

Professionalism and Ethics

*“Every calling is great when greatly pursued.”
Oliver Wendell Holmes*

The Explorer will understand and respect professionalism as it applies to law enforcement.

Discuss the concept of professionalism.

Some definitions

- Its earliest meaning comes from those professing the vows of a religious order. It meant the act of professing.
- By 1675 the term was secularized.
- The Oxford English Dictionary offers the following definition of profession:
 - "The occupation which one professes to be skilled in and to follow. A vocation in which professed knowledge of some branch of learning is used in its application to the affairs of others, or in the practice of an art based upon it. Applied specifically to the three learned professions of divinity, law, and medicine; also the military profession."
- In the Oxford English Dictionary, a professional is one who is "engaged in one of the learned or skilled professions, or in a calling considered socially superior to a trade or handicraft."
- Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary offers this definition of profession:
 - "A vocation or occupation requiring advanced training in some liberal art or science, and usually involving mental rather than manual work, as teaching, engineering, writing, etc.; especially, medicine, law, or theology (formerly called the learned professions)."
- Professionals profess to know better than others the nature of their specialty, and to know what is best for their client in this specialty.

The best way to understand the concept of professionalism is to think of occupations differing as to the degree that they are professional. The degree to which an occupation meets the definition of "profession" should be assessed by measuring the occupation on certain key characteristics.

It also follows that individuals will vary as to their compatibility with the characteristics and qualities of professionalism.

Make sure to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of professionalism in any profession, the Explorer's ideas can be as helpful to remind the Advisor why it is so important to be professional in his/her role as an Officer and Advisor, as the Advisor's statements can be to the Explorer

Discuss the characteristics of professionalism.

CHARACTERISTICS

- Service to others
- Assessment of client needs
- Theoretical body of knowledge obtained through extended pre-service education
- Standards for entry, practice, and ethical conduct
- Professional association to maintain standards
- Continuing education and life long learning

Misuses of the term: Many confuse professionalism with an image of the officer who is cool and aloof showing no feeling, with a crisp uniform, shined shoes, reflective sunglasses, using high technology as an expert at fighting criminals. This will likely be the idea of a professional Peace Officer that is in the minds of some of your Explorers and may be their reason for joining the Post. Make sure to stress the importance of appearance but that it is not the sole factor in being a professional.

The value of the professional model for law enforcement.

Advantages

- Public or Client better served
- Quality of peace officers is improved
- Ethical conduct
- More effective problem solving
- Stronger community support and respect
- Stronger role in the criminal justice system
- More effective innovations
- Financial rewards

Disadvantages

- Cost of training and development
- Higher salaries or remuneration for job occupant
- Limits entry into the work force from poor because of limited opportunity for educational attainment.
- It is important to be able to distinguish between professional and non-professional behavior. Sometimes the line is very narrow; sometimes there is a behavioral continuum.

See what other advantages and disadvantages the Explorers can come up with

Advisor may want to give examples of both professional and non-professional behavior

*“The more I study the world, the more I am convinced of the inability of brute force to create anything durable.”
Napoleon*

The Explorer should understand and accept the crucial role of ethics as related to professionalism.

Discuss the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics (Page 10).

Why there is a code,

What it is,

It's meaning to them.

Discuss ethical dilemmas in law enforcement.

Much current public and private concern centers around our own values or our lack of them. Many of our institutions and, indeed, the American way of life are attacked for placing value on the wrong things.

Every aspect of human behavior is influenced by personal values, but values are not easily defined or achieved. Their definitions and interpretations vary from period to period, location to location, person to person, group to group, and situation to situation. Some human values have remained intact through centuries (for example, courage) and some have declined and been revived (for example, respect for life).

Discuss with the Explorers why there is a code, what it is, its meaning to them and any suggestions they may have regarding changes they would like to see. They could develop their own code for the Explorer Post.

"It is not who is right, but what is right that counts."

