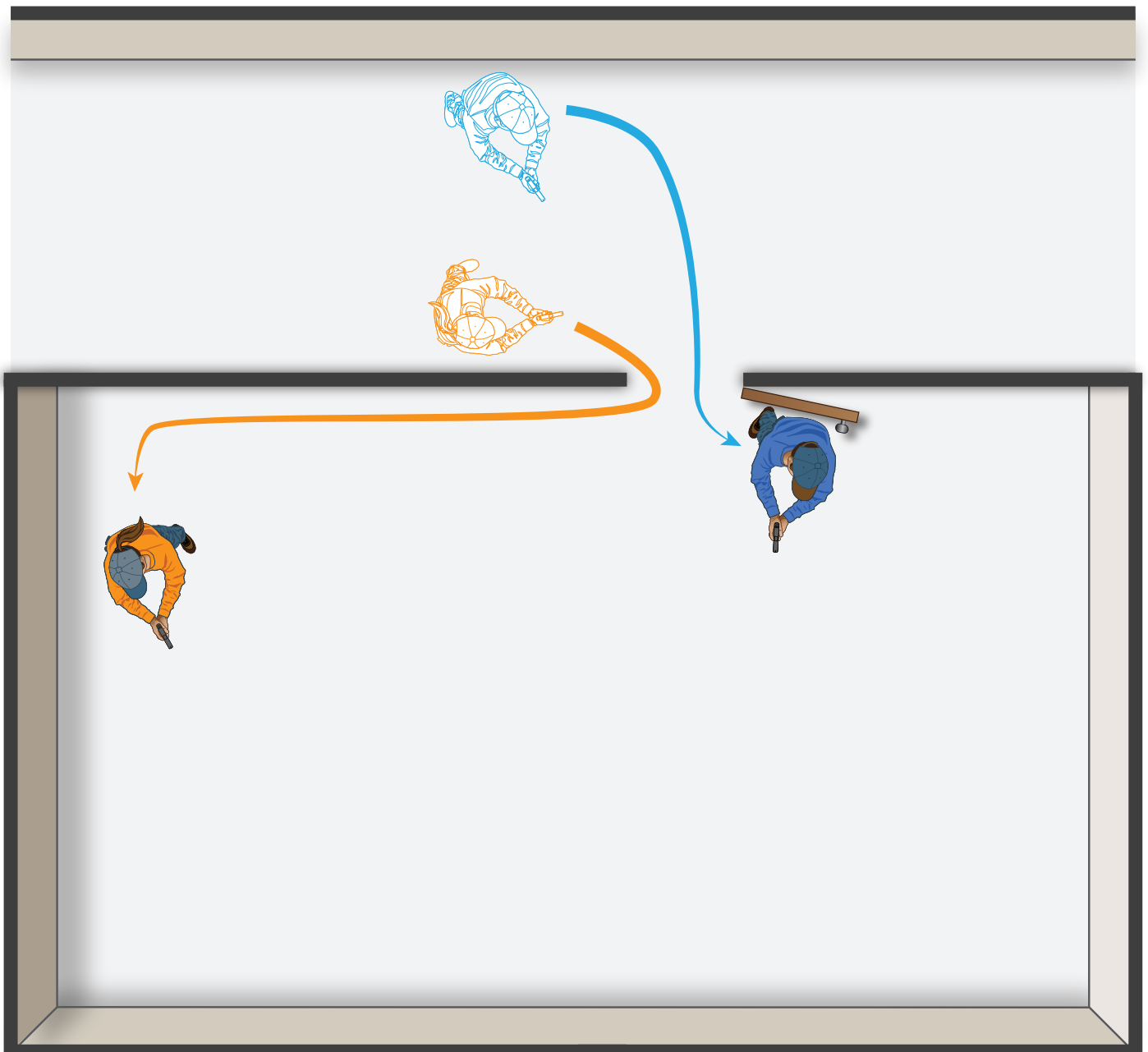
As you and your partner move down the hallway maintaining cross coverage, one of you will identify the open door. You must then decide whether to enter the room or bypass it. In order to stay as quiet as possible and reduce your chances of detection, you might choose to use hand signals instead of verbal commands. If you decide to enter the room, maintain cross coverage until you reach the door.



ENTERING AN OPEN DOOR FROM THE HALLWAY

STEP 2 - Enter and Clear

The person opposite the side of the open door will move into position to provide coverage while the other person prepares to enter the room. If necessary, the person leading the way will take a momentary pause before entering to allow the other person time to prepare to follow close behind into the room. The lead person will then enter the room followed by the second person, using the techniques already described.



ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR FROM THE HALLWAY

STEP 1 - Approach the Door

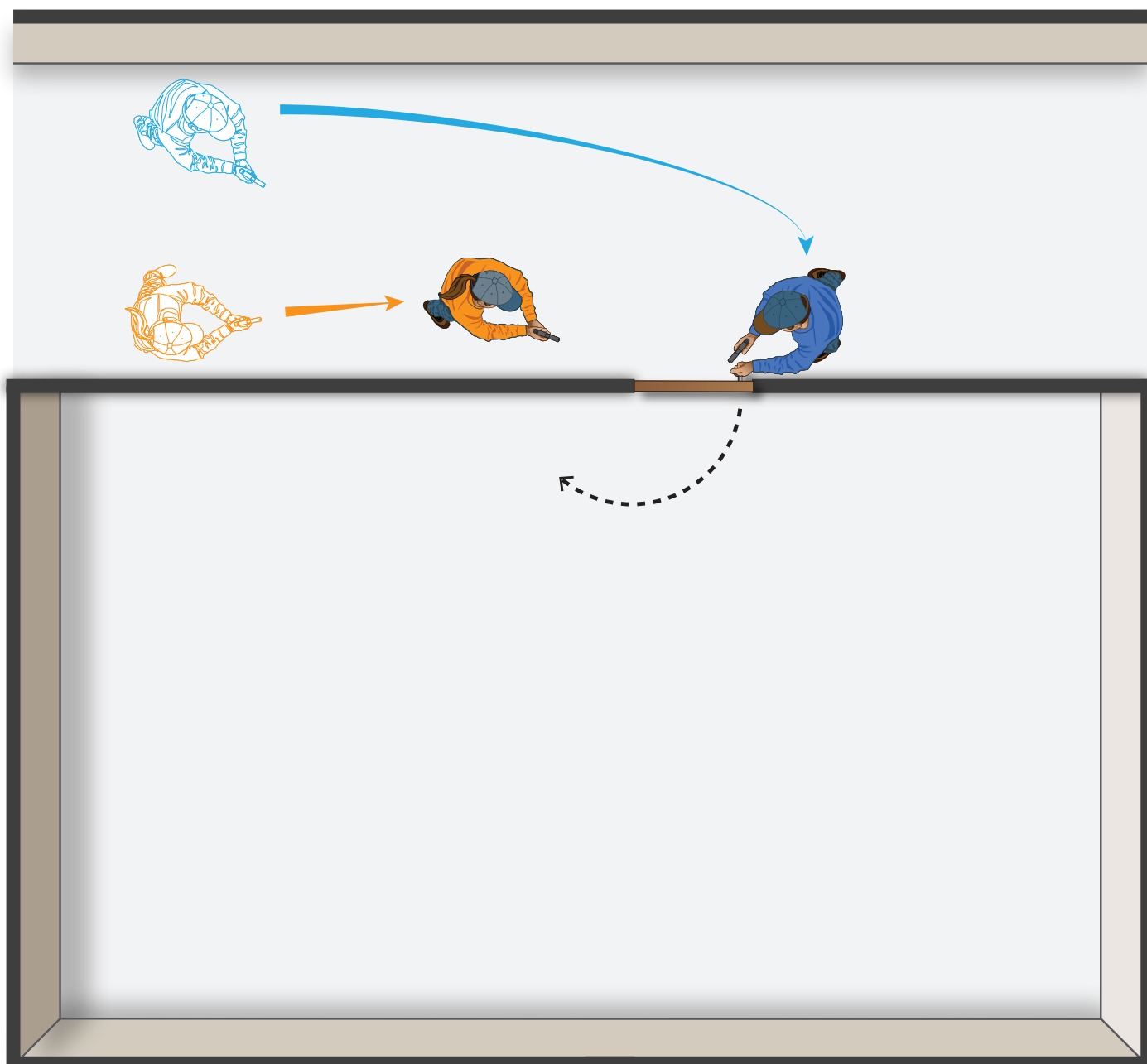
You and your partner will move down the hallway maintaining cross coverage. When you identify the closed door, you will decide whether to enter the room or bypass it.



ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR FROM THE HALLWAY

STEP 2 - Open the Door

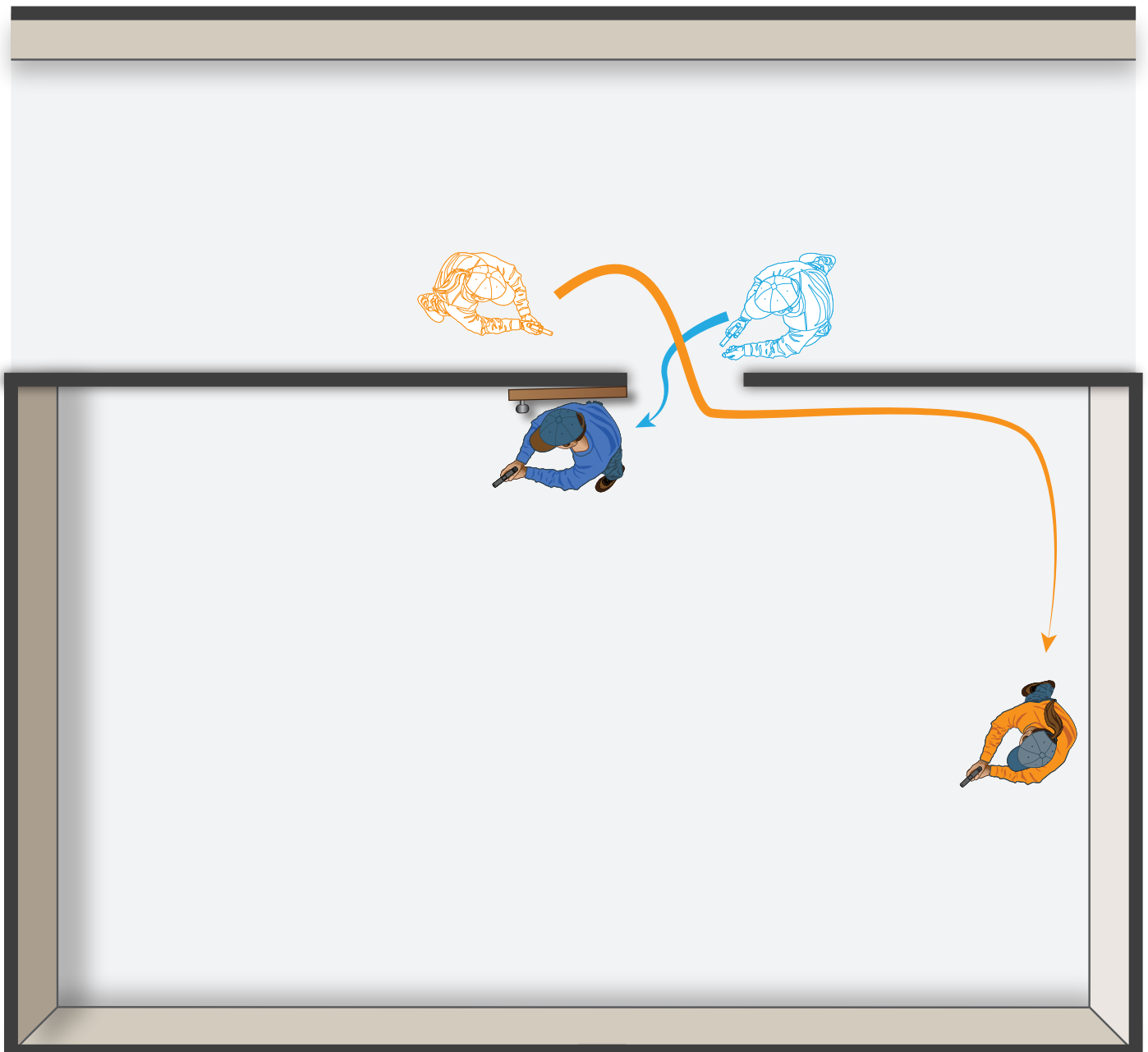
Either person can open the door for the other. However, since the hallway is a danger area, you should open the door as quickly as possible since your back will be exposed to the hallway while opening the door. If you do not want to expose your backs, another option is to open the door yourself and then enter through it. This is called "self-breach."



ENTERING A CLOSED DOOR FROM THE Hallway

STEP 3 - Enter the Room

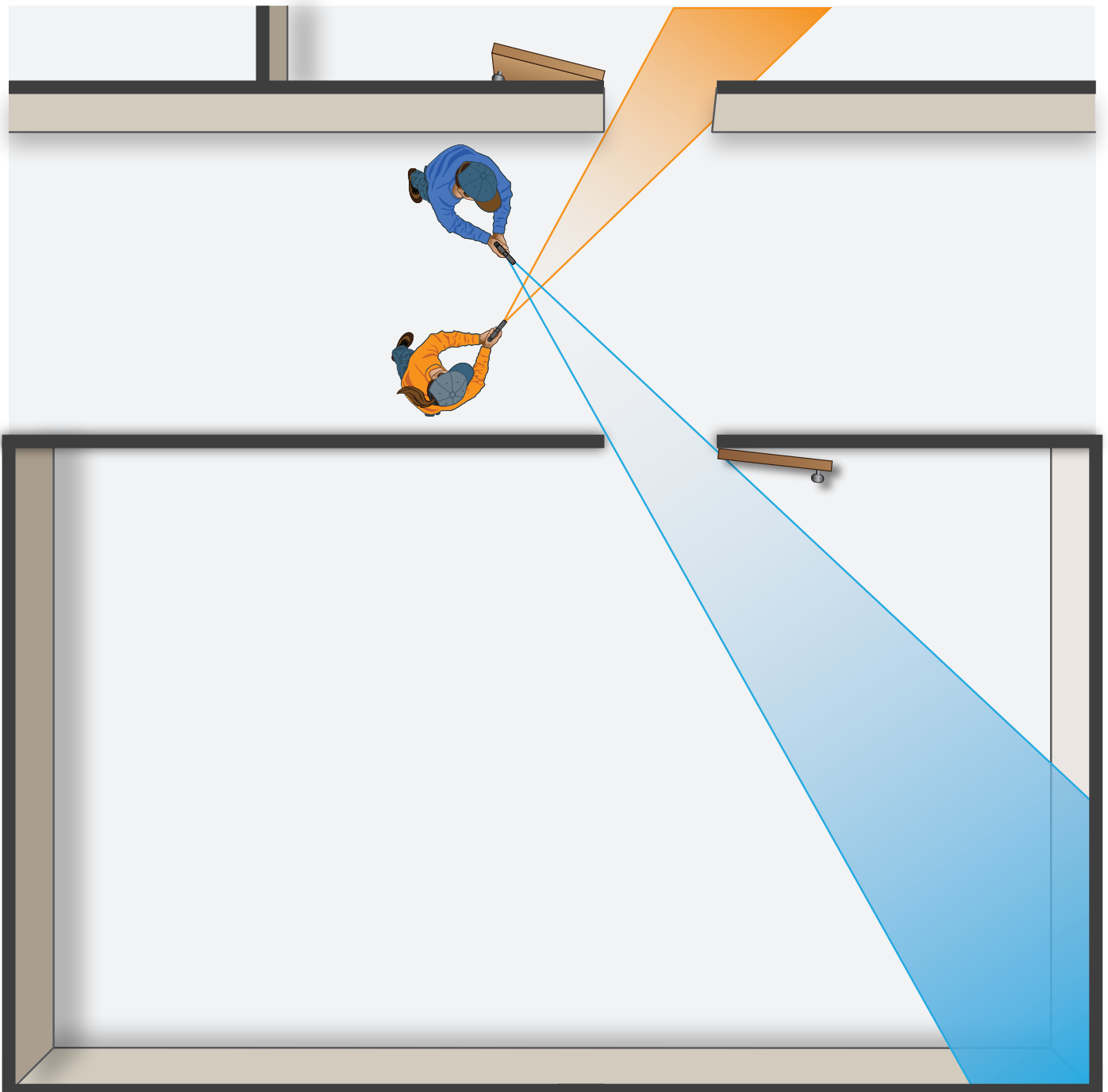
Once the door is open, enter the room using the techniques already described.



ENTERING OPPOSING OPEN DOORS

STEP 1 - Approach the Door

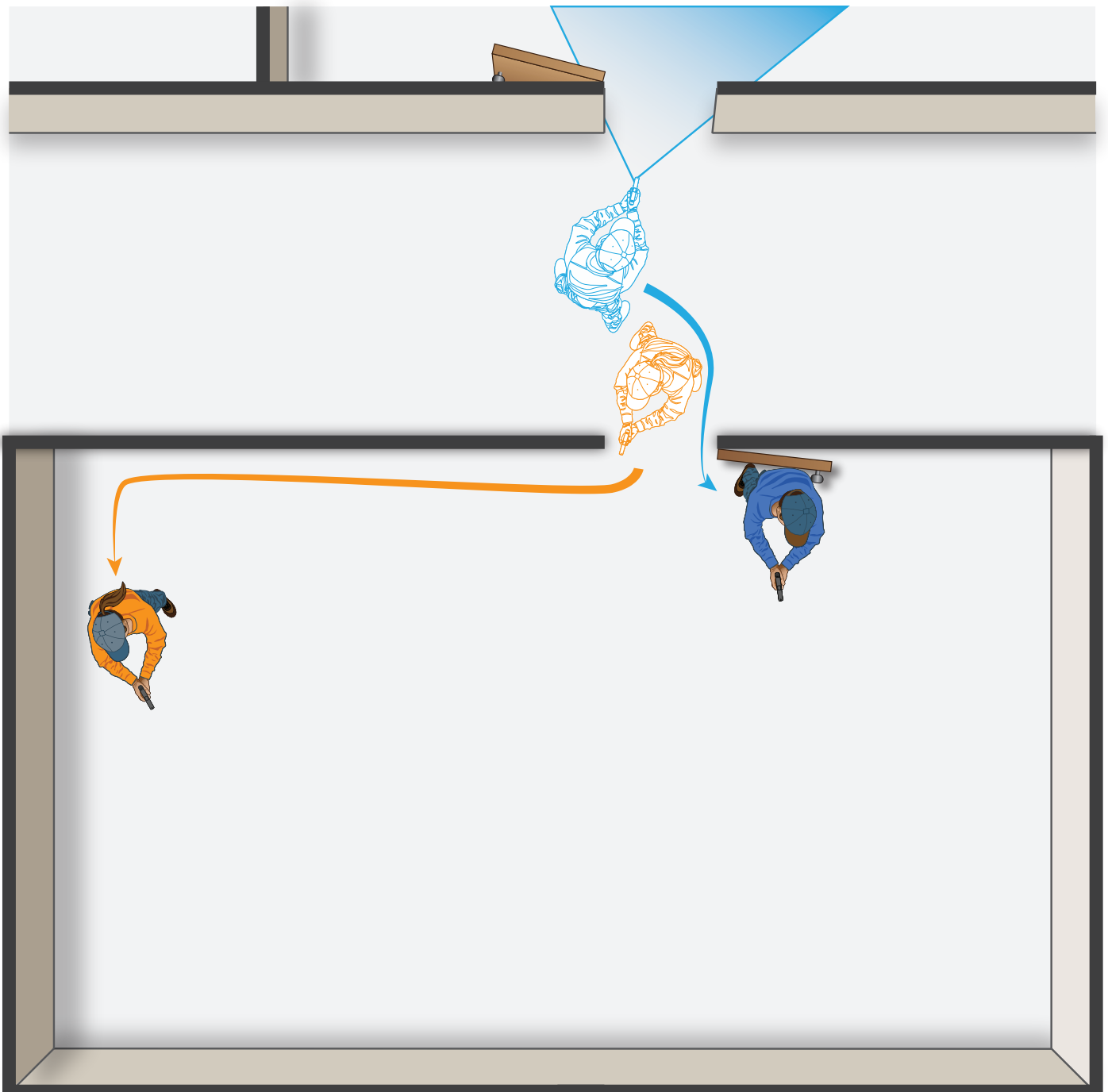
Opposing open doors (two open doors facing each other) is one of the more difficult configurations you can encounter. This is because you cannot enter one door without exposing your backs to the other door. Maintain cross coverage as you approach the opposing doors and decide which door to enter first. If you detect sound, movement or light coming from one of the doors, you should generally enter that door first.



ENTERING OPPOSING OPEN DOORS

STEP 2 - Hold on the Opposing Door and Enter

As you and your partner reach the open doors, the person on the entry side will pause momentarily before entering the room and the other person will position right behind the lead person while covering the opposing door. The second person will give a squeeze to the first person and then give up coverage of the opposing door and both will enter the room. If you and your partner have trained together extensively, you can eliminate the squeeze signal.



MOVING FROM A ROOM INTO THE HALLWAY

STEP 1 - Position Near the Door

When you clear a room and then want to move back into the hallway, first position near the door and then decide which direction you want to move.



MOVING FROM A ROOM INTO THE HALLWAY

STEP 2 - Clear Left and Right

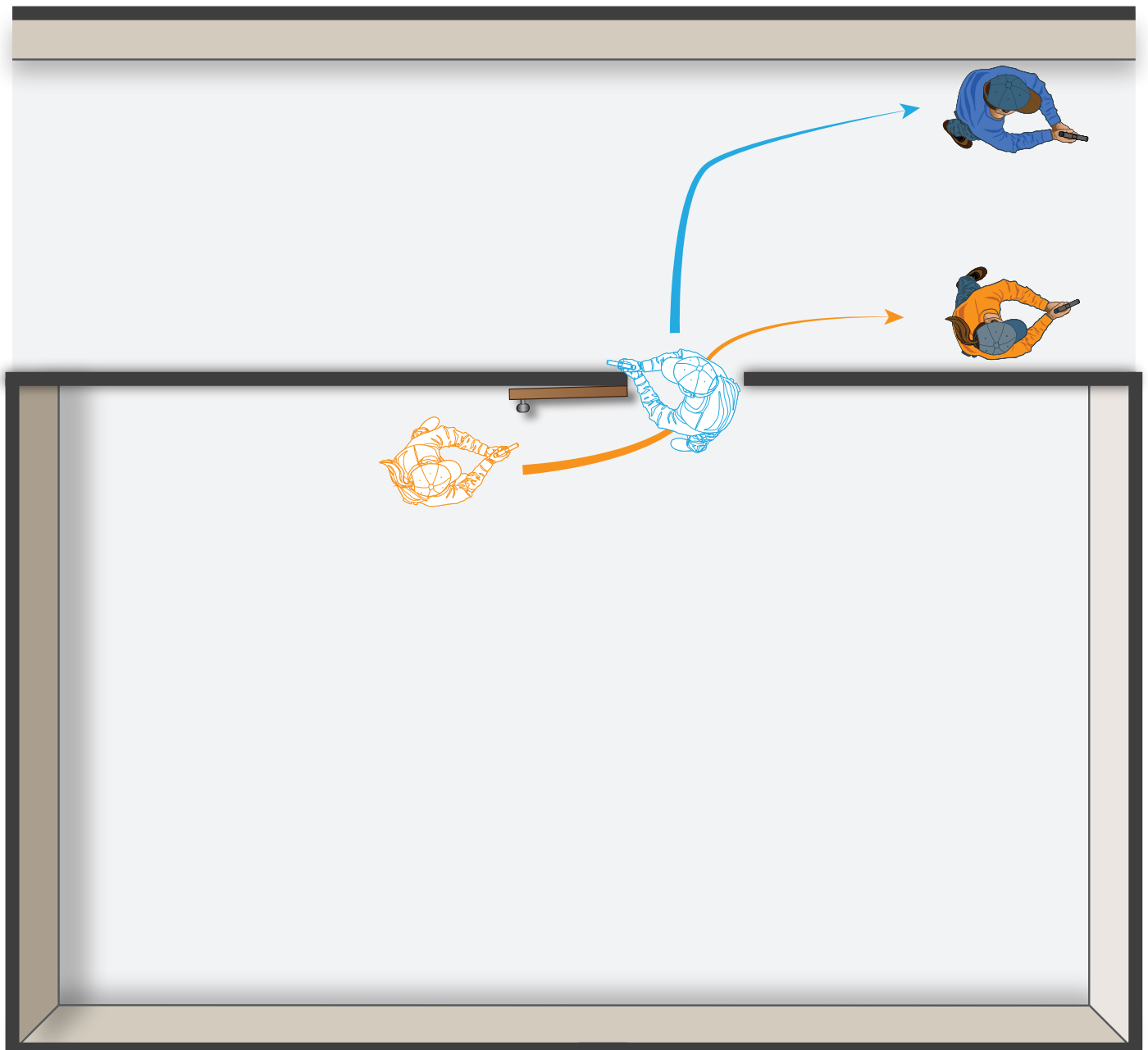
Once you determine which direction you want to move, one person will move up to the door and quickly clear left and right down the hall, while still taking advantage of the cover and concealment provided by the room.



MOVING FROM A ROOM INTO THE HALLWAY

STEP 3 - Resume Movement in the Direction of Travel

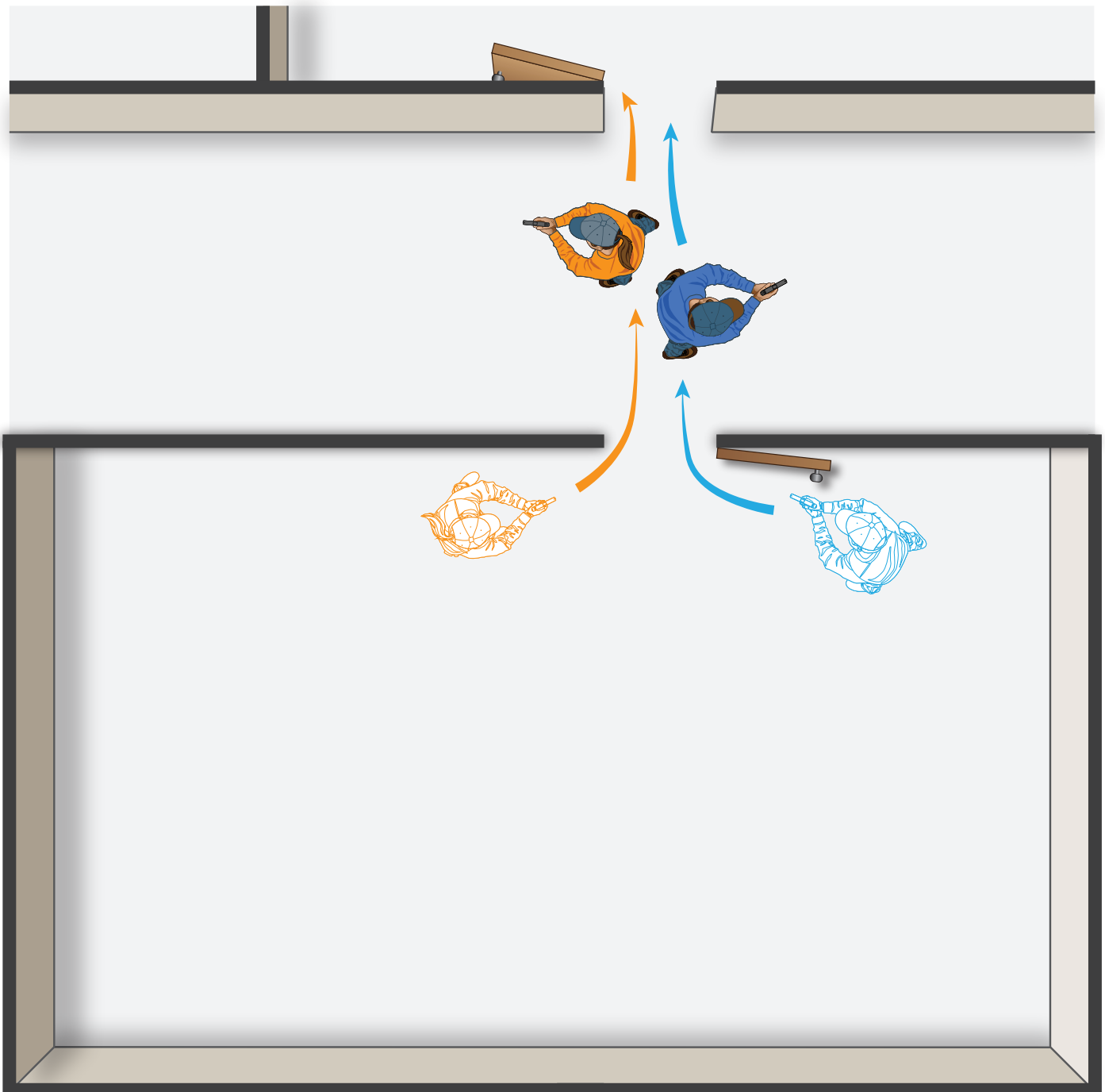
Once the hallway is clear, the lead person moves back into the hall and the second person follows behind. As with previous techniques, you and your partner should position yourselves even with each other in order to best provide cross-coverage.



