

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

VALOR Essentials Training

Montgomery, Alabama

March 14-16, 2017

(Registration information will be disseminated soon)

Attached you will find a VALOR Special Bulletin focusing on the unfortunate and troubling increase in ambush events on law enforcement. The event scheduled in March 2017* includes wellness, and resiliency training and resources for law enforcement officers to help keep them prepared for the dangers they face on a daily basis.

***Officer Safety, Wellness, and Resiliency Training**

This training helps prepare today's law enforcement professionals for duty. It can help improve your safety by introducing and reexamining essential skills that every law enforcement professional should possess.

Key Concepts

- Threats and Challenges: As the threats and challenges faced by law enforcement continue to change on both a national and a local scale, so must each officer and law enforcement training. Current training topics in this evolving category include crisis-intervention techniques, casualty care and rescue concepts, and law enforcement professionalism.
- Words and Actions: Detect and decipher visual and verbal cues by subjects and learn how your words and actions affect an encounter. Having these skills can help you defuse and de-escalate a dangerous situation, detect a hidden weapon, or prevent an attempted assault.
- Mind and Body: Prepare yourself today, both physically and mentally, for whatever tomorrow may bring by learning methods to improve long-term wellness and resiliency. Listen to an officer's personal story of survival and recovery from a critical incident.

Instructors will provide officers with tools to enhance professionalism while utilizing techniques for preventing and de-escalating situations that may result in a violent encounter. To provide participants with training of the highest standards, instruction will be delivered by law enforcement practitioners and subject-matter experts.

Please mark your calendars and make plans to send officers from your agency. Information on how to register will be provided soon.

Fatal Attacks on Law Enforcement Officers Reach Alarming Levels

An unprecedented event is plaguing our nation as the number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2016 reaches shocking levels. So far this year, **58 officers have been killed** in the line of duty by gunfire; **20 were ambushed** and killed, compared with **6 last year** . . . that is more than a 300% increase in ambushes over the previous year.

Furthermore, **since the beginning of November, 7 ambush attacks involving multiple officers and 10 line-of-duty deaths (LODD) have resulted from gunfire.** But these are not just numbers . . . they are lives of people who were dedicated to service.

These attacks are not confined to certain geographic regions, nor are they limited to any particular demographic. These events are happening all over the country and involving individuals from all walks of life.



Law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day to serve and protect the citizens across this country with courage, honor, and bravery. The death of an officer impacts not only the lives of the officer's family and his or her department but the lives of officers, law enforcement families and their communities everywhere.

The **Bureau of Justice Assistance VALOR Initiative** continues to offer free officer safety, wellness, and resiliency training and resources to all law enforcement officers across the United States, to help keep them prepared for the dangers they face on a daily basis.

To all of the officers out there risking your lives every day for our communities, remember: Avoid complacency, wear your vest, whenever possible wait for backup, and remain vigilant. Awareness is key. Scan and process continuously keeping yourself aware of your surroundings at all times. Crime and violence do not take a day off, nor will they always alert you to when they are coming. Please, always be prepared, and keep safety a top priority.

For more information on the VALOR Initiative and the in-person and self-paced online trainings offered to law enforcement officers, please visit our Web site:

Always Remember

- Awareness is key
- Avoid complacency
- Wear your vest
- Whenever possible wait for backup
- Remain vigilant
- Scan and process continuously
- Maintain a tactical advantage

Resources

● VALOR Spotlight of Safety

Spotlight on Safety is a themed, multidimensional outreach plan designed to promote officer safety awareness and wellness through training and other useful resources.

● Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)

ALERRT provides research-based active shooter response training to save lives and protect communities and was named the National Standard in Active Shooter Response Training by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

● Training Opportunities

- [VALOR Online Training](#)
- [VALOR Upcoming Training Events](#)
- [ALERRT Upcoming Training Events](#)

● Destination Zero

The Destination Zero program is designed to help agencies improve the health and safety of law enforcement officers. Agencies are able to research successful and/or promising officer safety and wellness programs to model their own risk management initiatives.

● National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

● Downloadable Materials

