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Tri-River Police Training Courses

May 2025

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
				1	2	3
				Internal Affairs Investigations (law Enforcement Seminars) Plainfield P.D.		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	FULL Basic Crisis Negotiations Mokena P.D.					
	FULL Building Entry & Control Tactics Combined for 21st Century Policing Plainfield P.D.		CANCELLED SFST Refresher New Lenox P.D.	YOGA for First Responders Plainfield P.D.		
		FULL L/E Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks Autobahn C.C.				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Fundamentals of Realistic De-Escalation (FSI) 8-hours KCSO	*FULL* L/E Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks Autobahn C.C.	Mental Health First Aid Kankakee S.O.	Crime Scene Photography Romeoville P.D.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	FULL Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones) in Law Enforcement Weitendorf Ag. Center					
	FULL Crime Scene Investigation 2 -W.C.S.O.					
		FULL L/E Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks Autobahn C.C.		Investigating Child Physical Abuse and Death 16 Hour – Hillgoth Romeoville P.D.		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		32 Hour Police IPMBA Police Cyclist Course Weitendorf Ag.				
				FULL L/E Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks Autobahn C.C.	Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Plainfield P.D.	
				Tactical Emergency Casualty Care Plainfield P.D.		



Internal Affairs Investigations

(Law Enforcement Seminars)

Plainfield Police Department

14300 Coil Plus Dr., Plainfield, IL. 60544

Thursday-Friday, May 1-2, 2025

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

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

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| • Civil Rights | 1.00 Hour |
| • Const. Use of LE Authority | 1.00 Hour |
| • Legal Updates | 4.00 Hours |
| • Procedural Justice | 3.50 Hours |
| • Specialized: | |
| ○ Lead Homicide Investigator | 16.00 Hours |

PURPOSE OF COURSE: This course is designed for individuals assigned to the responsibility of conducting internal affairs investigations as well as supervisors and command personnel with departmental oversight.

Law enforcement administration is charged with the responsibility and has the authority to maintain discipline within the police department. Citizens should be provided with a fair and effective avenue for redress of their legitimate grievances against members of the department. The department also has the responsibility to protect members of their agency from false allegations. This course offers a global perspective of the internal affairs process in a systematic framework designed to provide for informed decisions.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

- Relevant events in I.A. / Best practices in case law
- Employee Rights
- Uniform Peace Officers Disciplinary Act
- Complaint Intake and Classification Procedures
- Complaint Processing and Investigations
- Case Studies and Investigation Findings
- I.L.E.T.S.B. Reporting
- Illinois Police Training Act
- Early Intervention / Practicum / Course Summary

Instructor: Joseph Mitchell retired from the Orland Park Police Department, a medium size department of 121 sworn officers in the south suburbs of Chicago, as Chief of Police after 27 years of service. Joe was assigned to Internal Affairs for seven years, supervised the unit for five years and has conducted, consulted on and supervised over a thousand internal investigations ranging from policy violations, Use of Force reviews including officer involved shootings, criminal allegations and subsequent prosecutorial referrals throughout his tenure. Joe's experience includes conducting internal investigations for a homicide task force. Joe has taught the Internal Affairs Investigatory process to over 600 police officers as an Illinois state certified instructor since 2012. Joe developed the organizations Internal Review process, disciplinary procedure and updated all relevant policies to include an Officer Involved Shooting policy to reflect best practices and scientific findings.

(CONTINUED)

His previous assignments included Drug and Gang Investigator, Patrol Sergeant, Watch Commander, Detective Lieutenant, Patrol Division Commander and Deputy Chief and was selected as an Executive Board Member of the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force. Joe has a Master's Degree from DePaul University in Public Service and a Bachelor's Degree from Lewis University. Joe is a graduate of the FBI National Academy (Session #274) and the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command (Session #221).

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members have priority in registration)

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

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~Building Entry and Control Tactics Combined for 21st Century Policing~~

~~Plainfield Police Department~~

~~14300 Coil Plus Dr., Plainfield, IL 60544~~

~~Monday and Tuesday, May 5-6, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 4:00 pm~~

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

- De-escalation Techniques 7.75 Hours (7.25 Hours Scenario-Based)
- Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time 8.25 Hours (7.75 Hours Scenario-Based)
- Specialized: School Resource Officer (SRO) Pre-Qualified
 - Active Threat Response 16.0 Hours (15 Hours Scenario-Based)

Course Description: This course will be two days in length for a total of 16 hours of training. This program has been designed by Conceptual Guardian Systems Inc. to provide students with concepts related to building entry and control tactics.

This course will cover building entry and control tactics, combined together to show Officers safer ways to clear buildings and how to more effectively deal with compliant and non-compliant subjects encountered during building entry. Officers will learn how to non-compliantly handcuff a subject on the ground without placing a knee on the subject's back, reducing the chance for positional asphyxia. Officers will also learn how to non-compliantly handcuff a subject in a standing position that allows the Officer to quickly move a subject out of a zone of concern. Officers will learn concepts related to building entry that will allow them to safely clear any building on the planet using two easy to learn concepts. Officers will also learn hallway and stairway clearing tactics. This course is related to single Officer/two Officer call for service response and team tactics related to search/arrest warrants and active shooter response.

PLEASE NOTE: **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY**

Students must bring duty belt, duty pistol, duty long gun, flashlight or weapon mounted light and body armor.