Thomas Huxley

"One is happy as a result of one's own efforts, once one knows the necessary ingredients of happiness: Simple tastes, a certain degree of courage, self-denial to a point, love of work, and above all, a clear conscience."

George Sand

DESCRIPTION OF THE ETHICAL ROLE

The ethical role is performed by BEING OBJECTIVE AND ETHICAL IN PERSONAL BEHAVIOR AND IN FUNCTIONING AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. REMIND THE EXPLORERS THAT THEY TOO ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY, EVEN WHEN NOT IN THEIR POST DRESS.

- To act in a manner that reflects belief in the fundamental value of ethical behavior and in application of this value to your job.
- To conduct daily activities in an objective manner striving to be uninfluenced by emotion, personal prejudice, or insufficient evidence.
- To provide objective and constructive assistance or information to all persons, regardless of personal feelings.
- To assist the public to understand how they can help in achieving objective and ethical behavior.

BENEFITS FROM ROLE PERFORMANCE

Behavior that ignores the basic goals of the criminal justice system and which only serves individual or agency-oriented motives tends to confuse people, causes them to lose confidence in the system, and runs counter to the reason that the system exists.

Sometimes your short-term goals (such as getting promoted), or those of the agency (such as getting a new computer or obtaining approval of a budget), seem to be the most important. When this is allowed to happen, the long-term goals established for the organization, such as crime prevention, justice for all, and protection of the rights of the individual and society, tend to become obscured or displaced by the short-term goals. To prevent this from happening, remember: that the prime beneficiary of the criminal justice system is the public served.

PERFORMING THE ROLE

Ethical Behavior

Ethics involves the definition and achievement of what is good or bad, right or wrong, in relation to moral duty and obligation. It also includes the need to act in accordance with the principles of right and wrong governing the conduct of a particular group, such as doctors and lawyers. Suggested police ethics have been spelled out in the Code of Ethics of the International Association of the Chiefs of Police.

In the study of ethics, it is critical to understand that the motive is as important as the act. If a person refrains from stealing only because s/he fears prison, s/he cannot really be viewed as ethical. Ethics is concerned with encouraging you to do what you know you should do:

- Consider all relevant sides of an ethical problem.
- Consider basic ethical values.
- Act in accordance with the code of your profession.

Moral progress depends on our willingness to improve the consistency of our ethical judgment and behavior and to apply the same principles more thoroughly to our conduct involving other people.

Primitive man recognized few, if any, obligations to those outside his tribe. But modern man in his shrinking world must recognize his obligations to humanity in general.

It is much easier to hold ideals than to live up to them. To convince someone of his/her duty by reasoning, does not necessarily induce him/her to do it. Our decision of what to do in a given situation depends on our understanding of basic ethical principles and our common sense knowledge of the way of the world and its people.

The professional behavior with peace officers and others in the criminal justice system needs to come closer to "ideal" ethical behavior than may be possible in private life.

EXAMPLE

If you obey the law, you will set a good example for others and spare your fellow Explorers or Advisors the discomfort of having to intervene in your private life.

Representing the Criminal Justice System

In the business community, there are those who live by the concept of "anything for a price." Some politicians behave as though they would do "anything" to stay in office. And some may. Both groups defend themselves by such logical-sounding excuses as "everybody's doing it."

In the light of readily available evidence, one could easily believe that the man of honesty and integrity no longer has a chance in our society. The presence of these people in our society provide the major reason that confidence in the system survives.

Ethical men are made, not born, and peer pressures can work for or against ethical behavior. Ethical problems such as corruption and official dishonesty must be acknowledged and discussed if solutions are to be found. Every profession must have the ability and the willingness to police itself.

EXAMPLE

Ethical problems are not always clearly seen. A peace officer may accept free meals from a restaurant owner who wants to discourage rowdy drunks and armed robberies. The people could reason that the cost of the food is a very small price for the extra protection they provide. Once a peace officer begins to excuse away such behavior, it becomes easier and easier to graduate from accepting a breaded veal cutlet to a case of scotch.

