

These courses are best for up to 8 hours sessions but can be compressed or expanded to fit your community's needs.

Capturing Evidence – Strategies for Thorough Domestic Violence Investigations

Domestic Violence investigations come with their own unique challenges often resulting in officers and prosecutors unfairly triaging cases as he said/she said. The presenter will challenge attendees to develop and apply a lens of “evidence-based” to combat this mentality. This course will use an interactive scenario for a guided domestic violence investigation based on real-life situations and will break down the various stages of a criminal case to include the on-scene patrol response and the follow-up investigation. The presenter’s goals are to expand investigative efforts beyond verbal reports for making better and more informed on-scene decisions as well as producing thorough overall investigations that can evolve into strongly presented beyond reasonable doubt prosecutions.

Enhancing the On-Scene Domestic Violence Investigation

Incidents involving intimate partners are among the most complex, high-risk calls officers respond to yet critical evidence is often missed in the earliest moments on scene. When investigations remain incident-driven rather than evidence-based, officers are left with limited options, survivors face increased risk, and offenders are more likely to avoid accountability.

This session challenges participants to move beyond “he said/she said” thinking and adopt a broader investigative lens grounded in offender behavior, coercive control, and domestic violence dynamics. Drawing from real-world experience, participants will learn practical, sustainable strategies to apply immediately on scene.

Emphasis is placed on identifying patterns of abuse, recognizing escalation and lethality risk, and documenting evidence beyond verbal statements, including physical, digital, and behavioral indicators. Participants will leave with tools to strengthen decision-making, improve report quality, and build cases that support effective prosecution, even when victim participation is limited.

First Responder Negotiations: Foundations for Crisis Stabilization

When critical incidents arise, response time is immediate and decisive action is essential. This course equips first responders with foundational negotiation skills to support early-stage incident management, enabling effective scene containment, stabilization, and opportunities for de-escalation while specialized crisis negotiators and SWAT teams are mobilized.

Participants will gain a practical understanding of crisis states and behavioral indicators, including suicide and hostage awareness, and learn how to apply verbal containment strategies in high-stress environments. The session emphasizes structured scene assessment, initial response actions, and the establishment of Incident Command to ensure coordinated and effective operations.

Key topics include active listening techniques, intelligence gathering, and developing safe and strategic exit plans. Additionally, the course provides valuable insight into basic SWAT and crisis negotiation team operations and configurations, helping first responders better integrate and support specialized units upon their arrival.

This training is designed to enhance confidence, communication, and decision-making in the critical moments that shape incident outcomes.

From Incident to Investigation: The Basics of Criminal Investigations in Jail Settings

Correctional staff are trained to maintain safety and security, but when criminal activity occurs inside the facility, the response must go beyond incident reporting. Too often, limited training and resources leave staff unprepared to recognize, document, and investigate criminal behavior in a way that supports accountability. Using correctional-specific, real-world examples, this training breaks down the core components of criminal investigations in jail settings. Participants will learn how to identify potential criminal conduct, shift from incident-based thinking to evidence-based response, and apply practical strategies to document, preserve, and develop cases that stand up to scrutiny. This session equips professionals with the tools to move from simply managing incidents to building thorough, defensible investigations within the unique challenges of the jail environment.

Human Centric Interviewing

Building on the foundation of trauma-informed practices, the Human Centric Interviewing approach reflects the continued evolution of our understanding of human behavior, memory, and the wide-ranging impacts of trauma equipping participants with the knowledge and practical skills needed to conduct effective interviews to explore an interviewee's experience across victims, witnesses, and suspects. This model integrates concepts of trauma-responsive care, the body's response to trauma, and the role of authentic human connection. Participants will learn strategies to foster trust, support accurate recall, and create space for individuals to share their experiences in a way that feels safe and respected. Designed for multidisciplinary professionals across the criminal justice system, this session challenges practitioners to move beyond procedure and connect with the person in front of them as a fellow human navigating a complex—and often overwhelming—system. At its core, Human-Centric Interviewing calls on professionals to remain grounded in empathy, curiosity, and authenticity—because above all, the work requires us to be human first.

It's in the Details – What's Written Matters

Crimes involving intimate partners are some of the most complex to investigate and the most difficult to translate into words. The presenter will offer strategies to bring calm to chaos while producing reports and affidavits that accurately depict the events in a clear, detailed, and easily consumable manner. Using real-life examples this session will focus on the importance of capturing evidence beyond the elements of a crime by also documenting dynamics of control and fear, corroboration of truthful and untruthful statements, high risk factors, and the detection of patterns through the review of historical patterns. The presenter will offer insights on how to be thorough but concise, using effective language, and avoiding damaging and inflammatory language. Attendees will leave with the understanding what is or is not documented can aid or harm current and future investigations, can impact judges' decisions on probable cause, bond conditions, and/or whether to release a defendant from custody, and can influence case reviews as prosecutors make charging decisions, prepare for hearings, and develop trial strategies.

Leadership, Liability, and Lives: Confronting Officer-Perpetrated Domestic Violence

Officer-perpetrated domestic violence (OPDV) presents a critical challenge for public safety leaders, one that carries profound implications for victim safety, agency integrity, and organizational liability. When the offender is a member of the profession sworn to protect, the dynamics of power, access, and institutional trust complicate both the response and the accountability process.

This session is designed specifically for public safety administrators and command staff responsible for setting policy, shaping culture, and ensuring appropriate oversight. Drawing from real-world cases and investigative experience, the presentation examines the unique risk factors associated with OPDV, including misuse of authority, access to weapons, and the impact of organizational silence or minimization.

Participants will learn to move beyond incident-based thinking and focus on offender behavior to include coercive control, domination, intimidation, isolation, and manipulation. This session makes clear, these patterns, escalation indicators, and lethality risk factors are not optional knowledge, they must drive every administrative decision.

Effective leadership in OPDV requires more than policy. It requires recognizing risk and acting decisively to protect victims and uphold accountability.

Sitting with Survivors: Create Space. Hear More. Build Better Cases

We ask survivors to tell us what happened—but what happens when we actually listen? If we rush the story, we risk missing the truth.

Domestic violence investigations are often centered on fact-gathering interviews, driven by timelines, elements of the offense, and the pressure to simply “get the report.” In doing so, we may unintentionally limit the very information we seek to uncover.

Participants will explore how trauma, coercive control, and non-linear memory shape disclosure, and how a lack of awareness and sensitivity can negatively impact both the survivor and the investigation. Drawing from real-world investigative experience, this session offers practical strategies to slow down, build trust and psychological safety, and create space for survivors to be fully heard.



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