



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

Basic Ballistic Shield Operations

DATE: June 13, 2025

Registration Ends: June 2, 2025

TIME: 8:00 AM—4:00 PM 16 Hours

LOCATION: Winnebago Co. Criminal Justice Center 650 West State St. Rockford, IL

INSTRUCTOR: Jim Abate and Giorgi Arbisi – Winnebago County SO

Purpose of Course:

Provide user basic tactics for ballistic shields and instill confidence in those tactics.

Course Description:

Basic implementation of the ballistic shield. This course will give students suggestions on what to consider when choosing shields for different operations. Students will learn different carry techniques and the advantages of each in different situations. The benefit of having shields during high-risk traffic stops will be discussed and demonstrated. Instructors will show students various ways to implement shields into day-to-day operations to improve officer safety and use a shield to de-escalate certain situations. These skills will be practiced with hands-on exercises by the students. Once proficiency has been demonstrated in these skills, live fire will be introduced to instill confidence in the student's ability to employ these tactics.

Course Prerequisites:

Only personnel who are currently employed by the Department in a sworn capacity will be permitted to attend this program. Only the Chief or Sheriff of the Department requesting training, or his/her designated representative may enroll officers. Officers will NOT be allowed to enroll themselves.

Methods of Evaluation:

Students will be required to demonstrate knowledge of all course materials. Additionally, the instructor will evaluate students' comprehension and retention of course topics based on their participation in practical exercises /scenarios and discussions conducted during the course. Evaluation forms completed by each student will provide feedback to the quality of the course content and the instructor's effectiveness in delivering the content. These forms will be provided to all students by NITAB.

Methods of Instruction:

1. Classroom Lecture
2. Demonstration
3. Scenario Based Training

Equipment Needed:

1. Duty Belt
2. Vest
3. Eye/ear protection
4. Duty Handgun



5. Duty Rifle
6. Department Issued Shield (if you do not have one WFCSO will provide one for the training.
7. 50 rounds of Rifle Ammunition
8. 300 rounds of handgun ammunition
9. 50 rounds of simmunition for handgun – if not available notify Director of NITAB and equipment will be provided

Course Goals:

- Provider basic knowledge on ballistic shield capabilities
- Provide students with knowledge of how to improve existing shields
- Explain how to employ IFAK's in conjunction with a shield
- Provide proper carrying techniques for ballistic shields
- Conduct operations while optimizing the effectiveness of the ballistic shield
- Demonstrate how ballistic shields can improve safety during high-risk traffic stops
- Demonstrate proper shield implementation during active killer events
- Utilize the shield to enhance officer safety

Safety Protocols:

All standard firearms range safety protocols will apply. Medics and emergency transport vehicles will be designated. Range safety officers will be assigned and briefed on the specific dangers that accompany shooting while moving.

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](#).

If you are registering for a distant learning class, you must access the registration via the [training calendar](#). The calendar view will allow you to first select which classroom the officer(s) are attending.

Find Registration instructions [here](#)

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC MEETING

This class meets the following ILETSB mandates:

De-Escalation – 2 Hours

Emergency Medical - .5 Hours

High Risk Traffic Stops – 4.5 Hours

Officer Safety Techniques – 1 Hour