Practicing honesty and integrity in our personal lives is important. But as we interact with clients, participate in community relations and education programs, and work with other criminal justice professionals, doing what is right rather than what may be more rewarding financially or simply more expedient is even more important. The reason being a peace officer's behavior has a great impact on larger numbers of people inside and outside the system.

Ethics in Client Relationships

The relationships with people who are "clients" can be either positive or negative. Differences in priorities and values can complicate these relationships. If standards of right and wrong are not consistent with the law, peace officers' actions may have a negative effect. If officers fail to hold themselves accountable in the same way that suspects or offenders are, beliefs that people in the officers' position and in the criminal justice system as a whole are unjust. For example, advising an individual to refrain from gambling--or arresting him for it when the officers are know to gamble frequently themselves.

Attitudes and actions must be in line with the basic moral codes and the laws of the land if they are to have a positive effect upon the public.

"Can a police officer who finds reasons to disregard the law enforce the law effectively? To what extent?"

The Advisor may want to divide the Post into two sections and discuss the pros and cons of being an "honest cop" in today's world.

What kinds of behavior or conditions could the restaurant owner expect the police officer to overlook because of this relationship? How should the police officer react to such expectations?"

Ethics in Community Relations and Education Programs

Peace officers should maintain the highest standards of personal and professional behavior possible. They must serve the entire community and never represent any particular special interest group. While it may be difficult to achieve these ideals in the real world, we should maintain an awareness of them and constantly work toward them. All of us need to present our views on ethics in community relations and education programs. If doing and describing what we believe to be right produces improved behavior, understanding, or happiness for the majority, we may consider that as a desirable goal reached.

The Advisor should give examples of possible outcomes of the police officer behaving in an unethical manner.

Working Ethically with Other Criminal Justice Personnel

Mutual respect and trust among criminal justice personnel is extremely important in achieving system goals. A serious effort to perform in accordance with basic ethics, the law, and departmental regulations reinforces feelings of respect and trust and helps reach desired goals.

EXAMPLE

If an officer has obtained an admission or confession without having properly advised the subject of their rights, it should be included in the report and discussed with the prosecutor prior to any court action. Regardless of the seriousness of the offense, if some improper action is brought to light during a court proceeding, it not only damages the officer's credibility, but it reflects on the prosecutor and the system and could cause an otherwise solid case to be lost.

The Advisor may want to discuss whether police officers should issue traffic citations for violations committed on or off duty by other police officers (from their own agency or others). What about an arrest for an observed petty theft? An assault?

Objective Behavior

For purposes of this training, objectivity involves the expression or use of facts without distortion by personal feelings or prejudices. In achieving objectivity, it is essential that you not only gather all of the available relevant information on a topic, but that you also strive to establish the validity of the information.

Your efforts would include such things as ensuring the accuracy of tests detecting drug and alcohol use, comparing stories from witnesses to the actual event for common elements, and checking the reliability of an informant.

The ability to be objective is learned and improved with practice. If you become aware of your personal feelings, prejudices, "blind spots," and other elements of personality, you have taken a giant step toward introducing objectivity into your behavior. Having achieved this awareness of yourself, you can then view things in their proper perspective.

The Advisor may want to discuss the importance of the motivation here as it relates to objective interpretation of information.

"What are some of your prejudices?"

"How do you prevent them from influencing your decisions?"

Objectivity in Personal Behavior

Police officers and other criminal justice personnel, even when they are not at work, stand out as representatives of the system. The standards by which they are judged, even in their private lives, are often higher than those required for other members of society. If biases, animosities, and friendships are allowed to influence decisions in their personal lives, it is likely that they will influence their professional decisions as well. Associating with persons of questionable moral character as a private citizen may carry over into professional life. Practicing objectivity in your personal life makes it easier to practice it in your professional life.

The degree to which mutual respect and trust are enjoyed in the personal relations of criminal justice personnel influences the efficiency and effectiveness of the work. Word gets around if an officer is biased, prejudiced, and unfair, and his/her ability to serve is diminished. Word also gets around if a officer is fair and objective in one's work, and one's ability to serve is increased.

