



EXCELLENCE IN POLICING INITIATIVE

Best-in-Class Use of Force Training

On December 16, 2020, New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal issued AG Directive 2020-13, a new statewide Use of Force Policy. Recognizing that a new policy alone cannot change actual policing practices, the Attorney General's Office has developed a new scenario-based training that incorporates two of the premier training programs in the country: ICAT and ABLE. The new training will be scenario-based and will use real life situations to reinforce the key principles of the new policy, including the need to de-escalate; critical and strategic decision-making; tactics to reduce or eliminate the need to use force; and intervention to prevent other officers from improper behavior. All 38,000 New Jersey law enforcement officers will be required to complete this two-day training by the end of 2021.

Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT)

Created by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

A major recurring issue in policing is officer use of force in situations when subjects are behaving erratically and often dangerously, but do not possess a firearm, such as when they are experiencing mental health or substance use crises.

ICAT training is designed to equip police officers with the skills to respond to these volatile situations, by providing them with the skills needed to safely and effectively manage these encounters, especially in the critical first few moments after officers arrive.

ICAT then integrates these skills and provides opportunities to practice them through video case studies and scenario-based training exercises.

Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE)

Created by Georgetown University and others

Even where written policies require officers to intervene to prevent a fellow officer's misconduct, to help another officer prevent mistakes, or to take action to help another officer take care of their health and wellbeing, it can be very difficult to intervene in practice.

Officers frequently face high-stress, high stakes decisions.

ABLE adapts intervention principles from other professions such as medicine to the policing context.

Drawing from social science research and proven learning methods, ABLE training teaches officers specific tools and skills on how to perform these interventions in the field.

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