

13-03 - Considerations for Deputy-Involved Shootings (1st in a Series of 3)

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

NEWSLETTER

Field Operations Support Services, (323) 890-5411



Considerations for Deputy-Involved Shootings

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This newsletter addresses training factors related to deputy-involved shootings. The decisions made during a deputy-involved shooting are usually made in a split-second. Deputies should train prior to the incident to have as much knowledge and experience to draw from.

A recent study was conducted by the Department of Justice regarding officer-involved shootings by members of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. This study evaluated every standard practice used prior, during, and after officer-involved shootings (use of equipment, communication, planning, command/control, use of force, et cetera). The study concluded the highest frequency of tactical errors was related to communications.

The goal of this newsletter is to assist deputies in tactical preparedness. It focuses on the **“before”** aspect of communication between partners and planning a response for deputy-involved shootings. The objective of preparedness is ultimately to reduce your exposure and risk by having a cohesive pre-planned response to a wide range of scenarios. The topics below should be part of core discussion and common knowledge between partners:

Knowledge of your partners' abilities:

- Experience level
- Level of interpersonal skills
- Fitness level
- Are they bilingual
- Familiarity with the area
- Specialized training/abilities

CITATION:

Stewart, James K., George Fachner, Denise Rodriguez King, and Steve Richman. *Collaborative Reform Process: A Review of Officer-Involved Shootings in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department*, Office of the Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice, CNA Analysis & Solutions, 2012.