Instructors: Lead Instructor, Jason Laferriere is the Owner and Founder of CGSI. Jason has spent over 33 years in Law Enforcement and 39 years studying and teaching martial arts. Jason spent 21 years as a Special Agent with Homeland Security Investigations serving as the Assistant Team Leader and Training Coordinator for HSI Chicago's SRT team. He created HSI's SRT control tactics system and undercover escape and evasion program. Prior to HSI, Jason was a Police Officer in Montpelier, Vermont and served in the United States Coast Guard.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members have priority in registration)

**This course is funded by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, SRO Grant*

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~Basic Crisis Negotiations 40 Hours~~

~~Mokena Police Department~~

~~10300 W. 191st St., Mokena, IL 60448~~

~~Monday-Friday, May 5-9, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 4:00 pm~~

NEW COURSE

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

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| • Crisis Intervention | 9.0 Hours | |
| • Emergency Medical Response Training | 2.0 Hours | |
| • Legal Updates | 1.0 Hour | |
| • Officer Wellness/Mental Health | 1.0 Hour | |
| • Procedural Justice | 5.0 Hours | |
| • De-escalation Techniques | 5.0 Hours | (5.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |
| • Officer Safety Techniques | 5.0 Hours | (5.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

Course Description: This basic 40-hour course will assist departments in developing individuals to become crisis/hostage negotiators. Students will examine basic philosophy and principles of crisis/hostage negotiation theory, concepts, and general guidelines, including an exploration of the psychological and physiological aspects of hostage negotiation situations.

Course topics include:

- Principles of mediation
- Crisis intervention
- Tactical response to police hostage situations
- Psychological issues
- Suicide intervention
- Communication skills
- Legal and policy issues
- Intelligence
- Command issues
- Police stress
- Types of mental illness
- De-escalation strategies
- Role of the negotiator during an incident
- Safety considerations
- SWAT team and patrol coordination

Additionally, the main goal of this course is to provide student officers with appropriate communication skills needed to safely and effectively diffuse each type of crisis/hostage negotiation situation that could potentially be faced in the field.

Instructor: Michael Wargo served over twenty-seven years with the Illinois State Police. His entire career has been in the investigative section of ISP. His investigative assignments have included narcotics, white-collar crime and counter terrorism. Mr. Wargo has been assigned to the Crisis Negotiation Team since its inception in 1984. He has worked in the Communication Center and his current duties include Crisis Negotiation Coordinator for the northern third of the State of Illinois.

(CONTINUED)

Prior to his retirement from ISP in November 2002, he was assigned as the Illinois State Police representative to the Joint Terrorism Task Force in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Wargo has written and published more than 50 articles on the subjects of crisis negotiation, suicide intervention, dignitary protection and terrorism. His special assignments have included the 1989 National Governors' Conference, the 1994 World Cup Matches and the 1996 Democratic National Convention. Mr. Wargo has received numerous awards and commendations from police agencies throughout the Midwest. He is the lead Hostage Negotiation, Terrorism and Suicide recognition and Intervention Instructor for KEBCOR.com's programs to Police and Dispatchers. He has extensive experience in training all levels of police, security and military personnel.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

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

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~LE Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks~~

~~Autobahn Country Club of Joliet~~

~~3795 Centerpoint Way, Joliet, IL 60436~~

~~Tuesday, May 6, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 5:00 pm~~

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Civil Rights | 0.5 Hour |
| • Const. Use of LE Authority | 0.5 Hour |
| • Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time | 2.0 Hours (2.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

In an effort to allow equal training opportunities, all "Member" Officers who have not taken this course will receive priority over those who have, unless their department requests an exception.

Course Description: With rising insurance, repair, and medical costs, reducing or preventing law enforcement accidents is crucial for officer safety, and that of the public they protect. The professional instructors at Autobahn have developed an extensive one day driving program that covers skills training typically found in a multiple day program.

In the classroom, officers will learn the following concepts of driving safety:

- How cars react under emergency environments
- The basics of car control
- Common mistakes of other drivers on the road
- How to avoid accidents in the first place
- Controlling adrenaline
- Maintaining a high level of awareness
- Minimizing the effects of distractions

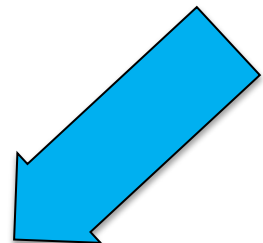
Throughout the rest of the day, officers will be placed in common emergency situations in a controlled, safe environment designed to replicate common emergency scenarios.

These drills will cover:

- Braking in low traction conditions (rain, snow, etc.)
- Emergency lane change techniques
- Vehicle dynamics training
- Skid control recovery

❖ *To facilitate this one-day program, breakfast and lunch are provided on site.*

Requirements:



➤ **At least one department squad car, SUV, or Pick-up truck is required for every two officers (from the same department) and will be used in the training.**

➤ In order to maximize training, class size is limited to 12 officers.

