



Force Science Certification Course

FEBRUARY 10-14, 2014

SEATTLE, WA

Hosted by: Seattle Police Department

Location: Criminal Justice Training Commission

19010 1st Ave South, Burien WA 98148

Register now for law enforcement's newest certification course that prepares you for uncovering the truth when lawsuits, careers and reputations are on the line!

***** See below for registration instructions.**

As with all prior certification classes, the program will be conducted by a team of renowned experts on a wide variety of crucial dynamics that impact the understanding of force encounters and will lead to a new certification for investigators of force-related incidents.

Through the groundbreaking work of **Dr. Bill Lewinski** and the Force Science Certification Course team, you'll learn:

- **How to analyze vital elements of controversial uses of force that are often overlooked.**
- **Skills to help determine whether an officer is being honest when he *swears* his recollection of an incident is true...even though his account directly conflicts with forensic evidence.**
- **Techniques for helping officers accurately & thoroughly recall details of force encounters.**
- **Why a site visit and/or video review may or may not be advisable before a statement.**
- **Whether shots to the back *really* reflect what an officer saw when he pulled the trigger.**
- **How to avoid critical mistakes some investigators make during post-incident interviews.**

- **The truth about time: How long it *really* takes officers to start—and stop—shooting.**
- **What ready position is *really* best for reducing lag time...and much more!**

Attendees who successfully complete the program will be certified in "Force Science Analysis." This designation attests that the holder has been trained to recognize and articulate important psychological, biological, and physiological factors that can influence human behavior and memory in force encounters and pursuit situations.

The training will be based on solidly documented findings about human dynamics by the Institute's *Force Science Research Center* and other world-acclaimed research sources that are commonly misunderstood or ignored in law enforcement investigations, according to Dr. Bill Lewinski, coordinator of the new program and executive director of the Force Science Institute.

"There's a tremendous need for the application of human science in force investigations," he says. "Without it, controversial officer-involved shootings and other uses of force--even pursuits, which also involve split-second decision-making in highly stressful, rapidly evolving circumstances--can easily be misjudged, with devastating consequences.

"In some cases officers have gone to prison and agencies have suffered crushing losses in civil suits because the factors in how humans perform under stress were not properly assessed by uninformed investigators."

Like persons trained in accident reconstruction, blood-spatter analysis, and other science-based disciplines, investigators certified in Force Science Analysis will be able to apply their grasp of human dynamics to interpret how and why a force confrontation evolved as it did, Lewinski said. They will also know how to "best mine the memories of those involved for relevant recollections." This information can be vital to authorities who ultimately must judge the encounter, such as administrators, I.A. chiefs, review board members, prosecutors, judges, and jurors.

Among other things, the backgrounds of the instructors will include world-class expertise in:

- **how the brain and body work together to form psychomotor skills;**
- **the latest cognitive interviewing techniques for law enforcement;**
- **officer and suspect behaviors in deadly assaults on LEOs;**
- **motor performance, visual attention, and memory;**
- **how stress and trauma affect memory;**
- **the effect of low-light levels on perception;**
- **contextual cues;**
- **the dynamics of action and reaction in force encounters;**
- **decision-making variables during pursuits;**
- **judgment and psycho-physiological responses under extreme stress.**

Most of the faculty are medical doctors or hold PhDs in specialized disciplines of psychology and some have authored the leading textbooks in their fields. A few have worked closely with law enforcement and/or the military in the past, but "some will be adapting their findings on human behavior to a law enforcement context for the first time," Lewinski said.

As course coordinator, as well as a presenter himself, it will be his job, he said, to assure that "all information is conveyed in terms that are understandable and have practical application for the attendees seeking certification." Question-and-answer opportunities will supplement the formal instruction.

The schedule:

Days 1-4: Expert Presentations & Case Evaluations

The first days of the course will consist of sessions in which the instructors will identify and explain in detail certain physical and psychological phenomena associated with human behavior and demonstrate how these can impact performance under stress.

"These are things like reaction times, perceptual distortions, narrowed vision, language limitations, and memory gaps--factors that investigators need to be aware of and fully understand, especially in controversial or puzzling cases," Lewinski said. "They also need to be able to articulate in reports and testimony how these factors may have influenced an event, to give as complete a picture as possible of what happened. And they need to understand how the traumatized brain functions so they can adapt their interviewing techniques to recover a maximum amount of valid material from the participants."

What the students will come to understand during these initial days, Lewinski said, is "a protocol for investigating and interviewing that will best assure a fair, balanced, impartial, and comprehensive explanation of the encounter in question.

"It is not an investigator's job to determine if an officer's behavior, let's say, was right or wrong in a use-of-force situation. But it is the investigator's job to clearly and objectively present all the potentially relevant facts to the person or person responsible for that decision.

"Without this training, it is highly likely that pivotal truths related to human performance will be misinterpreted or missed entirely in high-profile cases where the stakes are life-changing."

On the first day, trainees will be split into work groups. Drawing on vast files of cases Lewinski has been involved in, each group will be assigned a real-life incident to "investigate." The students will have photos, videos, reports, and other evidence from the actual case to work with and will gather together at the end of each day to discuss their incidents and work on the final presentations that will be conducted by each group on the last day.

Through role-play questioning back and forth with Lewinski and faculty members, the trainees will gather information and develop an investigation, with whatever emphasis is appropriate on the human performance factors they've been schooled in.

"This will be a highly interactive experience and will allow the trainees to make practical applications of what they've learned, just as they would in a real investigative setting," Lewinski said. "They will need to be open-minded and unbiased in their approach."

Day 4 will conclude with a written examination.

Day 5: Trainee Presentations

Each group will present the results of its investigation to the full class and faculty. "They'll explain what they did, why, and how human factors fitted into their investigation, along with other evidence," Lewinski said. "The point will not be to advocate but to inform a decision-maker of the dynamic elements that need to be understood and considered.

"Overall, the course is intended to expand an investigator's concept of forensic evidence to include biomechanical and cognitive elements and to strengthen his or her analytical skills and articulation ability," Lewinski said. "In short, you will understand how human beings perform in force situations and the implications this has for your investigations."

REGISTER NOW TO SECURE A SEAT!

Tuition: \$1,500 per student

Methods of payments:

VISA and MasterCard are now accepted
Personal or departmental check or money order with prior approval from
Force Science.

When registering, please provide the following information:

Location of the class you are interested in attending
Name
Rank/Title
Agency/Organization
Address (indicate home or work)
Phone number(s)
E-mail address(es)

BEST REGISTRATION METHOD IS E-MAIL: training@forcescience.org

Alternative method for registering or if you have questions: **phone:** (773) 481-4964

PLEASE NOTE: Because of the limited seating, **please wait for confirmation before making arrangements to attend.** You will receive a response to your request for registration promptly.