

NORTHERN ILLINOIS TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD

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**LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING – HIGH RISK TRAFFIC STOPS/USE
OF FORCE AND DE-ESCALATION**

Date: December 12, 2025 **Registration Deadline: November 25, 2025**

Times: 0800-1600 hours

Location: NITAB
527 Colman Center Drive
Rockford, IL

Instructor: Andrew Sotomayor – Sycamore Police Department

Member Fee: \$0 Non-Member & Member Non-Sworn Fee: \$150

PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO AGENCIES WITH 25 OFFICERS OR LESS

This course has been approved by ILETSB for the following mandates:

De-escalation – 2.0 (scenario-based 2.0)
High Risk Traffic Stops – 2.0 (scenario-based 2.0)
Law concerning stops, searches, and use of force – 2.0 (scenario-based 2.0)
Officer Safety Techniques – 2.0 (scenario-based 2.0)

PURPOSE OF COURSE:

This one-day, 8-hour program is designed to provide officers with the opportunity to review and practice critical skills related to high-risk traffic stops, use of force, officer safety techniques, and de-escalation strategies. The training emphasizes statutory requirements, decision-making under stress, and articulation of actions in accordance with Illinois law and departmental policy.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This program provides students with comprehensive instruction on current Illinois Use of Force laws, search and seizure considerations, officer safety protocols, and de-escalation strategies. Scenario-based training utilizing the TI simulator will provide practical exercises for high-risk traffic stops, use of force applications, and communication techniques. Officers will gain experience in decision-making drills, recognition of escalation cues, and appropriate application of force options

COURSE GOALS:

1. Enhance officer understanding of Illinois Use of Force laws and search/seizure principles.
 2. Develop proficiency in conducting high-risk traffic stops safely and effectively.
 3. Strengthen decision-making skills in use of force scenarios.
 4. Apply officer safety techniques in dynamic situations.
 5. Demonstrate effective de-escalation strategies.
 6. Articulate justification for force decisions in alignment with law and policy.
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COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Only personnel currently employed by a unit of local government in a sworn capacity may attend. Enrollment must be authorized by the Chief, Sheriff, or Public Safety Director of the requesting agency.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated through participation in simulator-based scenarios, classroom discussions, and practical exercises. Instructors will assess comprehension and application of concepts based on performance during training. Course evaluations will be provided by NITAB

and completed by students who will provide feedback on content and instructional effectiveness.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- In-class lecture and discussion
 - Scenario-based exercises with TI simulator
 - Instructor demonstrations
 - Student role-play and participation
 - Group debrief and evaluation
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COURSE REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1. Illinois Compiled Statutes – 720 ILCS 5/7 (Use of Force)
 2. Case Law: *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989)
 3. Departmental policies related to Use of Force and Officer Safety
 4. Training materials provided by NEMRT
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS/GRADING POLICY:

There are no formal grading requirements. Officers are expected to actively participate in all lectures, discussions, and scenarios. Successful completion is based on attendance and participation.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

This is a state-certified course. No more than 10% of class time may be missed. It is strongly recommended that students attend the entire session to ensure proper knowledge and skill development. Absences must be coordinated with the instructor.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Students are responsible for their own work, including scenario participation and course assignments. Cheating, dishonesty, or misrepresentation of performance will not be tolerated.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS:

1. All weapons and magazines will be cleared before training.
2. Officers will use simulator weapons only; live weapons are prohibited in training areas.
3. All students will wear appropriate safety gear (eye protection, ballistic vest, etc.).
4. Any student may call "cease training" if a safety concern arises.
5. A designated Training Safety Officer will supervise all scenario-based training.
6. Medical equipment will be on-site and readily available.
7. Participation in hands-on activities is voluntary and based on student capability.