➤ Officers are required to check-in at the front security/information gate house.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members receive priority)

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

[BACK](#)

CANCELLED

~~NHTSA – DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Refresher with Drugged Driving~~

~~New Lenox Police Department~~

~~200 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox, IL 60451~~

~~Wednesday, May 7, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 5:00 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 |
| • Legal Updates | 1.0 Hour |
| • Procedural Justice | 1.5 Hours |

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to increase the deterrence of DWI violations, and thereby reduce the number of crashes, deaths and injuries caused by impaired drivers. As a result of this training, participants will become significantly better able to:

- Understand enforcement's role in general DWI deterrence.
- Understand detection phases, clues and techniques.
- Understand requirements for organizing and presenting testimonial and documentary evidence in DWI cases.
- Recognize and interpret evidence of DWI violations.
- Administer and interpret Standardized Field Sobriety Tests.
- Describe DWI evidence clearly and convincingly in written reports and verbal testimony.
- Understand the tasks and decisions of DWI detection.
- Know and recognize typical vehicle maneuvers and human indicators symptomatic of DWI associated with initial observations.
- Know and recognize typical reinforcing maneuvers and indicators that come to light during the stopping sequence.
- Know and recognize typical sensory and other clues of alcohol and/or other drug impairment that may be seen during face-to-face contact with DWI suspects.
- Know and recognize typical behavioral clues of alcohol and/or other drug impairment that may be seen during the suspect's exit from the vehicle.
- Understand the role and relevance of psychophysical testing in pre-arrest screening of DWI suspects.
- Know and carry out appropriate administrative procedures for validated divided attention psychophysical tests.
- Know and carry out appropriate administrative procedures for the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus test.
- Know and recognize typical clues of alcohol and/or other drug impairment that may be seen during administration of the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests.

Instructor: Instructors: Dave Schurr; Lieutenant (Ret.) with the Bolingbrook Police Department and Steven Sigler; Sergeant (Ret.) with the Illinois State Police.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None*

* Funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation through the Police Traffic Services Training Project and administered by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board.

[BACK](#)

Yoga for First Responders

Plainfield Police Department
14300 Coil Plus Dr., Plainfield, IL. 60544
Thursday; May 8, 2025
8:00 am till 4:00 pm

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

- Officer Wellness/Mental Health 8.0 Hours

Course Description: This course uses tactical breath work, physical drills, and cognitive behavioral therapy resulting in optimal functioning of the entire psychophysiological system. This includes increasing mental toughness, enhancing tactical skills, preventing injury, self-de-escalation, regulating the nervous system and more. The result of consistent training in YFFR Protocol will not only lead to better performance and stress management but an increase in mindful responses versus emotional reactions with interpersonal communication.

This course will introduce the trainee to the basic concepts of yoga, mindfulness, and resilience, functions of the brain and nervous system, as well as the principles of the YFFR Protocol that make it job-specific and culturally informed. Attendees will learn techniques to use right away along with resources to continue their training.

Course Objectives:

1. Explain yoga, its original intent, and address misconceptions.
2. Formulate the steps needed to practice mindfulness.
3. Outline the 3 Principles of Resilience Training.
4. Assess how a career in Law Enforcement can affect the mind, body, and nervous system.
5. Categorize the basic functions of the nervous system and stress response.
6. Conclude the missing skill set in Law Enforcement training.
7. Illustrate how yoga can train the Law Enforcement Officer to perform at his/her highest level of functioning for tactical performance and career longevity.
8. Compare how the YFFR Protocol differs from community yoga in western cultures.
9. Deduce how YFFR can be added into current Law Enforcement Training Standards.
10. Learn and practice the foundational techniques of YFFR protocol.
11. Distinguish which basic YFFR techniques can train the entire system to process stress effectively, build resilience actively, and enhance performance tactically.
12. Adopt YFFR techniques for improving body mechanics, neuromuscular efficiency, awkward shooting positions, breath control, and proprioception for tactical performance.
13. Decide when and how to use and adapt YFFR techniques for optimal value.
14. Understand how to implement YFFR as a consistent training tool personally or for your department.

Officers should wear clothing that they would normally wear during defensive tactics training, as there will be practical applications to the classroom instructions. This will take place on defensive tactics mats. Watch the attached videos for further:

[5 Minute Intro to YFFR](#)

[60 Seconds - YFFR](#)

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Instructor: Cheryl Mabry is a 500-hr Certified Yoga teacher, and has been a life-long fitness practitioner and teacher, with a primary focus on Corporate Yoga since 2003. Cheryl's teachings are rooted in safe, effective techniques that honor mental and physical strength with self-awareness.

After spending years in gymnastics, powerlifting, cycling and strength training, and enduring a life threatening spinal injury...then surgery, Cheryl credits her resiliency to her Yoga practice and mindset training. Her deep desire to help those in the First Responder community began with her father, a Vietnam Veteran, and other extended family members that serve in local communities. After learning about Yoga For First Responders (YFFR) in August of 2018 from a recent Chicago Police Department (CPD) Academy grad, Cheryl began to research and follow YFFR. She completed her Instructor School Class 009 with YFFR in Seattle in 2019. She is currently serving as Fundraising Coordinator with YFFR and has been an active Instructor and speaker for YFFR since certifying. She recently was a Squad Leader for YFFR at Instructor School Class 014 at CPD and spoke at the ILEETA conference back in March of 2021. Cheryl engages in the YFFR Community weekly, and looks to future opportunities to learn and lead. Cheryl resides near Chicago, IL, and is deeply committed to sharing the benefits of the YFFR Protocol.