MOVING ACROSS A HALLWAY INTO ANOTHER ROOM

Complete Sequence

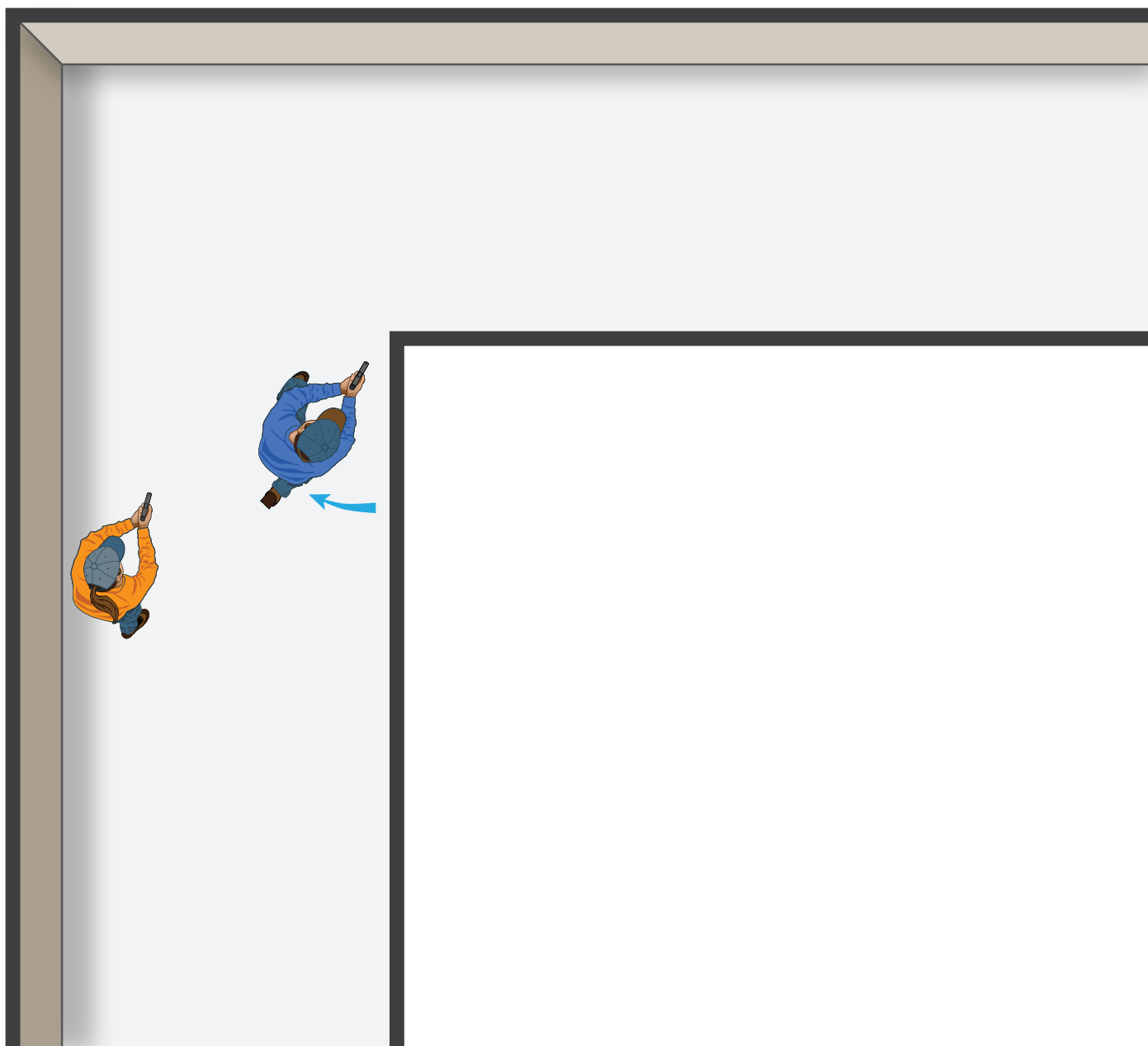
When you clear a room but then want to move back across the hallway into another room, one option is to “clear on the move” as you cross the hallway. One person will clear on the move facing right and the other person will clear on the move facing left. They will then enter the room using the techniques already explained. For more details on the “clear on the move” technique, see page 89.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: HIGH-LOW TECHNIQUE

STEP 1 - Lead Person Kneels

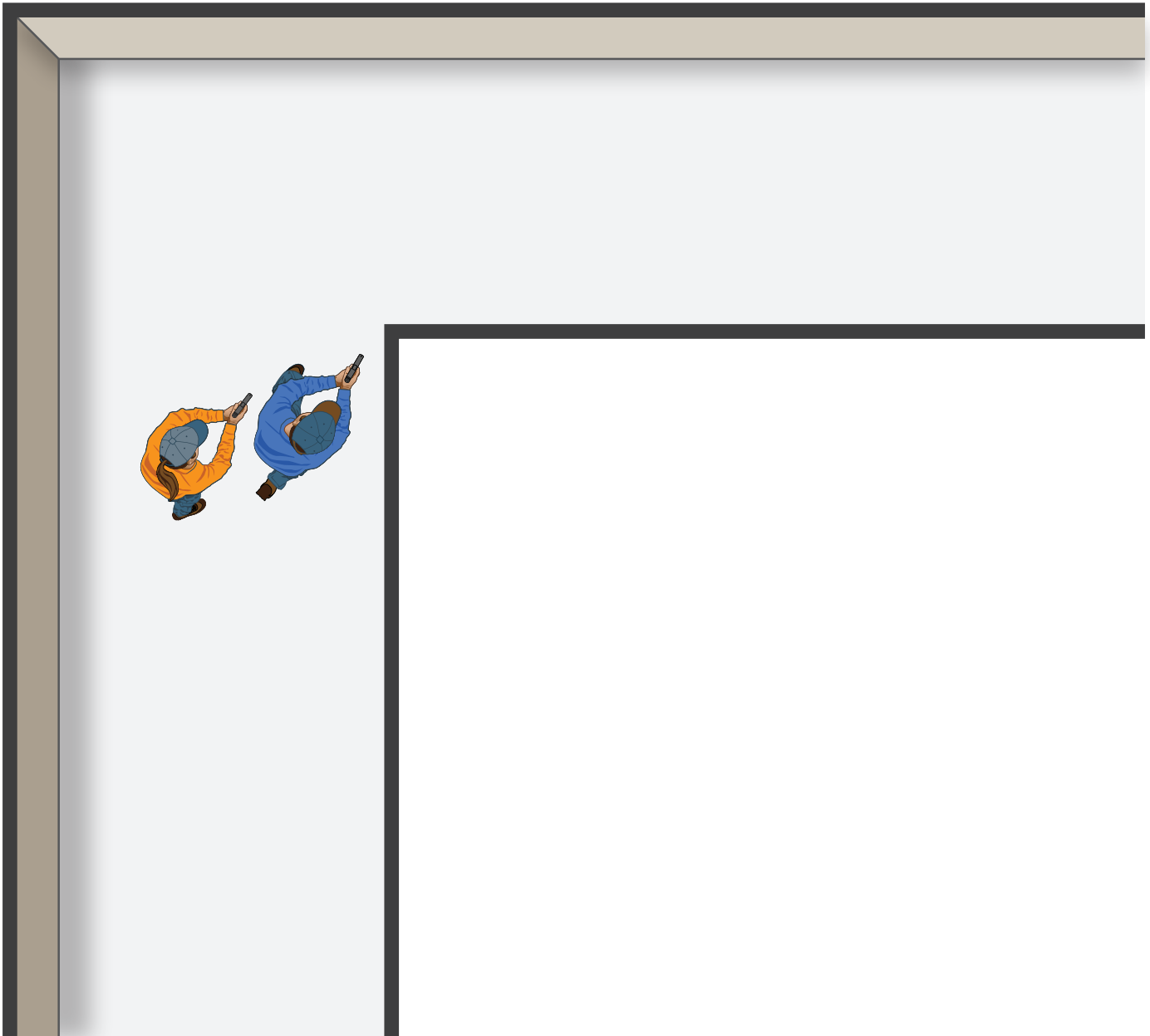
The high-low technique is used to clear a hallway when speed is not critical and the lead person expects danger around the corner. Essentially, the high-low can be useful when you want to maximize the cover and concealment provided by the corner and don't want to overly expose yourself by moving into the hallway. The lead person will kneel on one knee while maintaining front security. The inside knee nearest to the wall should go down because it offers the best and most natural pivot point. The lead person should orient the weapon at about a 45-degree angle off the corner and be sure not to let the weapon protrude beyond the corner where adversaries might see it. When moving close to the corner, it is also important to make sure that shadows do not extend into the hall.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: HIGH-LOW TECHNIQUE

STEP 2 - Second Person Provides Support

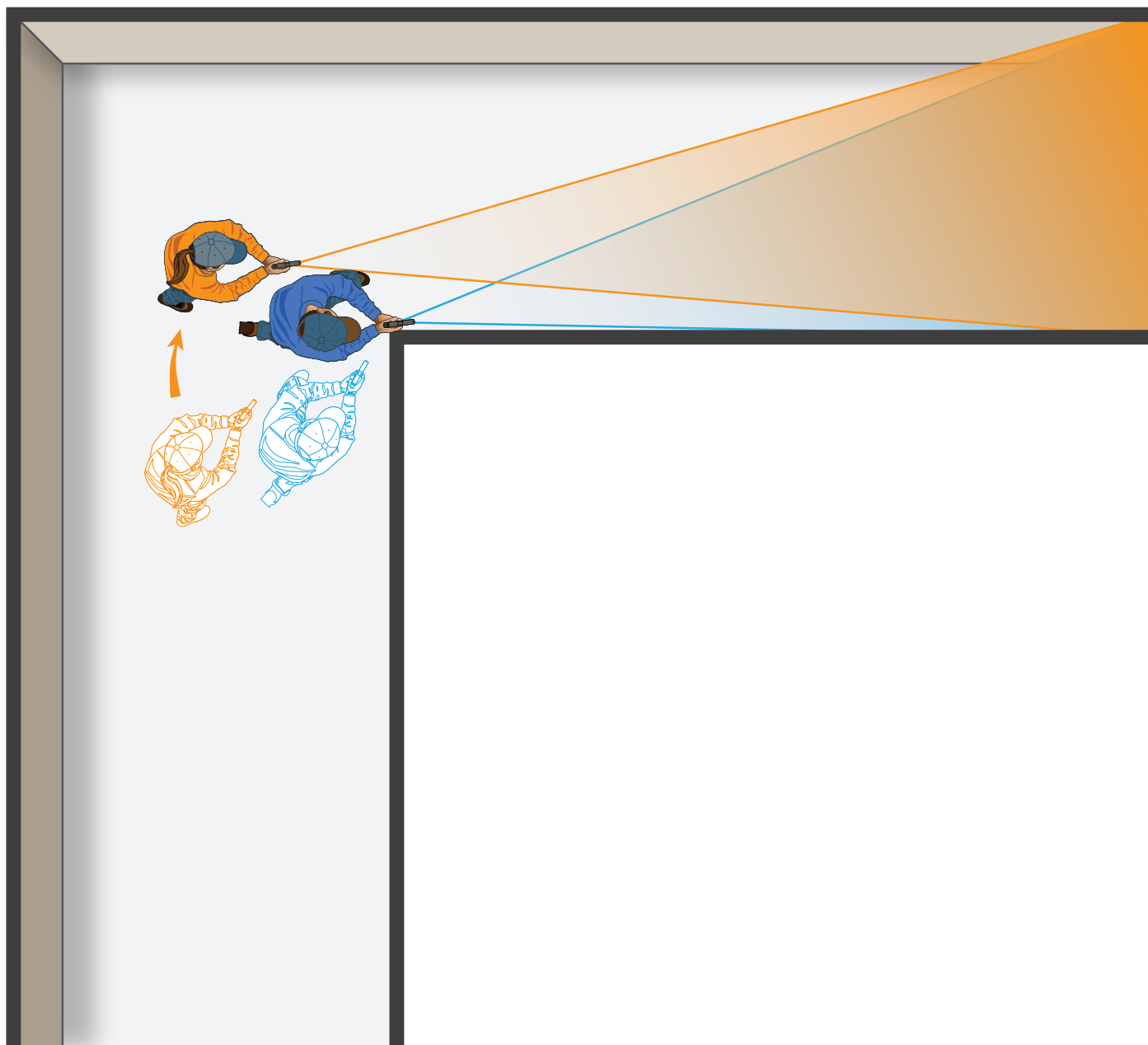
The second person will assume a position at a slight angle away from the lead person and provide additional cover on the corner. Both persons will be covering the corner but the second person will be remaining situationally aware and checking the rear as necessary.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: HIGH-LOW TECHNIQUE

STEP 3 - Corner Clear

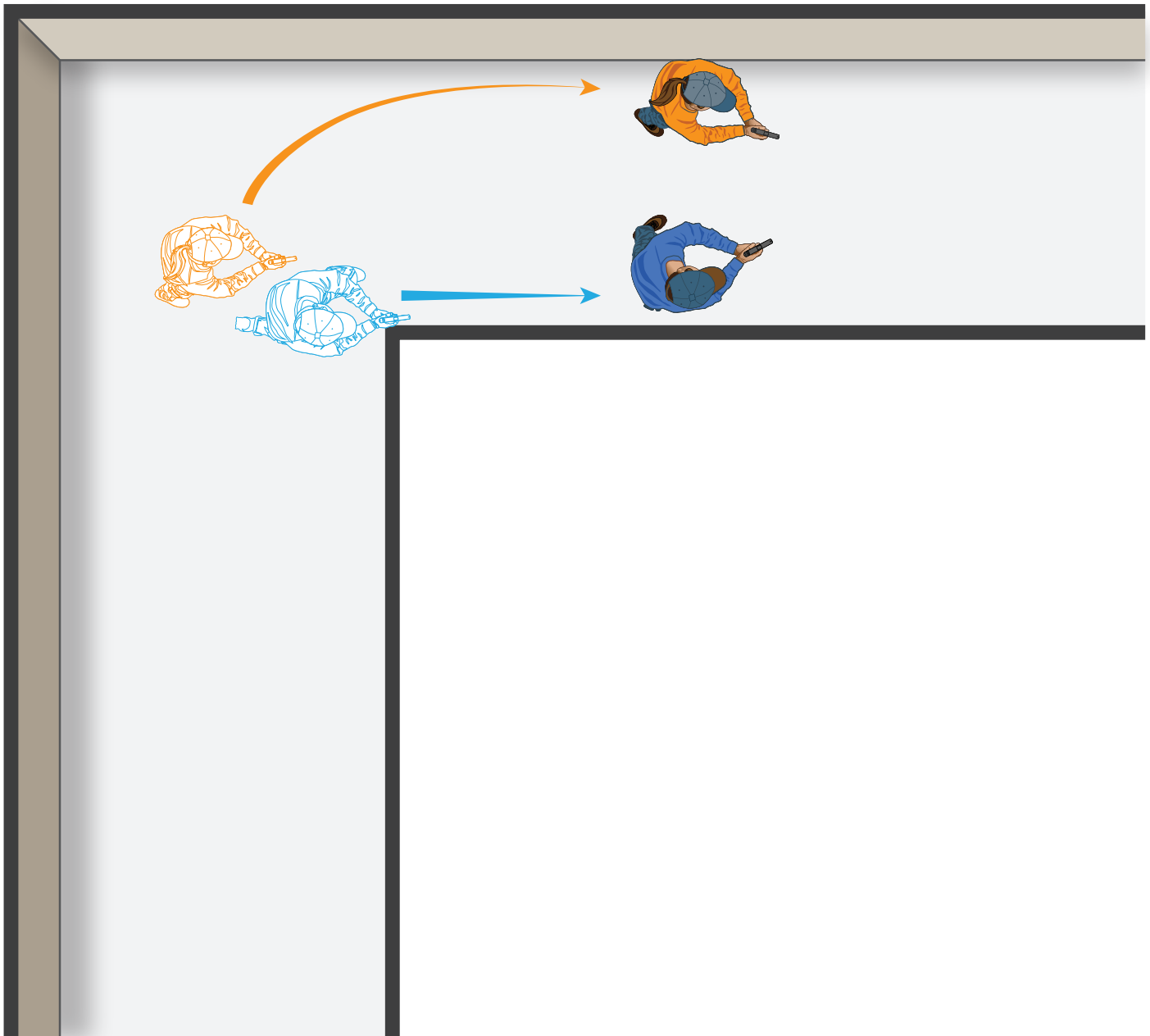
Once in position, the second person will give the ready signal (shoulder or arm squeeze) to the lead person to initiate the corner clearing process. The lead person will pause briefly to allow the second person to reset and bring his/her back to the weapon. When ready, both persons will shift position outward around the corner and clear the hallway while still taking advantage of the cover/concealment provided by the corner and exposing themselves as little as possible. The second person also has the option of moving across the hall to get a better angle of observation down the hall and to create more separation. However, moving across the hall makes you more exposed to hostile fire.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: HIGH-LOW TECHNIQUE

STEP 4 - Pick-up and Move

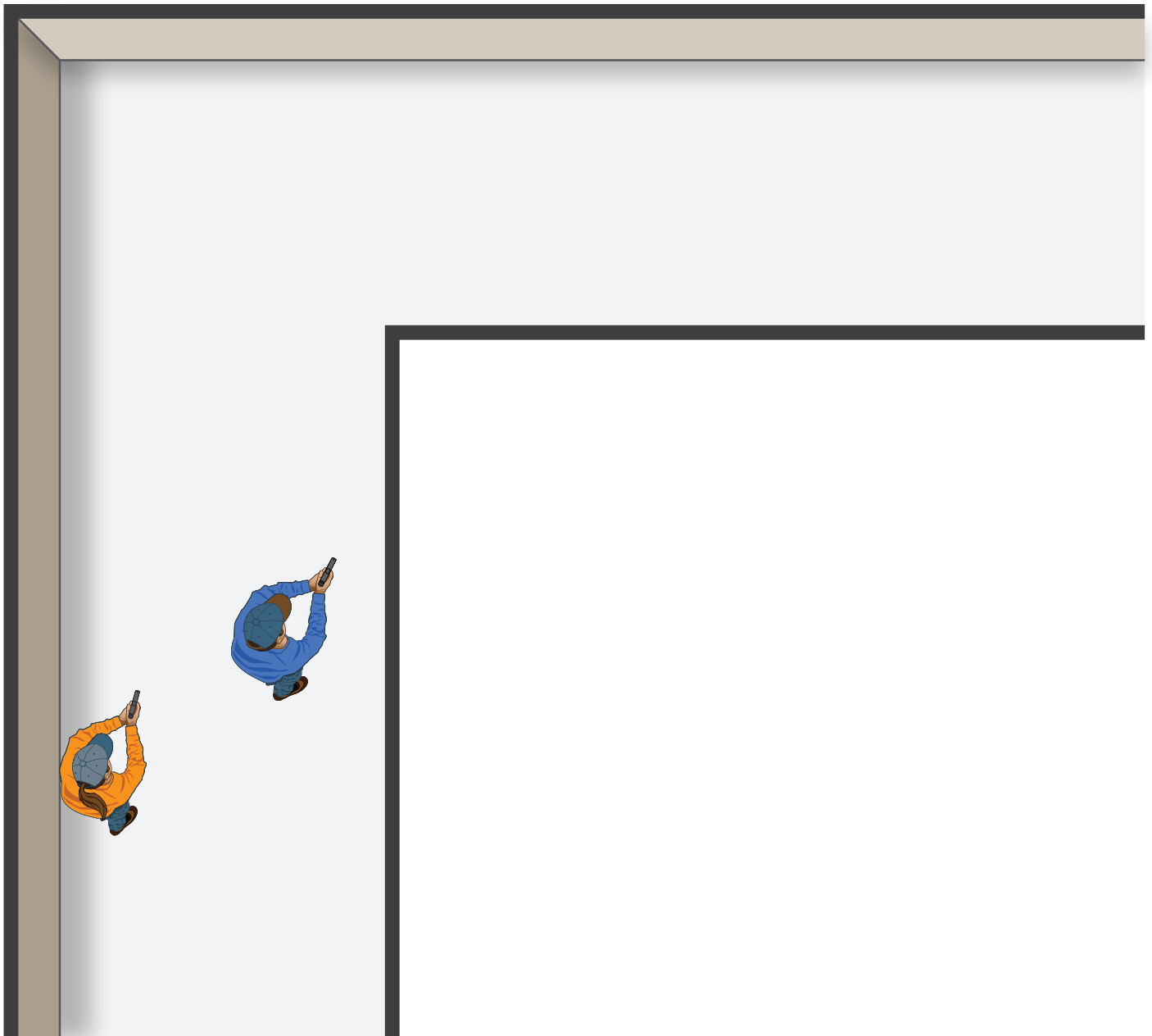
After clearing the corner, you and your partner will continue movement down the hallway, maintaining cross coverage. To initiate movement, the second person will reach down with the non-firing hand and “pick-up” the lead person. The lead person must remain in place and remain kneeling until picked up. This is important because of the increased risk that can come if the kneeling person unexpectedly stands up into the line of fire of the other person.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: NEAR-FAR TECHNIQUE

STEP 1 - Lead Person Prepares to Clear

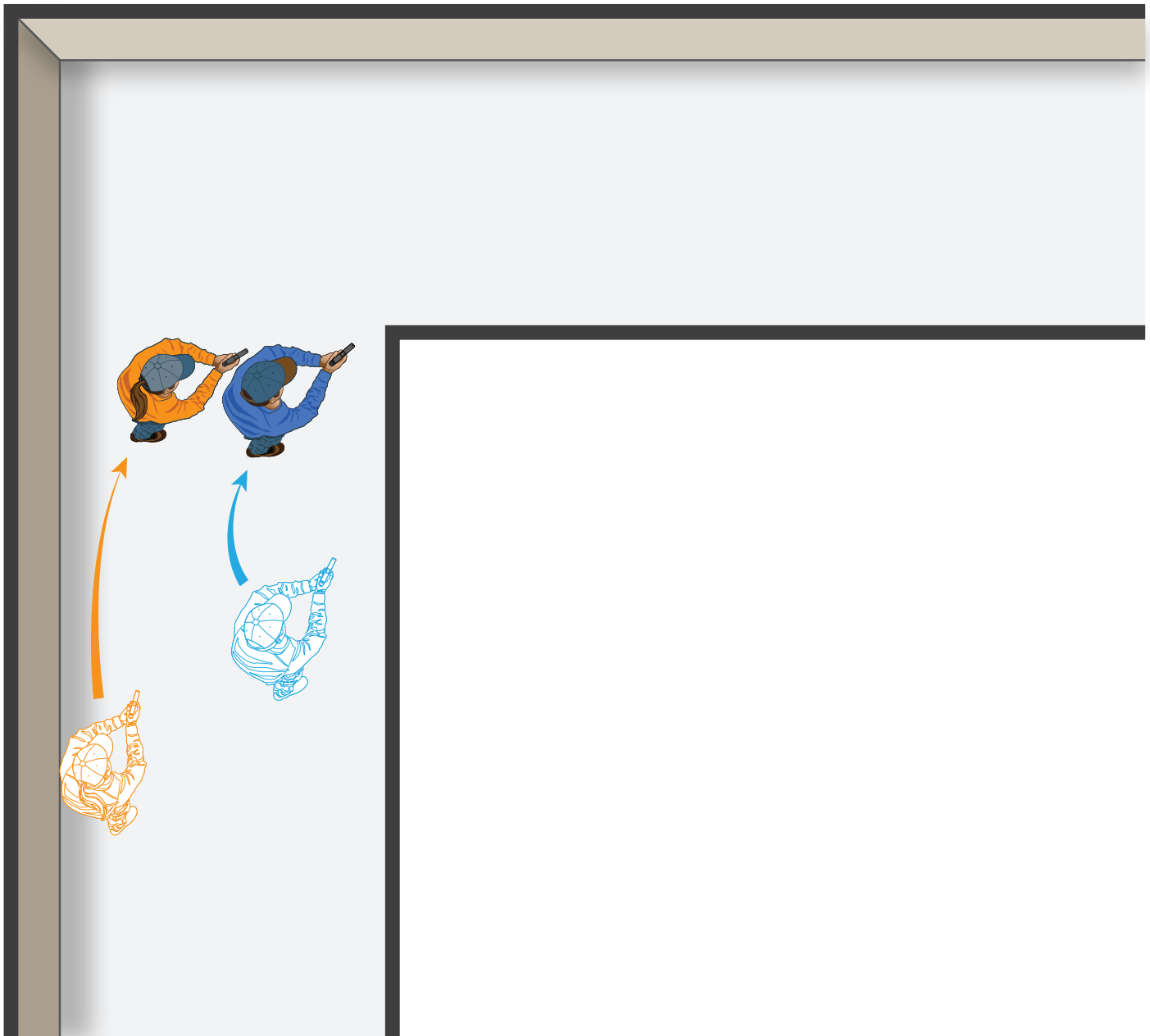
This technique is similar to the high-low technique but it is faster and easier to execute. For the near-far, the lead person will not assume a kneeling position, but will instead clear from the standing position. As the two persons reach the corner, the lead person will cover the corner and provide front security. The lead person should orient the weapon at about a 45-degree angle off the corner and be sure not to let the weapon extend beyond the corner where adversaries might see it. When moving close to the corner, you and your partner should also make sure your shadows do not extend into the hall.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: NEAR-FAR TECHNIQUE

STEP 2 - Second Person Provides Support

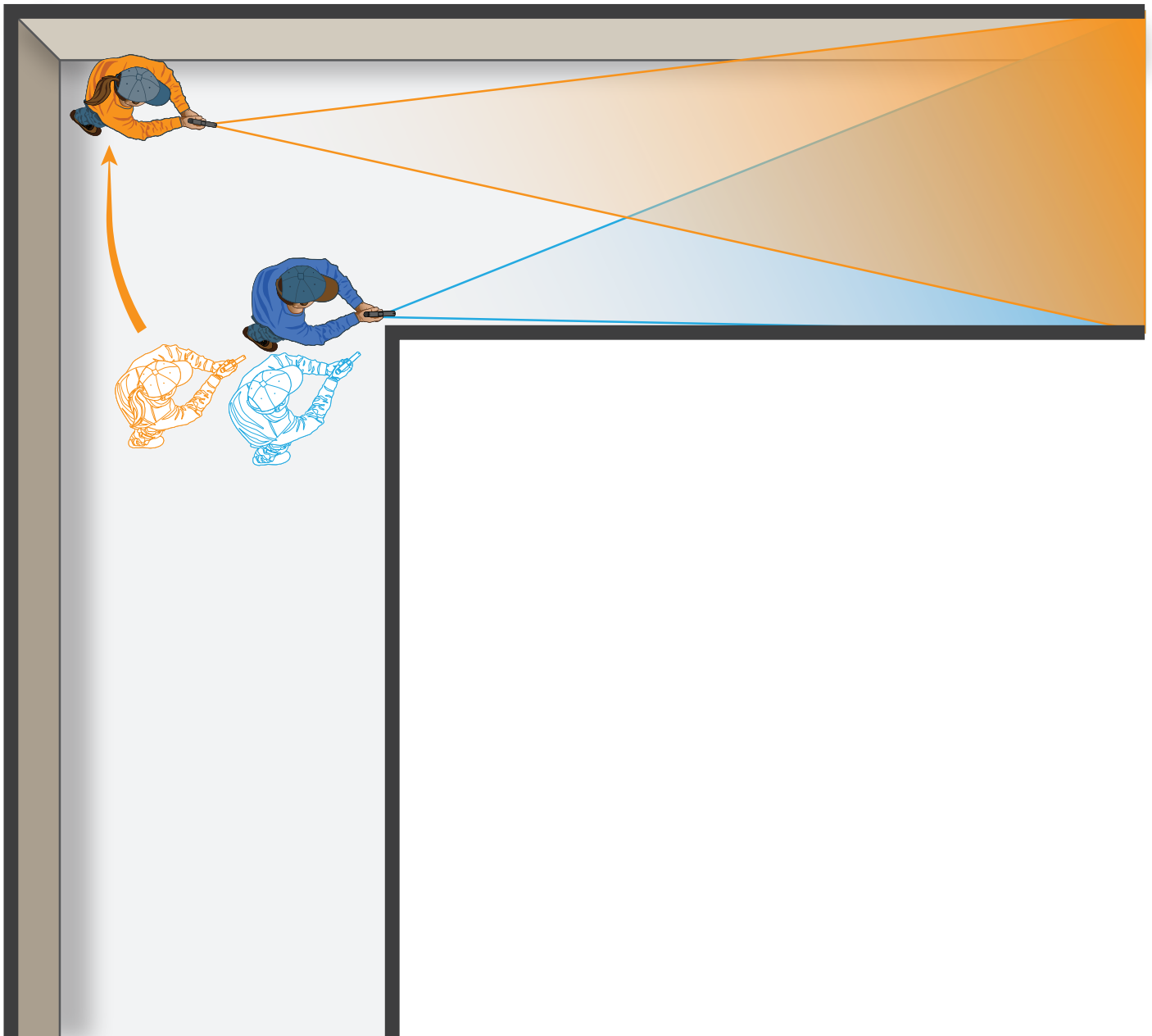
The second person will assume a position at a slight angle away from the lead person and provide additional cover on the corner.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: NEAR-FAR TECHNIQUE

STEP 3 - Corner Clear

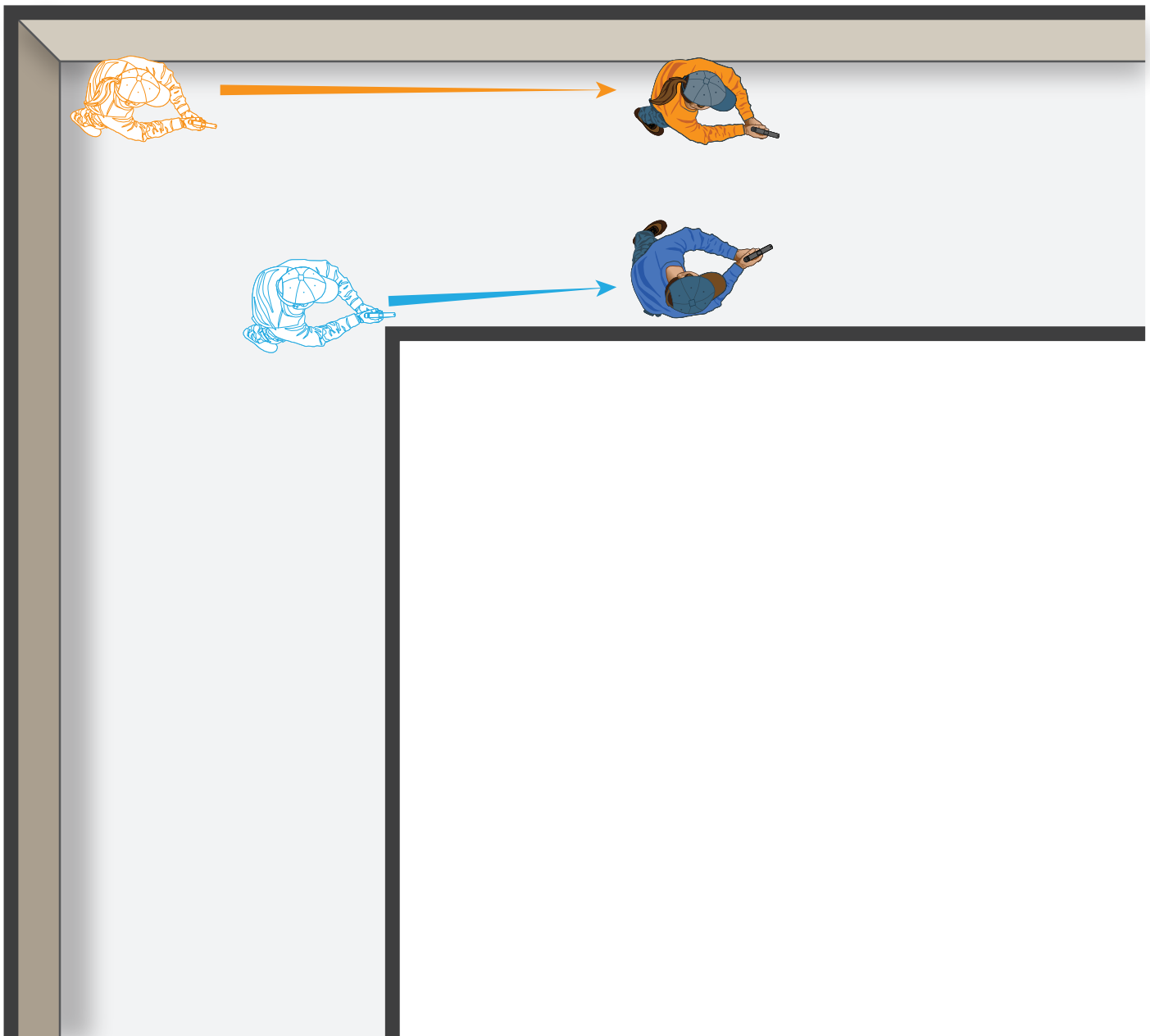
Once in position, the second person will give the ready signal (shoulder or arm squeeze) to the lead person to initiate the corner clearing process. The lead person will pause briefly to allow the second person to reset and bring the hand back to the weapon. When ready, both persons will swing around the corner and clear the hallway. The lead person will stay close to the corner, taking advantage of cover/concealment. The second person will move across to the opposite side of the hallway, maintaining good spacing from the lead.



