*Tri-River Police Training Region - MTU 16*

**Adaptive Decision Making for Law Enforcement**

New Lenox Police Department

200 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox, IL. 60451

Friday, September 19, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

This course complies with the guidelines of the following mandate(s):

* Civil Rights 1.0 Hour
* Const. Use of LE Authority 1.0 Hour
* Procedural Justice 1.0 Hour
* Use of Force 1.0 Hour

**Course Description:** The law enforcement environment can often be described as one that is a non-linear, open loop system, that happens at light speed. One where time can be either friend or foe. Operating in this environment creates stress which affects decision-making. Within this time-compressed environment officers often feel they need to act because they are there, rather than allowing the circumstances of the call to determine the urgency to act. The question is how to provide a strategy for officers to effectively control the stress response and to make lawful and ethical decisions. The answer is two-fold; 1) Emotional Intelligence and 2) The Adaptive Decision-Making Model.

The Adaptive Decision-Making Model addresses lawful and ethical decision-making. The model’s foundation is the 4th Amendment Search and Seizure law. It asks, “Does the officer have the lawful authority to act or search or arrest?” Then examines the urgency to take an action, or what threshold of “government intrusion” will be acceptable to accomplish the law objective? This engaging workshop provides the attendees with strategies to increase their emotional intelligence competencies and develop their critical thinking and decision-making skills.

**Course topics include:**

* The 5 Pillars of Emotional Intelligence
* The Law Enforcement Environment
* Decision-making and Thinking Mental Models
* The Adaptive Decision-Making Model

**NOTE: Participants must bring a laptop computer or tablet capable of connecting to the Internet. The participant’s e-device must have a PDF reader (Adobe Reader Recommended). All course materials are provided through Google Drive. If you have any I/T questions, please contact the instructor at (847) 644-6437**

**Instructor**: Thomas Dworak is a retired Sergeant (31 years) from a suburban Chicago police department where he was the Field Training and Evaluation Program Coordinator and the Lead Defensive Tactics/Use of Force Instructor. Thom facilitates training throughout the country in Field Training, Instructor Development, Leadership, Use of Force, Defensive Tactics and is a core instructor for Below 100. He holds the position of adjunct faculty at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the College of Du Page providing instruction to recruits in defensive tactics and scenario-based training. Thom is a court recognized expert in police practices and use of force. He is a member of the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association (ILEETA), an annual ILEETA conference presenter and the Instructor Development Section Editor for the ILEETA Journal. Follow Thom on Twitter @dworakt

**Member Tuition: None Non-Member Tuition: None**

*Funded in Partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board*