REGISTRATION LINK: [Course Registration – Tri-River Police Training Region](#)

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None*

(members have priority in registration)

**This course is CIT/Mental Health grant funded by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.*

[BACK](#)

Fundamentals of Realistic De-Escalation (FSI) – 8 Hour

Kankakee County Sheriff's Office

3000 S. Justice Way, Kankakee, IL. 60901

Monday; May 12, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

NEW COURSE

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

- Crisis Intervention 0.50 Hours
- De-escalation Techniques 7.00 Hours (1.00 Hour Scenario Based)

Course Description:

Members of the law enforcement profession have come under intense pressure in recent years to prioritize efforts at employing de-escalation techniques in force encounters. Fundamentals of Realistic De-Escalation is a one-day course describing the often-challenging expectations placed on law enforcement officers that they gain compliance without using physical force. Oftentimes, not using physical force at all may not be realistic or safe. The legitimate goal of de-escalation tactics is to resolve problems with minimal use of force.

This course presents concepts and methods to support de-escalation efforts when personal connections can be made. Participants will be provided with knowledge to apply in real-world situations. This includes learning ways to address the needs of people in a state of a mental health crisis, or those whose perception of reality is altered. Worst-case scenarios in these types of situations can end with harm to the officer, bystanders or the subject, and scenarios such as suicide by cop further complicate the picture for responding officers.

Topics include:

- Articulate what "de-escalation" actually means, what its objectives are and in what situations they can and cannot consider it.
- Discuss the tactical principles of de-escalation, risk assessment and decision-making.
- Quickly evaluate an interaction to determine whether de-escalation is reasonable to consider, tactically practical and likely to be successful.
- Apply concepts from the Force Science approach, such as the "Response-ability Zone" and the "7 Ts De-Escalation Evaluation Model" to evaluate tactics that are needed or likely to be successful in supporting a de-escalation process.
- Make better connections, establish rapport and use effective principles of persuasion when dealing with difficult subjects, including those who are mentally ill, through the application of the "Behavior Influence Stairway Model."
- Enhance de-escalation efforts by strategically combining human performance research findings, observations of subject behavior and psychological tactics for negotiation and influence.
- Apply the "Thought/Emotion Behavior" (TEB) Matrix to quickly recognize whether a subject is in "conflict," "crisis" or has "contaminated" thinking, and therefore which strategies of persuasion are most likely to be effective. (CONTINUED)

- Better ensure that officers' approach and control strategies maximize their response options while minimizing the potential for unnecessary emotional or physical escalation.
- Balance the desirability of trying to resolve a conflict peacefully with the need to maintain officer and public safety.
- Recognize and list common barriers to effective communication that officers often use unintentionally, promoting better practices such as active listening.
- Discuss how professional de-escalation techniques embrace the concepts of "fair and impartial" and "rightful policing" principles.
- Assist investigators and other personnel reviewing uses of force to recognize the pivotal behavioral and situational factors that must go into an assessment of whether de-escalation efforts might have been feasible or potentially effective.
- Help community members and media outlets better understand what realistic de-escalation entails and the challenges that subjects may present that can inhibit, if not prohibit, an officer's ability to safely de-escalate.

Instructor(s):

Will be supplied by the Force Science Institute

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(Members receive priority in registration)

FULL

~~LE Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks~~

~~Autobahn Country Club of Joliet~~

~~3795 Centerpoint Way, Joliet, IL 60436~~

~~Tuesday, May 13, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 5:00 pm~~

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Civil Rights | 0.5 Hour |
| • Const. Use of LE Authority | 0.5 Hour |
| • Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time | 2.0 Hours (2.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

In an effort to allow equal training opportunities, all "Member" Officers who have not taken this course will receive priority over those who have, unless their department requests an exception.

Course Description: With rising insurance, repair, and medical costs, reducing or preventing law enforcement accidents is crucial for officer safety, and that of the public they protect. The professional instructors at Autobahn have developed an extensive one day driving program that covers skills training typically found in a multiple day program.

In the classroom, officers will learn the following concepts of driving safety:

- How cars react under emergency environments
- The basics of car control
- Common mistakes of other drivers on the road
- How to avoid accidents in the first place
- Controlling adrenaline
- Maintaining a high level of awareness
- Minimizing the effects of distractions

Throughout the rest of the day, officers will be placed in common emergency situations in a controlled, safe environment designed to replicate common emergency scenarios.

These drills will cover:

- Braking in low traction conditions (rain, snow, etc.)
- Emergency lane change techniques
- Vehicle dynamics training
- Skid control recovery

❖ *To facilitate this one-day program, breakfast and lunch are provided on site.*

Requirements:

➤ **At least one department squad car, SUV, or Pick-up truck is required for every two officers (from the same department) and will be used in the training.**

➤ In order to maximize training, class size is limited to 12 officers.

➤ Officers are required to check-in at the front security/information gate house.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members receive priority)

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

[BACK](#)



Mental Health First Aid

Kankakee County Sheriff's Office

3000 S. Justice Way, Kankakee, IL. 60901

Wednesday; May 14, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

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

- Crisis Intervention 3.5 Hours
- Procedural Justice 2.0 Hours
- De-escalation Techniques 1.5 Hours (1.5 Hours Scenario-Based)

Course Description: Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) for Adults is an evidence-based program designed to teach police officers and first responders how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health challenges or crises in adults. This 8-hour course provides officers with practical tools to assist individuals in need, de-escalate potentially volatile situations, and support overall community well-being. By enhancing mental health literacy and crisis response capabilities, this training promotes safer, more informed interactions between law enforcement and the communities they serve. MHFA equips individuals with the skills to recognize and respond to signs of mental health challenges or crises, such as anxiety, depression, substance use, or suicidal ideation.

