

EDET 755 ONLINE COURSE DESCRIPTION

About the Course

This course will help law enforcement leaders understand the liability exposures in police operations and will teach learners how to reduce police officer and agency liability potential.

Course Title: Risk Management in Police Operations

Grade Level: Industry Education

Content Area: Law Enforcement Leadership

Duration: 4 modules/4 weeks

Overview of the Course

Police officers often choose their profession because they want to serve the public. The responsibilities that come along with the job require that the officer be proficient in knowing their legal duties and responsibilities under the law. Law enforcement officers have a duty to protect persons who are involuntarily detained and not doing so can be viewed as negligence under civil law. This course is intended for executive leaders of police operations. Module 1 gives an overview of liability, including the duties owed by police officers and police agencies. Module 2 helps the leader understand the importance of hiring good candidates that have backgrounds that are free of misconduct and a negative work history. Module 2 will also illustrate why a candidate's character and reputation matter when choosing the right candidate to be a police officer.

In South Carolina, police officers can become certified as a Class 1 police officer after four weeks of online learning and four weeks of in-person training. Module 3 outlines why training newly hired employees is a great responsibility of a police agency and why ongoing training, and skill development is just as critical. The final module provides the framework for managing employee performance and identifying behaviors that need to be corrected. This module also shows why police departments are required to report situations of officer misconduct, along with the consequences of failure to perform these tasks.

Course Outline

Module 1: Law enforcement liability

- Topic 1.1 – Legal duties of a police officer
- Topic 1.2 – Special legal duties of a police officer
- Topic 1.3 – Legal duties of a police agency
- Topic 1.4 – Four elements of liability

Module 2: Hiring practices

- Topic 2.1 – Recruiting a candidate pool
- Topic 2.2 – Application process
- Topic 2.3 – Interviewing
- Topic 2.4 – Testing
- Topic 2.3 – Background investigation

Module 3: Training officers

- Topic 3.1 – New hire training
- Topic 3.2 – Academy training - Certification
- Topic 3.3 – Ongoing training

Module 4: Managing performance in law enforcement

- Topic 4.1 – Identify opportunities and correct behaviors
- Topic 4.2 – Identifying misconduct
- Topic 4.3 – Consequences of poor management