

# ETHICS ~ COMMUNITY RELATIONS

ETH.1080

## COURSE GOAL

The cadet will develop an understanding of the concept of ethics and leadership as it relates to the law enforcement profession. The cadet will realize how vital leadership, ethics and professionalism are in a peace officer's life both on and off duty.

## COURSE DIRECTION

This "Ethics" course is a series of classes categorized into a common theme of leadership, ethics, and professionalism. The ethics course should be taught near the beginning of the academy. These concepts will be reinforced throughout the academy and during scenario training.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS ETH.1080.101

- ◆ The cadet will state the importance of open mindedness when dealing with all people
  - Empathy –the ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes
  - Treat family like friends and friends like family
- ◆ The cadet will describe how personal perceptions values and beliefs impact their thinking
  - May cause conflict with other's values and beliefs
- ◆ The cadet will state the importance for a law enforcement officer to understand other individual's feelings and behaviors relating to the following:
  - Age
  - Race
  - Gender
  - Religion
  - Other things that make us different
- ◆ The cadet will list various problems that may arise when law enforcement officers are not able to, or simply do not, adapt to others
- ◆ The cadet will list ways they may challenge their personal perceptions and biases of others.

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## **SOCIAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP PROFILE ETH.1080.102**

- ◆ The cadet will identify their personal social group membership profile.
- ◆ The cadet will define “agent” and “target” as it relates to social group membership
  - Agent – where the characteristic gives you power or privilege
  - Target – where the characteristic puts you in a position of oppression, discrimination or less power or privilege
- ◆ The cadet will identify areas where they consider themselves agents and areas where they consider themselves targets
- ◆ The cadet will be able to identify how their membership in a particular group influences their thinking

## **PERCEPTIONS AND VIEWS ETH.1080.103**

- ◆ The cadet will identify 5 culturally learned behaviors of people they like to be around
- ◆ The cadet will identify 5 culturally learned behaviors of people they do not like to be around
- ◆ The cadet will discuss these behaviors in relation to:
  - Why they do not like some behaviors
  - Why they do like some behaviors
  - Where they learned to like or dislike them
  - Who or what were the significant teachers in their life who taught them about these behaviors
  - How they react when individuals participate in these behaviors
- ◆ The cadet will discuss the possibility of changing their preferences in behaviors
- ◆ The cadet will discuss why it is difficult to deal with people who are, or act differently

## **CHALLENGING PERCEPTIONS AND BIASES ETH.1080.104**

- ◆ The cadet will participate in a group discussion and class presentation considering how they as individuals, and as law enforcement officers, can challenge their perceptions of others who are different

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## IMPROVING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ETH.1080.105

- ◆ The cadet will complete an out of class assignment comparing how their local agency and at least one other agency in the United States gets involved within the community
  - The cadet will evaluate how their local agency might improve its community involvement
    - Recommendations on how to improve an existing community outreach program based on community needs
    - Recommendations on developing a new community outreach program based on community needs
  - The cadet will complete a written report on this subject
  - The cadet will prepare a short oral presentation on their findings and recommendations

## ASSESSMENTS

- ❖ The concepts presented in this course will be assessed through weekly and certification exams. Objectives will be included in scenario training to reinforce concepts taught.

## PREREQUISITES

- ❖ None