Time must be devoted to exploring motives, possible omissions, and assessing the truth if justice is to be served.

The acceptance of gifts by a public servant is problematic. Is it okay to accept gifts as a peace officer?

Have each group decide under what conditions (if any) any gifts should be accepted and list the ethical questions involved. Penal Code 36.08, 36.09

Discuss the differences between physical and moral courage.

Courage is the state or quality of mind or spirit that enables one to face danger with self-possession, confidence, and resolution; bravery; valor.

Examples of Physical courage:

- Facing barricaded, armed suspect

Examples of Moral courage:

- Refusing gratuities
- Refusing to participate in cover-up
- Refusing to participate in ethnic or gender based humor or practical joking, etc.

Have Explorers define courage and ask them to compare and contrast physical and moral courage.

Professionalism and Ethics

The Explorer should understand the civil and criminal laws related to unethical behavior of peace officers.

Discuss Title 8 of the Texas Penal Code in relationship to an officer's behavior.

Offenses against public administration

- Chapter 36: Bribery and Corrupt Influence
 - Definitions PC 36.01
 - Bribery PC 36.02
 - Coercion of Public Servant or Voter PC 36.03
 - Improper Influence PC 36.04
 - Tampering with Witness PC 36.05
 - Obstruction or Retaliation PC 36.06
 - Acceptance of Honorarium PC 36.07
 - Gifts to Public Servants PC 36.08

- Chapter 37: Perjury and Other Falsification
 - Definitions PC 37.01
 - Perjury PC 37.02
 - Aggravated Perjury PC 37.03
 - False Report to Peace Officer or Law Enforcement Employee PC 37.08
 - Tampering with Or Fabricating Physical Evidence PC 37.09
 - Tampering with Governmental Record PC 37.10

- Chapter 39: Abuse of Office
 - Definitions PC 39.01
 - Abuse of Official Capacity PC 39.02
 - Official Oppression PC 39.03
 - Violation of Civil Rights of Person in Custody; Improper Sexual activity with Person in Custody PC 39.04
 - Failure to Report Death of Prisoner PC 39.05
 - Misuse of Official Information PC 39.06

Suggested review material for Explorers:

- Review Title 8 of Texas Penal Code.
- Explorers provide written examples of violations and discuss in groups and report to class.
- Read chapters 36,37,39

Identify and explain relevant federal criminal law in relationship to an officer's behavior.

- Unethical conduct on the part of peace officers can result in federal prosecution.
- There are specific statutes aimed at peace officers to prevent violations of civil rights.
- The FBI has a special role to investigate those accusations.
- Those investigations are controlled out of Washington, DC to prevent friendships and working relationships between locally stationed FBI agents and the peace officer being investigated from being compromised.

***Point out here that “Double Jeopardy” does not apply when the Federal Government files on an Officer for Deprivation of Civil Rights. Just because an Officer is found not guilty for an act at the State level does not mean that he will not face charges on the Federal level. Also, there does not have to be a direct complaint to the FBI for an investigation to begin. Many times they are started directly by the FBI after media coverage.**

USC 241 Conspiracy Against Rights

If two or more persons conspire to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate any inhabitant of any State, Territory, or District in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same; or

If two or more persons go in disguise on the highway, or on the premises of another, with intent to prevent or hinder his free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege so secured --

They shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and if death results, they shall be subject to imprisonment for any term of years or for life.
(As amended Apr. 11, 1968, Pub.L. 90-284, Title I, § 103(a), 82 Stat. 75; Nov. 18, 1988, Pub.L. 100-690, Title VII, § 7018(a), (b)(1), 102 Stat. 4396.)

USC 242 Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law

Whoever, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom, willfully subjects any inhabitant of any State, Territory, or District to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or to different punishments, pains, or penalties, on account of such inhabitant being an alien, or by reason of his color, or race, than are prescribed for the punishment of citizens, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if bodily injury results shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and if death results shall be subject to imprisonment for any term of years or for life.

