

#### NEED FOR THIS COURSE

Peace officers in San Bernardino County area require training in methods to adequately deal with critical, high-risk criminal incidents. Without incident analysis and planning, a seemingly minor incident can escalate into an extremely dangerous situation. Officers will be introduced to the concepts of "GroupThink" and "Adversary Strategy": and will apply these concepts to scenarios involving barricaded suspects, hostage-takers, and vehicle pursuits.

#### CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Officers will become familiar with how different cultures and their traditions, values, and customs affect the dynamics of a hostile/ violent/ criminal incident. Cultural issues may also affect the responses of the suspect, and thus the planning done by law enforcement.

#### RATIONALE FOR OTHER REQUESTS

None.

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Police 054 Tactical Planning for Patrol

6 hours lecture, 2 hours laboratory = .50 units

Supervising and participating in a critical incident can be, to say the least, challenging. This course is designed for patrol officers and supervisors who will have to plan, coordinate, and participate in tactical operations involving patrol personnel. Sound tactical principles and options, as well as psychological aspects of critical incident response are discussed.

Prerequisite course: Police 032, Basic Law Enforcement Academy

II. NUMBER OF TIMES THIS COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Define the term "Groupthink"
- B. Describe how the phenomenon of "Groupthink" affects the outcome of a decision-making process.
- C. Define the term "Adversary Strategy"
- D. Describe how the use of "Adversary Strategy" techniques can aid patrol personnel in resolving violent confrontations.
- E. Employ tactical planning techniques in the resolution of a critical incident.

IV. CONTENT

- A. Tactical review
  1. Equipment
  2. Mindset
  3. Ten Fatal Errors
  4. Contact & cover
  5. Ballistics
- B. Basic Raid Planning
  1. Intelligence gathering
  2. Diagramming
  3. Assignment of personnel
  4. Weaponry
  5. Arrest & Control
- C. Groupthink
  1. Case studies: Waco, Rodney King, and "A Bridge Too Far."
  2. Organizational factors contributing to "Groupthink"
  3. How to combat "Groupthink"
- D. Adversary strategy
  1. Capabilities of suspect
  2. Limitations of suspect
  3. Intentions of suspect
  4. Capabilities of law enforcement
  5. Limitations of law enforcement
  6. Resources available
  7. Contingency planning
  8. Allocation of resources

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Video presentation
- C. Small group activities.

VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

- A. View the 50-minute video “Waco- The Inside Story” and prepare a written summary of the GroupThink factors present within the Hostage Negotiation Team, within the Hostage Rescue Team, and within the Branch Davidian compound. Present the analysis to the entire class.
- B. Participate in the planning of a search warrant service scenario, and present this plan to the class for critique.

VII. EVALUATION

A. Methods of evaluation

- 1. Practical exercise
- 2. Written summary
- 3. Final exam

Sample questions

A test consisting of multiple choice, T/F, and short answer will be given.

- 1. The term “Adversary Strategy” may be defined as an advanced form of contingency planning.
- 2. Methods to reduce the possibility of a “Groupthink” decision include:
  - a. Ignoring rank during the decision-making process.
  - b. Accurate, realistic assessment of opponent’s capabilities.
  - c. Not assuming that “Moral Right makes Might.”
  - d. All of the above.

B. Frequency of evaluation

- 1. One (1) practical exercise
- 2. One (1) written summary
- 3. One (1) final exam

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S)

Current California Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) approved reference material.

PBS Video “Waco- The Inside Story”, produced by FRONTLINE, 1995.

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: None

