

Law Enforcement 101





Disclaimer

- Will be honest and open
- Some things may get a little uncomfortable
- May curse a time or three
- You are going to hear only a perspective
- If anything in this presentation is triggering and you need to step out or whatever, **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!!**



Objectives

- Understanding “Law Enforcement Culture” why we are so weird
- Understand why/what scene safety is
- Officers have trauma history
- Things to consider when you are interacting w/officers
- Crisis Intervention Team training



Who we are.....

**Sergeant Tony Lockhart, Crisis Intervention Team
Coordinator/HNT Sergeant, King County Sheriff's Office**

**Sergeant Dan Nelson, Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator
Seattle Police Department**

COPS



What my buddies think I do



What my mom thinks I do



What kids think I do



What grown-ups think I do



What I think I do



What I actually do

Detentions

- **Social Contact** requires *no standard of proof* to initiate. Subject is free to leave.
- **Reasonable Suspicion** - Particularized articulable facts and circumstances that lead a reasonable and prudent police officer, based upon their training and experience, to believe criminal activity is afoot. (criminal activity has happened, is happening, or is about to happen). ***This is the “Terry Stop” standard for investigative detention.***
- **Probable Cause** – Articulable facts and circumstances known to the officer that would warrant that officer to believe that 1) a specific crime has or is occurring, and that 2) the suspect is the person responsible. ***This is the standard for an arrest.***

Police Functions


Order maintenance- This can deal with things ranging from a barking dog to a fist-fight.

Law enforcement- Most obvious instances include robbery, murder, or burglary. This is the popular notion of the main police function, but the frequency of such activity is dependent on geography and season.

Service- Services may include rendering first aid, providing tourist information, guiding the disoriented, or acting as educators (on topics such as preventing drug use). One study which showed 80% of all calls for police assistance did not involve crimes.



Why are the police so serious??

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- People say that police are so rigid, so unfriendly, so serious.....

Police officers' weird habits and why

- Assume people are telling lies
- Deal w/ the 10%, 90% of the time
- Uses compass bearings and no one else knows what we are talking about
- Talking in code
- Plastic, fake gun on the table, it can't be pointed at anyone, bothers us if it is (to the point we will adjust it)
- Quotes--"I always unbuckle my seatbelt about 30 seconds before I bring my vehicle to a stop"
- "I will be off duty at the store and wave at kids and smile. Their parents look at me like I'm a perv"
- "I look at every license plate around and can tell you which ones are expired"

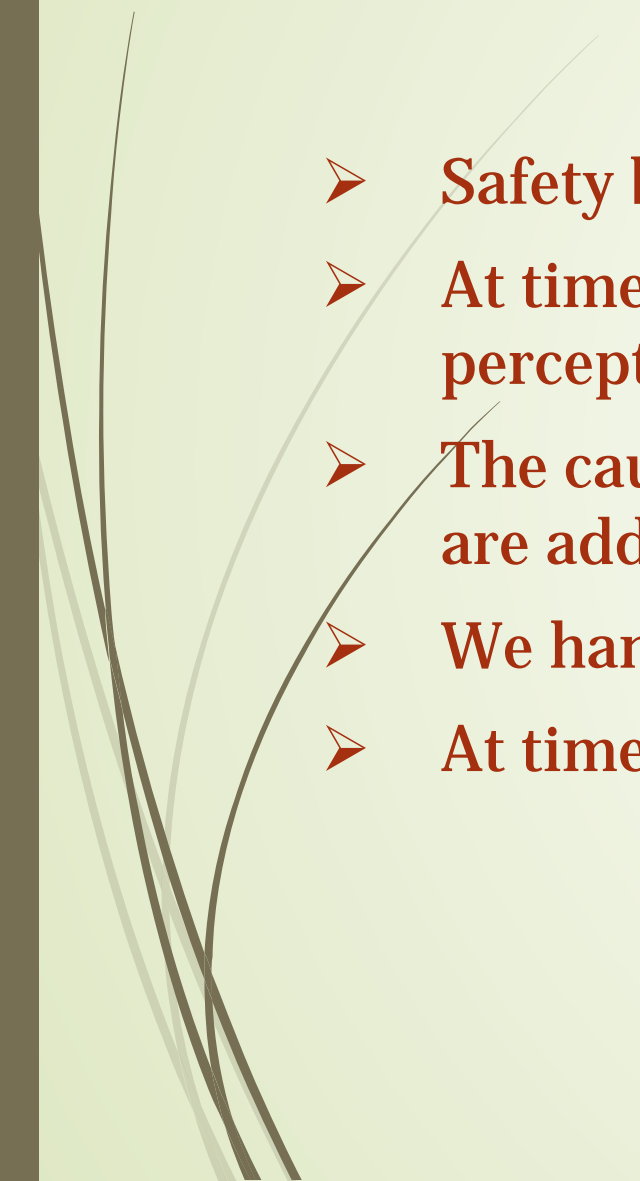
Police officers' weird habits and why

- Back has to be against a wall/Sit facing door
- Don't look people in the eye but will stare down their hands and waistline
- Assess everyone in line while talking to friend in line
- Scanning the room 360 degrees for threats constantly
- Hands above waist/holding external vest
- Gun check (hand/elbow)
- "Bladed" stance
- Shopping with spouse and looking for shoplifters

➤ Lakewood



Safety

- Safety behavior takes priority over other concerns
 - At times we have to make split second decisions base on our perception of safety
 - The cause or other considerations come once serious safety concerns are addressed
 - We handcuff individuals and it isn't an automatic arrest, safety/control
 - At times we bring several officers based on history/info from dispatch
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What has affected you? Your luggage

What affects Officers....

