



Northwest Illinois Criminal Justice Commission

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Mobile Team Unit #1 is funded in partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board

Communication with Aggressive, Mentally ILL and Emotionally Disturbed Individuals

DATE: April 11, 2019

Registration Ends: March 8, 2019

TIME: 8:00 AM—4:00 PM 8 Hours

LOCATION: Stewart Center West, 2900 W. Pearl City road, Freeport, IL

INSTRUCTOR: Ellis Amdur, MA, Edgework

COURSE CONTENT:

Officers have limited time in which to establish a communication mode that minimizes risk of violence. Agitated individuals can often be directed away from violence by specific communication skills. Verbal de-escalation techniques are geared to 'set up' those being contained so that physical control techniques are enhanced, if they become necessary. When the public is witness to successful verbal de-escalation, they better understand and respect the challenges facing officers, and this contributes to future officer safety.

Successful verbal de-escalation also sets a precedent with emotionally disturbed people who are likely to have many encounters with law enforcement or security officers. At the next meeting, they are more likely to have an expectation that they will be talked down. Therefore, at the sight of the officers, they are often more cooperative.

Edgework training includes improving one's ability to recognize patterns of behavior as indicative of mental illness or other emotional disturbance, how to communicate with individuals based on the type of behavior they are presenting, dealing with aggressive and suicidal individuals, and managing repetitive abusers of emergency services.

Because officers have to protect their own safety, as well as the safety of those around them, they only have a small amount of time in which to establish a communication mode that minimizes the risk of violence. Agitated, not-yet-violent individuals can often be directed away from violence through the proper use of communication skills.

These techniques, like effective physical defensive tactics, are both simple and broad-based. Additionally, the verbal de-escalation techniques are geared to "set up" those being controlled, so that physical control techniques are enhanced, whenever they are necessary. Finally, successful verbal de-escalation of agitated individuals in public view will increase respect for law enforcement among the general population. Such respect can contribute to future officer safety.

The basic training can be inter-disciplinary, with police, correctional officers, parole and probation (and social services personnel who work in cooperation with law enforcement) all together. Specialized training can be tailor-made to serve the specific requirements of first responders, correctional officers, parole/probation officers, private security or 9-1-1 call-takers. Edgework also offers training specific to DARE and school resource officers.

Street Assessment

- Recognizing types of mental illness and emotional disturbance
- Communicating with people suffering from mental illness

Aggressive Individuals

- Calming angry individuals, mentally ill or not
- Verbal de-escalation and control of individuals on the edge of violence

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Suicidal Individuals

- Assessing likelihood of self-harm
- Intervention techniques

Dealing with the System

- Dealing with repetitive callers/abusers of emergency services
- Effective liaison with child protective services and mental health professionals

Partial funding provided by Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board and MTU#1's request for certification of this course has been approved by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board

REGISTRATION:

All registrations are received on the [MTU#1 website](#). Find Registration instructions [here](#)

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC MEETING

Stewart Centre West, 2900 W. Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL



Parking for
MTU1 classes

Enter Building
here

This class has been submitted to ILETSB for approval in meeting mandatory training for:

Mandated Annually

- Law Updates Use of Force (must include scenario based or similar approved)

Mandated once every 3 years (begin 1/1/16)

- Civil Rights Constitutional and proper use of law enforcement authority
 Cultural competency **Procedural Justice** **Human Rights**

Mandated once every 3 years (begin 1/1/17 all/ within 2 yrs. for investigators)

- Sexual Assault Trauma Informed Response / all sworn & T.C.'s due by 1/1/2020
 Sexual Assault Trauma Informed Investigator / Investigators due by 1/1/2019

Mandated once every 3 years

- Mental Health Awareness

Mandated

- Psychology of Domestic Violence

Mandated 32 hours every four years after initial training

- Lead Homicide Investigator training