L-SHAPE INTERSECTION: NEAR-FAR TECHNIQUE

STEP 4 - Continue Movement

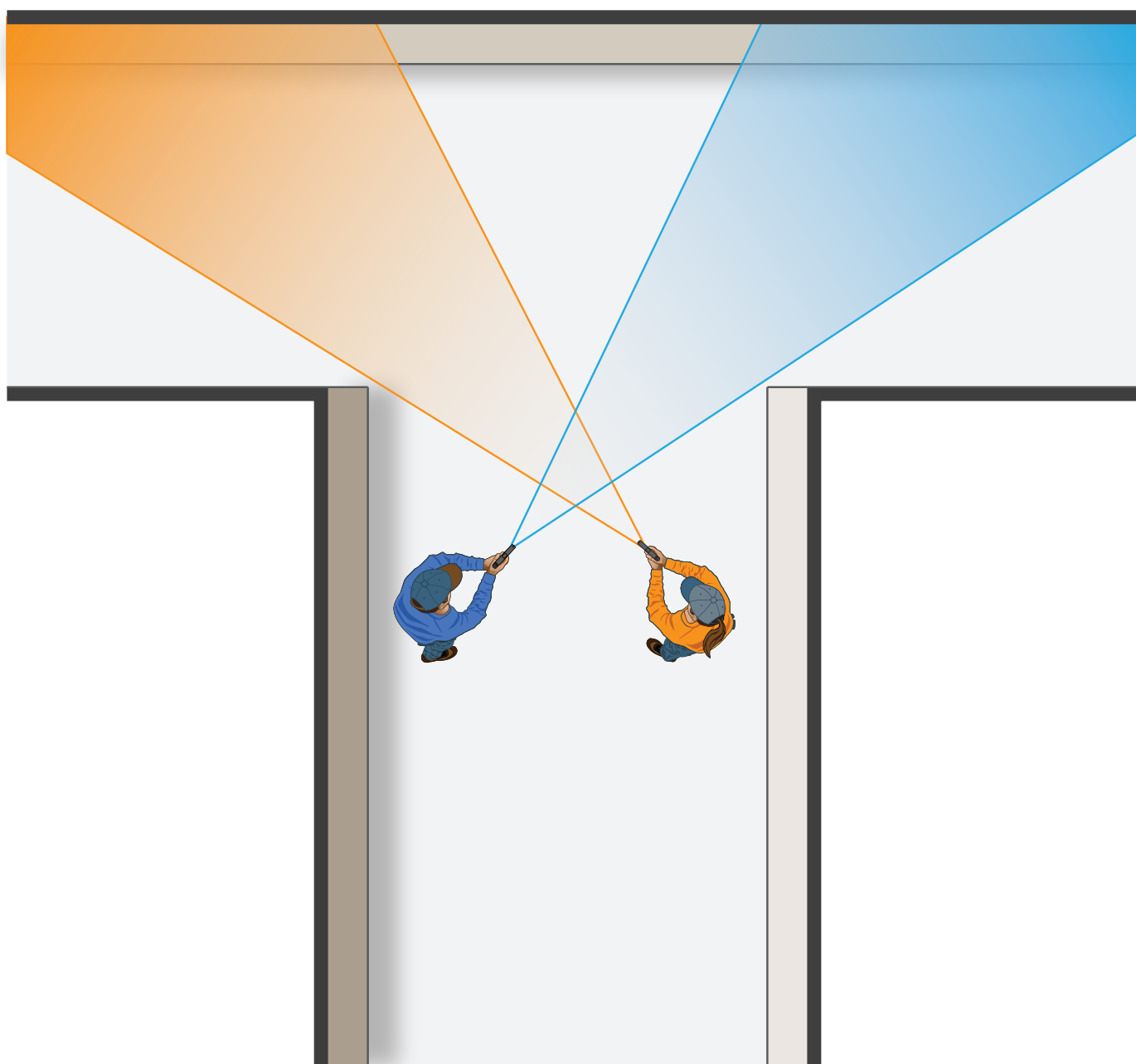
After clearing the corner, you and your partner will continue movement, maintaining cross coverage.



T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 1 - Approach the Intersection

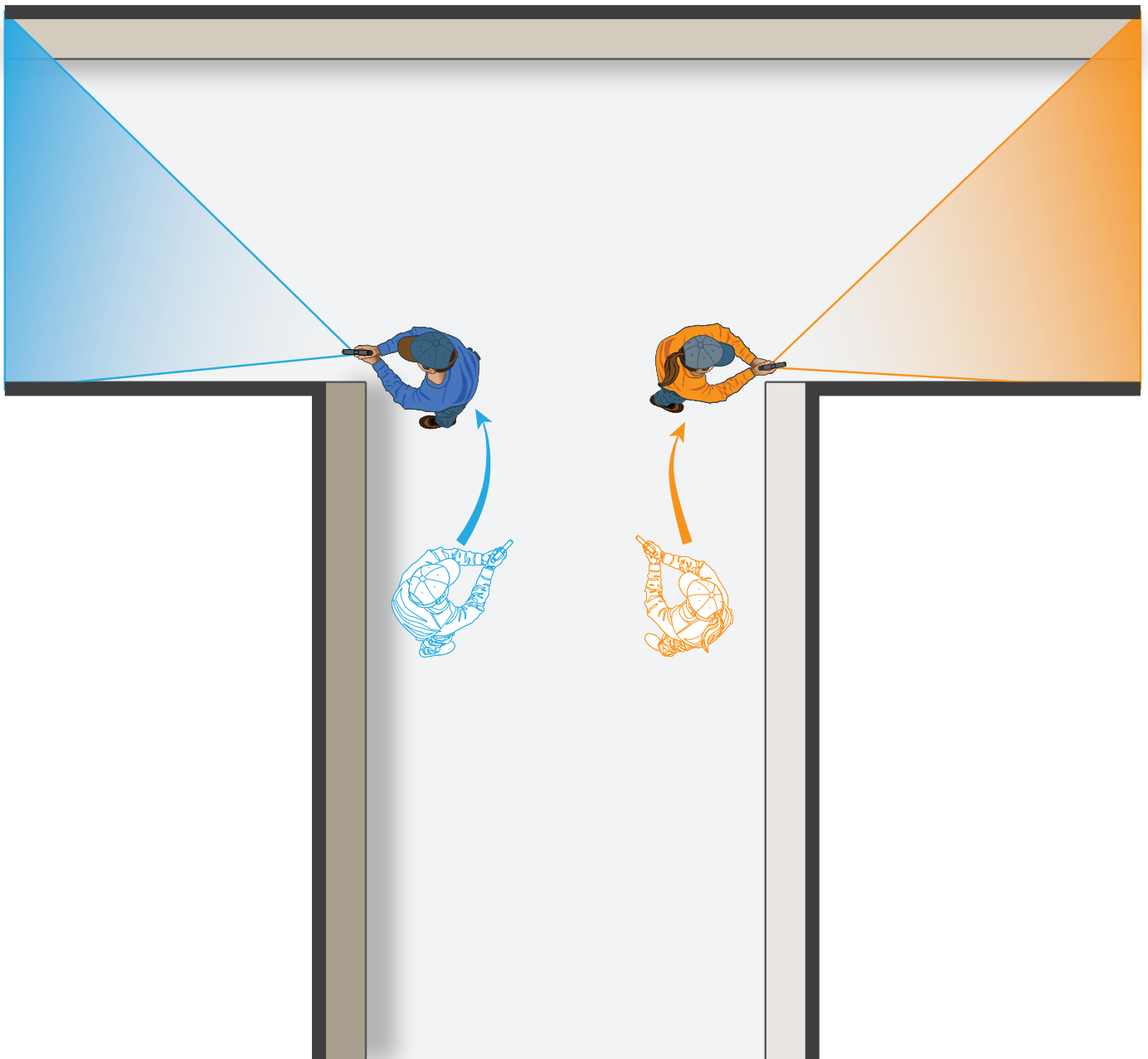
As you approach the intersection, maintain cross coverage on the corners. Before reaching the intersection, decide which direction to move. When moving close to the corner, make sure your shadows do not extend into the hall.



T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 2 - Clear the Intersection

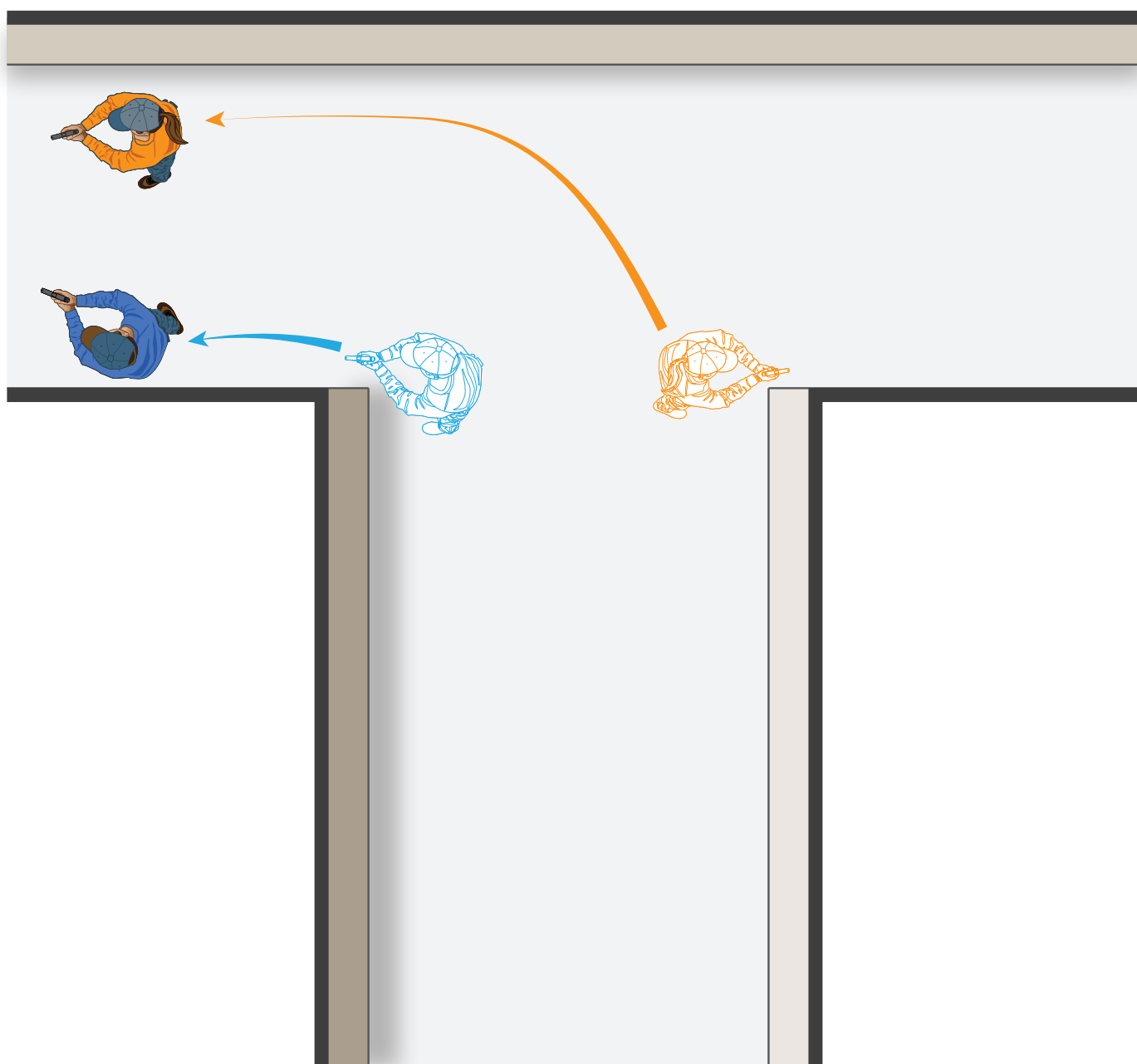
Once you and your partner reach your corners, give up cross coverage and switch to same-side coverage. Both persons clear their corners simultaneously, taking maximum advantage of cover and concealment and exposing yourselves as little as possible.



T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 3 - Move Down the Hall

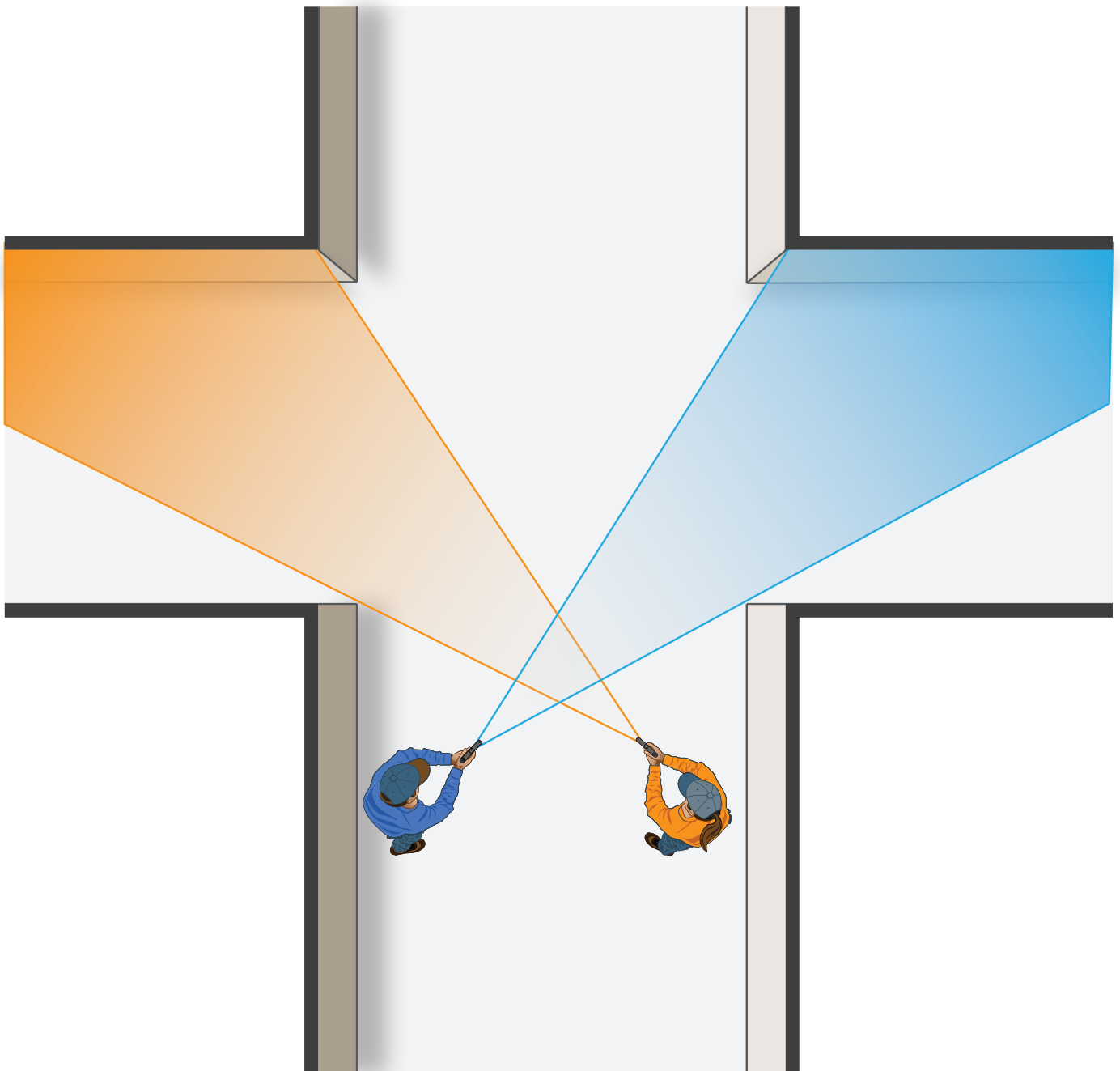
Once the intersection is clear, both persons will move down the hallway in the desired direction of movement, maintaining cross coverage. Also note that T-shape intersections with uneven corners will require a slightly different clearing procedure (see p. 88).



X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 1 - Approach the Intersection

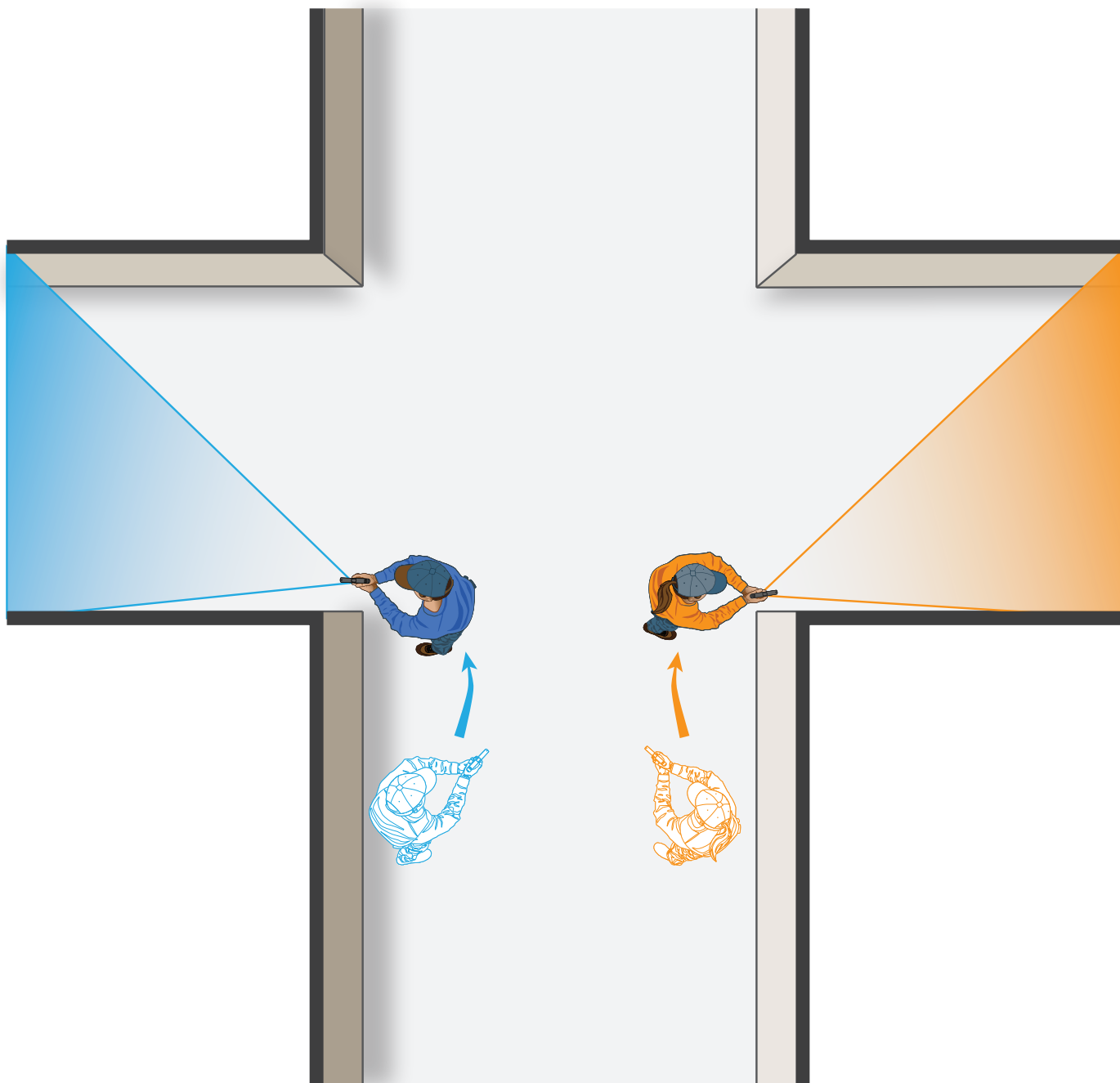
Clearing an X-shape intersection is similar to clearing a T-shape intersection except there is an additional possible direction of travel and additional angles to cover. You and your partner will approach the intersection maintaining cross coverage but also remaining aware of threats to the front. Before reaching the intersection, decide which direction to move. When moving close to the corner, make sure your shadows do not extend into the hall.



X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 2 - Clear the Intersection

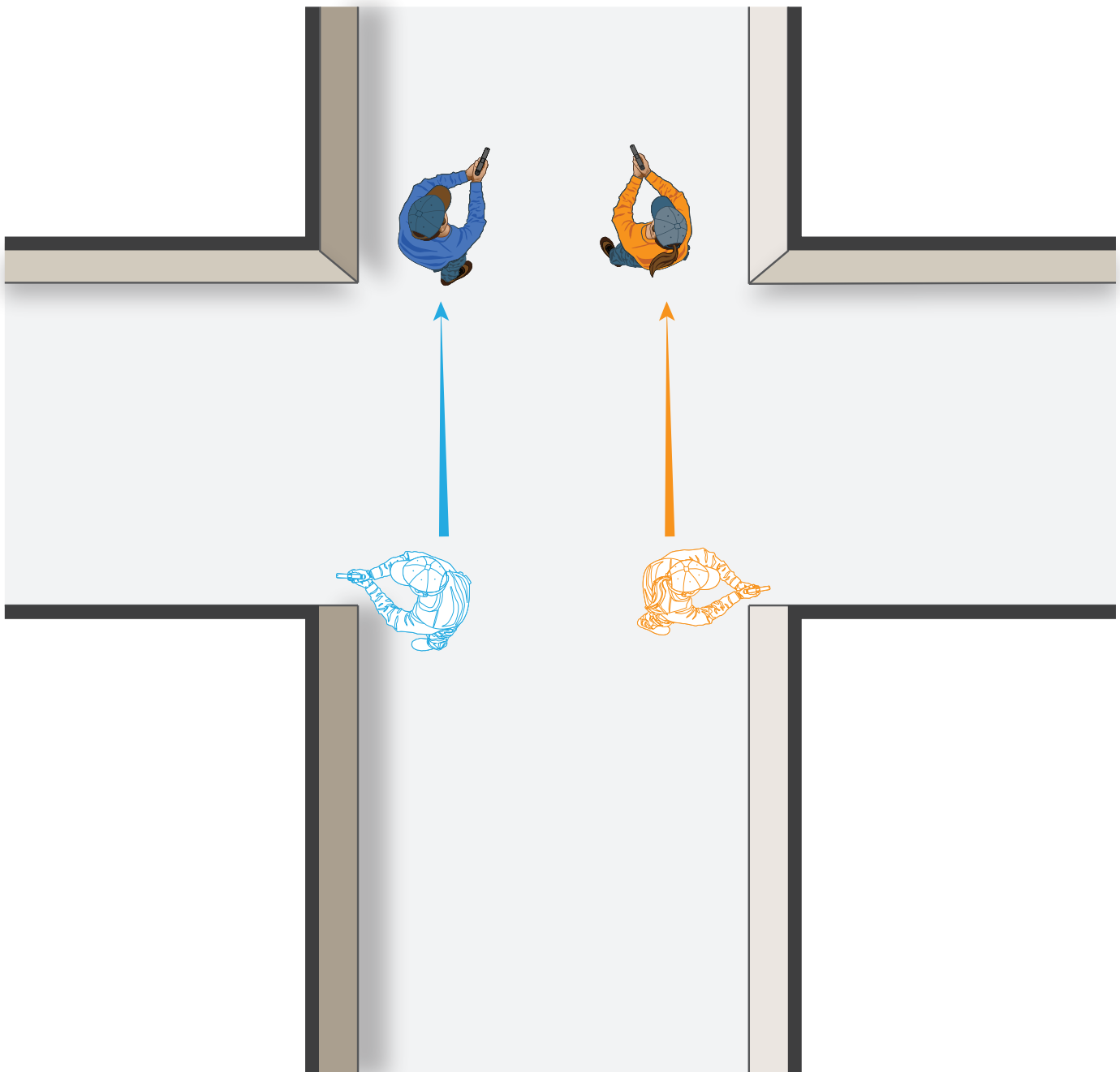
Once you reach your corners, you will give up cross coverage, switch to same-side coverage and clear the corners simultaneously.



X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 3 - Move Down the Hall

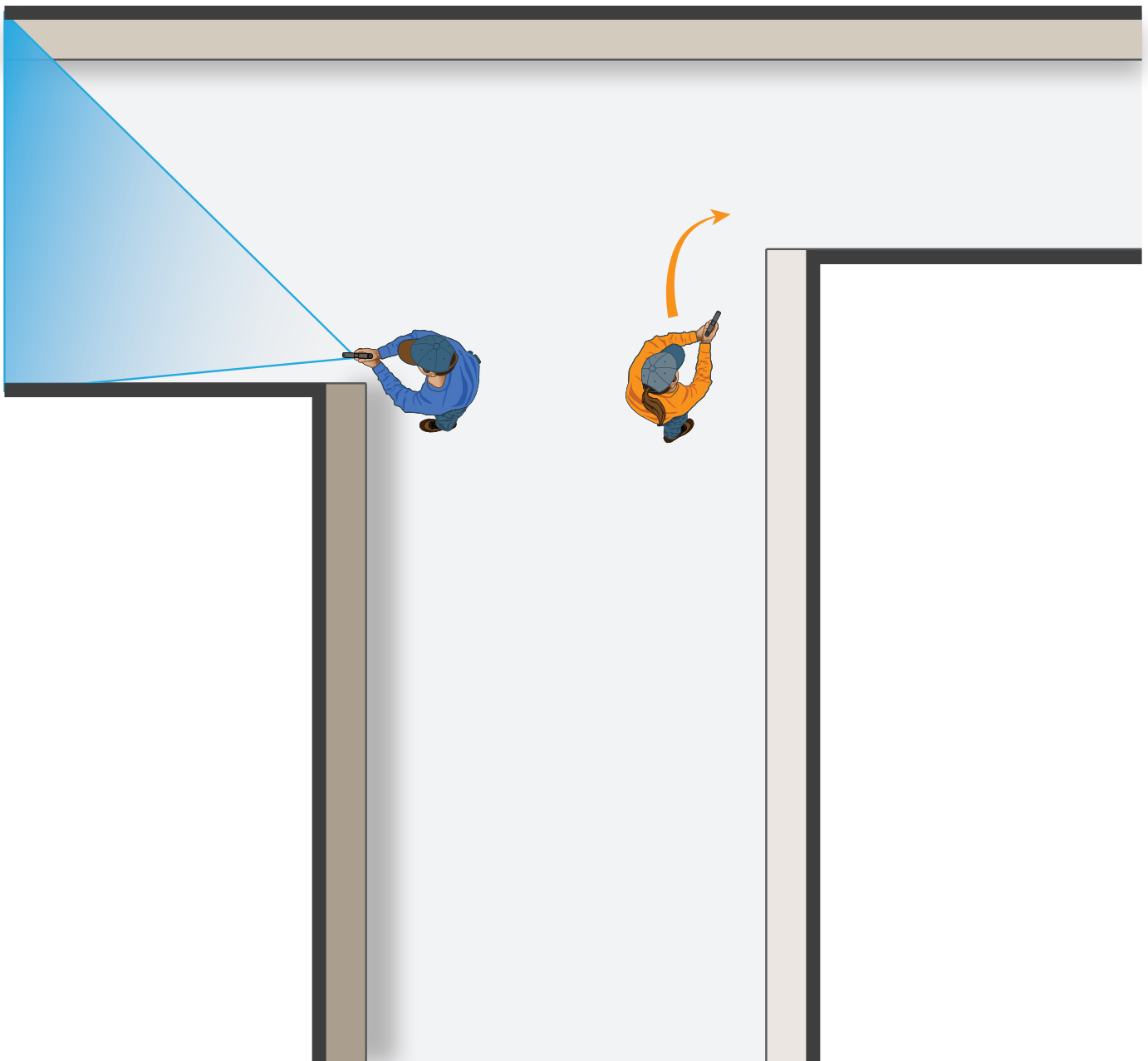
Once the intersection is clear, you can either make a turn and move down the hallway or continue moving straight ahead. It is critical to move quickly away from the intersection to minimize the time that you are exposed from four directions.