(As amended Apr. 11, 1968, Pub.L. 90-284, Title I, § 103(b), 82 Stat. 75; Nov. 18, 1988, Pub.L. 100-690, Title VII, § 7019, 102 Stat. 4396.)

Identify and explain relevant State and Federal Civil Law in relation to an officer's behavior.

- Sexual harassment – EEOC definitions, USCA 1983 Violations of Civil Rights
- Texas Commission on Human Rights - Sexual Harassment
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission - Sexual Harassment

Suggested reading assignment: Explorers provide written examples of violations and discuss in small groups and report to class.

- There exist many examples of civil rights violations and sexual harassment in law enforcement. It is not only unprofessional and against criminal law; it can subject you and your department to civil penalties.
- Penal Code 39.03 description of Sexual Harassment.



Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession ... law enforcement.

PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

Discussion of Approaches to Ethical Decision Making

The Purpose of this activity is to increase the Explorer's awareness of the complexity of ethical decision making.

Suggested uses: Group discussion

Activity:

1. Explain purpose of activity.
2. Assign groups of five to nine the task of discussing the questions or the Advisor should lead a group discussion over the questions.
3. If a small group is used, provide the groups with the discussion questions and give them 20 to 30 minutes to discuss. A summary from each of the groups should include the tenor of their discussions and what they learned from it. Have each group decide under what conditions (if any) any gifts should be accepted and list the ethical questions involved.
4. If a large group discussion is used allow thirty minutes of meeting time with the Advisor leading the discussion. (If time is available during the meeting)

Discussion Questions for Ethical Decision Making

Discuss whether police officers are objective with all persons regardless of their:

- Attitude
- Appearance
- Race
- Sex
- Social class
- Membership in a particular organization
- Age
- Type of offense
- Prior criminal history.

Discuss some examples in which emotional responses by officers subvert justice and needlessly complicate lives of innocent people.

"Is it all right for criminal justice personnel to slant the information given the community in order to get approval of a really worthwhile project?"

"To the extent that you are able to choose your patrol partner, how would your knowledge of his ability to be objective influence your choice?"

Discuss whether police officers should--or do--slant their reports or testimony to include only information unfavorable to the suspect or defendant.

The acceptance of gifts by a public servant is problematic.

Is it okay to accept any of the gifts as a peace officer?

List of potential gifts:

- Any amount of money
- An opportunity for sexual intercourse
- A weekend at a resort hotel
- An FM radio for your personal car
- The use of a camper for a weekend
- A pistol
- Two tickets to a ball game
- Use of a hunting lease
- Bottle of liquor
- Free meal
- Half price meal
- A cup of coffee and a doughnut
- A cup of coffee

Ethical Decisions continued....

Conditions associated with the gift:

1. Does it make a difference who offers the gift?
2. Does it make a difference when the gift is offered?
3. Does it make a difference why the gift is offered?
4. Does it make a difference where the gift is offered?

Discuss personal and professional consequences of unethical behavior. Have Explorers compare his/her personal value system with the ethical standards of the profession.

PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

Role Plays on Ethics

The purpose of this activity is to increase the Explorer's awareness of the ethical dilemmas facing peace officers and to explore ways of handling difficult situations

Suggested uses: Role-play or group discussion

Activity:

1. Explain the purpose of this activity.
2. Assign individuals to the role play based on their interests, needs, or abilities. Advisors need to be aware that the learning of the observers is as important as the actual participants. If small groups are used so that more may participate, have it in a separate room
3. Conduct the role play after briefing the participants that it is important to stay in character.
4. Conduct discussion with class encouraging a discussion about the role play.
 - Start with the participants asking how they felt?
 - Ask the Explorers whether they feel like the situation is a realistic scenario that they might face?
 - Ask the observers, if they would handle the situation any differently? Why?

