



OARPO



Oregon Association of Reserve Peace Officers

Winter 2023

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Mission Statement

OARPO strives to bring together the common interest of reserve programs in the areas of standards, communications and training while raising the level of our profession.



Saturday, March 4, 2023
OARPO Annual Training Conference

City of Keizer Civic Center
\$70 Reserve Officers
\$80 Full time Officers
8 hours of training and we will buy lunch



Join OARPO, a sub-chapter of the OPOA www.OPOA.info



From the President

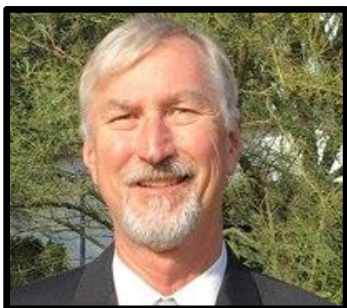
Law enforcement continues to be a challenging profession, especially on the Reserve Officer. Whether preparing for a career or partaking in an avocation, you must commit your time to remain current as requirements for peace officers in general increase in our complex society. OARPO is dedicated to helping you be the best you can be in your service to the community. This year's conference focuses on a topic some might find difficult to accept – Suicide by Cop. It is difficult to imagine someone making you a part of their demented thinking; however, it happens. When it does you might find yourself a victim as well. Chief (retired) Rick Wall has an extensive background in dealing with this tragedy, both on-scene and pre/post event. While we hope no one will face this problem, preparation minimizes the impact. Please join us at our conference on March 4, 2023 to learn about a field encounter that could impact your career.

We are always looking for members to serve on our Executive Board. Your input helps us better serve your needs. We are also seeking more members. If you know of other Reserves who have not yet joined, direct them to the OPOA web page to join our subchapter.

Tyler Hale, President – OARPO

2023 Conference

Rick Wall - Mental Illness and Suicide by Cop Response



Rick Wall is a retired police chief from Cal State University – Los Angeles. In his 38-year career, he worked for the Los Angeles Police Department, retiring as a captain and the University of Texas-Houston where he oversaw criminal intelligence and threat management. He developed the LAPD's response protocols to persons in a mental health crisis and oversaw the mental illness project. Rick has worked extensively as an expert in use of force incidents involving the mentally ill and suicide by cop. He has testified before the United States House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, on the impact of the mentally ill on law enforcement and has served on advisory boards of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), and currently provides POST training on suicide by cop to law enforcement agencies.

From the news (Reuters - December 15, 2022 4:23 PM PST)

'Suicide by cop' is suicide, appeals court says in life-insurance case

By Barbara Grzincic

(Reuters) - Actively and intentionally provoking "suicide by cop" is suicide for life-insurance purposes, a federal appeals court has held in a case of first impression nationwide.



The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday vacated a January ruling by U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon in Florida, who had ruled that Justin Caldwell’s death in October 2020 could not be classified as a suicide because he did not “die by his own hand,” but rather, “as a result of being shot by another person.”

The three-judge appellate panel disagreed, saying a person “who induces an officer to shoot him has chosen the officer as his instrument in the same way that someone else might have chosen a noose or a needle.”

“After all, if a man threw himself before a train, nobody would argue that the conductor had committed homicide,” Chief Circuit Judge William Pryor wrote for the panel.

Pryor noted that the court had found no other precedent on the insurance implications of “suicide by cop.”

Kevin Waetke, a spokesman for Sammons Financial Group’s North American Company for Life and Health Insurance, hailed the decision on Thursday. “While the circumstances surrounding Justin Caldwell’s death are tragic and sad, suicide exclusions have been included in life insurance contracts since the 1800s, and it is important that they be enforced as written,” Waetke said.

Michael Hoover of Interpleader Law, the lead lawyer for Caldwell’s widow and another beneficiary, said they are considering further appeal. “The opinion is very broad, and seems to open the door for insurers to claim that a homicide is a suicide in a wide range of scenarios in which an insured is killed by another person,” Hoover wrote in an email.

The appeals court remanded the case for further proceedings, which will allow the beneficiaries to challenge North American’s allegations about Caldwell’s intent and actions – allegations that Cannon had assumed were true for purposes of the beneficiaries’ motion for judgment on the pleadings.

North American filed the suit for a declaration that Caldwell’s death was a suicide, and therefore not covered by its policies. It alleged that Caldwell, distraught over the possibility of divorce, barricaded himself in his garage with three guns and told his wife he was “waiting for police to come and kill him.” She relayed that message to police.