INTERSECTIONS WITH UNEVEN CORNERS

COMPLETE SEQUENCE

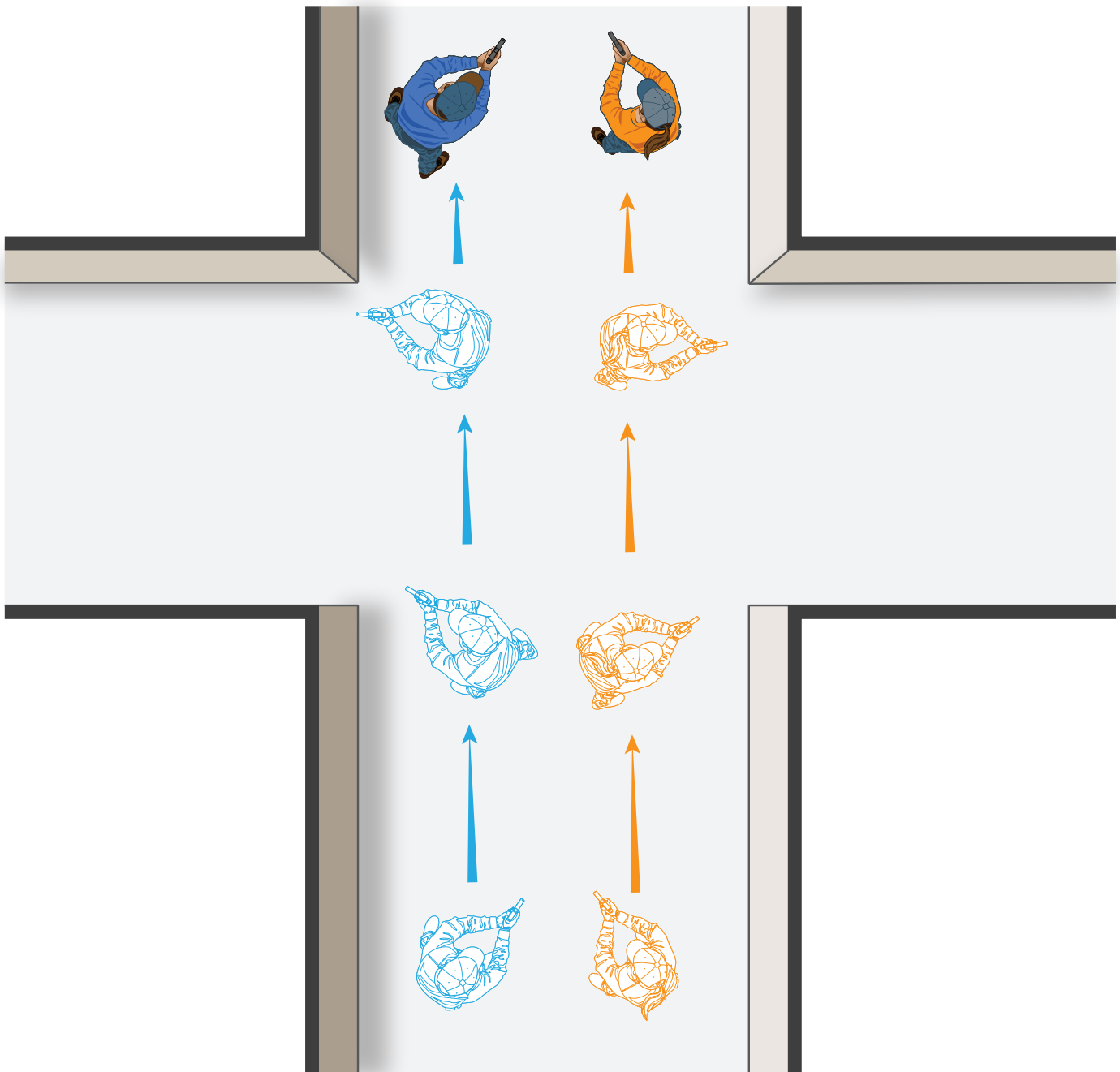
In some situations, you may encounter a T-intersection or X-intersection with uneven corners. The clearing process for uneven corners is very similar to the process for even corners. The main difference is that with uneven corners, one person should clear the near corner slightly before the other person clears the far corner. If you clear the corners simultaneously, the person clearing the far corner would be exposing his/her back to the opposing hallway.



CLEARING INTERSECTIONS ON THE MOVE

COMPLETE SEQUENCE

So far, all of the intersection clearing techniques have employed the clear and hold method. However, in an emergency clearing situation where time is critical, you can use the “clear on the move” method. Conducting the clear on the move is simple. Maintain your general formation and cross coverage and individually clear danger areas as you pass. For example, to cross an X-shape intersection, you and your partner would remain side-by-side but each of you would clear down the hallway on your respective side as the you passed through the intersection.





TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Hallways Delayed Entry

While it is critical to move quickly in a hallway and “immediate entry” techniques offer more speed, there are situations when it is best to employ delayed entry techniques in a hallway. If you are approaching a hallway intersection and detect a potential threat around the corner, you might want to slow down and employ a delayed clearing technique. An example of this is if you hear noises coming from around a corner. In that situation, you will probably not want to rush towards the intersection and expose yourself around the corner.

If you and your partner decide to employ a delayed hallway clearing technique, one person will move forward towards the intersection while the other person stays back at a safe distance. The clearing person will move forward cautiously and may choose to employ single-person clearing techniques. It is critical that the clearing person makes as little noise as possible and avoids letting

shadows extend into the intersection.

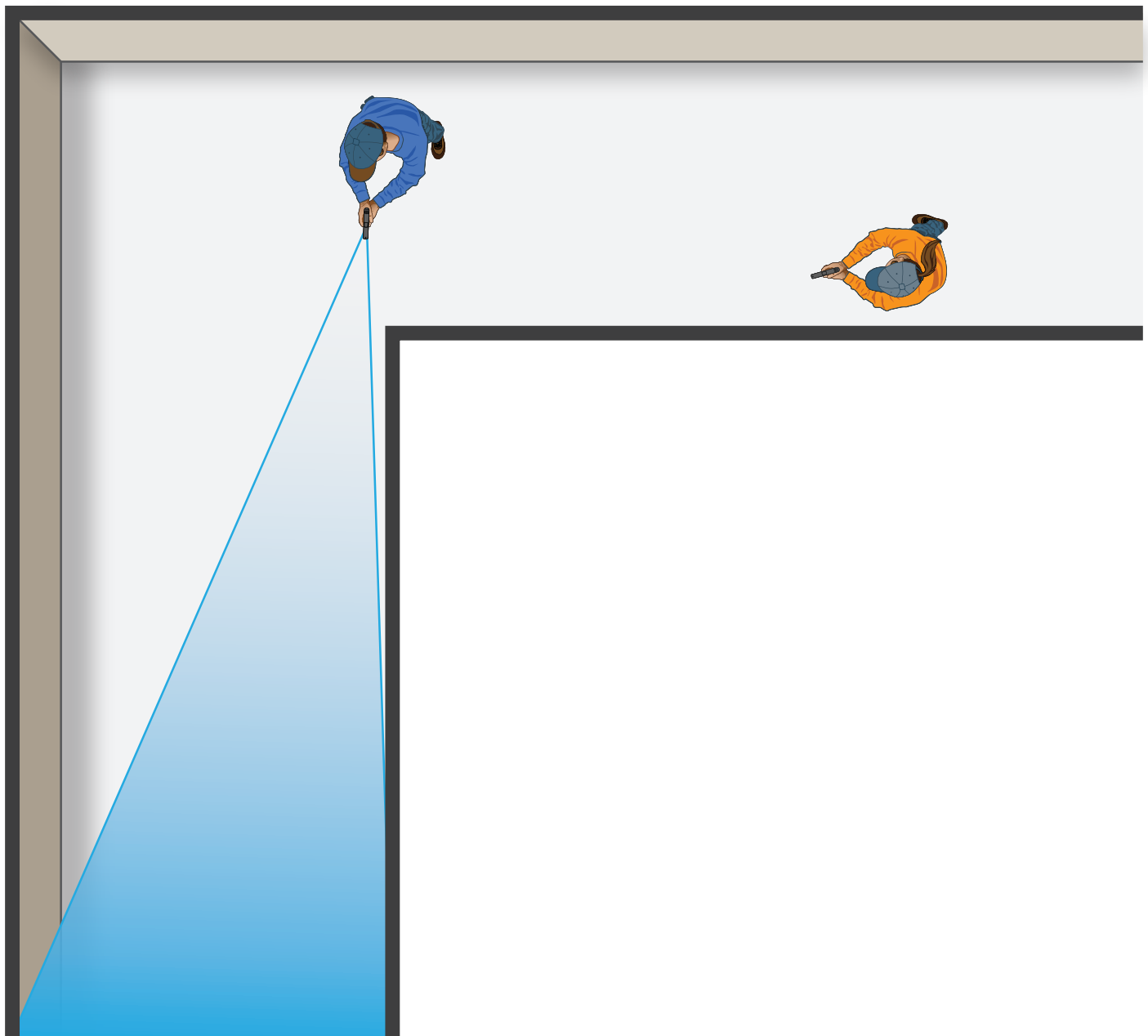
Once the intersection is clear, the other person can move forward to continue down the hallway in the desired direction of movement. In other cases, if the clearing person encounters a threat or hostile fire, he/she may choose to fall back. At this point, you and your partner can decide whether to attempt to clear the intersection or to fall back to a room or a safer location. In the vast majority of cases, it is always best to move away from the direction of the threat, seek cover and wait for the first-responders to arrive. However, if innocent lives are at stake, you might have no option but to engage the threat.

One of the most critical factors to consider is that the clearing person should not advance so far that the other person will not be able to provide casualty evacuation. Both people should remain in visual contact and position themselves to be mutually supporting.

DELAYED ENTRY: L-SHAPE INTERSECTIONS

COMPLETE SEQUENCE

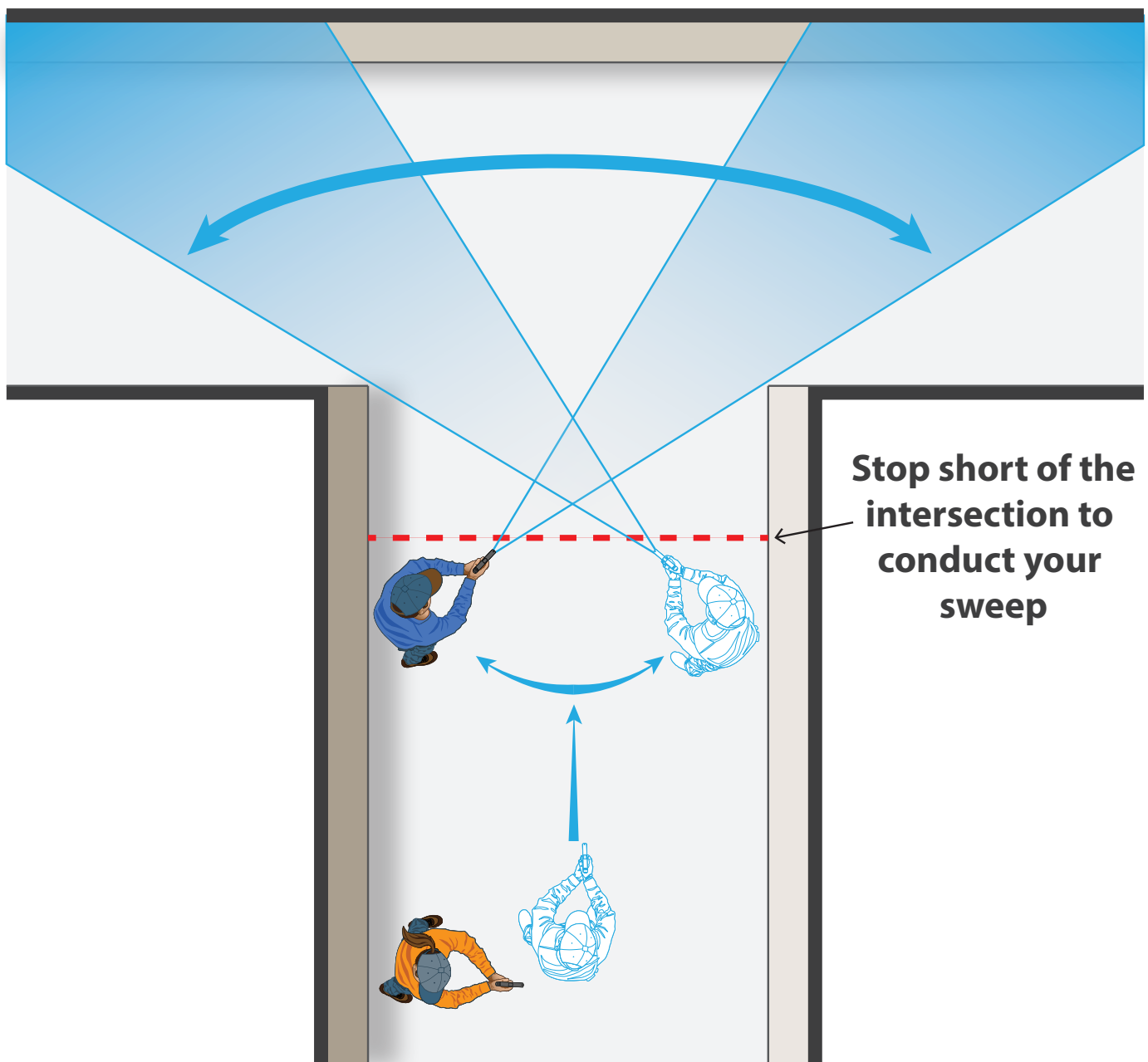
Clearing an L-shape intersection using the delayed technique is very similar to the immediate technique. However, the main difference with delayed intersection clearing is that one person stays back from the intersection to minimize exposure while the other person moves up to clear the intersection. The lead person can clear the corner from either the standing or kneeling position. Another important difference is that with delayed clearing, once the lead person clears around the corner, both persons might decide to fall back down the hallway or establish security in a nearby room.



HALLWAYS: T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 1 - Conduct Sweep Before the Intersection

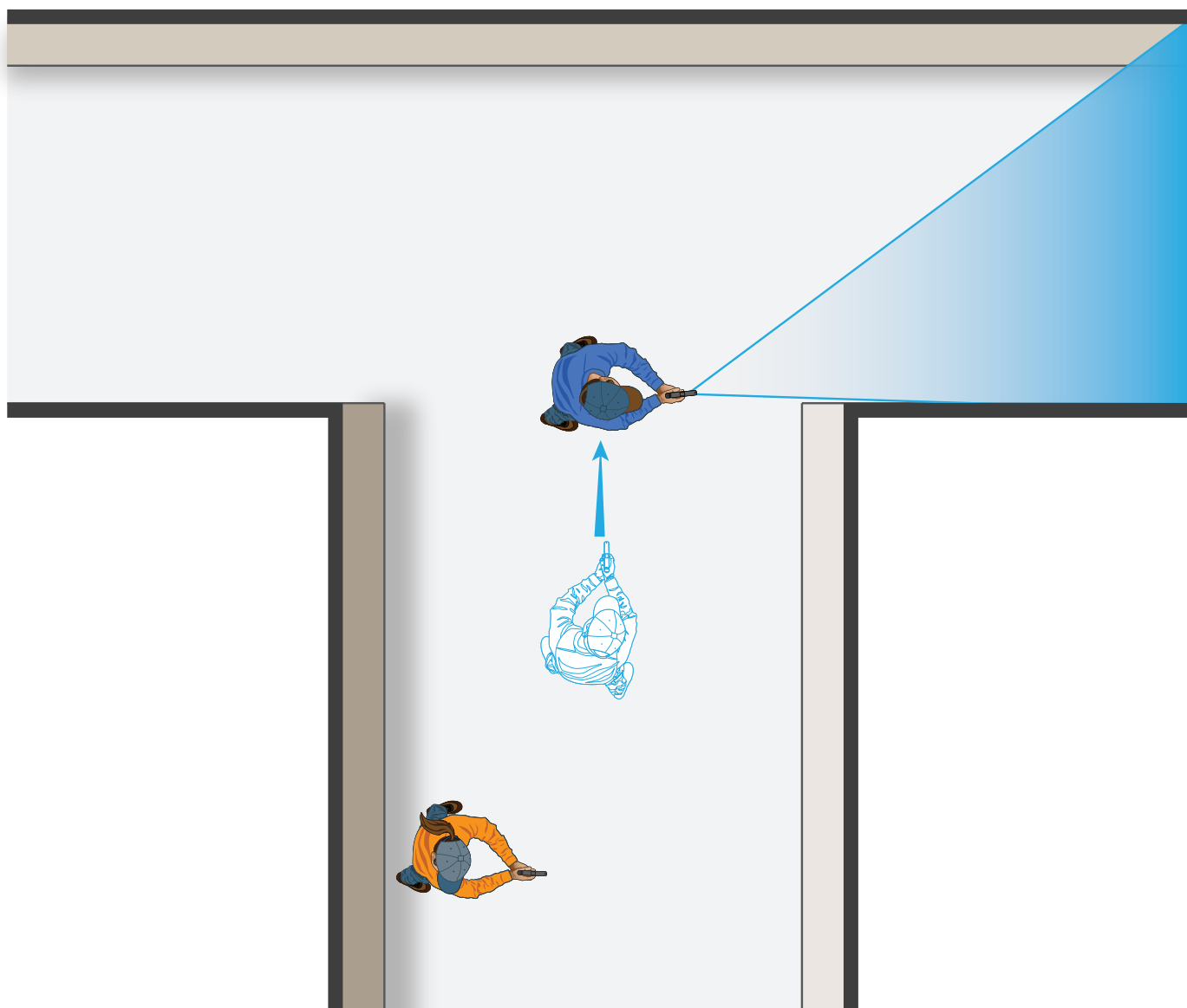
The lead person will move ahead of the second person but stop short of the T-intersection to avoid exposure and to ensure your shadow does not extend into the hall where it might be seen by adversaries. This stopping point is marked with the dashed red line below. From this position, as the lead person, you will conduct a sweep to clear as far as possible to the right and left down each hallway. You will not be able to see all the way down either hallway but the sweep will help identify any adversaries hiding behind the corners. In general, it is best not to take too much time conducting the sweep. You are still in a danger area and should conduct the sweep as quickly as possible and then move on.



HALLWAYS: T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 2 - Clear the First Hallway

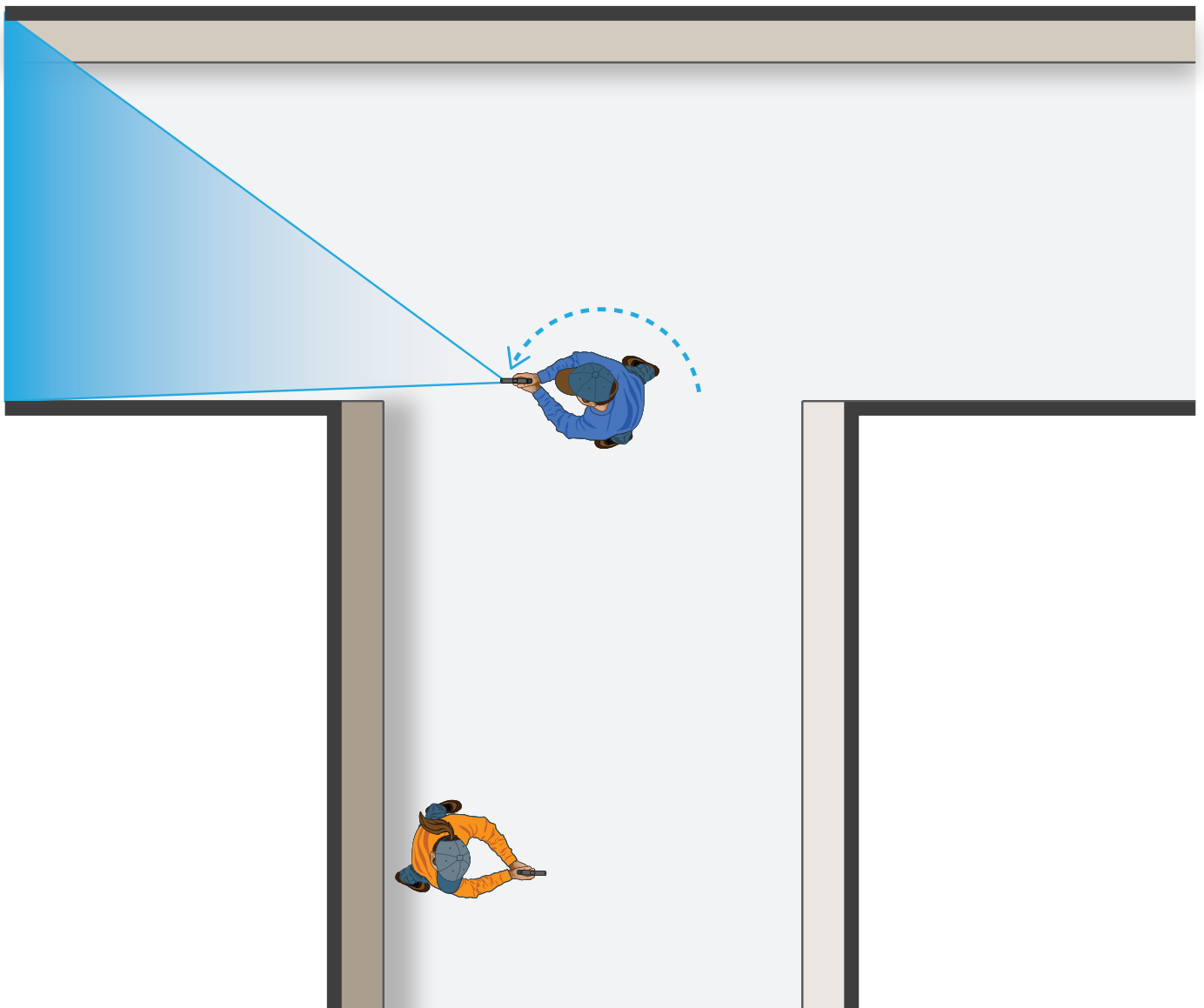
By conducting the sweep and listening for sounds coming from either direction, as the lead person, you must determine which direction to clear first. Ideally, if you hear something or see something coming from either side during the sweep, you should clear that side first. If you do not hear or see anything it is generally easier to clear the strong side (weapon hand side) first. When ready, move up quickly to the intersection and bring the weapon around the corner. Expose the body as little as possible while still ensuring you can see all the way down the hallway.



HALLWAYS: T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 3 - Clear the Second Hallway

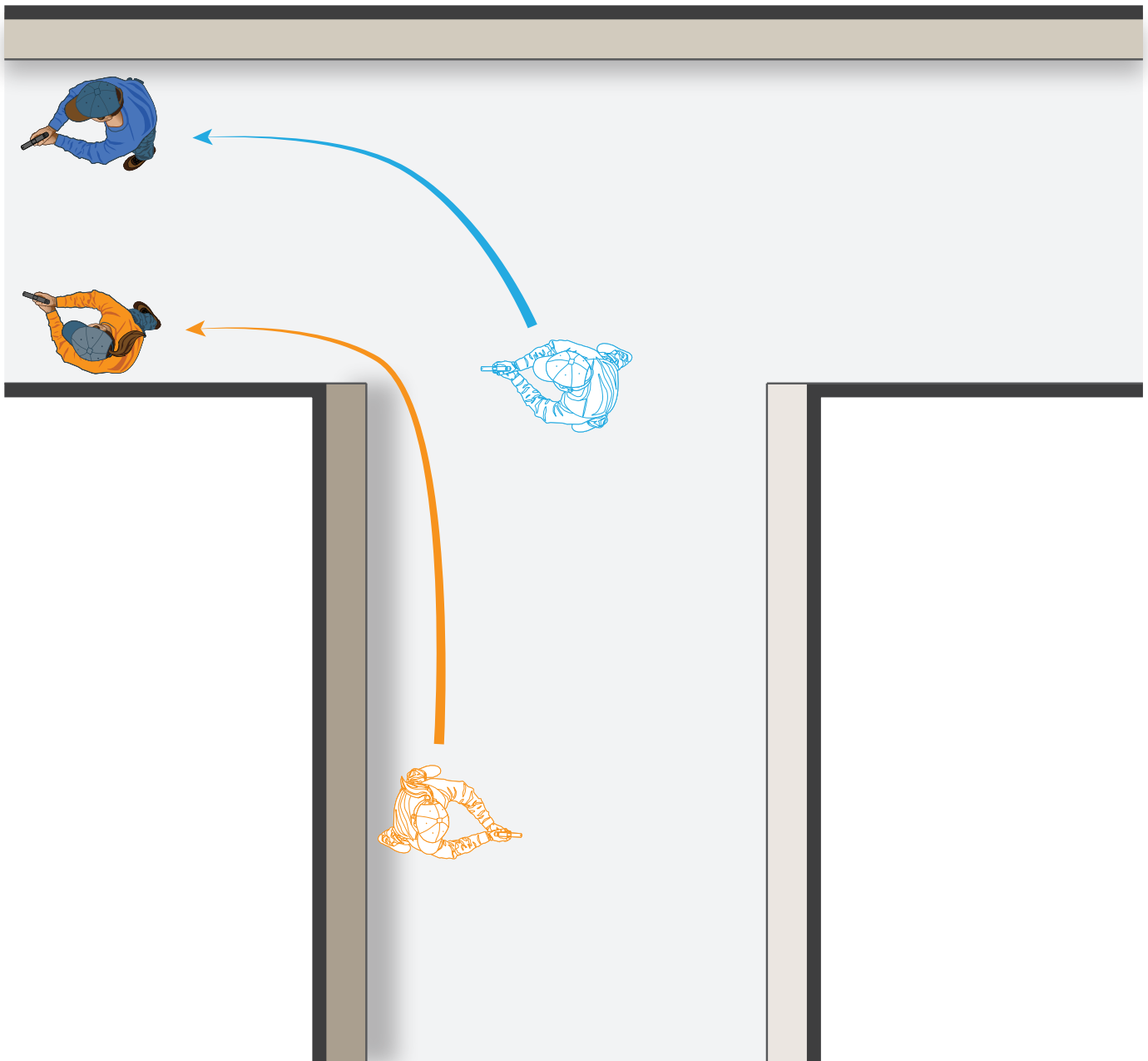
Once you have cleared down one hallway, quickly turn 180-degrees to clear down the opposite hallway. If you have identified adversaries to either the left or right you can either decide to remain in place and engage them from the corner, or you might decide to quickly fall back to a room or covered position and try to draw the adversaries out.



HALLWAYS: T-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 4 - Continue Movement

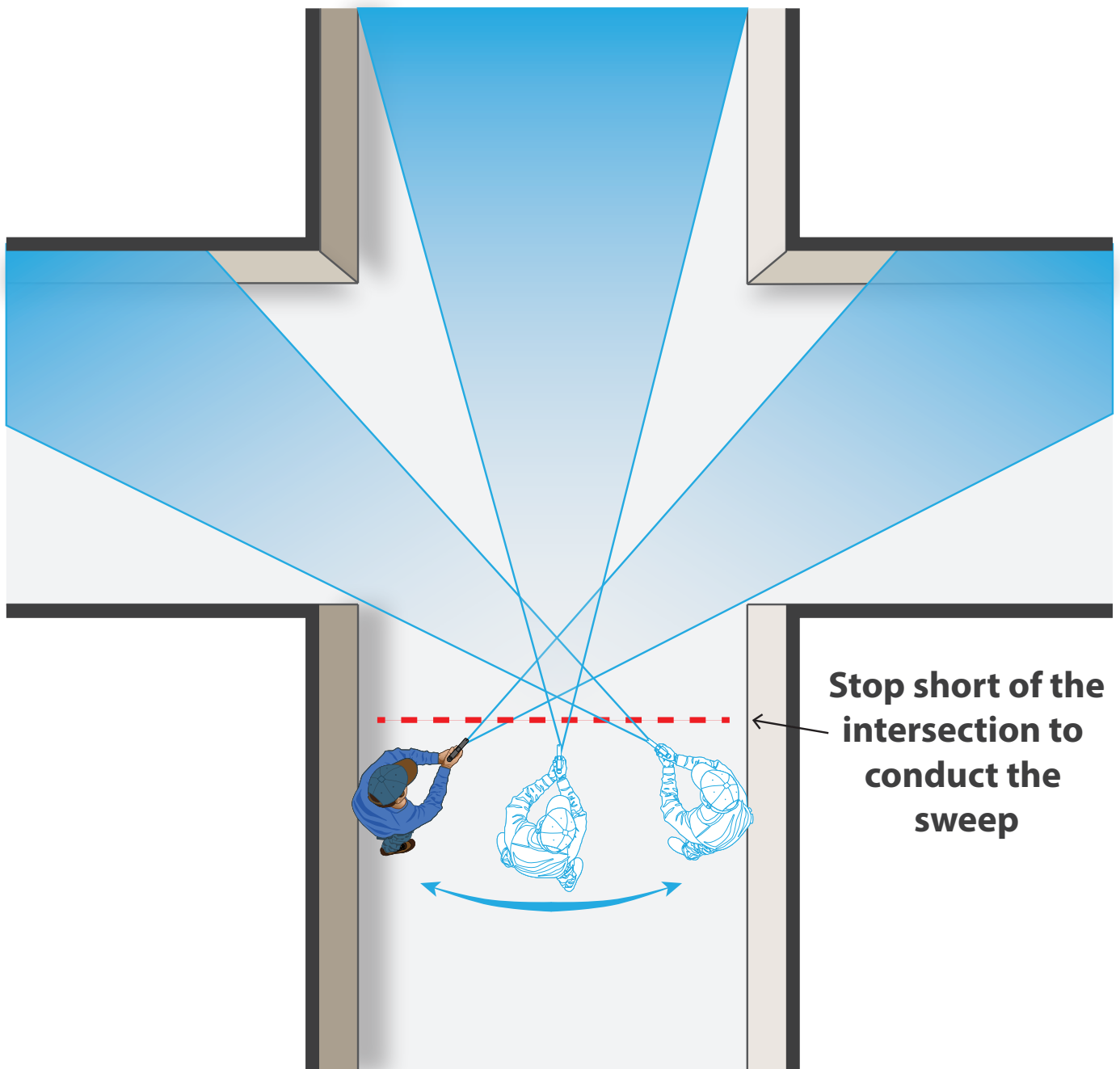
Once the hallway is clear, the lead person will continue moving in the desired direction, followed by the second person. Remember that hallways are danger areas so it is critical to continue moving quickly and get out of the hallway as soon as possible. Also, you must remain aware of your surroundings, listen for footsteps and periodically check the rear.



