

# Risk Management in Police Operations

**Institution & Program Name: Risk Management Institute/Law Enforcement Liability**

**Course Code & Title: LEL501**

**Semester: Fall 2022 (Oct 17 to Nov 15)**

## Instructor Info

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- Bethany Pendley
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- Office location: 1411 Gervais St.
- Office Hours: 10/17 to 11/14 – Mondays 3pm to 7pm. I provide one on one instruction in 15 min increments, choose this link and [Sign up for one on one office hours](#). If more than one time slot is needed, please feel free to reserve time as needed.
- Telephone: 803.417.7684
- E-mail: [pendleyb@email.sc.edu](mailto:pendleyb@email.sc.edu) – The best method to reach me is by email. I make every effort to respond to email within 24 hours M-F, on weekends, I will respond on Monday.

## Course Information

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- **Description:** 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 view as negligence under civil law.
- **Overview:** Purpose of the course 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. 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.

- **Prerequisite:** LEL 150 – Policing in South Carolina, LEL 223 - Police organization and management, LEL 330 – Criminal Procedure in Law Enforcement
- **Intended audience:** municipal Police Chiefs, law enforcement command staff, accreditation managers, aspiring law enforcement leaders

## Textbook & Course Materials

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- **Required Text:** The chapters will be provided in PDF format, however, if you wish to purchase or rent the text:  
Kappeler, V.E. (2006). *Critical Issues in Police Civil Liability*. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, Inc.  
ISBN-10: 1-57766-441-8 ISBN-13: 978-1-57766-441-3
- **Other Readings/Videos:** Other readings, recorded lectures and videos will be provided in each unit.
- **Technical Requirements:** Internet access, computing device with a compatible browser, also, Microsoft word is required for this class.

## Learning Environment & Activities

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### Course Structure

- This course will be delivered entirely online through the Canvas LMS course management system. All assignments must be submitted online. This class will require 5-7 hours a week to be successful. You must stay up to date with assignments and follow the class schedule. This course is covered in an introductory unit and three modules.

### Learning Activities & Participation

- Most modules will include a video lecture, readings, and videos. Learning activities will include discussions, quizzes and scenario-based assessments and a project.
- Participation: The discussion questions require students to be interactive with each other. Participation in the discussion forums is mandatory. Each discussion assignment will require a minimum of three responses to peers per week.
- Expectations: Students are expected to complete or turn assignments in on time. If there is an illness or an emergency that prevents the completion of an assignment, communication with the instructor is imperative to avoid zeros. If you are having trouble with the learning content, please get in touch with me via email or by phone.
- There is a course project that will be due at the end of this course. You may work in teams of two. There is a sign up sheet [HERE](#) to identify your work partner. You should begin getting familiar with the course project during module 1.

## Grading

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**Assignment/Activity Descriptions:** This course includes the following graded assignments:

Introduction: Discussion activity  
Module 1: Discussion activity  
Quiz  
Introduction of project  
Survey  
Module 2: Quiz  
Discussion activity  
Module 3: Discussion activity  
Project due

**Points for Evaluation Activities:**

Assignment/Activity Name	Description	Points
Introduction discussion	Student will provide introduction to peers	10
Send email	Student will sent email to instructor to confirm understanding of important details related to class requirements	50
Module 1 discussion	Student will be given a scenario and will be asked questions to assess understanding.	60
Module 1 quiz	Questions pertaining to concepts in module 1	30
Module 2 quiz	Questions pertaining to concepts in module 2	30
Module 2 discussion	Student will be given a scenario and will be asked questions to assess understanding.	60
Module 3 discussion	Student will be given a scenario and will be asked questions to assess understanding.	60
Project	Student will pair up to complete a class project that will be due at the end of the course.	75
	<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>600</b>

**Letter Grade:** see table for grading scale.

Letter Grade	Percentage/Points
A	90-100% or 540 to 600 points
B	80-89% or 480 to 534 points

<b>C</b>	70-79% or 420 to 474 points
<b>D</b>	60-69% or 360 to 414 points
<b>F</b>	59 and below or less than 356 points

**Grading Policies:**

- **Assignment Submission Procedures:** Discussion boards will be posted in the discussion area of the online learning platform. Quizzes will be submitted under quizzes. The final project will be submit via under the final project.
- **Late Submission & Missed Assignments** – assignments turned in after the due date will not receive credit in the class.
- For the group project, each student will be responsible to for turning in the assignment to receive credit.

