



# De-escalation and Use of Force Developments

*Defining and doing de-escalation in real time in the Commonwealth*

*John Sofis Scheft, Esq.*  
**Law Enforcement Dimensions, LLC**

*Policing with Perspective*

Wednesday, February 23, 2022  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
(virtual )

Any officer who attends **Legal Update Liability** and *either* **What Now?** or **Police De-escalation** will meet the equivalent legal update requirements of the MPTC 2022 inservice program.

## AGENDA

### De-escalation and UOF defined

Non-deadly vs. deadly force  
Prohibited vs restricted options  
Proactive, feasible, approaches  
Documentation

### Special situation: Mental Health

Understand EDPs  
Communicating with EDPs  
Legal apprehension & treatment

### De-escalation done

Factors  
Video scenarios and application

### About the Presenters

**Attorney John Sofis Scheft** is the founder of Law Enforcement Dimensions, LLC and a training partner of MIIA since 2008. He is the author of the most widely used manuals on criminal law and procedure, and juvenile issues in Massachusetts. John also worked for the Attorney General and as an Assistant District Attorney in Middlesex County. He lives with his wife and two children in Arlington.

**Captain Peter Hoerr** recently retired after a successful career with the Belmont Police Department. He has significant experience in police misconduct investigation. He also earned his law degree in 1996 from New England School of Law. Of special importance to MIIA and this program, Captain Hoerr completed the nationally recognized De-Escalation Instructor Course presented by the Force Science Institute. This certification required that Captain Hoerr understand and apply the concept of "de-escalation" and the many elements in determining its feasibility or effectiveness in a variety of encounters.

**Attendance at this training qualifies the MIIA member for .5% rewards credit under the Law Enforcement Category**