HALLWAYS: X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 1 - Conduct Sweep Before the Intersection

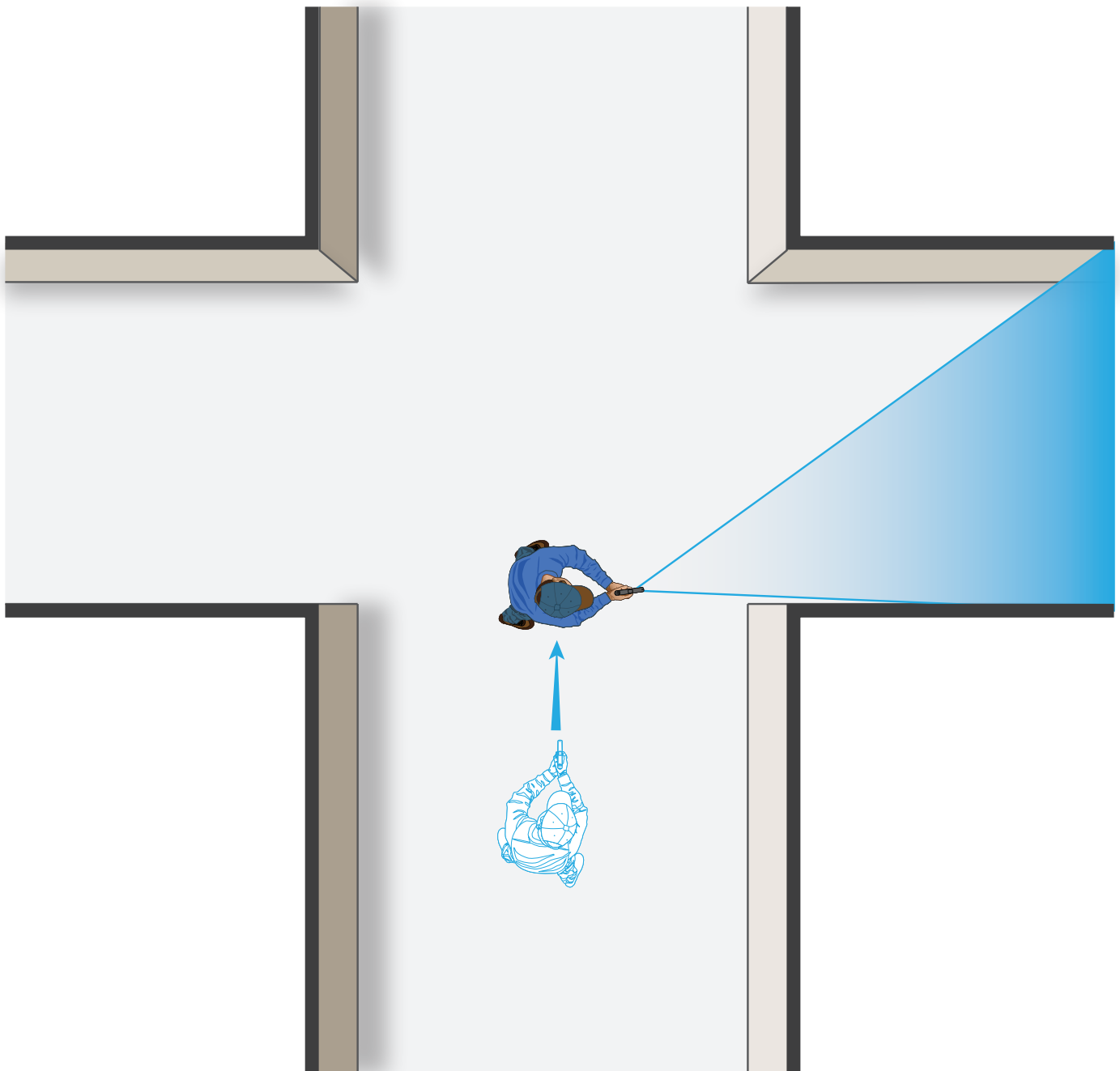
The lead person will move forward and stop short of the X-intersection to avoid exposure and to ensure your shadow does not extend into the hall where it might be seen by adversaries. This stopping point is marked with the dashed red line below. From this position, the lead person will conduct a sweep to achieve maximum visibility down the hallways to the left, right and front. As with the T-intersection, it is best not to take too much time conducting the sweep. The hallway is a danger area so conduct the sweep as quickly as possible and then move on.



HALLWAYS: X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 2 - Clear to One Side

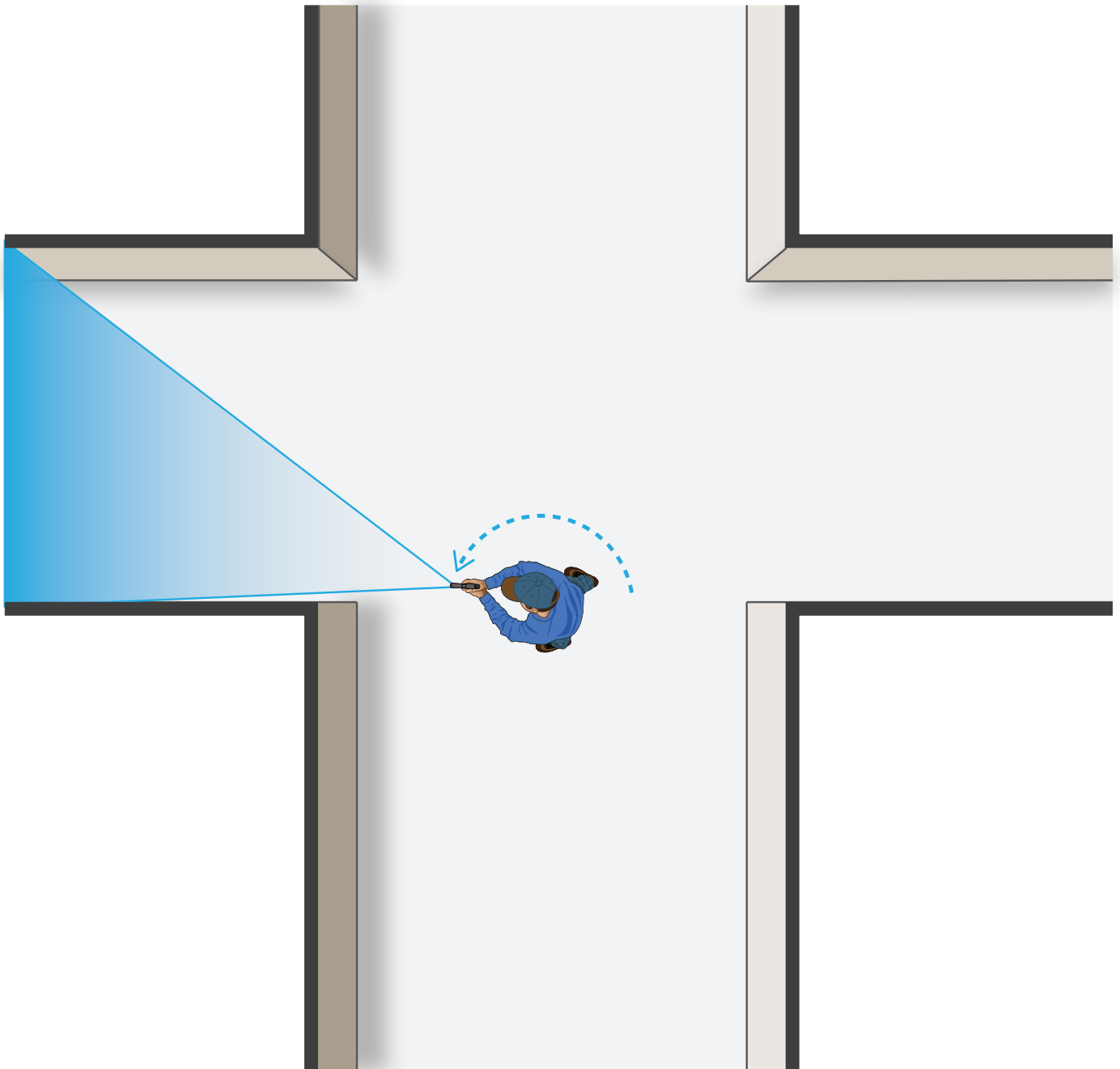
By conducting the sweep and listening for sounds coming from either direction, you must determine which direction to clear first. When ready, move up quickly to the intersection and bring the weapon around the corner. Expose the body as little as possible while still ensuring you can see all the way down the hallway. In an X-shape intersection, you must also remain alert for possible threats to the front.



HALLWAYS: X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 3 - Clear the Other Side

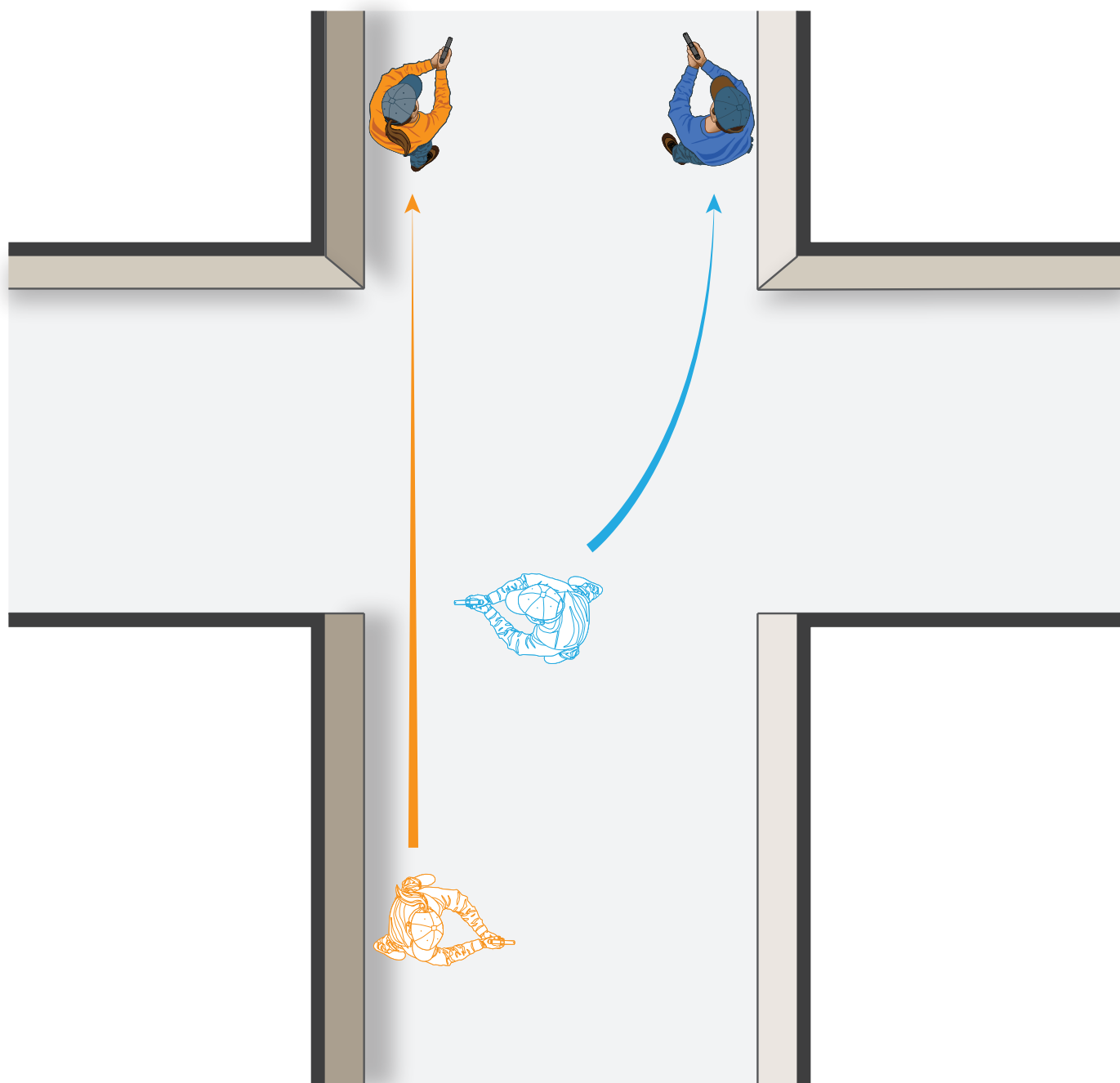
After clearing down one hallway, quickly turn 180-degrees to clear down the opposite hallway. If you identify adversaries to either the left or right you can either decide to remain in place and engage them from the corner, or quickly fall back to a room or covered position and try to draw the adversaries out.



HALLWAYS: X-SHAPE INTERSECTION

STEP 4 - Continue Movement

Once the hallway is clear, the lead person can continue moving in the desired direction, followed by the second person. Remember that hallways are danger areas so it is critical to continue moving quickly and get out of the hallway as soon as possible. If you choose to move forward, you should not stop right after passing the intersection but instead keep moving quickly and create distance from the intersection, minimizing exposure.



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Stairwells



Stairwells are even more dangerous than hallways for several reasons. In large buildings like apartments, stairwells typically consist of sturdy metal and concrete construction with steel beams, which means bullets are more likely to ricochet off the solid walls. Adversaries can also toss grenades down the stairs without exposing themselves.

Because it is difficult to spread out and create dispersion in a stairwell, you will be particularly vulnerable to random bursts of fire and indiscriminate attacks. You will also be more vulnerable because it is difficult to move quickly up or down stairs without tripping, particularly in the dark.

Therefore, you and your partner should move up or down stairwells as quickly as possible in order to get out of the stairwell to a safer location. While it is critical to move fast, you must not move so fast that you trip or fall down the stairs. This can be a very real danger, particularly in high-stress situations or when under fire. You should also not walk backwards up or down stairs since this makes the chances of tripping even more likely.

The following techniques are the same whether you are moving up or down the

stairwell. You will first occupy the stairwell's landing or entryway just as you would an ordinary room. At this point you will begin to move up or down the stairs, staying as far away from the center railing as possible. This provides the best angles of observation around bends in the stairs.

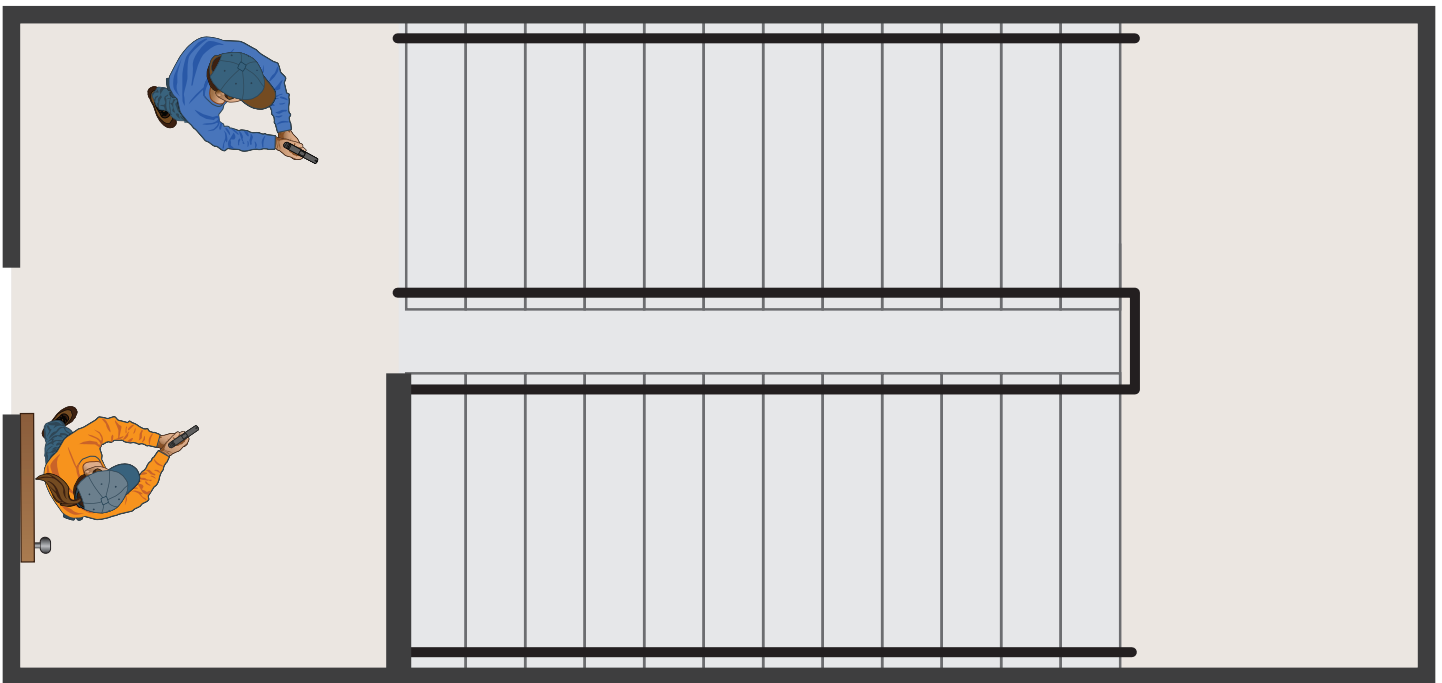
Each time the lead person reaches a landing, he/she will quickly turn and cover the shaft of the stairwell in the direction of movement. The other person will then move quickly past to cover the shaft from the next landing. You and your partner will continue to bound forward in this way from landing to landing. If you encounter a landing with a door, you will need to stand at an angle to cover both the shaft and the door if possible.

You may also encounter "open stairwells," particularly in rural homes. When clearing an open stairwell you and your partner will need to move up the stairs to clear the upper floor. When conducting this movement, it is critical that you not walk backwards up the stairs since doing so can make it very easy to trip. Instead, you should walk forward up the stairs, pausing or turning as necessary to check various angles of the upper floor.

COMMERCIAL STAIRWELL

STEP 1 - Enter and Clear

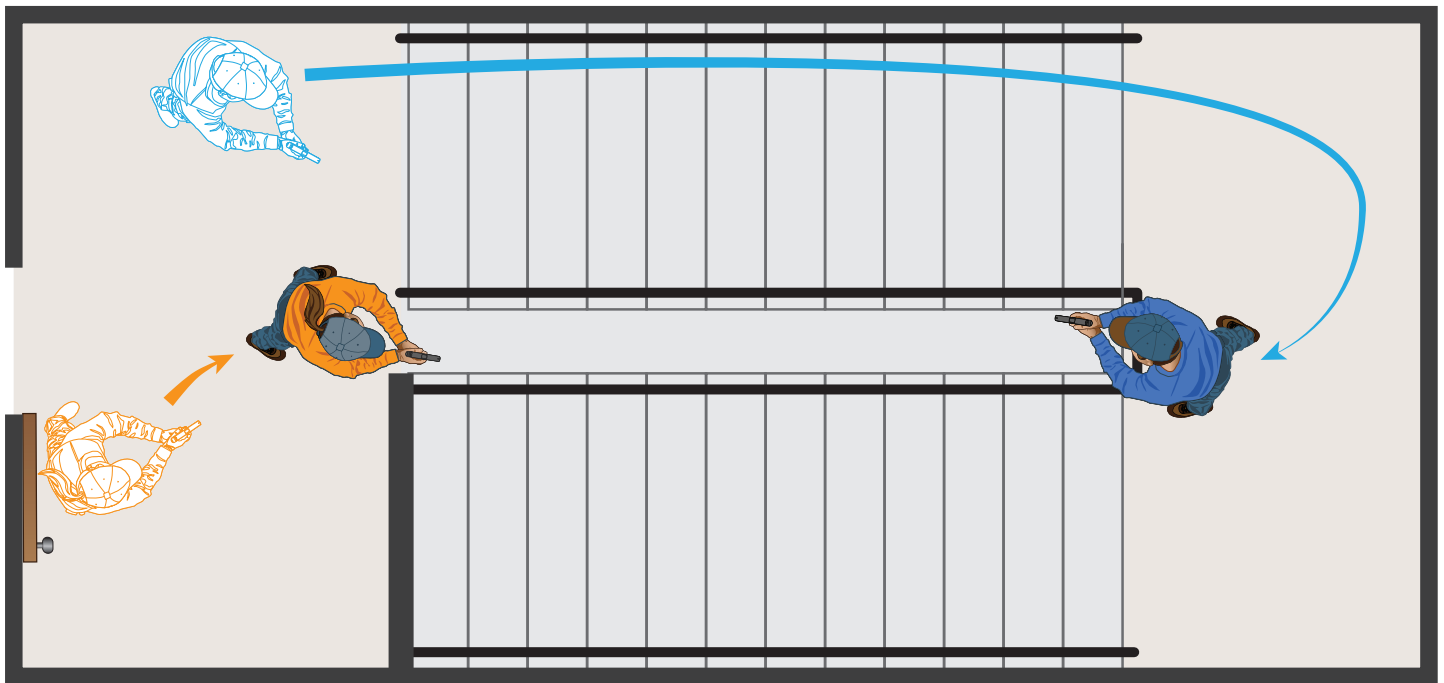
Before you can move up or down the stairs, you must enter and clear the stairwell landing just as you would clear a room. The two persons will enter and clear in opposite directions, scanning the landing and checking behind the door.



COMMERCIAL STAIRWELL

STEP 2 - Move Up/Down the Stairs to the First Landing

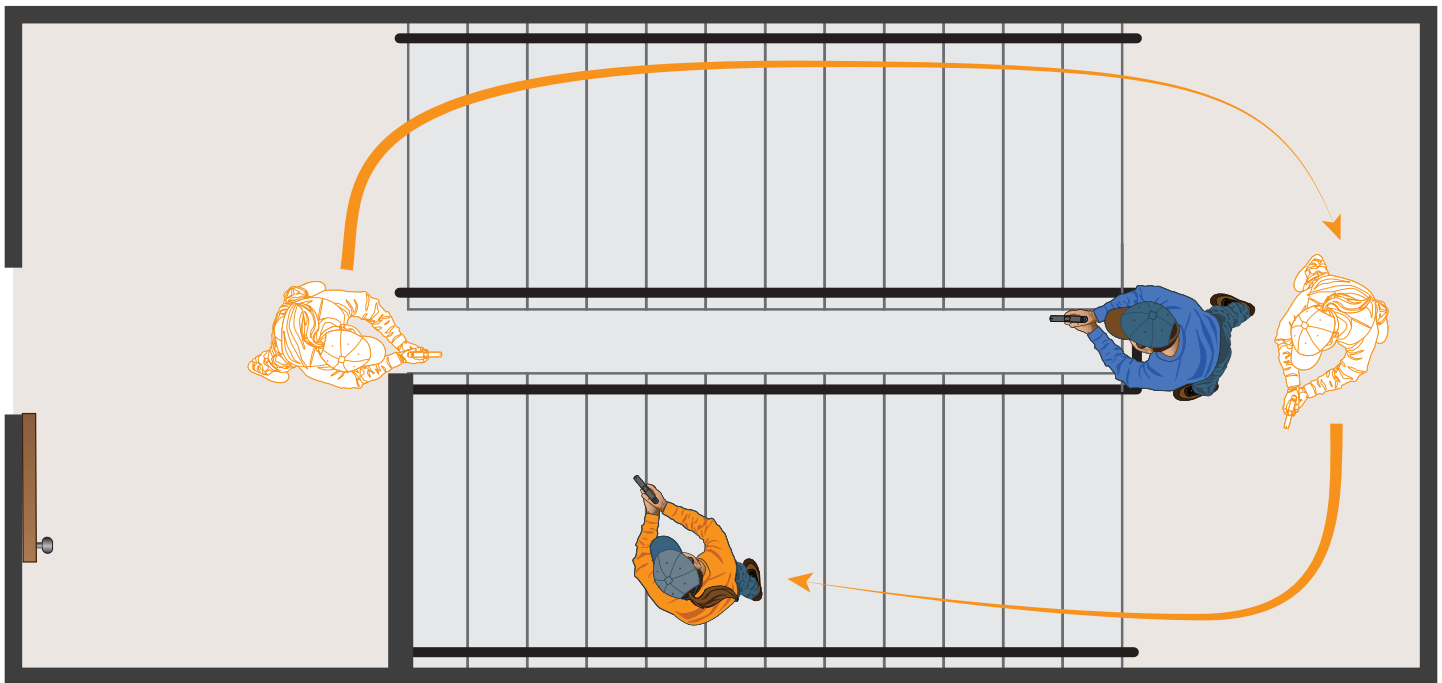
Once the initial space is dominated, the person closest to the stairs will move up or down the stairwell to the first landing, keeping as close as possible to the wall, away from the center banister. This will offer the best angle to see around the bend in the stairs. The lead person should turn towards the bend in the stairwell while moving, being careful not to trip, ready to engage any adversaries waiting around the bend in the stairs as soon as they emerge. The lead person will move all the way to the first landing and then cover the stairwell shaft in the direction of movement.



COMMERCIAL STAIRWELL

STEP 3 - Leapfrog to the Next Landing

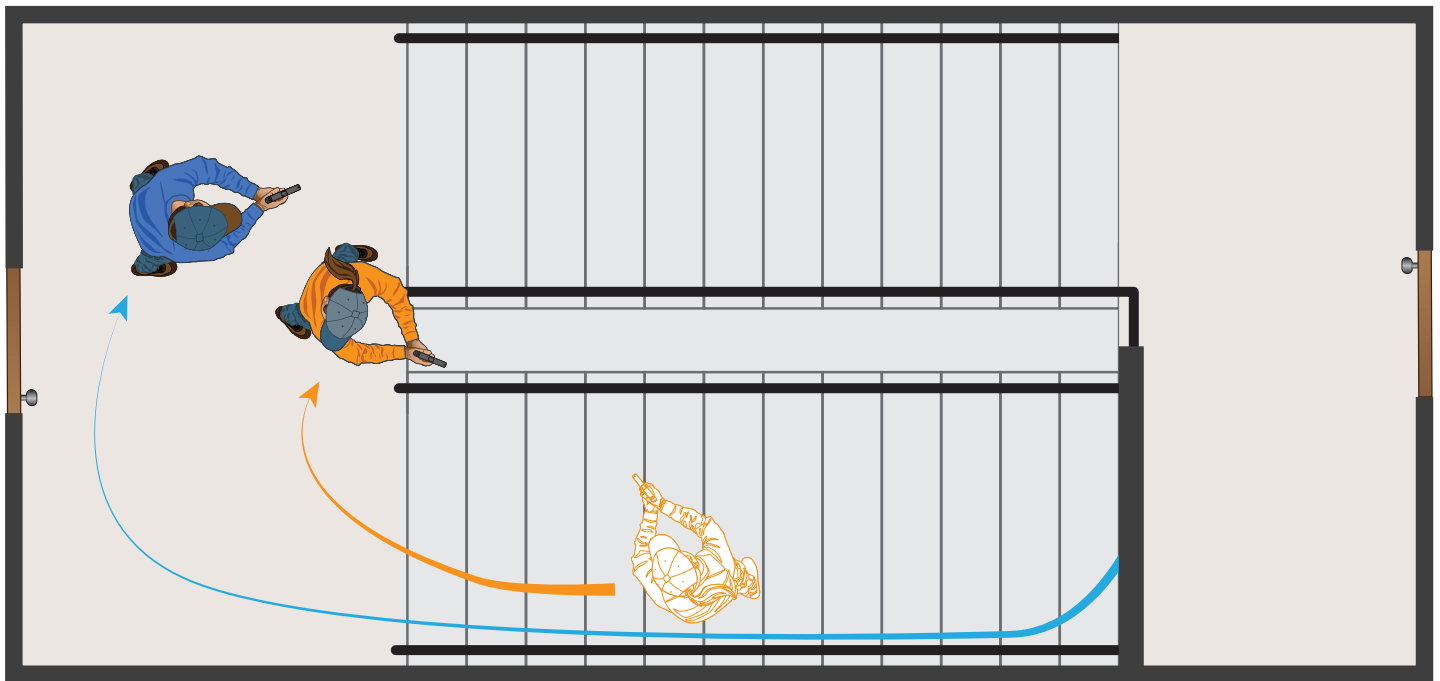
When the lead person reaches the first landing his/her weapon should already be oriented pointing up/down the shaft of the stairwell. At this point the other person will move around the first person and head to the next landing to repeat the process. As the moving person passes behind the covering person and continues up/down the stairs, the lead person will shift coverage to cover the rear. Once the moving person reaches the next landing and establishes security on the shaft, the other person will pick up and move, repeating the leapfrog process.



COMMERCIAL STAIRWELL

STEP 4 - Cover the Door

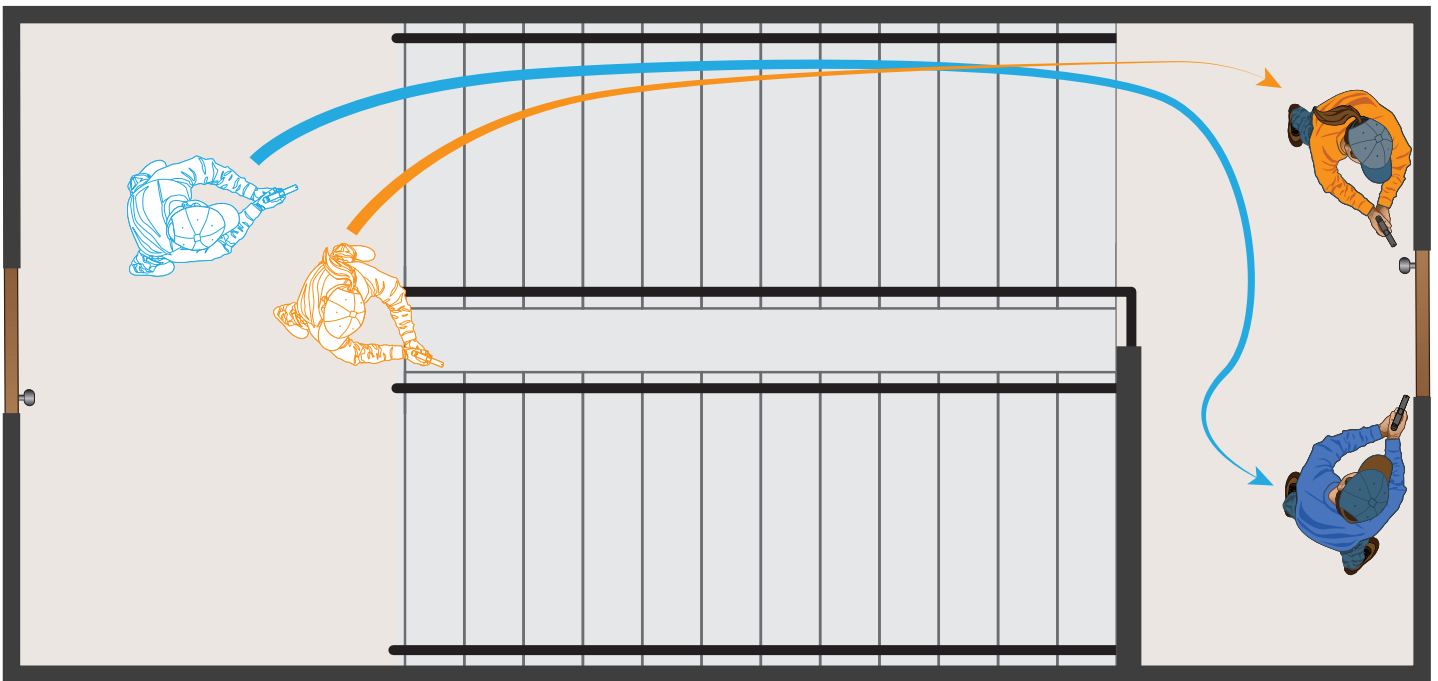
If there is a door on the landing, either open or closed, the covering person will have to assume a position to observe/cover both the next landing and the door.



