



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

Sexual Assault Trauma Informed Response

DATE: December 7, 2026

Registration Ends: November 20, 2026

TIME: 8:00 AM—4:00 PM 8 Hours

LOCATION: Sterling Police Department, 212 3rd Ave., Sterling, IL

INSTRUCTOR: Sgt. Maggie Ellmaker; Sterling PD, Victims Advocate-Sterling YWCA, Illinois

THIS TRAINING IS A PREREQUISITE FOR THE TRAUMA INFORMED INVESTIGATOR TRAINING
Investigators will have priority attendance in this class

PURPOSE OF COURSE: The purpose of this course is to provide certified law enforcement officers with the knowledge, skills, and practical tools necessary to respond effectively, lawfully, and compassionately to victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse. This training addresses the need for trauma-informed responses that improve victim cooperation, enhance investigative outcomes, reduce re-traumatization, and ensure compliance with Illinois statutes, procedural mandates, and best-practice standards. The course seeks to enhance officers' understanding of trauma's impact on memory, behavior, and communication while reinforcing legal responsibilities and professional conduct during sexual assault investigations.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is delivered in a classroom setting using lecture, facilitated discussion, multimedia presentations, and case study analysis. Instruction emphasizes trauma-informed principles, statutory requirements, investigative best practices, and victim-centered response techniques. Students will engage in guided discussions, review real-world case examples, and examine officer decision-making in sexual assault and sexual abuse investigations. The course is designed to balance legal instruction with practical application relevant to patrol officers and investigators.

GOALS OF THE COURSE: The Goals of the Course are as follows:

- Recognizing the symptoms of Trauma
- Understanding the role trauma has played in the victim's life
- Delivering services in a compassionate, sensitive, and nonjudgmental manner
- Trauma-informed interviewing techniques
- Understanding cultural perceptions and common myths of sexual assault/abuse
- Responding officer duties
- Report writing
- Recognizing special sensitivities of victims due to: age, including those under the age of 13; gender, or other qualifications (P.A. 100-910)
- Applicable Illinois sexual assault/abuse laws



This course has been certified by the ILETSB and approved to meet the following mandates:

- Sexual Assault Trauma Informed Response - 3.0 hours
- Civil Rights - .50 hours
- Const. Use of LE Authority - .50 hours
- Cultural Competency - .50 hours
- Human Rights - .50 hours
- Legal Update – 1.0 hours
- Procedural Justice - .50 hours
- Psychology of Domestic Violence - .50 hours
- Crisis Intervention - .50 hours
- Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Lead Homicide Investigator – 8.0 hours

REGISTRATION:

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

Partial funding provided by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC MEETING