- 18 yoa Suicide
- Baby calls
- Individual bound, raped, stabbed and deceased
- Pursuits, Use of Force
- Death notifications
- Shot at, knife pulled on me....
- Officer Deaths, Officer Suicides
- List goes on....
- THIS MAKES OUR "SKIN TOUGH"
 - Many drink, use drugs, become difficult, domestic violence, excessive force, and suicide

Realities of the job

- **Shift Work and Long Hours**
- **Unpredictability**
- **Public Scrutiny**
- **Safety Issues**
- **Injuries and Death**
- **Emotional Control**
- **Hyper-vigilance**
- **Power and Control Issues**



Why?



Why do you do what you do?

Why Be a police officer



Negatives

What are the negatives of what you do?

Negatives



Negatives

- A High Rate of Depression
- Relationship Conflicts
- Substance Abuse Issues
- Financial Difficulties
- Power Struggles
- Adrenalin junkies

Negatives

- If the Officer makes it to retirement and they don't have an action plan, they live about 5 years
- Officers have one of the highest risks of heart disease, stroke and cancer
- Every 22 hours, somewhere in America, a law enforcement officer commits suicide
(DOJ and Private Sector Research)
- Hypervigilance (what is it, why, crash after)
- Ability to turn it off?

Life Expectancy

Buffalo Police Department (2761 officers compared to US Population from January 1, 1950 and December 31, 2005

John M. Violanti, PhD

U.S. Males

Male Police Officers

Age Interval* (x,
x+n)

	Probability of death	Life expectancy (years)	Probability of death	Life expectancy (years)
25-29	0.001513	59.68337	0.00000	23.83368
30-34	0.001701	54.77003	0.07317	18.83368
35-39	0.002294	49.85909	0.15200	15.12316
40-44	0.003497	44.96799	0.17143	12.38581
45-49	0.005546	40.11701	0.32768	9.43116
50-54	0.008881	35.32679	0.39286	7.80932
55-59	0.013899	30.62093	0.56383	6.24481
60-64	0.021507	26.01730	0.51752	6.08567
65-69	0.032454	21.53419	0.66006	4.93176
70-74	0.048535	17.17265	0.70141	4.65351
75-79	0.072989	12.92111	0.66187	4.71227
80-84	0.111578	8.74163	0.72464	4.04267

2017 Line of duty deaths

174

9/11 related illness 40

Aircraft accident 2

Animal related 1

Assault 6

Automobile crash 28

Boating accident 2

Drowned 5

Duty related illness 3

Exposure to toxins 1

Gunfire 45

Heart attack 20

Motorcycle crash 4

Stabbed 1

Struck by vehicle 4

Unidentified 1

Vehicle pursuit 5

Vehicular assault 6

FBI UCR Statistics

Law enforcement agencies reported that 60,211 officers were assaulted while performing their duties in 2017. Over 1 in 10 officers

Line of duty Deaths

Justin DeRosier End of Watch Sunday, April 14, 2019



- Deputy Sheriff Justin DeRosier was shot and killed after responding to investigate reports of a disabled motor home shortly after 10:00 pm
- After arriving at the scene, he contacted dispatchers with emergency traffic and stated he was being fired at.
- He was flown to PeaceHealth Medical Center in Vancouver where he passed away shortly after midnight.
- Deputy DeRosier had served with the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office for three years and had previously served with the Whitman County Sheriff's Office for three years. He is survived by his wife and 5-month-old daughter.



We Have Stigma Too

- Parents say “you better behave or I’m calling the police”
- “The police are going to get you”
- “Hey officer he did it, arrest him”
- Can these reinforcements lead to a natural fear of the police?

Interacting with Law Enforcement

- Remember we are concerned about safety first.... Before anything else
- We look at the safety behavior usually not the reasons for it
- We generally are short staffed and have calls holding
- We have the feeling we need to fix it quickly and move on

Interacting with Law Enforcement

- Provide history if you are comfortable
- If something has worked before let the officers know
- Provide hooks and triggers if you are able

Limitations of what Police can do

- **Some crimes require booking into jail regardless of circumstances**
- **Taking away someone's civil rights is a high bar to reach**
- **Danger to self is viewed very differently in the courts vs. danger to others or gravely disabled**

Confusion exists

- Society has long dumped their problems on Police
- The Behavioral Health system is confusing
- We can improve our collaboration if we better understand our roles and abilities
- We are used to fixing things (perceived) and don't understand why you don't fix it

Crisis Intervention Team training since 2010

- 2152 Officers trained through King County 40 hour CIT classes
- 1752 Officers trained through statewide 40 hour CIT classes
- 3130 Officers trained through King County 8 hour CIT classes
- 4189 Officers trained through statewide 8 hour CIT classes

*October 2010-June 2019

Trust is key

- At the end of the day, when we collaborate more, trust will build
- The more we understand each others roles and perspectives, the better team we will become
- With increased trust and understanding, we will come up with more effective solutions for individuals in behavior health crisis



Thank you for what you do

- You work tons of hours and make a huge impact on the individuals you come in contact with
- You engage people with no defensive tools (part of why we struggle to understand how you do what you do)
- Like us, you deal with the same people over and over. You find a way to be positive and open to assist when they are ready
- We really do appreciate all that you do



Questions

- ▶ Special thanks to Major Rance Quinn, KC Kansas Police Department