COMMERCIAL STAIRWELL

STEP 5 - Exit the Stairwell

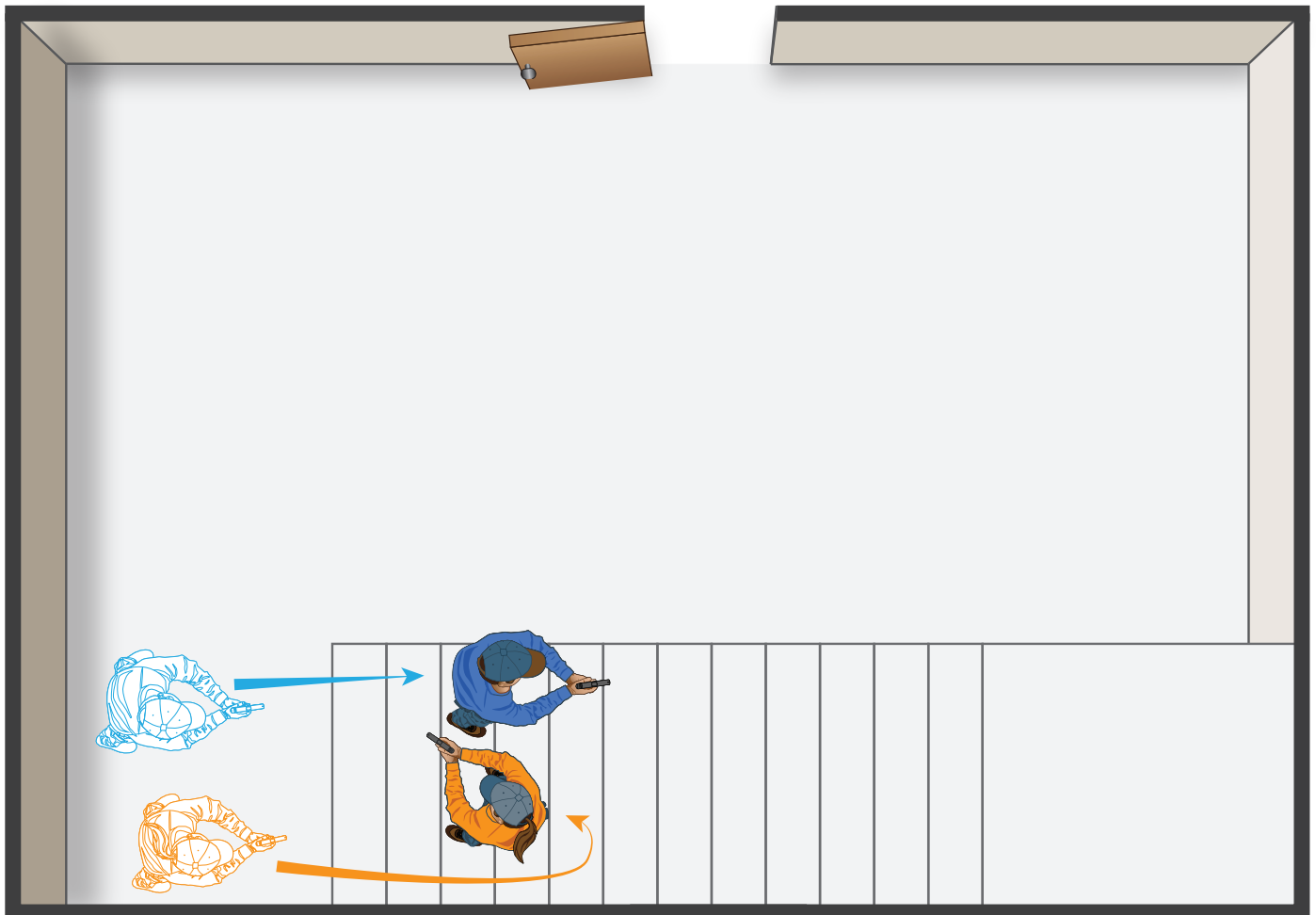
Once you reach the desired floor, exit the stairwell just as you would exit a normal room



OPEN STAIRWELL

STEP 1 - Check the Upper Floor

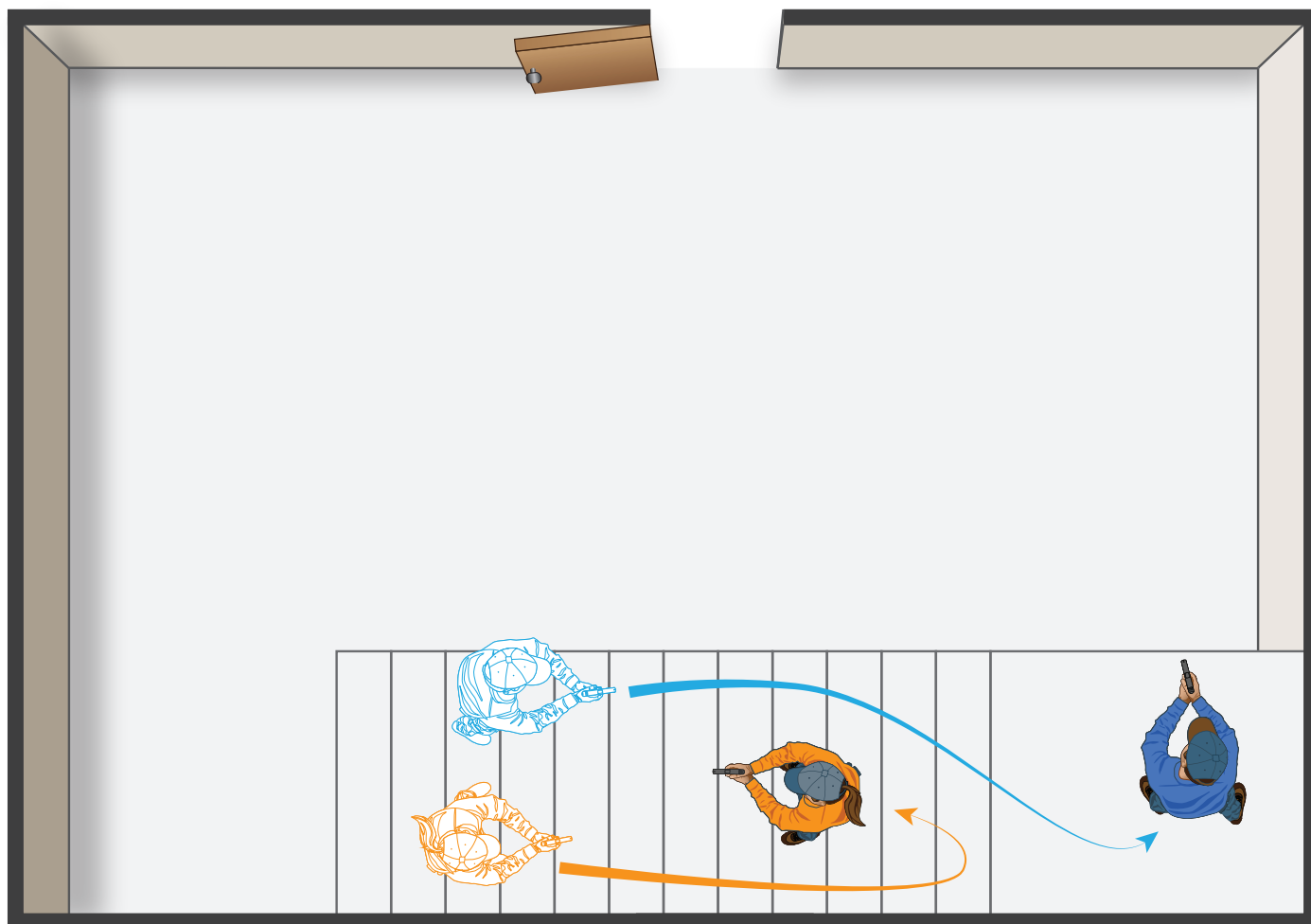
Open stairwells that open directly into a room or hallway are common in residential architecture. Open stairwells are particularly dangerous because adversaries have a perfect vantage point from the upper floor to shoot you as you move up the stairs. Therefore, you should move quickly to a vantage point where you can ensure the upper floor is secure before moving too far up the stairs. Once reaching the stairwell, the lead person will cover forward up the stairs. The second person will turn 180-degrees (or as far as necessary) and look up to check the upper floor.



OPEN STAIRWELL

STEP 2 - Move Up the Stairs

If the upper floor appears secure, both persons can move farther up the stairs. It is important that the second person not walk backwards since doing so can be hazardous. Instead the second person should walk forwards, moving as quickly as possible, but pause if necessary to turn 180-degrees and recheck the upper floor behind them. It is necessary to recheck to ensure an adversary is not crouching or lying in wait. The second person can pause when needed to ensure the area is clear. At a certain point, when the second person has moved up far enough to ensure there are no adversaries hiding on the upper floor, both persons can move past the stairwell.



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Obstacles in the Room



When you are moving through a house or building in a real-life scenario, you will encounter many different combinations of furniture and obstacles. Unlike the typical training shoot-house where rooms are usually empty, the average home or apartment contains numerous tables, chairs, sofas and cabinets. It is critical to know how to move around these obstacles and check behind them for hidden adversaries.

One of the most common scenarios you might encounter is furniture placed along the walls within a room. Furniture placed along walls can serve as a hiding place for adversaries and can impede your movement into the room. It is critical to learn how to quickly move past these obstacles in order to clear the room and minimize the threat.

Another common problem you and your partner might face is clearing behind pieces of furniture deep in the room. Furniture deep in the room can provide covered positions

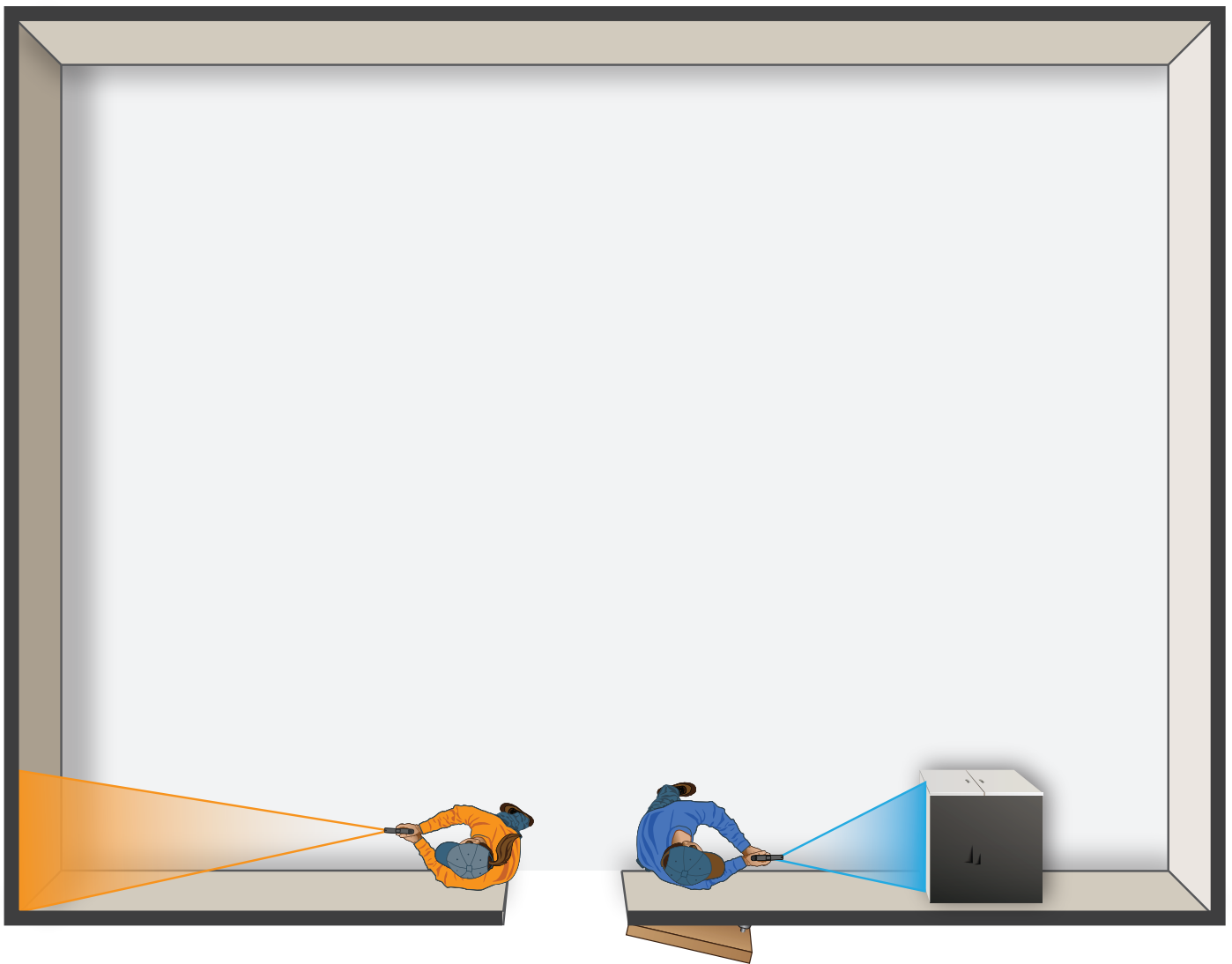
where adversaries might hide. In some cases, if you expect an adversary is behind a piece of furniture, you might want to assume covered and concealed firing positions and attempt to “call out” the adversary. It is generally not advisable to fire blindly through a piece of furniture since in a high stress situation you might accidentally shoot your own family member or an innocent person. However, if you are absolutely certain the adversary is behind furniture, you might decide to fire through it, if it is not bulletproof.

In some situations, you and your partner will decide to move deeper into the room to check behind furniture. However, any time two people are moving forward towards a potential threat, there is a greater chance of friendly fire because if one person moves forward faster, he/she can accidentally move into the other person’s line of fire. Therefore it is critical for both people to coordinate their movements for maximum safety.

LARGE OBSTACLE ALONG THE NEAR WALL

STEP 1 - Clear Up To the Obstacle

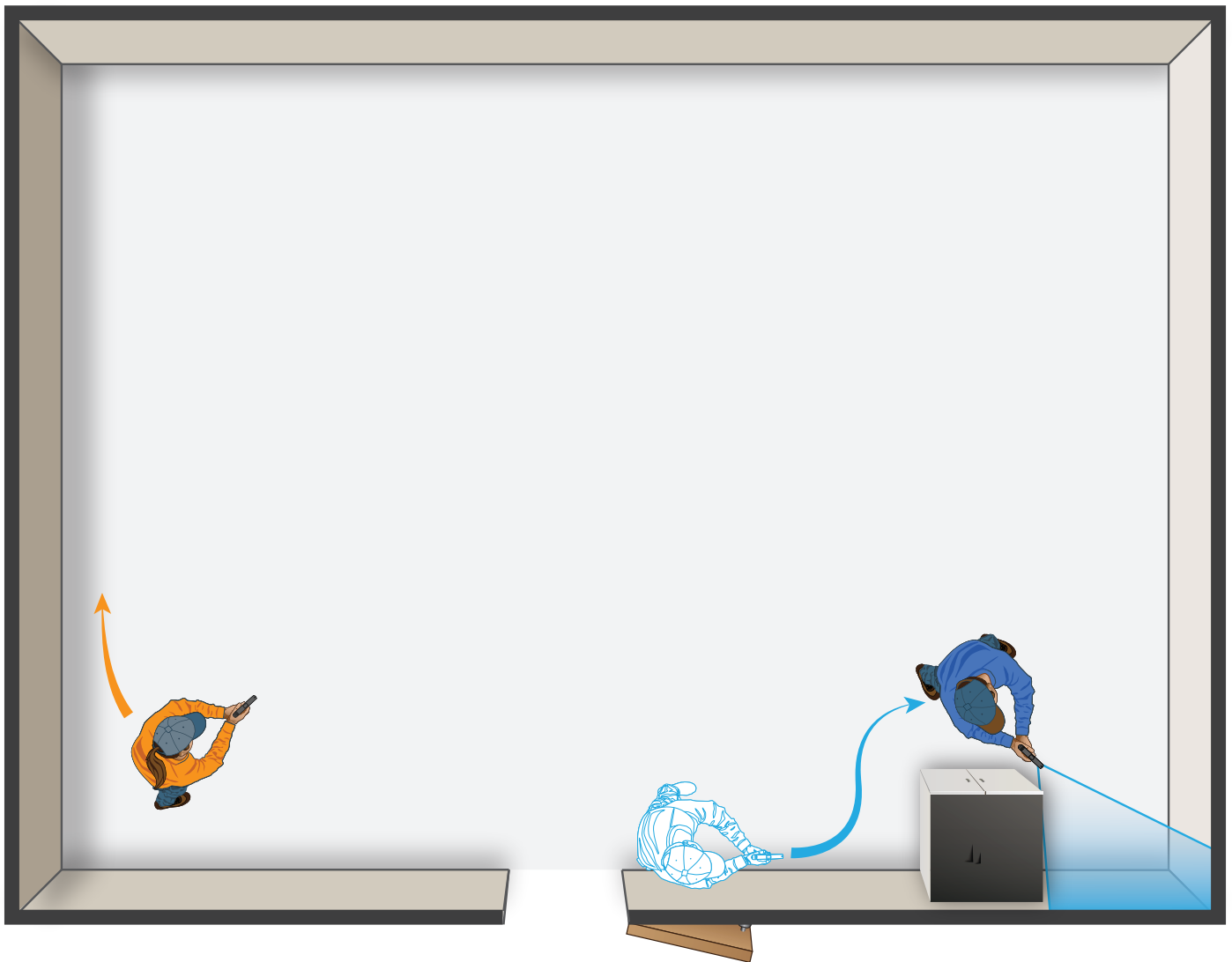
If you enter a room and encounter a large obstacle or piece of furniture on the near wall, you must continue to clear past the obstacle to clear the corner of the room. You should not stop short of the obstacle since this could impede flow into the room and there could also be an adversary behind the obstacle who could then jump out and surprise you.



LARGE OBSTACLE ALONG THE NEAR WALL

STEP 2 - Move Past the Obstacle and Clear the Corner

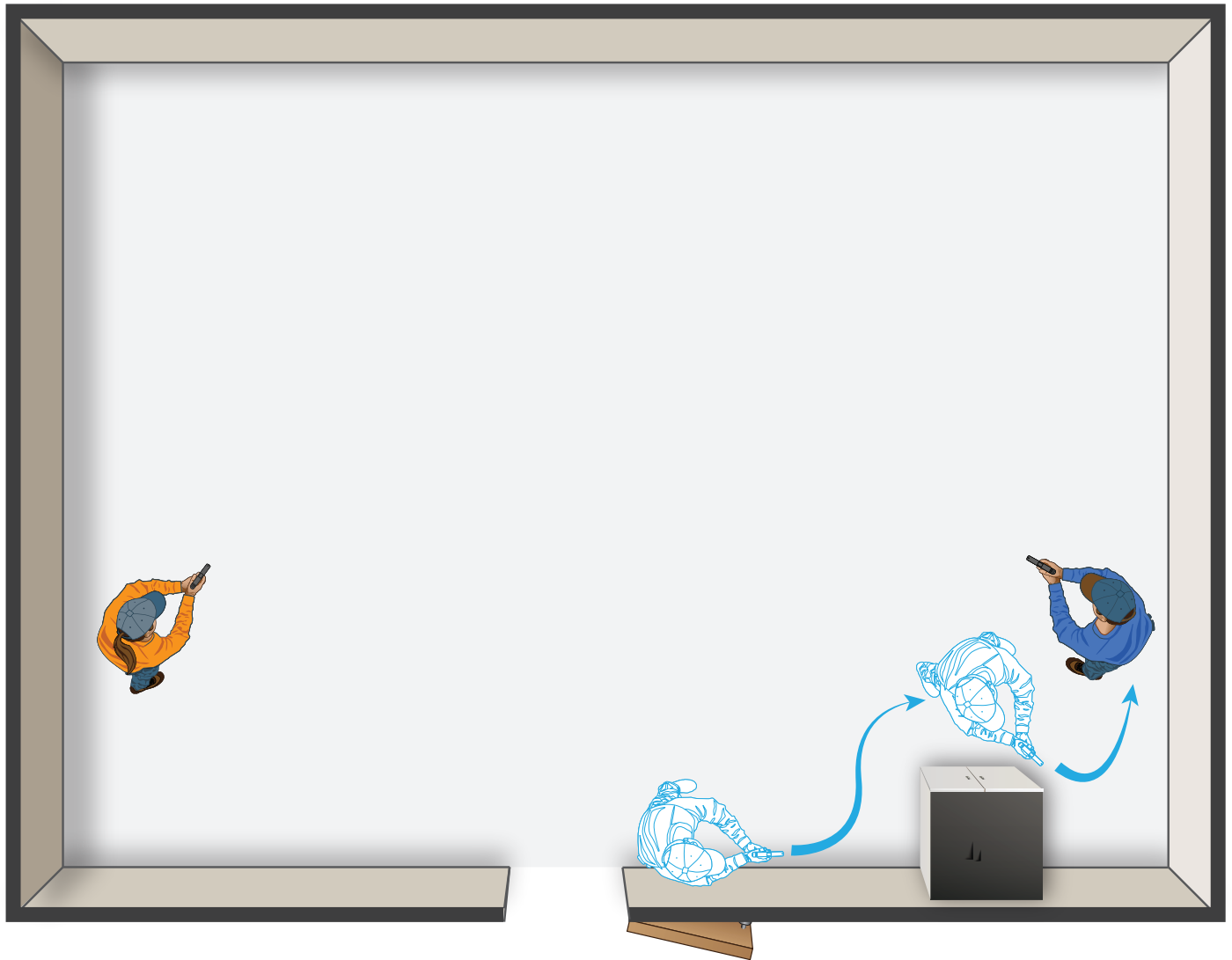
You should move around the obstacle and then clear all the way into the corner, ensuring there are no adversaries hiding there.



LARGE OBSTACLE ALONG THE NEAR WALL

STEP 3 - Continue Scan

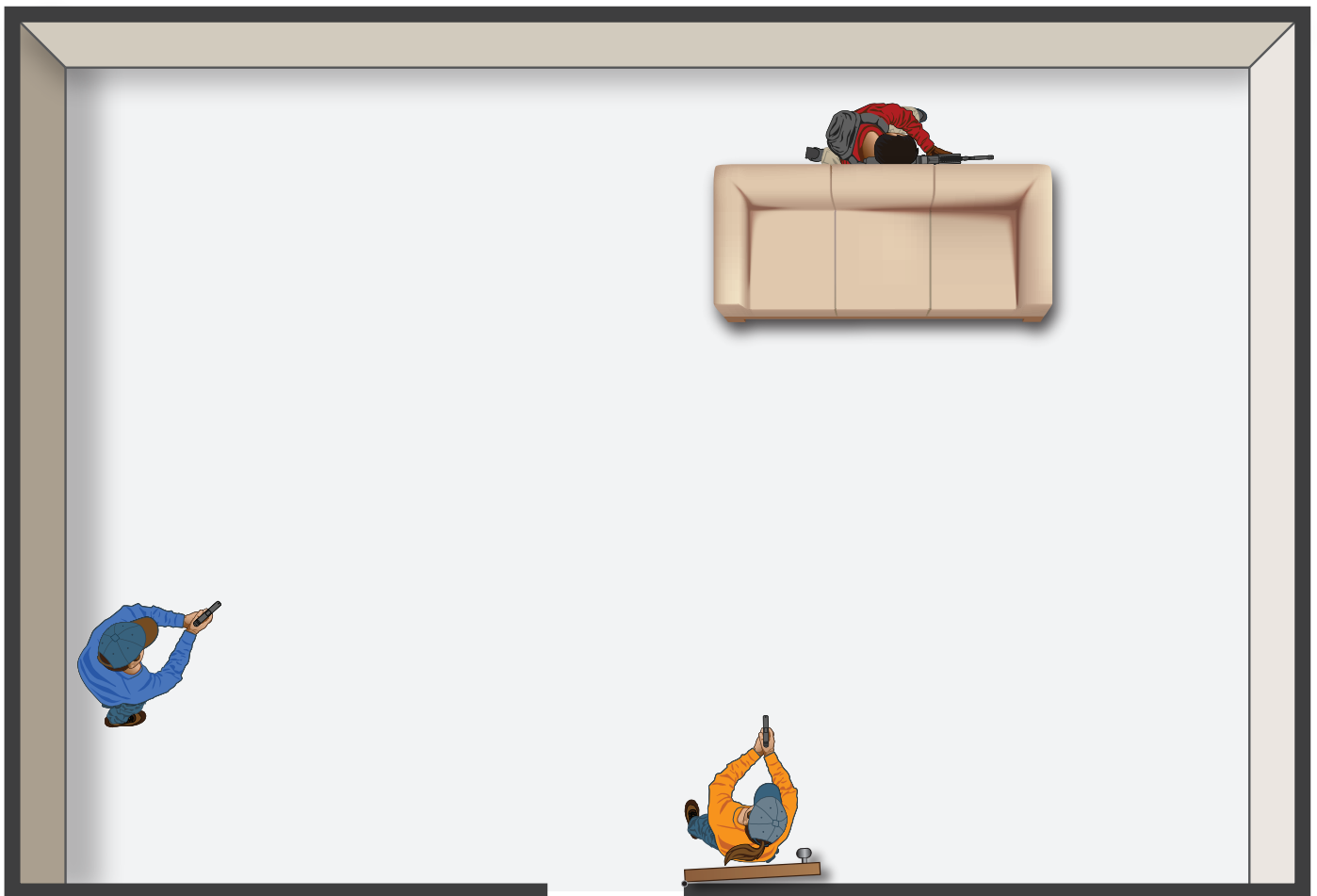
Once the corner is clear, establish a domination point in a position where you can see your partner. From this adjusted domination point you will conduct the scan just as in previous techniques.



LARGE OBSTACLE DEEP IN THE ROOM

STEP 1 - Dominate the Room

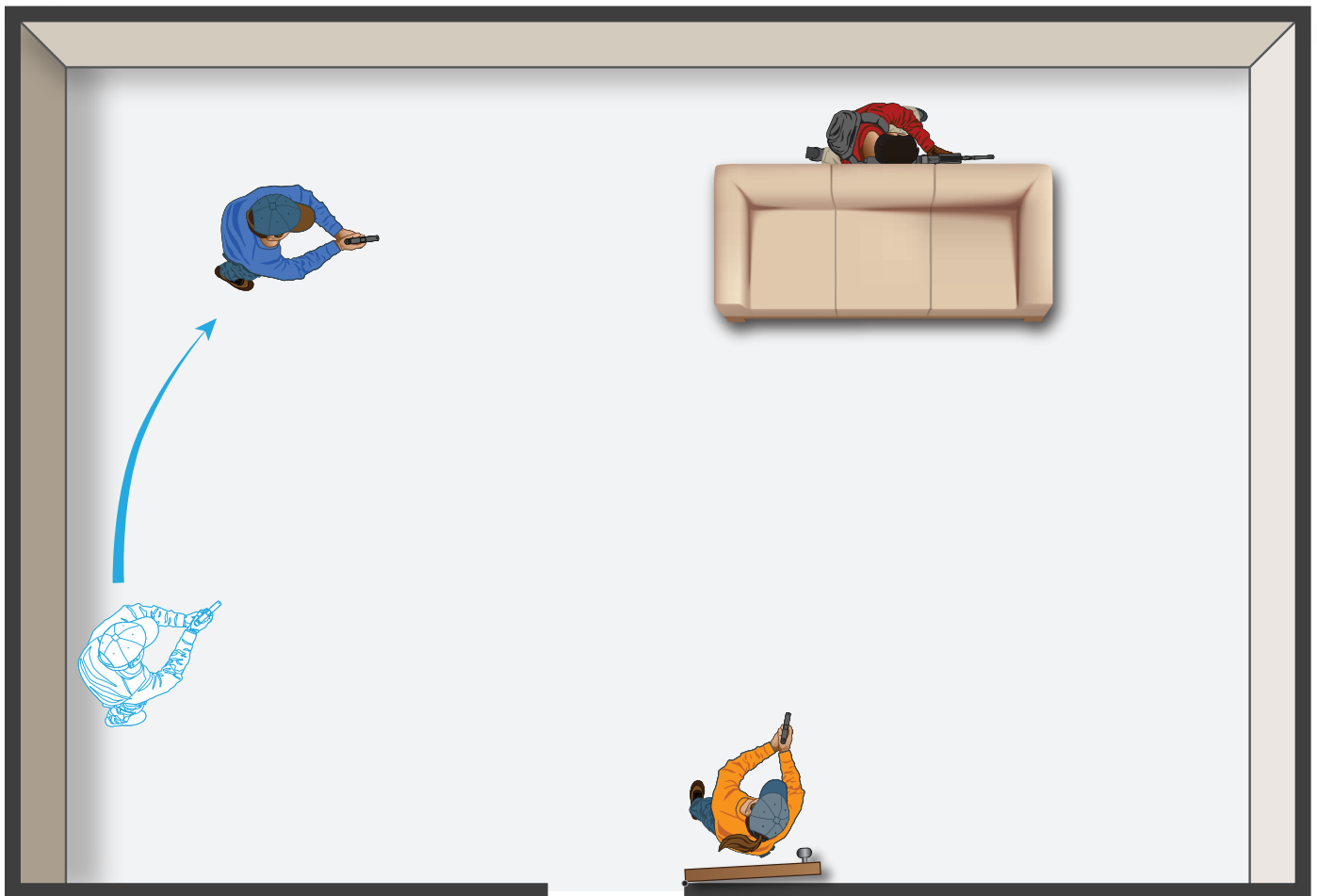
In some cases, you will dominate a room but there will still be large obstacles or pieces of furniture deep in the room where an adversary might be hiding. In these cases, you will first dominate the room as you usually would, watching carefully in case adversaries pop out from behind furniture deep in the room.



