Critical Incident Leadership for Patrol Operations

Duration: 1 Day (8 hours) Cost: $0

Approved for CPT: 8 Assignment-Based hours

Eligibility

OPOTC-certified peace officers, deputies, and troopers employed full- or part-time by an Ohio law enforcement agency.

Description

Every Officer is a Leader – Critical Incident Leadership for Patrol Operations

This course prepares officers, deputies, and troopers—regardless of rank—to lead during critical incidents. Participants learn to recognize incident dynamics, set priorities, and take timely action to de-escalate and intervene effectively. Leadership begins with the first responder on scene, shaping outcomes and guiding resolution when seconds count.

Participants will learn to:

- Recognize essential characteristics of a developing incident
- Identify factors that influence the event's progression
- Establish clear priorities
- Take timely action to promote de-escalation and initiate effective intervention toward a successful resolution.

Whether you serve in a city, county, or state capacity, **leadership starts with the first on scene—because in a crisis, every officer, deputy, and trooper is a leader**.

Student Goals

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Identify Critical Incident Characteristics**
   - Recognize key indicators and patterns common in developing critical incidents.
   - Differentiate between routine and high-risk situations requiring immediate attention.
2. **Analyze Influencing Factors**
   - Evaluate environmental, behavioral, and situational factors that shape the dynamics of a critical incident.
   - Consider how time, location, subject behavior, and public safety concerns affect decision-making.
3. **Establish Tactical Priorities**
   - Determine and prioritize immediate objectives, such as containment, communication, or medical response.
   - Understand and apply the principles of the Priority of Life scale.
4. **Demonstrate Sound Decision-Making**
   - Apply structured decision-making models under stress.
   - Justify decisions based on officer safety, legal standards, and agency policy.
5. **Utilize De-escalation Strategies**
   - Implement techniques to reduce volatility and risk during critical encounters.

- Communicate effectively with subjects, team members, and other first responders to manage conflict.

6. **Initiate Tactical Intervention**
   - Coordinate timely and effective intervention actions that move the situation toward resolution.
   - Integrate command presence, communication, and resource deployment appropriately.
7. **Reflect on Performance and Decision Outcomes**
   - Critically review response actions for effectiveness and compliance with best practices.
   - Identify areas for individual or team improvement following a simulated or actual incident.

Equipment List

Note-taking materials

Students must have an electronic device (laptop, tablet, or smartphone) capable of accessing the OTOA website to complete the required written test as part of the course.

> **IMPORTANT:** Carrying a SIG P320 or variant? Unload before entering any training area.

Class Schedule

Start Time: Each day begins promptly at 8:00 AM. The course spans a minimum of 8 hours per day and is structured to ensure comprehensive coverage over multiple days.

Note: Students will receive a scheduled lunch break; however, lunch will not be provided. Please plan accordingly and bring your own food and beverages.

Medical

If you are allergic to bees, outdoor plants, or animals, please bring your epinephrine pen or other medication.

Life-threatening allergies and pre-existing injuries or conditions must be reported to the OTOA training staff on day one of training.

Lodging, Travel, and Meals

Attendees are responsible for their ammunition, lodging, transportation, and food.

All tactics, techniques, or technologies presented at any OTOA advanced training or annual training conference must be implemented in accordance with the United States Constitution, the Ohio Revised Code, and the policies and procedures of the student's employing law enforcement agency.

HOST THIS TRAINING

Hosting questions? email training@otoa.org

Course Full? Join the Waitlist.
You'll be enrolled automatically if a spot opens due to cancellation.