When a SWAT team responded, Caldwell allegedly pointed a rifle at the officers, who shot and killed him.

“The ordinary meaning of ‘suicide’ certainly covers” such behavior, the 11th Circuit held.

The case is North American Company for Life and Health Insurance v. Michelle Caldwell et al., 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, No. 22-10534.



The Ferguson Effort Can Reach Your Door – Think Clearly!

On May 24, 2022, we were shocked with the news that an 18-year-old gunman entered Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, and killed 19 students and 2 teachers. As snippets of news came out, each of us in law enforcement went through the mental gymnastics of how we would respond. Active shooter training has evolved from the ragtag team of cops and civilians that in 1966 neutralized the subject shooting from the tower on the campus of the University of Texas – Austin.

The following year the Los Angeles Police Department formed their SWAT Team to address high risk situations. However, it was not until April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School that a better approach was attempted - quickly send in available officers to stop the threat. Too much time was wasted waiting for SWAT or other special service teams or equipment to arrive.

Active Shooter training cobbled together the first-on-the-scene officers to team up and search for and stop the target. The training centered on placing people who did not regularly work together into a team. The training overview was to understand the concept and each member knew their role from the training.

This approach evolved to team formation with as a few as one officer on the entry team. We saw this in the Parkland shooting when Coral Springs Police arrived and quickly deployed entry teams while other officers worked containment.

A brief history suggests generalized plans had been made and officers across the county were learning the role they would need to play.



Overlapping this rapid response training were other challenges faced by the cop on the street. While constantly pressing, it clearly reached a head in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 9, 2014, when Police Officer Darrin Wilson, while responding to a “robbery just occurred” call, spotted and attempted to detain a subject matching the description of the suspect. A confrontation ensued and the suspect attempted to take Officer Wilson’s duty weapon. Fearing for his life when the 300+ pound suspect charged him, Wilson fired and killed the suspect, who was later verified as the strong-arm robbery suspect. Friends and activists claim the suspect was surrendering when shot. The coroner’s investigation and the grand jury review exonerated Officer Wilson. However, the negative publicity forced Wilson to leave law enforcement for having performed his job in a proper manner.



This event and others spawned the Ferguson Effect. Officers were becoming less pro-active and only responding when absolutely necessary. Administrative support for the officer dropped. We saw this across the country in the aftermath of the George Floyd incident. In our own backyard, the officers responding to the riots in Portland felt little support and often found themselves being scrutinized over incidental



interactions. Law enforcement retirements have spiked; recruitment is down.

With this as a background, what happened in Uvalde should not be a surprise. A review of training records by a local news station found that over half of the officers for the School Police, the City Police, and the Uvalde County Sheriff's Department had not completed Active Shooter Training.

My point is not to assign blame for this tragic incident; there is plenty to go around. My hope is in your self-analysis or discussions with fellow officers you consider all the elements that might be playing a role in the decision process. If you see something or have a thought about how something is proceeding that does not seem right, you need to speak up. Yours might be the reasonable mind in the crowd. Despite the Ferguson Effect, someone needs to take charge.

Tom Freedland, Executive Board, (LASD – Retired)



2023 OARPO TRAINING CONFERENCE

Oregon Association of Reserve Peace Officers

March 4th, 2023
Keizer Community Center
930 Chemawa Road NE
Keizer, OR 97303

Agenda

- 0730 Sign in – Registration (Coffee & Continental Breakfast)
- 0800 Opening Remarks – Tyler Hale, Gladstone PD, President of OARPO
- 0815 Session 1 Suicide by Cop: Assessment and De-escalation
Ret. Chief Rick Wall
- 1200 Catered Lunch (Included on site)
- 1300 Session 2 Officer Resilience
Chris Humphries
- 1630 Raffle drawings and closing remarks

Conference Costs: (Includes Catered Lunch on site)

	Reserve Officer	Regular Officer
Registration Fees	\$ 70.00	\$80.00
	Register by Feb 25th so we have a lunch count	

Contact Information Questions on signing up for attendance please contact

Corey Medeiros: Email: Treasurer@OARPO.org

Payment & Registration:

Make Checks payable to: OARPO (Credit or Debit cards may be accepted on the OARPO.org web page)



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Mail registration and payment: OARPO, P O Box 3686, Tualatin, OR 97062

Lodging options:

Government rates available:

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 6150 Keizer Station Blvd. Keizer, OR 97303 (1.8 miles from conf center)

Quality Suites, 5188 Wittenberg Lane NW, Keizer- 503 390-4733 (0.4 miles from conference center)