Topics include:

- Understanding mental health and substance use disorders.
- Recognizing risk factors and warning signs of mental health issues.
- The impact of mental health on law enforcement interactions.
- Overview of the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (ALGEE):
 - Assess for risk of suicide or harm.
 - Listen non-judgmentally.
 - Give reassurance and information.
 - Encourage professional help.
 - Encourage self-help strategies.
- Crisis response strategies, including de-escalation techniques.
- Connecting individuals to community resources and professional services.

Goals of the MFA Class:

- Equip officers with the tools to identify and respond effectively to mental health challenges.
- Reduce stigma surrounding mental health within law enforcement and the community.
- Promote officer and public safety by fostering understanding and compassion.
- Strengthen community trust through informed, empathetic interactions.
- Understanding Mental Health: Basic information on mental health disorders, risk factors, and prevalence.
- Crisis and Non-Crisis Response: Training on handling crises (e.g., panic attacks, suicidal thoughts) and supporting ongoing mental health management.

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Instructor:

Valerie Melendez holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology of Human Relations and is passionate about reducing the stigma surrounding mental health. Valerie is dedicated to educating and supporting first responders to embed peer support programs within their agencies. Currently pursuing a Master's in Social Work with a focus on community service and crisis intervention, Valerie also serves as the Suicide Prevention First Responder Program Coordinator at Iroquois Mental Health Center. Additionally, Valerie sits on the board of a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting children left behind by suicide. With several years of experience educating people on suicide prevention and the importance of mental health, Valerie emphasizes practical tools and peer-driven solutions to improve mental health outcomes for those in high-stress professions.

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

(Members receive priority in registration)

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

[BACK](#)

Crime Scene Photography - BLTD

Romeoville Police Department

1050 West Romeo Road, Romeoville, IL. 60446

Thursday-Friday; May 15-16, 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 | 2.0 Hours |
| • Legal Updates | 0.5 Hour |
| • Procedural Justice | 6.0 Hours |
| • Lead Homicide Investigator | 16.0 Hours (5.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

Course Description: This course is designed for patrol officers, detectives, investigators, evidence technicians and CSIs. Officers will review camera and photography basics before exploring crime scene photography as it relates to the documentation of scenes involving vehicles, buildings, residences, outdoor crime scenes, and low light/no light crime scenes. Evidential and analytical photography for forensic analysis will be demonstrated and practiced during this course. Officers will review the history, advances, and new technology in crime scene digital photography. The impact of these techniques upon specific criminal investigative disciplines will also be discussed.

Topics to be addressed include:

- Introduction to the functions of a digital camera.
- Camera and Photography Basics.
- Vehicle Photography, Processing and Documentation.
- Overall Crime Scene Photography and Tent Markers for Documentation
- Crime Scene Photography of a Residence or Building
- Outdoor Crime Scene Photography
- Footwear/Tire track/Latent Fingerprint Photography
- Analytical and Evidential Photography and the Forensic Laboratory Disciplines
- Low Light/No Light Photography.
- Victim Photography to include wounds, defects, identification and body positioning.

Officers attending this training must bring: A working Digital SLR Camera, charged battery for the camera or a supply of batteries to keep it operating for course work. Two 64 GB Memory Cards, a Detachable Flash, a 5-foot Shoe Cord or Cable and a Tripod that fits the Department Camera.

Instructors: This course will be taught by Lt. Heather Hansen (ret.), Illinois State Police and Lt. Chris Collins (ret.) with Kane County Sheriff's Department.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members will receive priority registration)

Funded in Partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board, specialized L.H.I. Grant.

[BACK](#)

Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones) in Law Enforcement

JJC, Weitendorf Agricultural Education Center

17840 W. Laraway Rd., Joliet, IL 60433

Monday-Thursday, May 19-22, 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 | 4.0 Hours |
| • Legal Updates | 1.0 Hour |
| • Procedural Justice | 1.0 Hour |
| • Officer safety techniques | 1.0 Hour |

Course Description: This training will introduce officers to the use of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS), commonly called “drones”, for both evidence collection and search operations. The course will cover all aspects of UAS operations, including preparations for the mandatory FAA Part 107 licensing. It will include information on the necessary waiver to fly in populated areas and night operation of drones. Hands-on experience with full-sized drones will give officers the confidence and ability to operate in a safe manner. Evidence collections in both photo and video format will be addressed, as well as the legal aspects of how to handle and store this information, as it differs from standard photo/video collection rules.

Finally, the Freedom from Drone Surveillance Act, ILCS 725/167 will be discussed to provide officers and their departments with a clear understanding about operating drones within the confines of the law, including the mandate to inform the State about maintenance and flight operations. Upon completion of this course, attendees will possess the knowledge to successfully take and pass their Part 107 FAA pilot's exam to become a licensed pilot. They will also be able to assist in creating proper departmental policies and procedures for operating drones.

Course Objectives: Identify the following: All state and federal laws pertaining to Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS); different types of airspace; weather and weather-related conditions including cloud formations, types of fog, and wind conditions and how they play a role in the flight of a sUAS; loading and performance factors; airport and airfield standards, including left traffic patterns, METARS, TAFs, sectional charts, longitude and latitude; crew resource management, including types of attitudes, visual observers, Remote Pic, and the effects of drugs and alcohol; radio communication including 2.4 and 5 GHz, AWOS, ASOS, licensed frequencies, and CTAF; Emergency, Lost-Link, and Flyaway procedures; launch and recovery; and Plan B and C.

✓ Perform the procedures for: Vertical takeoff and landing, basic flight maneuvers, recording video, taking still images, autonomous flights, pre-flight and maintenance, equipment replacement, record keeping, pre- and post-flight inspection, and logbook maintenance.