**Course Policies**

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- **Academic integrity:** Students are expected to be honest and have academic integrity. Efforts should be made to maintain the integrity of the course by preventing academic dishonesty. Students should not have prior knowledge of quizzes or assignments, student should not share quiz questions or assignments with other students not currently in this course, student must refrain from all forms of plagiarism. All written work must be the original work of the student.
- **Incompletes:** As mentioned earlier, late assignments will receive a zero. If you have a illness or family emergency, contact the instructor in advance to make arrangements for a possible alternative due date. Otherwise, incomplete assignments will be graded as a zero.
- **Special needs:** Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a disability. If you have a physical, psychological, and /or learning disability that might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Offices of the Director at 803.555.1212 or email [director@email.sc.edu](mailto:director@email.sc.edu).

**Course Objectives**

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- List the primary learning goals/objectives for this course and list assignments and activities student complete to meet the objectives.

<b>Student Learning Objective/Outcome</b>	<b>Assignment(s) or activity(ies)</b>
By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	List and brief explanation of activities validating outcome achievement for each objective:
Recognize six duties or obligation of a police agency related to civil liability	A quiz to test the student’s knowledge.

Distinguish the difference in a general duty and a special duty	A scenario with a discussion question.
Recognize the four elements of liability	A quiz to test the student's knowledge
Articulate the concept of negligent hiring	A scenario with a discussion questions.
List the activities involved to avoid negligent hiring practices	A quiz
Recognize the legal responsibilities of the police department as it relates to training and developing the skills or officers.	A scenario based discussion assignment
Analyze a set of facts to determine if an officer or a police agency could be liable.	A project that incorporates all learning objectives to make an assessment.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

DATE	Week	Module	Readings/Media and Activities/Tasks	Due Date
10/17/22 through 10/23/2022	1	0	<p>Readings/Media:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read syllabus</li> <li>2. Review course schedule</li> <li>3. Review the entire course in the LMS and get familiar with course modules, assignments, and due dates.</li> </ol> <p>Activities/Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Course Introductions/Discussion Board</li> <li>2. Send email to instructor</li> </ol>	<p>Initial post due 10/19; three responses due 10/23/22 Due 10/22/22</p>
10/24/22 through 10/30/2022	2	1	<p>Readings/Media:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Watch Module 1 Video</li> <li>2. Read Chapter 2 – Critical Issues in Police Civil Liability</li> </ol> <p>Other Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review website: Addressing Police Misconduct Laws Enforced By The Department Of Justice</li> <li>• Review website: Law Enforcement Liability</li> <li>• Watch Video: <a href="https://youtu.be/50r2z6NgVd8">https://youtu.be/50r2z6NgVd8</a></li> <li>• Watch video: Civil liability of law enforcement officers</li> </ul> <p>Activities/Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussion board</li> <li>2. Take quiz</li> <li>3. Take survey</li> <li>4. Introduce project and sign up for a team</li> </ol>	<p>Initial post due 10/27; three responses due 10/30/22 Due 10/29/22 Due 10/30/22 Due 10/30/22</p>
10/31/22 through 11/6/22	3	2	<p>Readings/Media:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Watch Module 2 Video</li> </ol> <p>Other resources:</p>	

DATE	Week	Module	Readings/Media and Activities/Tasks	Due Date
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read Chapter 7 in "Law Enforcement Best Practices"</li> <li>2. Read article: New Developments Concerning Negligent Hiring</li> <li>3. Read article: Negligent Hiring of Police Officer</li> <li>4. Read article: Negligent Hiring Liability for Law Enforcement 2022</li> <li>5. Read article: Criminal Background Checks for Prospective and Current Employees</li> <li>6. Read article: Understanding and Preventing Negligent Hiring</li> </ol> <p>Activities/Tasks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quiz</li> <li>2. Discussion board</li> </ol>	<p>Due 11/2/2022 Initial post due 11/3; three responses due 11/6</p>
11/7/22 through 11/13/22	4	3	<p>Readings/Media:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Watch Module 3 Video</li> <li>2. Review website: Failure to Train as a Theory of Section 1983 Liability in the 11th Circuit - FindLaw</li> <li>3. Review website: Legal Corner: Departmental Liability for Failure-to-Train (police1.com)</li> <li>4. Review website: Failure to Train</li> <li>5. Read article: Failure to Train Ruling/Example</li> <li>6. Read article: Article</li> <li>7. Review info graphic reference (will be designed by instructor)</li> </ol> <p>Activities/Tasks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussion board</li> <li>2. Project due</li> </ol>	<p>Initial post due 11/9; three responses due 11/15 Due 11/15</p>