



Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Training Program

Mobile Team Unit 15

Training Announcement

Name of Training	Class ID#	Course ID#
Suicide Prevention & Mental Health for Jails	200158	72170

Date(s) of Training	Time	Hours	Location
April 14, 2025	8:00-12:00	4	Crawford County Forest Preserve 5886 E 1050th Avenue Robinson, IL 62454

Course Description

Suicides are the leading cause of death in Illinois jails. Mental health issues are interfaced with this phenomenon. The course is designed to provide corrections officers, criminal justice, and law enforcement professionals in how to best address these most crucial corrections issues. The problem of suicide in jails is at what some experts call epidemic proportions in Illinois. Often inmates come to the jail with mental health issues that lead to and exacerbate their suicidal attempts. Litigation in jail suicide cases has cost the citizens of Illinois significant amounts of money. Experience tells us that almost all jail suicides can be prevented through a comprehensive program of recognition, assessment, and prevention. Programs that can be developed through information received in this training, begins at intake, and follows the inmate through his stay at the correctional facility. The program is designed to provide criminal justice officers with the skills and knowledge required to effectively respond and provide appropriate action. The skills addressed will include, but not be limited to legal, social, and criminal responses to jail suicides. This program has been designed with the purpose of addressing the issues related to suicide in the Illinois jail system. It meets all standards set forth by Illinois Administrative Code, title 20; Chapter 1 Subchapter f, section 701.90(h).

Course Objectives

To be able to identify:

- ✓ Dynamics of suicide
- ✓ Major categories of mental illness and their impact upon the risk of an inmate becoming suicidal
- ✓ High-risk situations in jails
- ✓ Behavior and verbal cues of a suicidal person
- ✓ Principles of discipline and behavior management that decrease suicidal behavior among inmates

Instructor



Gail P. Sullivan graduated from Loyola University (BA) and DePaul University (MA) with honors. She has worked in the field of social services and criminal justice for the past 25 years in the private and public sectors. She has provided therapy to 100 employees (Illinois certified) to serve the needs of sexually traumatized and problematic children under the age of 12 years. As an expert, she has sat on the States Attorney Task Force for the Mass Molestation of Children and the Cook County Child Death Review Team. She has developed curriculum that meets State requirements for the certification of juvenile police officers. She provides training for the Cook County Adult Probation Department, Illinois Crisis Intervention Team and Homeland Security, as well as MTUs across the state.

Other Information

This class is generously being funded by the Crawford County Sheriff's Office.

Mandates Met by this Training

Crisis Intervention, Cultural Competency, and Officer Wellness/Mental Health150

This class is certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board