✓ Gain the necessary knowledge and skills to test for and earn the FAA certification for sUAS Operator.

✓ Understand the Freedom from Drone Surveillance Act. (CONTINUED)

Instructor: Chris Edwards, Associate Professor at Rend Lake College, the primary instructor for this class, holds an AAS degree in Information Technology from Rend Lake College, a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and a Master's Degree in Cybersecurity from Liberty University. He is licensed as a Remote Pilot by the FAA. Chris teaches in the Information Technology Division at Rend Lake, with an emphasis on Cybersecurity and Computer Forensics. He has developed the sUAS curriculum for the college. Chris has taught a related series of courses for over three years and has added several other courses to the curriculum.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members have priority in registration)

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

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~Crime Scene Investigation 2~~

~~Will County Sheriff's Office / Donohue Grove Preserve~~

~~16911 W. Laraway Rd., Joliet, IL. 60433 / Donohue Rd., Wilmington, IL.~~

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; May 19, 20, 22, 23, 2025, 0800-1600

****Wednesday; May 21, 2025, 1400-2200****

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

Civil Rights	0.50 Hour
Const. Use of LE Authority	0.50 Hour
Human Rights	0.50 Hour
Legal Updates	0.50 Hour
Procedural Justice	4.00 Hours
Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time	0.50 Hour (0.50 Hour Scenario-Based)
Specialized:	
Lead Homicide Investigator	40.0 Hours (0.50 Hour Scenario-Based)

Prerequisite: 40 hrs. of Basic E.T. or CSI Training

Course Description: This course is designed for Crime Scene Investigators, Detectives, and Task Force Officers. It will expose officers to advanced techniques in evidence collection, identification, and preservation. This course will incorporate field scenarios to hone or refresh the skills needed to examine and investigate major crime scenes.

Topics include:

- Latent Print Advances
- Trace and Toolmark Evidence
- Biology and DNA Advances
- Blood Patterns
- Autopsy Protocols
- Firearms/Ballistic and Trajectory Evidence
- Courtroom Testimony

Each officer must bring the following to class:

- **Lap Top Computer with USB Port**
- **Camera (per person) and Memory Card (minimum 16 GB)**
- **Tripod To Fit Camera (per person)**
- **Detachable Flash and Cord**
- **Latent Print Development Kit**
- **Set of Tent Markers #1-20**
- **Flashlight**

This training will incorporate numerous field training exercises. Days 1, 2, and 3 will be held at the Will County Sheriff's Office. May 21, 2025 class is held from 1400-2200. Days 4 and 5 will be held outdoors at the Donohue Grove Preserve on Donohue Rd., Wilmington, IL.

(CONTINUED)

Instructor: This course will be taught by Lt. Heather Hansen (ret.), Illinois State Police and Lt. Chris Collins (ret.) with Kane County Sheriff's Department.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members have priority in registration)

Funded in Partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board / LHI Grant

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~LE Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks~~

~~Autobahn Country Club of Joliet~~

~~3795 Centerpoint Way, Joliet, IL 60436~~

~~Tuesday, May 20, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 5:00 pm~~

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Civil Rights | 0.5 Hour |
| • Const. Use of LE Authority | 0.5 Hour |
| • Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time | 2.0 Hours (2.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

In an effort to allow equal training opportunities, all "Member" Officers who have not taken this course will receive priority over those who have, unless their department requests an exception.

Course Description: With rising insurance, repair, and medical costs, reducing or preventing law enforcement accidents is crucial for officer safety, and that of the public they protect. The professional instructors at Autobahn have developed an extensive one day driving program that covers skills training typically found in a multiple day program.

In the classroom, officers will learn the following concepts of driving safety:

- How cars react under emergency environments
- The basics of car control
- Common mistakes of other drivers on the road
- How to avoid accidents in the first place
- Controlling adrenaline
- Maintaining a high level of awareness
- Minimizing the effects of distractions

Throughout the rest of the day, officers will be placed in common emergency situations in a controlled, safe environment designed to replicate common emergency scenarios.

These drills will cover:

- Braking in low traction conditions (rain, snow, etc.)
- Emergency lane change techniques
- Vehicle dynamics training
- Skid control recovery

❖ *To facilitate this one-day program, breakfast and lunch are provided on site.*

Requirements:

➤ **At least one department squad car, SUV, or Pick-up truck is required for every two officers (from the same department) and will be used in the training.**

➤ In order to maximize training, class size is limited to 12 officers.

➤ Officers are required to check-in at the front security/information gate house.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members receive priority)

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

[BACK](#)

Investigating Child Physical Abuse and Death

16 Hour - Hillgoth

Romeoville Police Department

1050 West Romeo Road, Romeoville, IL. 60446

Thursday & Friday, May 22-23, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

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

• Human Rights	5.5 Hours
• Procedural Justice	2.0 Hours
• Psychology of Domestic Violence	1.0 Hour
• Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect	6.0 Hours
• Specialized:	
○ Lead Homicide Investigator	16.0 Hours
○ Juvenile Law	2.0 Hours
○ Officer & Youth Interaction	3.0 Hours

Course Description: This course goes more in depth than the offered 8-hour course, with added discussion and exercises. It is designed to provide law enforcement officers with a comprehensive overview on various crimes against children involving child abuse. Each topic will be discussed in a way that professionals working child abuse can recognize and distinguish various offenses involving children, appreciate their unique characteristics, dispel common myths and outdated practices, discern how injuries may or may not present, understand the complexities involved and learn how to overcome the challenges these cases present. This session will also provide guidance with responses to these specific calls while acknowledging the unique characteristics and discuss how to work with an MDT (Multidisciplinary Team) for the best outcome. The importance of an adequate investigation will be highlighted on cases where victims are unable to tell their story. The focus will include real case scenarios of incident investigation, suspect interviews, child interviews, non-offending caretaker/witness interviews, crime scene evaluation and creation of timelines. The most common forms of physical abuse will be discussed, which will include bruises, burns, fractures and abusive head trauma as well as child death investigations.

