

Lethal Force Encounters

Understanding Human Performance During Critical Incidents



To provide officers with a clear understanding of the importance of being prepared mentally, physically, and professionally in handling Lethal Force Encounters. Students will learn a number of varied changes that can and often occur in the human's brain and in the human body when sudden stress such as a lethal force incident occurs. Student will also learn about tunnel vision, heightened sight, decreased hearing abilities, "deer in the headlights syndrome" and other factors that play into a use of force/lethal force encounter . .

Students will learn what kind of situations officers have encountered, what civilian have observed, and what witnesses "say" that actually happened. There are usually time distortions, special distortions, recognition distortions and other such phenomena that are important in the full picture of the lethal encounter that occurred. We will examine several landmark cases such as Tennessee v Gardner and Graham v Conner. Last but not least, we plan to heighten officer awareness and prepare them and their families for the aftermath of a Lethal Force Encounter

ANALYSIS AND APPLICATION

Understanding deadly force and improving how it is applied by police officers are complex processes.

LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION

There's no substitute for leadership – at the top and among first line supervisors.

THE AFTERMATH

Most officers will tell you that the hardest part of being involved in a shooting is the aftermath. The stressors include being the subject of a criminal investigation, media attention (often negative), possible civil litigation, and the emotional reactions of friends, co-workers, family, neighbors, etc.