Ideas for Departmental Trainings

Civilian Domestic Violence

Each agency should already have trainings regarding civilian domestic violence, and all employees can become more knowledgeable about officer-involved domestic violence by completing Modules 1, 2, and 3 in this training series. Although these trainings are invaluable, understanding domestic violence and learning how to respond appropriately takes more than one training session.

Consider adding these ideas to diversify the training experience and increase opportunities for learning.

Role Plays with DV Center

Contact your local DV Center and ask them to assist you in DV training. Ask them to prepare several role plays involving civilian domestic violence. This role play will give officers the opportunity to practice responding to a range of domestic violence situations.

Ask the Center to prepare role plays with the following scenarios:
- A situation where the victim is traumatized and uncooperative.
- A situation where the victim is hysterical and a hindrance to the investigation.
- A situation where the victim is combative and it is difficult for the officer to determine the primary aggressor.

Brainstorm possible ways to calm the victim, gain the victim’s trust, and proceed with an effective investigation.

Guest Speakers

Contact your local domestic violence center and victim advocates to identify survivors of domestic violence who may be willing to come and discuss their experiences with your agency. Host a “Lunch and Learn” with the survivor to help employees of your agency better understand the dynamics and realities of domestic violence.