Course Goals:

- Officers can recognize and distinguish offenses of child maltreatment
- Officers can appreciate how responses may appear and the unique characteristics of crimes against children, including challenges and barriers specific to child victims
- Officers will learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences, trauma informed responses and understand how these responses are related to epigenetics and long-term outcomes including intergenerational trauma responses
- Dispel common myths and outdated practices with physical abuse
- Recognize the importance of trauma informed and victim centered responses
- Discern how injuries may or may not be present
- Understand the complexities involved with evidence in physical abuse and death investigations
- Appreciate the unique judicial processes involved with crimes against children, which includes criminal court, juvenile court, family court and DCFS hearings
- Discuss the involvement of a child forensic interview, a children's advocacy center and child abuse specialists
- Learn how to overcome challenges these types of crimes present

(CONTINUED)

- Demonstrate how to identify and utilize the evidence to interpret who and what caused a child's injuries and/or death.
- Explore the necessary MDT investigative process needed to determine mechanisms behind serious abusive injuries and death investigations
- Apply medical aspects of child maltreatment to a comprehensive MDT investigation of child abuse and/or death

Instructor: Jennifer Hillgoth has been in law enforcement for 20 years and has been a detective for approx. 9 years. Jen has conducted hundreds of investigations involving crimes against children and is also a child forensic interviewer, which has afforded her the ability to conduct numerous child forensic interviews on both child victims and witnesses. Jen has provided expert witness testimony in child abuse, she is an active member on the Illinois Child Death Review Team, the Child Protection Team at Central DuPage Hospital, the Community Advisory Board with Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago and the Family Violence Coordinating Council. Jen has provided training and education for law enforcement, medical providers, child life specialists, social workers, attorneys, DCFS, CASA, Children's Advocacy Centers and educators. She has presented for The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Children's Advocacy Center's of Illinois, Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi, Louisiana MDTs including Louisiana Supreme Court, CASA and Children's Advocacy Centers, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois, Family Violence Coordinating Council, Northwestern/Delnor Hospital, Lurie Children's Hospital, Child Advocacy Center of McHenry County, Kane County Major Crimes Task Force, Aurora University and Kane County CASA. She has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology and is finishing her studies at Loyola University Chicago where she will obtain a Masters of Jurisprudence in Children's Law and Policy.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(Members have priority in registration)

**This course is grant funded by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.*

[BACK](#)

32 Hour IPMBA Police Cyclist Course

JJC, Weitendorf Agricultural Education Center

17840 W. Laraway Rd; Joliet, IL 60433

Tuesday - Friday, May 27-30, 2025

8:00am – 4:00pm*

***Thursday, May 29 class will be 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm (tentative time)**

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

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| • Legal Updates | 1 Hour |
| • Officer wellness/mental health | 3 Hours |
| • Procedural Justice | 1 Hour |
| • De-escalation Techniques | 4 Hours (4 Hours Scenario-Based) |
| • Law concerning stops, searches, and the use of force | 1 Hour (1 Hour Scenario-Based) |
| • Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time | 4 Hours (4 Hours Scenario-Based) |

Course Description: This course, which is nationally certified through the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA), has been developed for officers and First Line Supervisors and focuses on the use of the bicycle as a patrol vehicle. Participants will spend approximately half of each day riding their bikes and negotiating obstacles. Students will learn to safely handle their bikes while in traffic and how to use the bicycle when making traffic stops, citizen contacts, and suspect contacts. They will also learn how to safely handle bicycles in pursuit situations.

The course includes:

- Bicycle, uniform, accessory, and clothing selections
- Basic physical fitness and injury avoidance
- Critical situation riding techniques
- Basic maintenance, tire changing, brake and gear adjustment, lubrication
- Pre-ride safety inspections
- Traffic strategies and approaches to calls
- Negotiation of basic obstacles
- Patrolling, vehicle stops, suspect stops
- Pursuits and takedowns
- **Night patrol (evening class will be Thursday, May 29th)**
- Drug enforcement
- Community relations
- Bicycles and firearms

Continued next page:

Equipment requirements:

Participants **MUST bring:**

- ✓ A multi-geared, quality mountain bike
- ✓ Headlight and rear reflector (or taillight)
- ✓ Bicycle helmet that meets CPSC standards,
- ✓ Protective eyewear, including clear lenses for the night class.
- ✓ Pedal retention, such as toe clips or power grips.

Highly recommended:

- Bike water bottle
- Cycling gloves
- Padded bike shorts
- Rear rack gear bag
- Rear mounted kick stand
- Body armor
- Police radio or cell phone

IMPORTANT NOTE: Student bikes **MUST** meet IPMBA standards for appropriate frame height and size, i.e. there should be 1.5 to 3 inches of clearance between the rider and the top tube of the bike when the rider is astride it in a flat-footed stance.