LARGE OBSTACLE DEEP IN THE ROOM

STEP 2 - Call Out Intention to Check the Obstacle

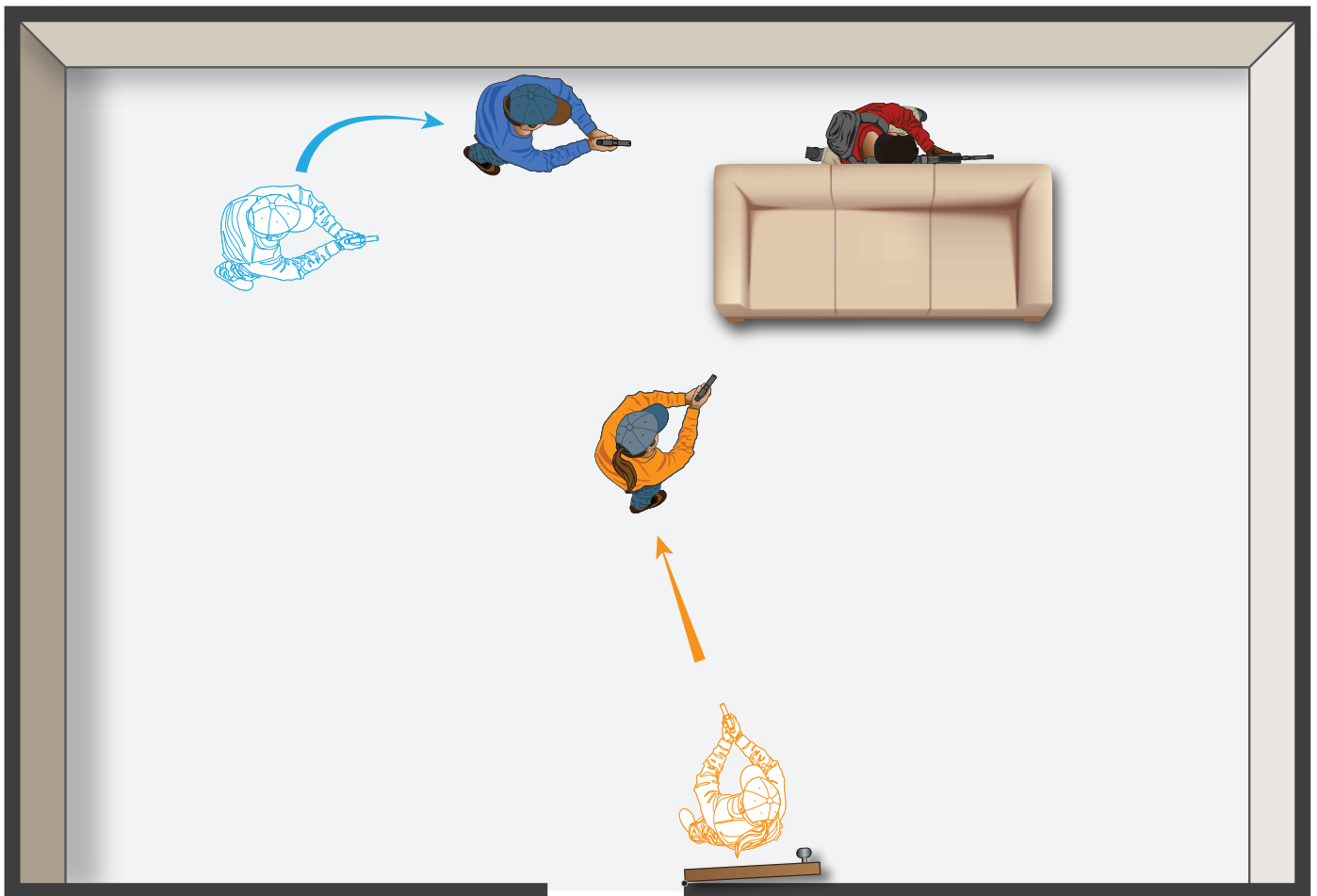
At this point, one person will identify the obstacle and prepare to move to clear behind it. That person will call out to notify his/her partner before moving deep into the room. The clearing individual will then begin to move in an arc to clear behind the obstacle or furniture.



LARGE OBSTACLE DEEP IN THE ROOM

STEP 3 - Second Person Follows in Support

Once the lead person starts moving, the second person should move with the lead person to provide support if needed. It is always better to clear an obstacle or danger area with two people. In some cases it is effective to establish a “tactical L” to clear the obstacle from two angles. In other cases, like a large cabinet or closet, one person might have to open the door while the other person covers the opening. When clearing an obstacle, it is generally best to try to keep as much separation as possible between you and your partner so you will not both get hit by a single burst. Once the danger area is clear, the clearing individual will call out “clear” to notify the other that it is safe to proceed.



TACTICAL TECHNIQUES

Exterior Movement



If you have to move through an urban environment where threats could emerge from any building or direction, you must be prepared to move tactically in the safest way possible. Urban movement tactics are particularly useful for dealing with terrorist attacks or active shooter (deadly attacker) scenarios. In these scenarios, the adversaries will most likely not barricade themselves in one building but will probably move freely from building to building, attempting to cause maximum destruction.

To protect yourself against a terrorist or deadly attacker threats, you must know how to move outside of buildings. The most critical question when moving between buildings is whether you are under fire or not under fire. If you are not under fire, you can move down the street with your partner with weapons holstered or at the ready. If you take hostile fire, you must employ more deliberate maneuver in order to minimize exposure. As always, the first option is to escape the situation and create distance between you and the threat. When maneuvering, it is best to move away from the adversary and encourage others to escape, covering them as they move.

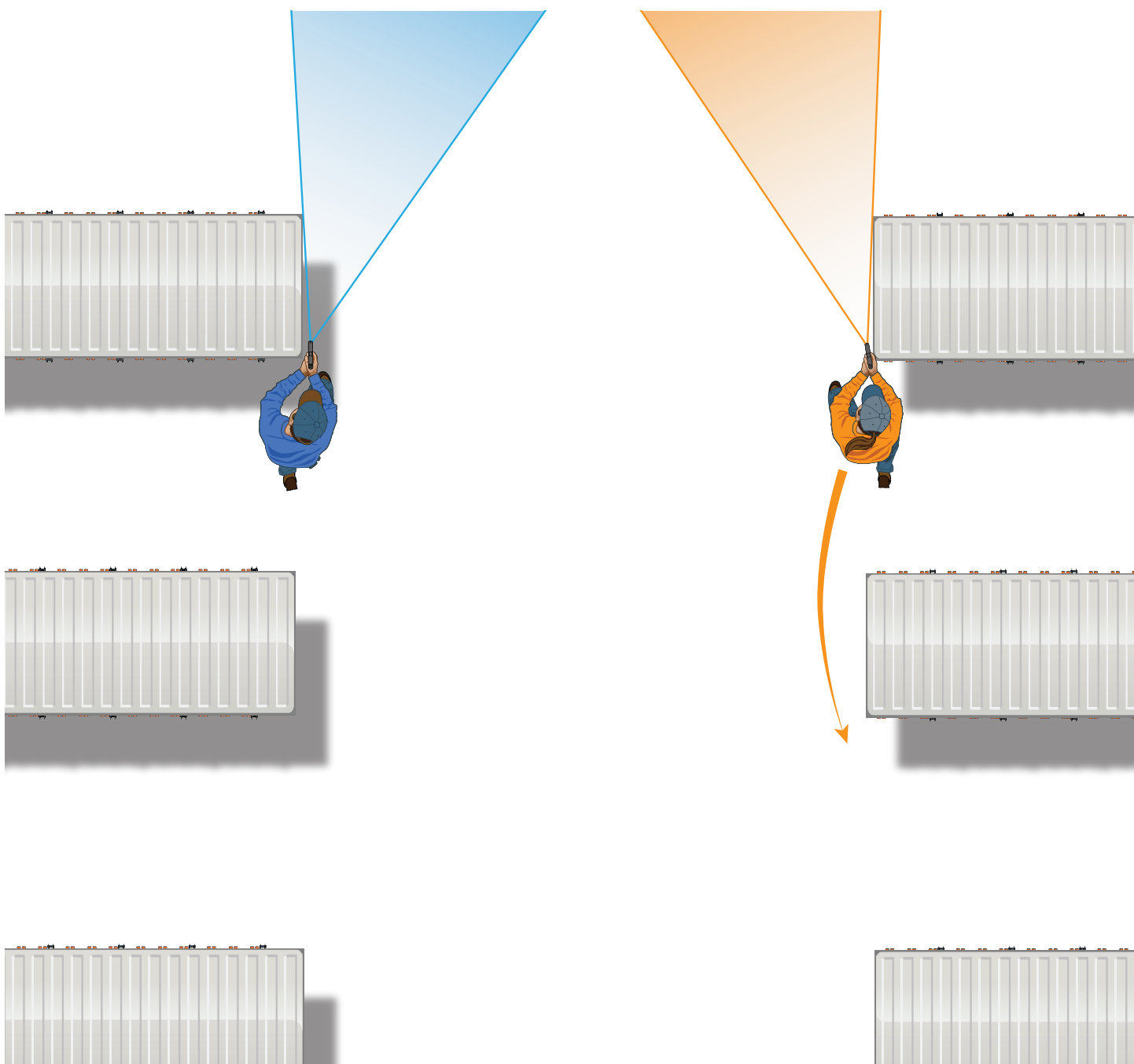
When maneuvering under fire, you must strive to always have one person who is moving while the other person provides cover. You should avoid trying to move and shoot at the same time while exposed in the street without cover or concealment. Instead of trying to move and shoot at the same time, which greatly reduces accuracy, you should sprint as quickly as possible to the next covered position and then return fire from a more stable firing platform. This will reduce your exposure, increase your shooting accuracy, help you conserve ammunition and reduce your chances of accidentally shooting an innocent person.

When fighting in the street, you should always take maximum advantage of cover and concealment. This is the single most important factor that can improve your chances of survival. You should take cover behind solid walls or cars, rather than objects like bushes, wooden benches, mailboxes or lampposts which offer inadequate protection. When using cars for cover, you should position yourself behind the engine block and wheel well for maximum protection. Even a curb can provide limited protection against bullets.

BOUNDING: LEAD AND TRAIL

STEP 1 - Provide Coverage

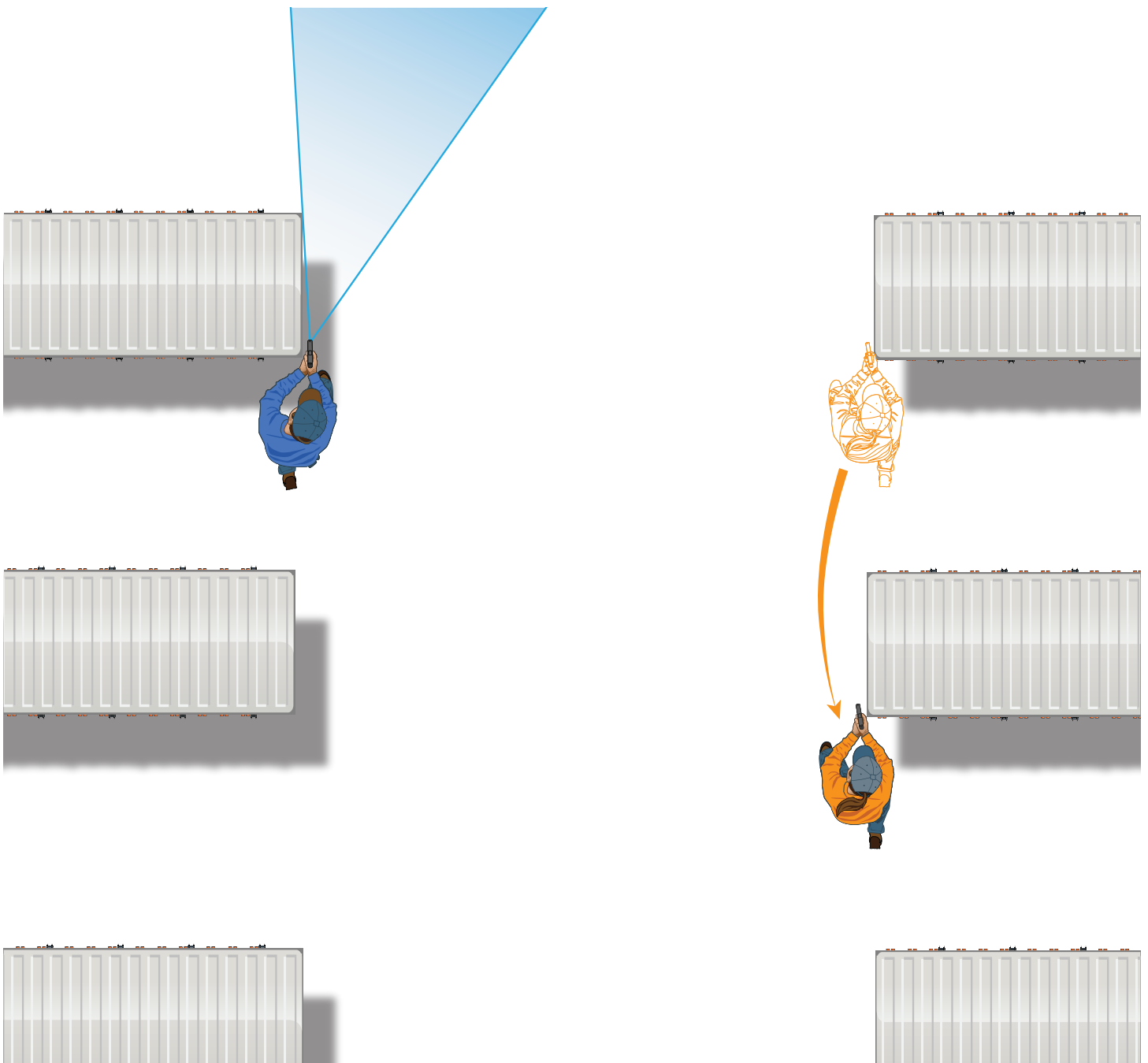
Whenever moving outside or in an open area, it is ideal for one person to provide cover while the other person moves. The safest way to do this is using the “lead and trail” technique. In this example, both persons begin behind cover and concealment, facing the direction of the threat. One person will identify the next covered position in the direction of travel and prepare to move. In this case, the direction of travel is backwards, away from the threat. It is possible to call out to notify your partner when you are moving and when you are covering. However, be aware that if you are under fire it can be hard to hear and if you are not under fire, yelling can give away your position. In these cases, hand signals might be a better option.



BOUNDING: LEAD AND TRAIL

STEP 2 - One Person Performs First Bound

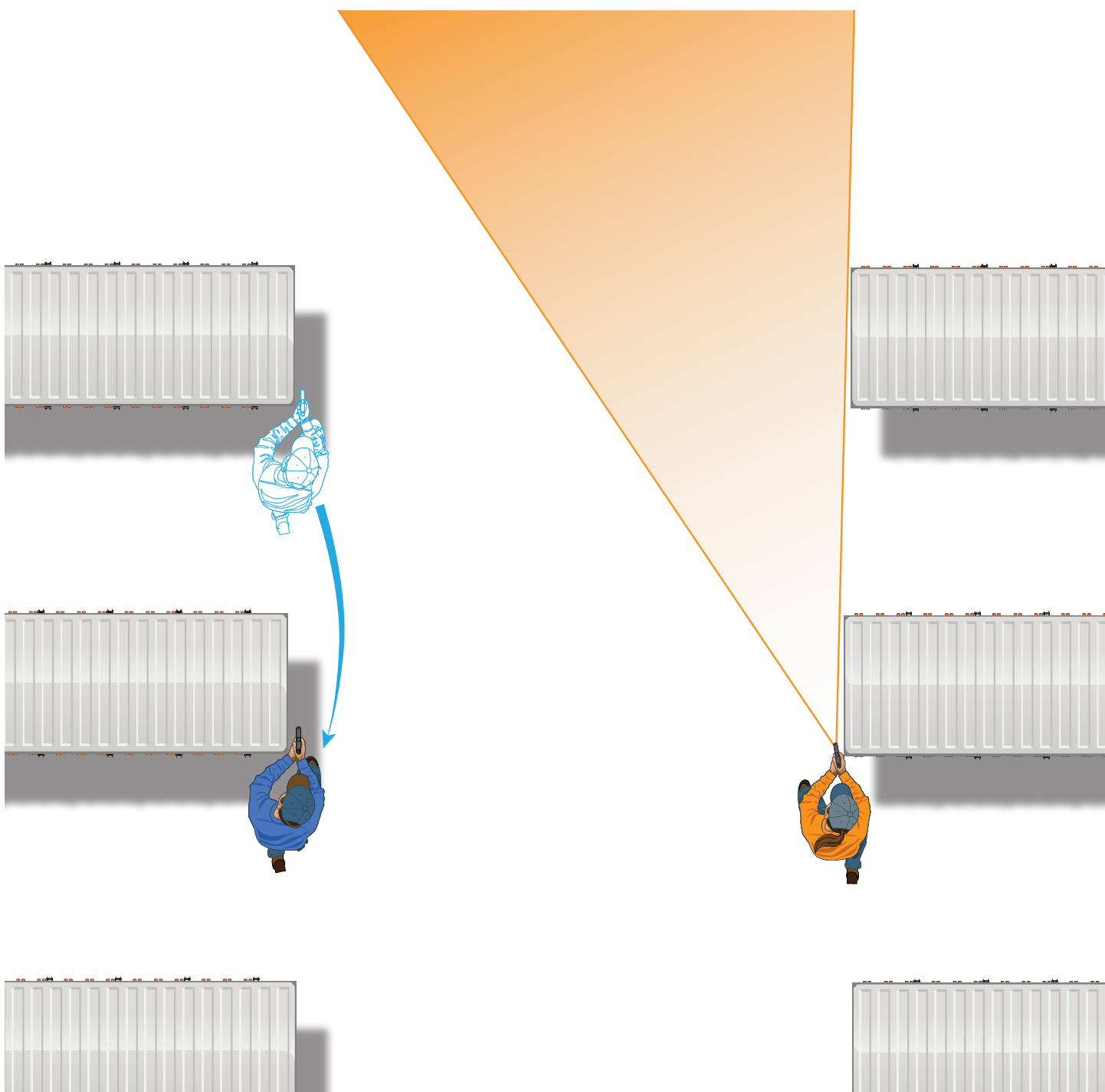
Once the moving person (orange) identifies the next covered and concealed position, he/she will sprint to that position as quickly as possible while the other person (blue) provides cover. The tactical term for this type of movement is a “bound.” When setting up behind cover, it is critical to expose as little of your body as possible. Under heavy fire, the bounding individual may need to drop to the ground and crawl instead of running. It is also important not to bound too far away from your partner and ensure you stay close enough so you can come to each other’s aid should one of you get wounded.



BOUNDING: LEAD AND TRAIL

STEP 3 - Other Person Follows with Second Bound

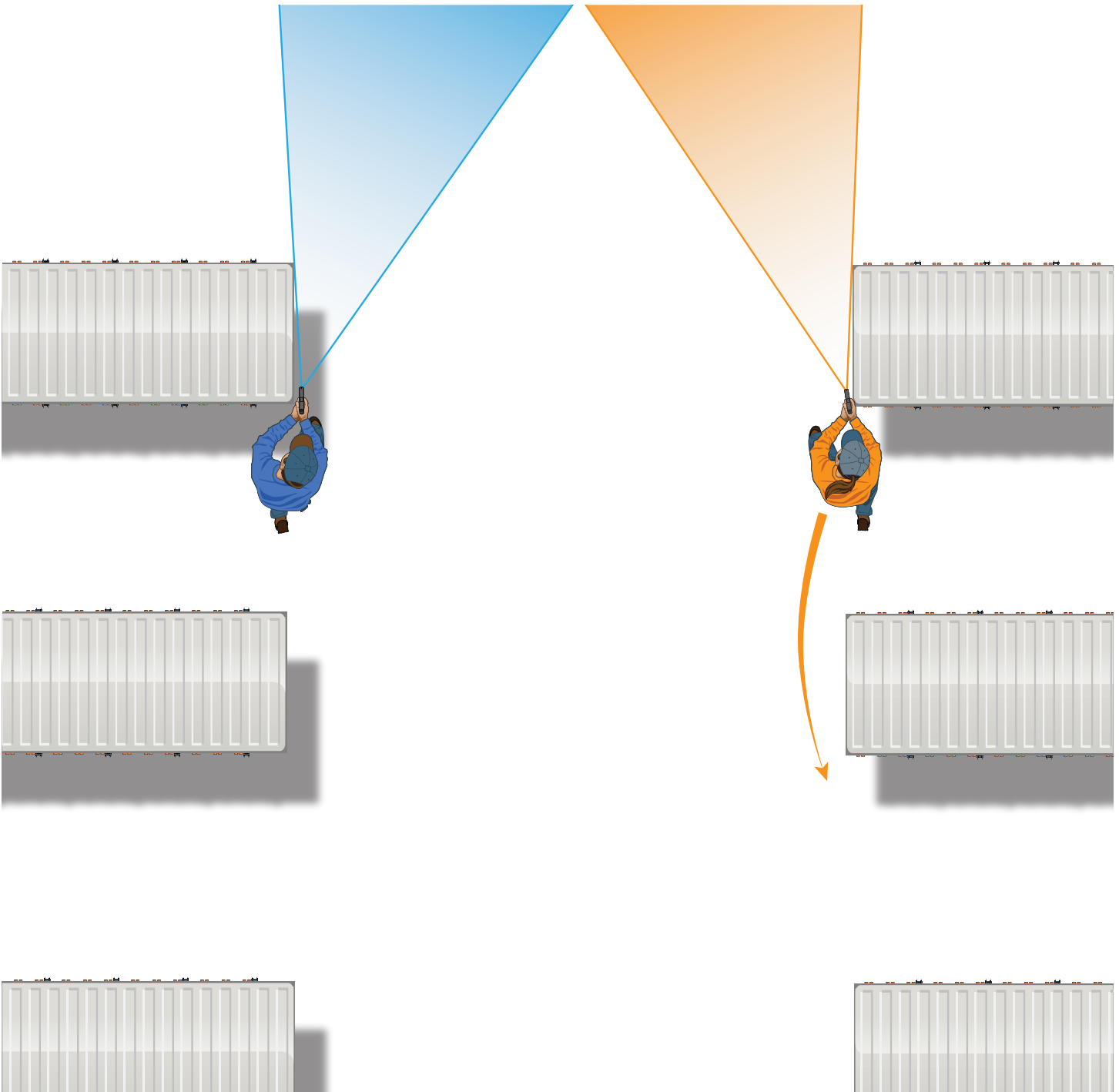
Once the first bound is complete and both persons are once again stationary behind cover and concealment, the second person (blue) will bound back, even with the first person (orange). This maneuver is called lead and trail because in this case, the first person (orange) leads by bounding first, and the second person (blue) follows behind. In this maneuver, the trailing person never bounds *past* the lead person, but instead bounds to a position even with the lead person.



BOUNDING: LEAPFROG

STEP 1 - Provide Coverage

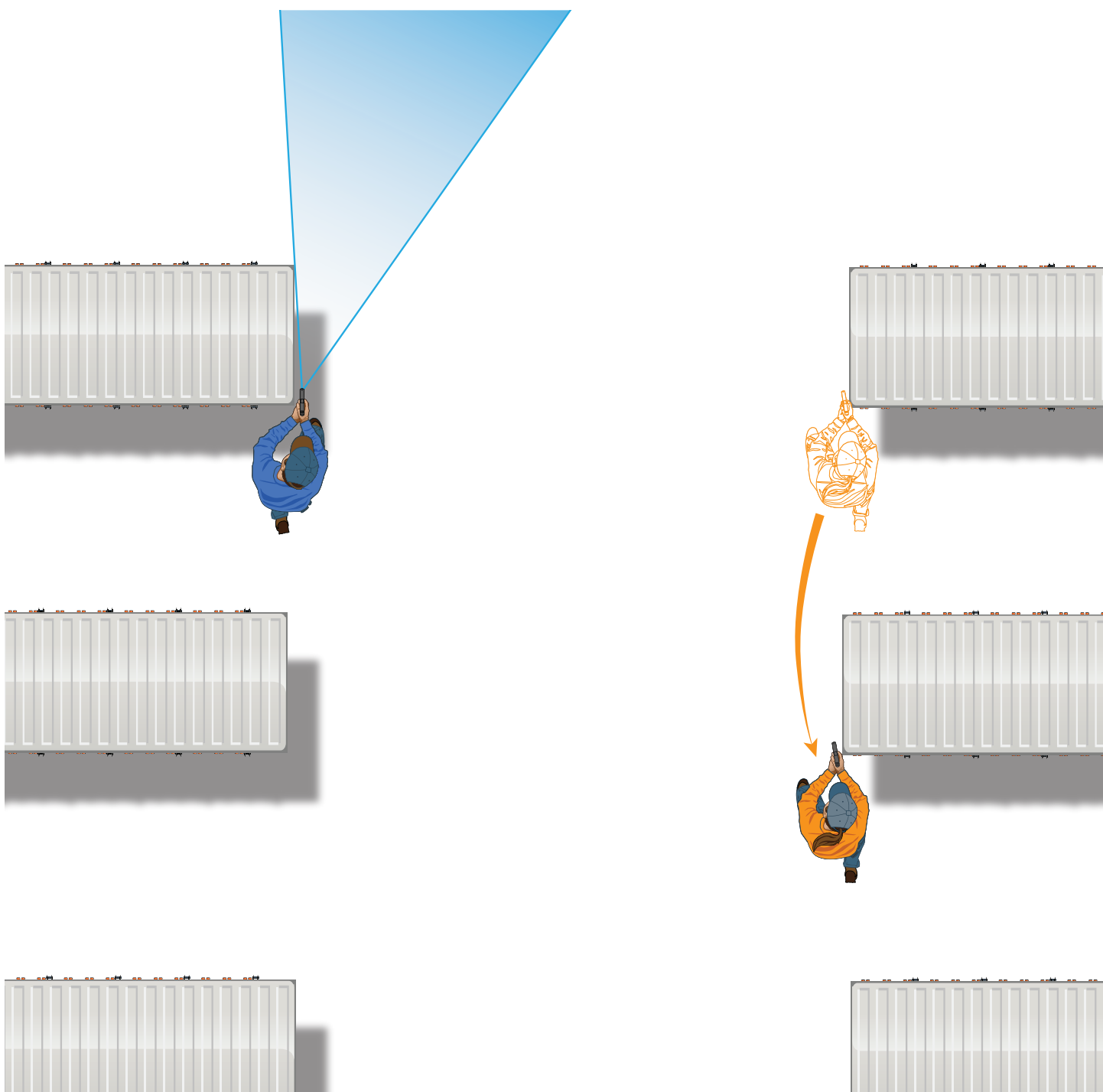
The leapfrog bounding technique is different from the lead and trail, in that each person bounds *past* the other in sequence. The leapfrog technique is less deliberate than the lead and trail technique but it offers greater speed of movement for an emergency situation. The technique usually starts with both persons behind cover and concealment, providing coverage in the direction of the threat. In this case, the direction of movement will be to the rear.



BOUNDING: LEAPFROG

STEP 2 - One Person Performs First Bound

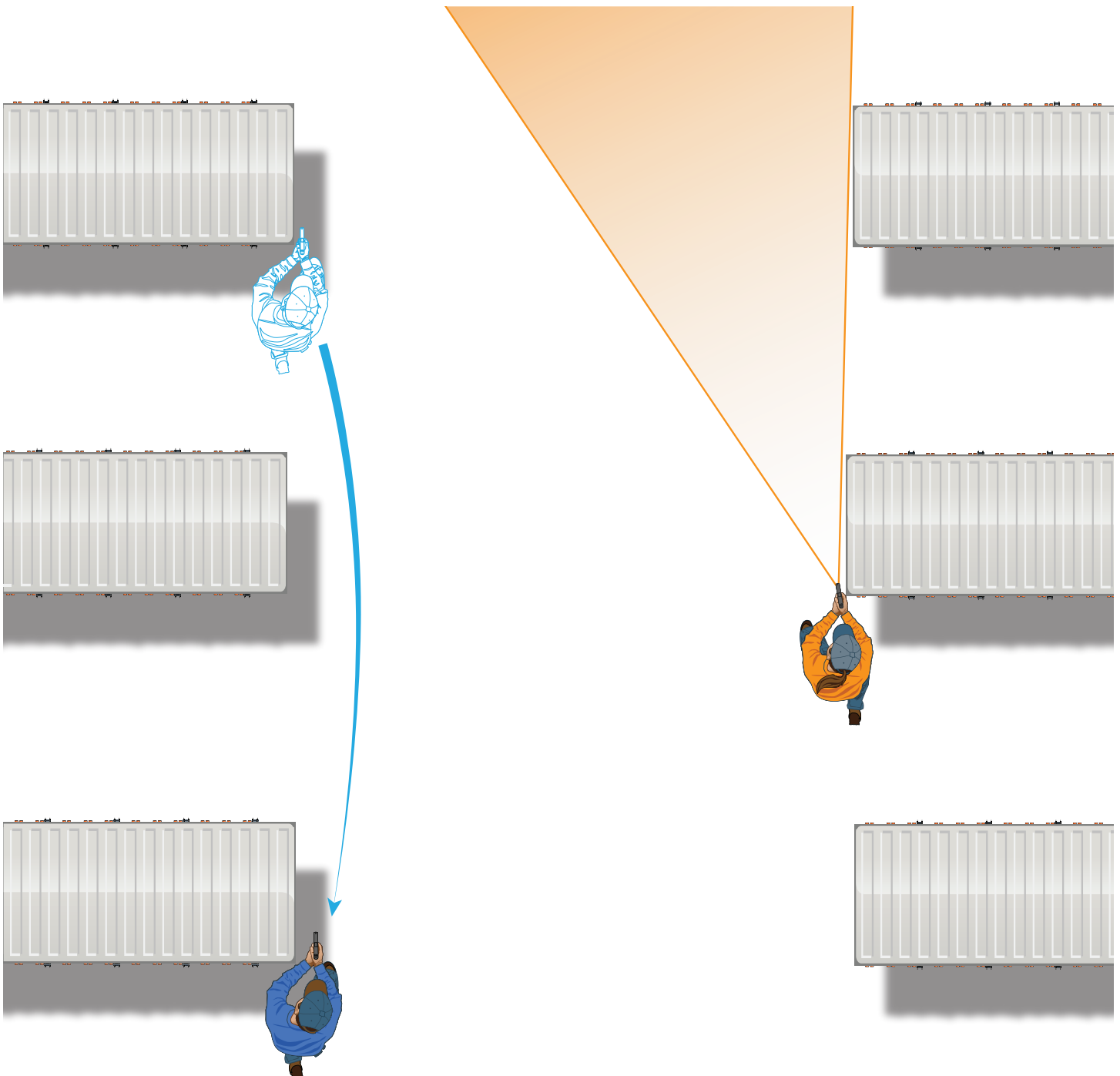
One person will bound back to the next covered and concealed position while the other remains stationary, providing cover.



