



Wenatchee Police Department

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Business: 509 888-4200 • FAX: 509 888-4219 • www.wenatcheewa.gov

Officer Involved Shooting Investigations Course

Course Date/Time: February 21st and 22nd from 8 am to 4 pm
February 23rd from 8 am to 12:30 pm

Registration: \$195.00 per student

Location: Confluence Technology Center
285 Technology Center Way
Wenatchee, WA 98801

For further information: Captain Kevin Dresker, Wenatchee Police Department
kdresker@wenatcheewa.gov
509-888-4203

Instructor: Chief Russell Fischer

Chief Russell Fischer has been employed by the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) for 32 years. He joined the MDPD in 1975 and was promoted through all the civil service ranks presently holding the rank of Division Chief. He has diverse experience in police management, investigations and operations to include command assignments in the Robbery Bureau, Northwest District and City of Miami Lakes as well as having served as the Police Captain of the Professional Compliance Bureau, Narcotics Bureau and Economic Crimes Bureau.

Since his appointment as Chief in 2004, Chief Fischer's responsibilities have included commanding employees assigned to Miami International Airport, Police Operations Bureau (Port of Miami and Transit), Community Affairs Bureau, Warrants Bureau, Court Services Bureau and Special Patrol Bureau. Chief Fischer presently commands Criminal Investigations, responsible for all Departmental investigations that involve the Homicide (Officer Involved Shootings and In Custody deaths), Robbery, Sex Crimes and Domestic Crimes Bureaus. Chief Fischer until recently served as the Incident Commander for Super Bowl XLI and was the Department Hurricane Coordinator.

He holds a Master of Science Degree in Management and a Master of Public Administration Degree from the University of Miami. Chief Fischer is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He has authored articles for the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin (LEB) and Police Chief Magazine (IACP) and provided instruction in a variety of topical areas for the International Association of Chiefs of Police and instructed at the Metropolitan Police Institute in Miami and Miami-Dade College.

Conducting Police Officer Involved Shooting Investigations

Training Goals and Objectives

There is arguably no single event that can traumatize a police agency more than a police officer involved shooting incident. The criticism and intense scrutiny generated by the media, community activists, the general public, and the criminal justice system itself, can be enormous. Civil judgments resulting from such cases can debilitate a police organization for years, have an adverse effect on employee morale, and hamper agency effectiveness through the erosion of public opinion. It is, therefore, imperative that every police department prepare in earnest for this inevitable eventuality. It is also essential that the investigator charged with the task of leading a police officer involved shooting investigation become as equally prepared.

The purpose of this course is to provide attendees with a basic investigative model that is applicable to all officer involved shootings incidents, regardless of the size of their department. Police officer involved shootings are vastly different from any other type of investigation. The stakes for the shooting officer and his department are so high that it is imperative that the investigation be conducted in a prescribed manner. This course will provide those in attendance with the knowledge, skills and confidence necessary to handle any deadly force incident.

Training Audience, Format and Content

This course is intended for those investigators who are specifically assigned to the criminal investigation of officer involved shootings and in-custody deaths. It is also appropriate for those detectives or uniform personnel who may be required to assist in these types of investigations. Crime scene technicians, medical examiner/coroner investigators, supervisors, military investigators, criminal analysts, and prosecuting attorneys would also benefit from the training.

The course is conducted in 2½ day sessions. Instruction is provided through the use of a PowerPoint presentation that makes liberal use of authentic crime scene photographs. This insures that the topics discussed are portrayed as realistically as possible. Numerous handouts and video tapes are used as instructional aids.

Daily content and course schedule:

Day One:

- Definitions of Deadly Force / Model Use of Force Policies
- The Use of Force Matrix
- In-depth Examination of Notable Cases (Amadou Diallo, Russell Weston, Ruby Ridge, etc.)
- Landmark Court Decisions (Garner v. Tennessee, Graham v. Connor, Garrity v. New Jersey, etc.)
- Lethal Force Statistics
- Why Is the Investigation So Important?
- Who Should Conduct the Investigation?
- Fait Accompli
- The Shooting Team Concept
- The Three Phases of a Lethal Force Investigation
- Proper Procedures at Police Shootings
- How to Handle the Shooting Officer
- The Role Of Internal Affairs
- The Police Shooting Checklist
- Interviewing Witnesses and Witness Officers

Day Two:

- The Police Shooting Crime Scene (Mincey vs. Arizona)
- Perceptual Distortions
- How Subjects Are Shot in the Back
- How to Prepare for the Grand Jury or the Inquest
- Multi-jurisdictional Investigations
- In-depth Examination of Gunshot Wounds (Contact, Intermediate & Distant)
- The Autopsy (Pattern Injuries, Coup / Contra Coup, Surrender wounds, Defensive Wounds, Supported Wounds, etc.)
- Suicide By Cop
- In Custody Deaths (SICDS, Cocaine Psychosis, Excited Delirium, etc.)
- Pepper Spray / Hog Tying Deaths
- Dealing With the Media
- Post Shooting (Post Traumatic Stress disorder)
- Non-Lethal Alternatives to Deadly Force

Day Three (½):

- The Dark Side of Officer Involved Shootings
- Unfounded Shootings
- Shooting At Moving Vehicles
- Shootings of the Mentally Ill
- Shots Fired...Officer Down (The Officer as a Victim)
- When Police Officers Commit Murder
- Case Studies

Students should be forewarned that the content of this course contains numerous death scene photographs that are highly graphic and intense. Due to the sensitive nature of this material, attendance is restricted to sworn law enforcement personnel, or those directly involved in the criminal justice system.

This course is recognized by various POST / POSTC organizations including: *South Carolina, Virginia, Colorado, Texas, Arizona, California, Nevada, Montana, Minnesota, Delaware, Tennessee, North Carolina, Kansas, Arkansas, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Utah.*

Registration Form

Email to; kdresker@wenatcheewa.gov

or

Fax to; 509-888-4219

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact phone #: _____

Email: _____

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Please submit payment to:
(checks or money order) **Wenatchee Police Department**
140 S. Mission
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Location:
(subject to change) **Confluence Technology Center**
285 Technology Center Way
Wenatchee, WA 98801

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