It is recommended that students wear department bike uniforms and duty gear for this course. If not available, clothing identifiable with 'POLICE' markings is also acceptable. It is also suggested that participants bring a basic tool kit, frame pump, replacement tire tubes and a rain jacket.

Instructors:

The lead instructor for this class will be Sgt. Bernie Hogancamp, Homewood Police Department (Retired). Co-instructor is Craig Lepkowski.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members receive priority)

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

[BACK](#)

FULL

~~LE Defensive Driving for Sedans, SUV's & Pick-up Trucks~~

~~Autobahn Country Club of Joliet~~

~~3795 Centerpoint Way, Joliet, IL 60436~~

~~Thursday, May 29, 2025~~

~~8:00 am till 5:00 pm~~

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

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • Civil Rights | 0.5 Hour |
| • Const. Use of LE Authority | 0.5 Hour |
| • Officer safety techniques, including cover, concealment, and time | 2.0 Hours (2.0 Hours Scenario-Based) |

In an effort to allow equal training opportunities, all "Member" Officers who have not taken this course will receive priority over those who have, unless their department requests an exception.

Course Description: With rising insurance, repair, and medical costs, reducing or preventing law enforcement accidents is crucial for officer safety, and that of the public they protect. The professional instructors at Autobahn have developed an extensive one day driving program that covers skills training typically found in a multiple day program.

In the classroom, officers will learn the following concepts of driving safety:

- How cars react under emergency environments
- The basics of car control
- Common mistakes of other drivers on the road
- How to avoid accidents in the first place
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- Maintaining a high level of awareness
- Minimizing the effects of distractions

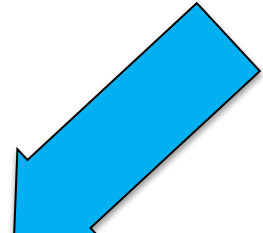
Throughout the rest of the day, officers will be placed in common emergency situations in a controlled, safe environment designed to replicate common emergency scenarios.

These drills will cover:

- Braking in low traction conditions (rain, snow, etc.)
- Emergency lane change techniques
- Vehicle dynamics training
- Skid control recovery

❖ *To facilitate this one-day program, breakfast and lunch are provided on site.*

Requirements:



➤ **At least one department squad car, SUV, or Pick-up truck is required for every two officers (from the same department) and will be used in the training.**

➤ In order to maximize training, class size is limited to 12 officers.

➤ Officers are required to check-in at the front security/information gate house.

Member Tuition: None

Non-Member Tuition: None

(members receive priority)

Tactical Emergency Casualty Care

Plainfield Police Department

14300 Coil Plus Dr., Plainfield, IL. 60544

Thursday; May 29, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

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

- Emergency Medical Training & Certification 8.0 Hours (4.0 Hours Scenario-Based)

Course Description: Officers will discuss and visualize the concept of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care as it applies to law enforcement tactical situations and the treatment of injured officers. Officers will learn and demonstrate specific treatments and interventions for the most commonly encountered wound patterns.

Officers are asked to bring clothing appropriate for weather conditions for scenario training.

On completion of the course, each participant will receive a Medical Patrol Officer Kit for duty use. Each kit contains: One C-A-T Combat Application Tourniquet, an OLAES Emergency Trauma Dressing and a Hyfin Vent Compact Chest Seal.

Upon completion of this period of instruction, officers will be able to:

- Identify the concepts of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care, its use in the law enforcement environment and how this concept differs from historically taught conventional First Responder medical treatment practices.
- Identify the most commonly sustained officer injuries and preventable causes of death.
- Identify the importance of mindset and maintaining situational awareness when wounded and when treating fellow officers.
- Identify signs and symptoms of airway problems and demonstrate airway interventions.
- Identify signs and symptoms of serious bleeding and demonstrate control interventions.
- Identify signs and symptoms of shock and demonstrate prevention and treatment interventions.
- Perform a Casualty Evaluation/F.A.S.T. Rapid Trauma Assessment and tactical evacuation.
- Plan and perform a vehicle and non-vehicle officer down rescue/extraction in a high-threat environment.

Instructor: Justin D. Rottmann is a police officer and a firefighter/paramedic. He has been part of the ILEAS Region 8 SRT since 2012. He currently serves as the TEMS (tactical EMS) team leader.

Member Tuition: None*

Non-Member Tuition: None*

(Members will have priority in registration)

**This course is funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation through the Police Traffic Services Training Project and administered by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.*

[BACK](#)

Tactical Emergency Casualty Care

Plainfield Police Department

14300 Coil Plus Dr., Plainfield, IL. 60544

Friday; May 30, 2025

8:00 am till 4:00 pm

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

- Emergency Medical Training & Certification 8.0 Hours (4.0 Hours Scenario-Based)

Course Description: Officers will discuss and visualize the concept of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care as it applies to law enforcement tactical situations and the treatment of injured officers. Officers will learn and demonstrate specific treatments and interventions for the most commonly encountered wound patterns.

Officers are asked to bring clothing appropriate for weather conditions for scenario training.

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Instructor: Justin D. Rottmann is a police officer and a firefighter/paramedic. He has been part of the ILEAS Region 8 SRT since 2012. He currently serves as the TEMS (tactical EMS) team leader.

Member Tuition: None*

Non-Member Tuition: None*

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**This course is funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation through the Police Traffic Services Training Project and administered by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.*

[BACK](#)