BOUNDING: LEAPFROG

STEP 3 - Second Person Bounds Past

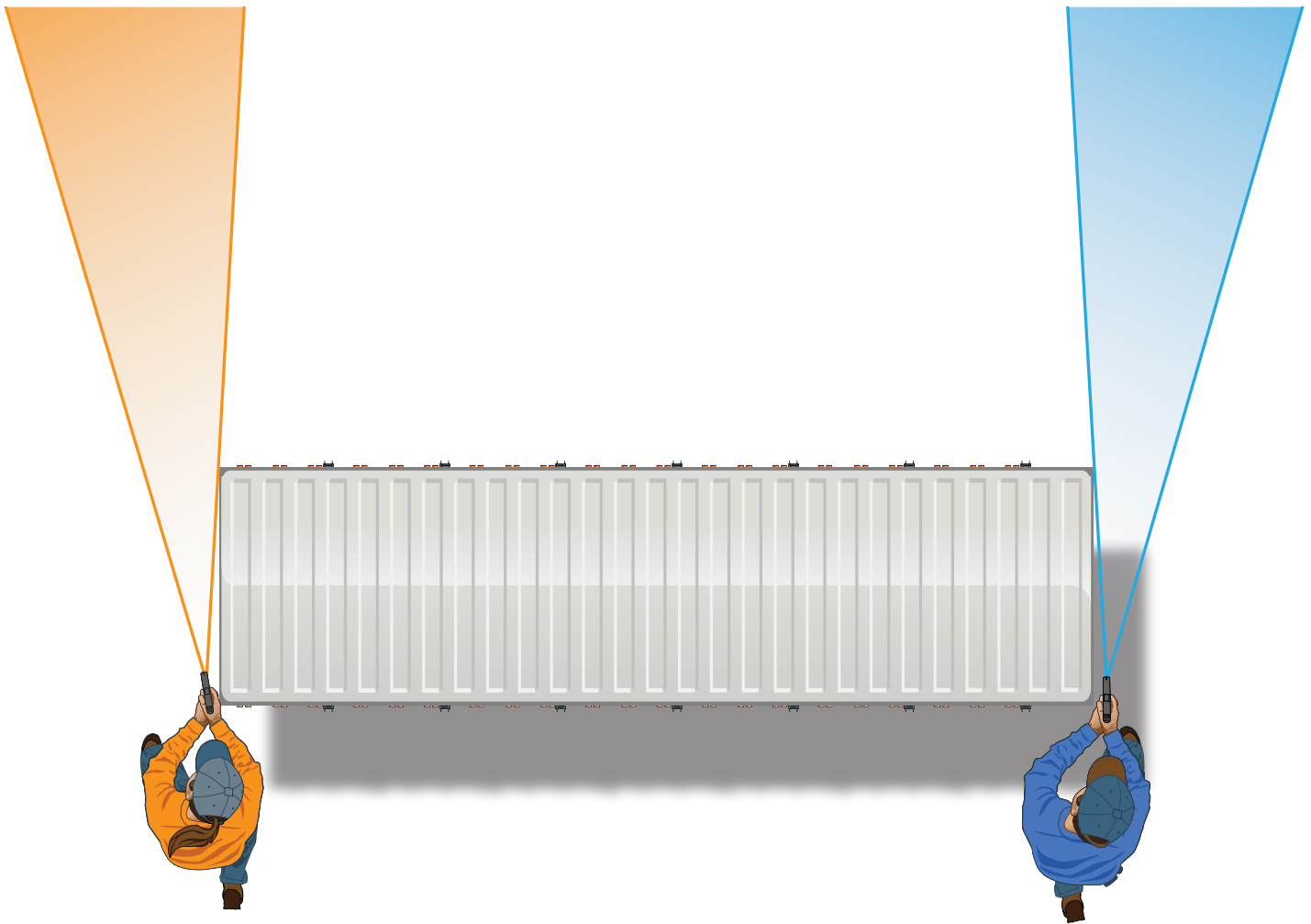
Once the first bound is complete, in this example, the person on the right (orange) will provide cover while the person on the left (blue) bounds *past* his partner to the next covered position. Once again, the key difference of the leapfrog technique is that each person will bound past the other as they move. The leapfrog technique is faster than the lead and trail but it is more difficult to control and offers a greater risk of friendly fire, especially in the dark.



EFFECTIVE USE OF COVER

Factors to Consider

When choosing the best covered and concealed position, there are several factors to keep in mind. First, you should choose a large object with as much ballistic protection as possible. A small, thin tree is not as good as a thick, heavy tree or stone wall. Second, when taking cover with a partner, it is best not to try to squeeze behind one small object but you should instead try to maintain some dispersion. It is also best to find cover that allows you to fire *around the side* instead of over the top, since popping up over the top of an object makes you an easier target. Finally, it is often best to choose a single, large piece of cover like a wall (or the metal container below), so that if your partner is wounded, you will have a covered route to crawl over and provide assistance.



EFFECTIVE USE OF COVER

Firing from Behind a Vehicle

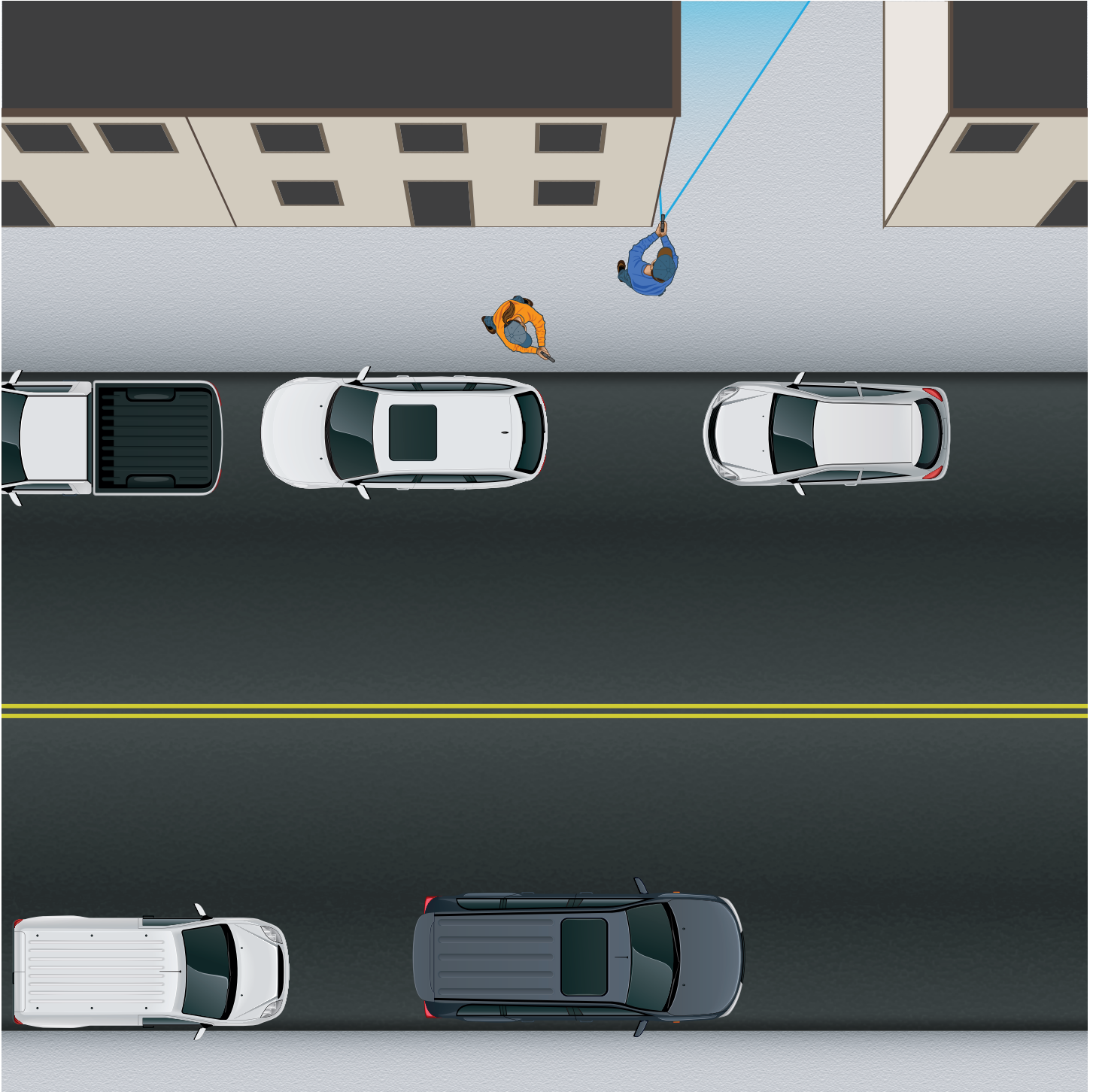
When taking cover behind a vehicle, it is best to position yourself behind the engine block and/or wheel-well. The engine block of a car provides the best ballistic protection. The wheels and wheel-wells can provide protection for your legs and lower body as you crouch. Bullets have a tendency to skip underneath cars. If a bullet strikes your pelvic girdle or the femoral artery in your leg the wound can be fatal. Therefore, it is important to protect your legs and lower body by positioning yourself behind the vehicle's wheel well. If the vehicle's doors are open, it is best to close them (as shown in the illustration below) to provide added protection against bullets.



CROSSING ALLEYS OR NARROW STREETS

STEP 1 - Establish Near Side Security

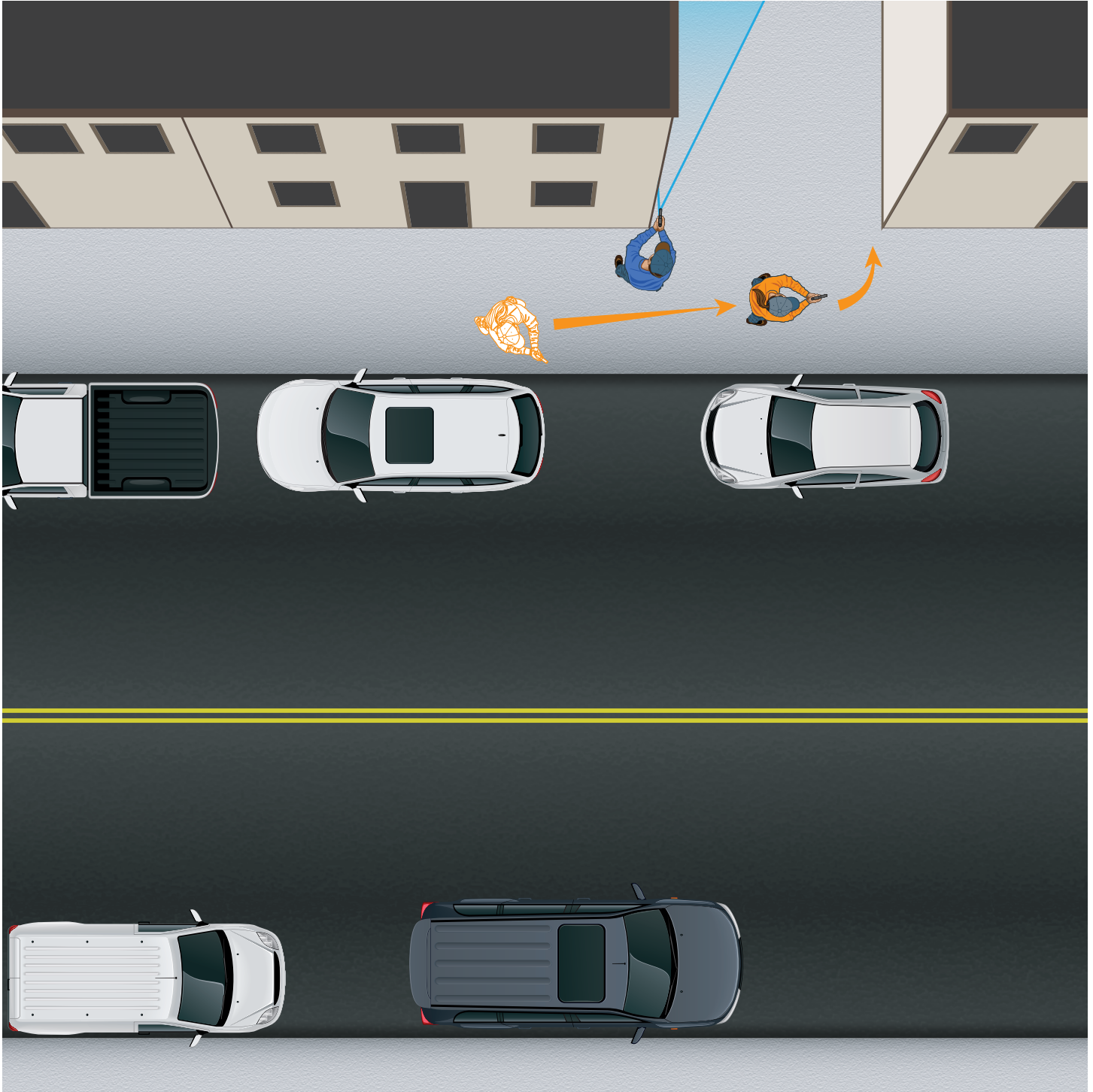
If you are taking fire from an alley but have to cross it, the lead person will move around the corner and take up a covered firing position to provide cover down the alley.



CROSSING ALLEYS OR NARROW STREETS

STEP 2 - Sprint Across

Once near side security is established, the second person (orange) will sprint across the alley.



CROSSING ALLEYS OR NARROW STREETS

STEP 3 - Establish Far Side Security

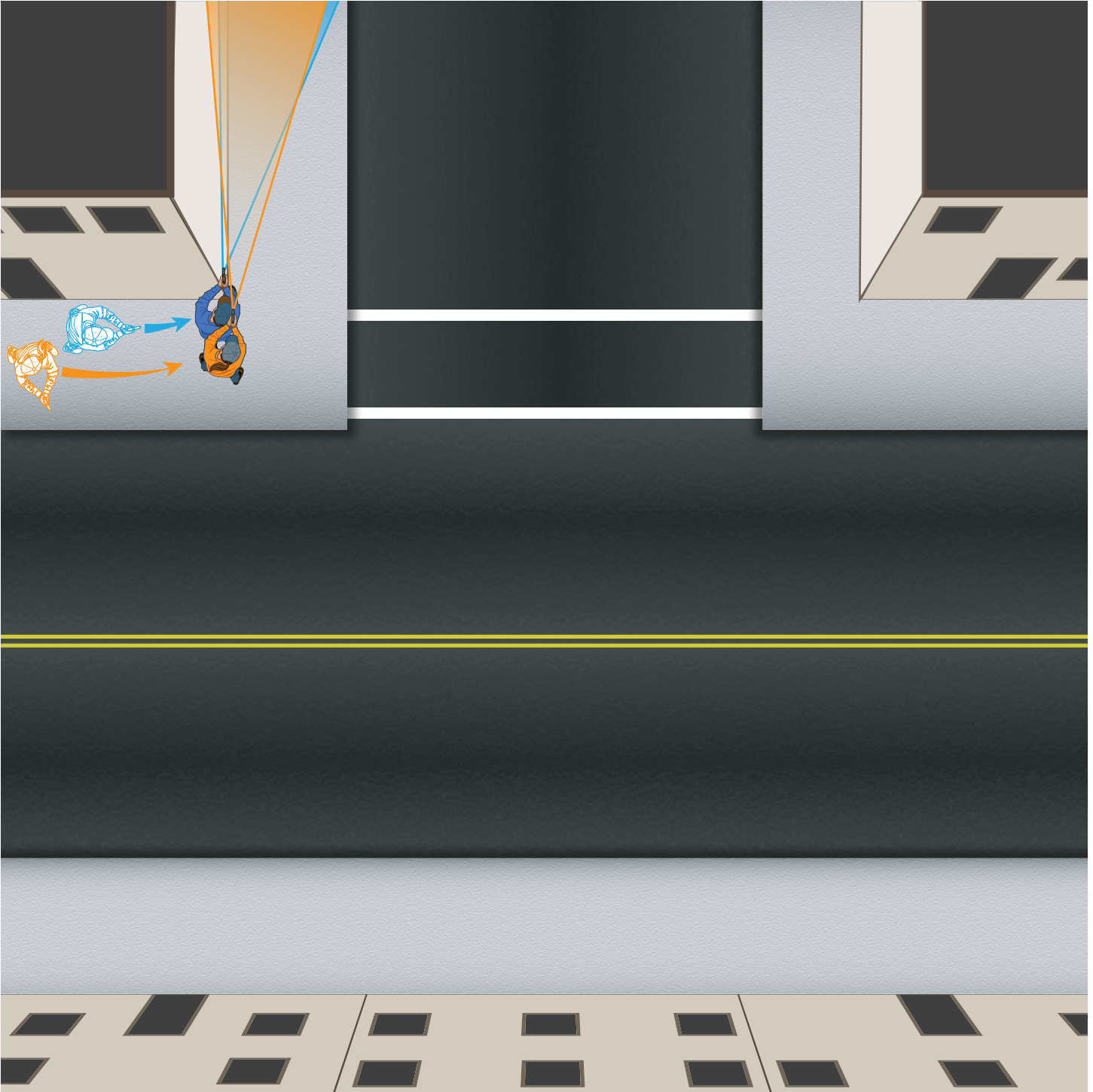
When the second person (orange) reaches the far side, he/she will stop at the corner and take up a covered firing position to provide cover down the alley. At this point the first person (blue) can drop coverage and sprint across the alley to rejoin his/her partner.



CROSSING WIDE STREETS

STEP 1 - Establish Near Side Security

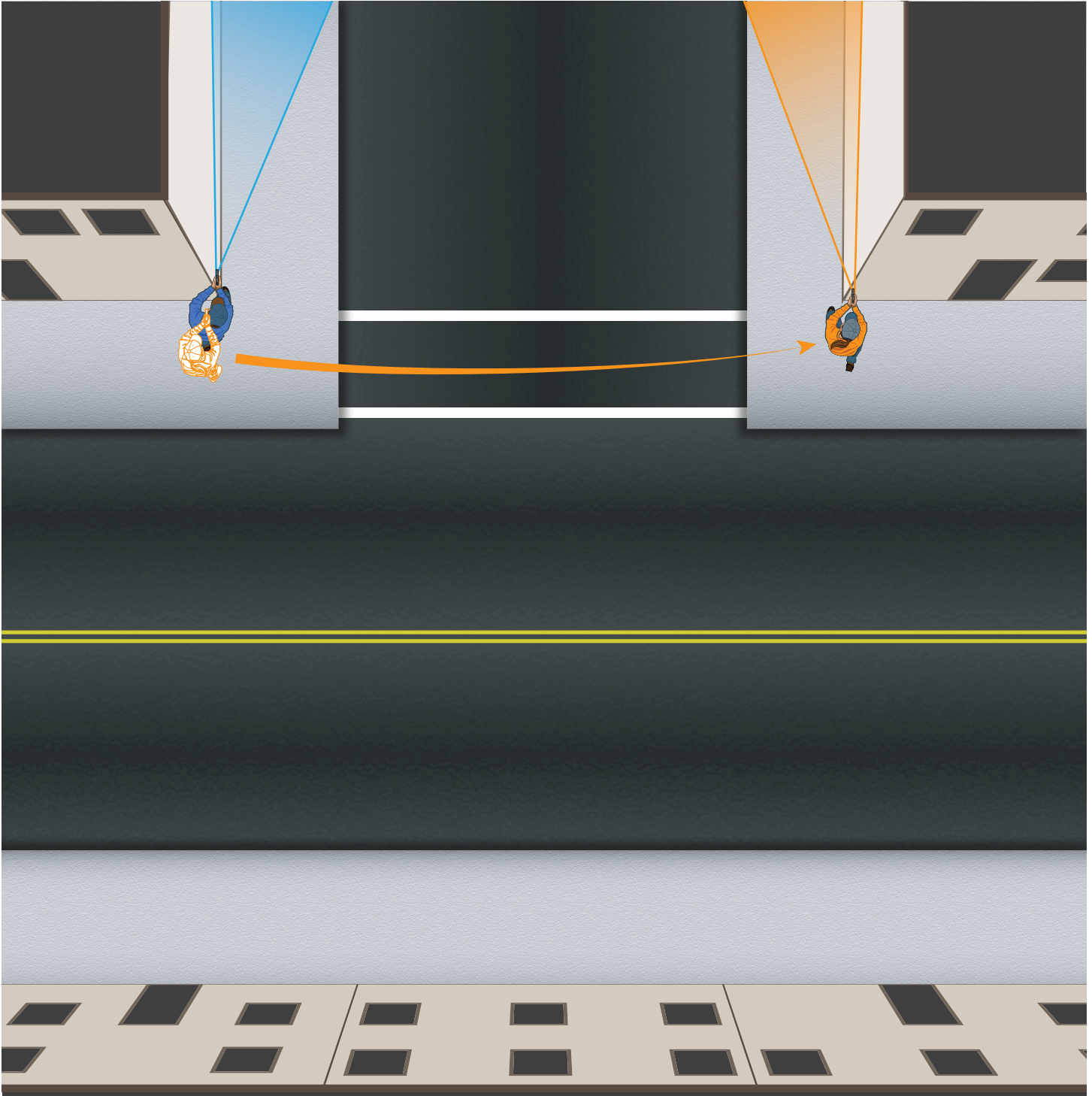
Crossing a wide street under fire is similar to crossing an alley. As you approach the street, the lead person will take a knee and the second person will move behind to execute a “high-low” clearing technique around the corner and cover down the street. You should cross a street under fire only if absolutely necessary. It is usually better to remain in place and engage threats from behind cover.



CROSSING WIDE STREETS

STEP 2 - Establish Far Side Security

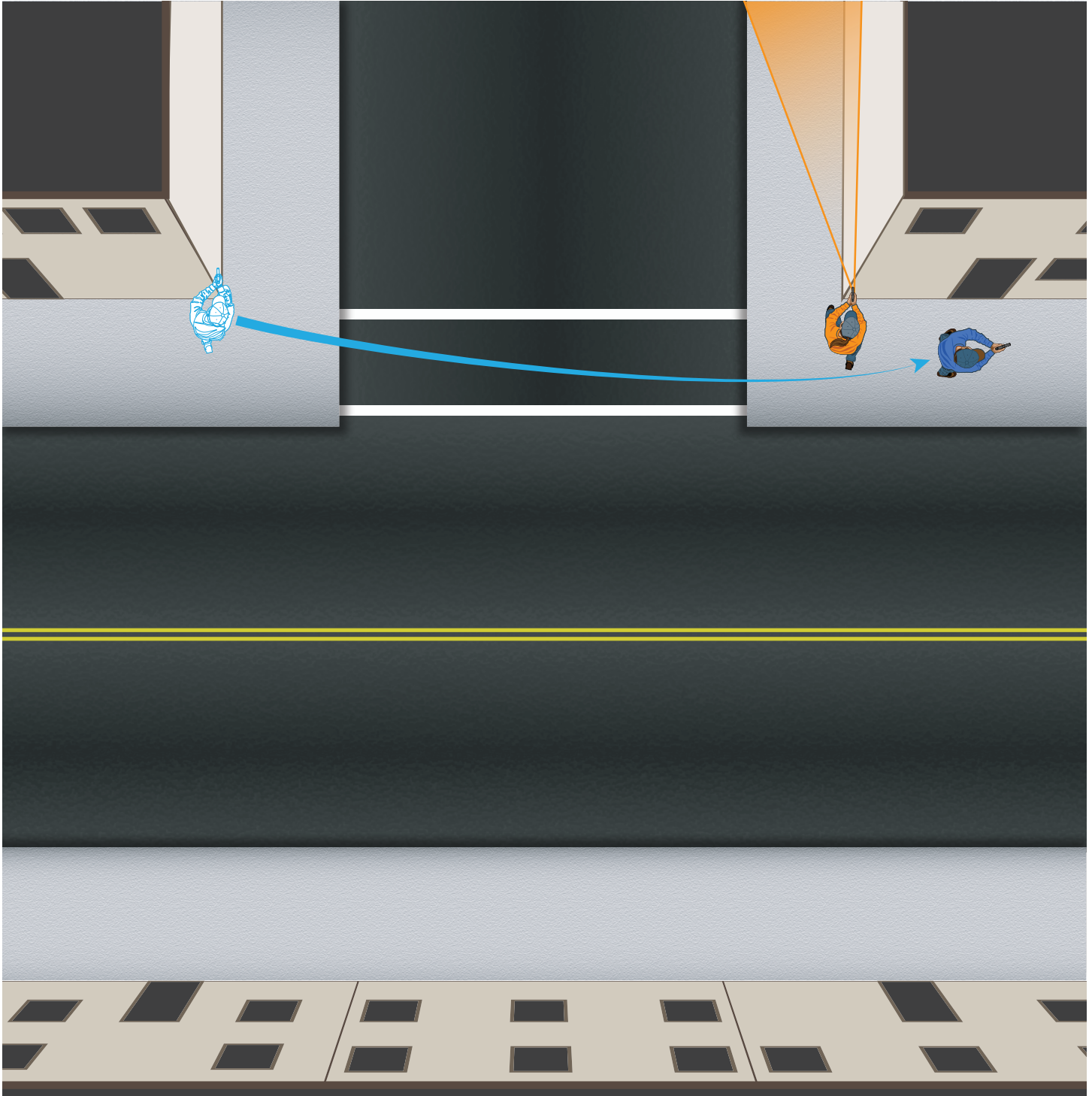
After executing the high-low technique and engaging/suppressing any threats down the street, if it appears safe, the standing person can sprint across the street as quickly as possible and assume a covering position on the far side.



CROSSING WIDE STREETS

STEP 3 - Sprint Across

Once far side security is established, if it appears safe, the person covering the near side (blue) can sprint across the street as quickly as possible to join his/her partner.





SCENARIOS AND TRAINING

Applications and Considerations

The techniques described so far will provide you with all of the fundamental tactical building blocks you will need to clear the vast majority of room and hallway configurations. While it is impossible to predict the most effective way to apply these techniques in a real fight, there are a number of key factors and considerations associated with each potential scenario.

Effective, realistic training is by far the most critical factor that will lead to success or failure. The following sections provide additional information to help you train effectively so you are able to survive an emergency situation and potentially help others do the same.

Training Techniques

As stated in the introduction, no book can teach you to perform physical skills. If you do not physically practice techniques until they are second nature, and if you do not keep your knowledge and skills sharp, no technique in can help you in a life-threatening situation.

Training is particularly important for two-person operations. Not only do you need to know how to perform various techniques yourself, but you and your partner need to know how to work as a team and coordinate

your actions in a safe manner. As already explained, whenever you are operating as a team with more than one person, there is a significant risk of friendly fire. Effective training, practice and rehearsals offer the best way to avoid friendly fire accidents.

When developing a training program, you should aim to train with the person you are likely to find yourself fighting alongside in an emergency situation. If you live alone with your wife, you should practice working as a team with your wife. Having prior experience working and training with the person who is fighting by your side greatly increases your chances of survival and improves your reaction speed.

Modern life is busy and it can be difficult to find adequate time to conduct training. However, it does not take thousands of hours of training to greatly increase your effectiveness and chances of survival. Short training sessions of just 15-minutes can prove extremely effective over time and greatly increase your skill as long as you do not go for extended periods without practicing.

If you are training for a home defense scenario, one of the best techniques is to simply practice moving tactically through your house as a team. In addition, you can think through various scenarios and make

plans for how to deal with them. You can even have a friend play the role of the intruder and practice reacting to various adversary actions. You can practice effectively by just going through the motions without actually shooting or using training ammunition.

If you have mastered the tactics and techniques for two person operations but you have never actually fired a gun, you cannot hope to be effective. Therefore, part of your training routine should include tactical marksmanship practice.

Home Invasion

The first thing you must do in a home invasion situation is call the police. As soon as the line connects, say the words home invasion and give your name and address even if they do not ask for it. If you are calling from a mobile phone, the police may not be able to locate you and in the stress of the situation you may not realize what phone you are using. Give your name and address immediately.

It is important to tell the police that you are armed and prepared to defend yourself from the intruders. This will help prevent the police from accidentally shooting you if they see you holding a gun. If you have time, it might also help to tell the police what you are wearing so they can identify you more easily. From there, follow the instructions of the person on the phone. Therefore, it is good to have a headset ready so you can keep both hands on your weapon and still communicate with the police. Give them as much information on the situation and the intruders as possible.

Your best option is usually escape. If you cannot escape, you do not need to find and engage the intruders. If you hide in one place and avoid contact until the police arrive, that is a satisfactory outcome. This means there is no need to expose yourself. Since you are on

the defensive, you can isolate the fight to one or two rooms, simplifying the problem for you but making it harder for the intruder.

If you have time, you might want to barricade doors to protect yourself. The situation will dictate whether you decide to remain stationary or attempt to escape. Have a barricade plan prepared and practice moving furniture to barricade doors beforehand to ensure the furniture is not too heavy to move in an emergency situation. You can also purchase regular rubber doorstops to jam a door and make it more difficult to force open.

Deadly Attacker (Active Shooter)

As soon as you hear shots fired, do not look around for the shooter. Immediately drop to the ground and take cover behind something solid. If possible, do not attempt to hide behind bushes, small trees, wood, drywall or other flimsy materials. Bullets will pass right through these objects.

Once you are behind cover, look around and try to evaluate the situation. Don't be in a rush to draw your weapon. If you draw your weapon, you run the risk of being shot by first responders or other armed citizens who mistake you for the shooter in the stress of the situation. One thing that can help solve this problem is carrying a very small, lightweight fluorescent vest on your person. Once you are behind cover, don the vest as quickly as possible. The vest will cause you stand out and make the police think twice before shooting you.

If you see a fellow citizen, hiding behind cover with a weapon unholstered, call out to him or her and identify yourself as a "good guy." Try to link up with other armed citizens so you can fight as a team from behind cover and don't accidentally shoot each other.



FURTHER TRAINING

Courses and Resources

This manual provides an overview of close quarter tactics for a two-person element and covers many of the most common situations and room configurations you might encounter. However, the manual leaves some areas unexplored. There are a variety of other Special Tactics manuals, both current and in production, that are designed to compliment this manual. For more information on these manuals, please visit **www.specialtactics.me**. Current and upcoming manuals will cover a variety of topics including: tactical home defense, unarmed combat, improvised weapons and combat fitness.

In addition to this basic course in two-person tactics, Special Tactics offers intermediate and advanced courses that discuss more aggressive clearing procedures and go into more detail on complex room configurations and furniture arrangements. Law enforcement and military units might be interested in

training courses on team operations and multiple-team operations.

Readers might have also noticed that this manual does not provide any specific instructions on shooting technique. This manual assumes that readers already have a familiarity with firearms and combat marksmanship fundamentals. However, for readers who want additional instruction in these areas, Special Tactics provides a range of resources and courses on many aspects of combat marksmanship including combat pistol, combat rifle, barricade shooting and shooting on-the-move.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this manual, the Special Tactics staff welcomes you to contact us on our website at **www.specialtactics.me**. We look forward to hearing from you and hope you found this manual worthwhile. Thank you for keeping our communities safe.