



Police Mental Health Intervention

John Sofis Scheft, Esq.
Law Enforcement Dimensions, LLC

Policing with Perspective

Tuesday, December 13, 2022
8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
(virtual)

Must remain on camera the entire training to receive credit

(this training will be co taught by Attorney John Scheft, and Christina Valeri (Arlington Police Department))

This training will address the Identification, understanding, de-escalation, and intervention by police officers with emotionally disturbed people (EDP) — including 123, §§ 12, 18, and 35. Attendees will receive a model policy on de-escalation. The class will also discuss current strategy and funding of co-response by officers and mental health clinicians.

This training will feature a co-trainer to Attorney Scheft who is currently a mental health clinician with a focus on police matters.

About the Presenters **Attorney John Sofis Scheft., Esq.**

John Sofis Scheft has been providing specialized legal training for over thirty years, with a record unmatched in Massachusetts. He has collaborated with MIIA to present a variety of programs for police since 2009 under the direction of Lin Chabra, MIIA's Director of Training.

Among John's many topics — police reform and liability; bias-free professional policing; narcotics investigations; domestic violence; traffic stops; searches with and without warrants; avoiding wrongful conviction through proper interrogation and identification techniques; enhanced court testimony and report writing; sexual assault investigations; and juvenile law and procedure.

He is the author of several widely used police reference manuals on constitutional procedure, criminal law, juvenile issues, and motor vehicle law.

Aside from legal preparation, John Scheft performs consulting services for police agencies concerning policy and management.

In addition to his work with MIIA, Scheft has taught extensively for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Massachusetts State Police, Boston Police, Massachusetts Juvenile Police Officers Association, Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC), New England Community Police Partnership, and police academies and departments throughout the Commonwealth.

From 1993 to 1995, Scheft served as Director of the Attorney General's Elderly Protection Project, which provided multi-disciplinary training to police officers on community policing issues affecting the elderly. Funded through a national grant, the Project received a 1994 innovation award from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Prior to serving with the Attorney General, Scheft worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, where he became a specialist in child abuse and hard core juvenile offender cases.

A graduate of Harvard University and Northeastern University School of Law, John Scheft lives with his wife Sof in Arlington, Massachusetts. He has two adult children (Callie and Perry) and a twelve-pound terrier (Athena).

Christina Valeri

Christina Valeri has her undergraduate degree from Stonehill College in Psychology and her Master of Science degree in Clinical Mental Health from Merrimack College with her LMHC. She has a wide variety of experiences in the field; everywhere from working on a therapeutic farm to working at Tewksbury State Hospital (forensic and geriatric psych units). She's also worked at Riverside Community Care, Beth Israel Crisis Team, and a local private practice. Her main specialty is forensic psychology. She has been working at the Arlington Police Department for over a year where they utilize the co-response model (which means she goes with police officers to any mental health, well-being check, overdose, homeless, domestic etc. calls). She provides an array of resources to Arlington residents as well as assist Arlington PD with de-escalation and further mental health training.

Christina very much loves what she does at APD and hopes to continue to do it for many years here.

Attendance at this training qualifies the MIIA member for .5% FY23 MIIA Rewards credit under the Law Enforcement Liability category



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