ROLE PLAYS ON ETHICS

Role Play E - 1

Officer

You stop a motorist for speeding 11 mph over the speed limit. The vehicle has out of state license plates. You ask driver for license. Attached to the license is a fifty dollar bill.

Citizen

You are from out-of-state where to avoid the hassles of court it is common practice to attach money to the license. You want to avoid a jump in insurance rate. (Options: business person, looks like a gang member, looks like a drug dealer with gold chains, riding motorcycle, woman, or officer with a New Jersey Police Department).

Role Play E - 2

Officer

You have just finished a lunch of a cheeseburger, chips, and a coke at the local restaurant. When you ask for the check, the wait person says the manager said, "Meals for police officers are on the house because it provides added security to the restaurant."

Wait person

You like having officers come by to eat because it makes you feel safer since the cafe is in a rough neighborhood. You know the Manager would be mad if you gave an officer a check.

Citizen

You are a customer in the restaurant. You have recently been laid off because of the slow business cycle. You have three kids and your spouse is working two part-time jobs trying to keep a roof over your heads. You over hear the wait person's comments to the officer.

PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

Case Studies on Ethics

The purpose of this activity is to increase the Explorer's awareness of the ethical dilemmas facing peace officers and to explore ways of handling difficult situations.

Suggested uses: individual work, small group discussion, and large group wrap up.

Activity:

1. Explain the purpose of the activity.
2. Assign individuals to topics based upon their interest or their needs with sufficient time to do homework or in the meeting if time permits.
3. Assign to small groups of five to nine people for discussion, critical thinking, and formulation of a report for the whole class. (The Advisor may let the group elect a spokesperson or assign someone as appropriate).
4. Oral presentation to the whole class of their learning, critiques of practices, thinking, decision-making, etc.
5. Make the connection between their findings and current practices. Emphasize that while there is room for disagreement in some areas, the importance of upholding professional standards and setting an example for the community.
6. Review their written responses and give them feedback about the thoroughness of their thinking, clarity of expression, and the quality of their answer in terms of appropriate values.

Notes to the Advisor:

Be sure to be sensitive to the variations between departmental philosophies, current practices, and ideal recommendations.

Case Studies on Ethics

Write out your answer. Then discuss the pros and cons of all reasonable alternatives. Choose the one you would most likely do, explain why you chose it and what are the possible consequences.

Case No. E - 1

You and your senior partner stop to visit a motel. He tells you he will be back in the car in thirty minutes. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 2

Another officer tells you that he has been getting the services of a prostitute who he got overly involved with. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 3

Your F.T.O. stops a female motorist going 20 m.p.h. over the speed limit, but accepts her phone number in lieu of a ticket. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 4

You are working an off-duty job at a bingo parlor. Several officers work there. The senior officer in charge explains to you that officers receive a percentage of the profits designated for charities. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 5

You and two other officers find a paper bag containing \$200,000 in cash. Your partners take the money to the property room. You read in the paper that \$50,000 was recovered. What are your alternatives? What do you do? Why? {Option 4 kilos seized, 2 kilos reported}

Case No. E - 6

You and another officer are investigating a suspect for drug smuggling. The suspect tells you, "You will never get me on this." He lets you search his apartment. You look in a dresser drawer, and it is empty. Your partner five minutes later finds a rock of crack in that drawer. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why? {Option the suspect is also suspected of murdering a peace officer}

Case No. E - 7

You are aware that a fellow officer has developed a serious drinking problem. When you are in roll call, you smell alcohol on that officer's breath. Since you were taught in basic training that substance abusing officers were 3.6 times more likely to have an accident, what are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 8

Your first night on the job you are riding with your F.T.O.. He pulls into a secluded area turns off the engine and turns up the radio. He tells you to wake him if you get a call. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why?

Case No. E - 9

You go into a bar where the bartender and the owner have supplied you with information on some folks that allowed you to bust them for cocaine usage. As you come into the bar you notice an underage person being served alcohol. What are your alternatives? What would you do? Why? Does matter if the person is 14, 15, 18, or 19? Does it matter if the person is male or female?

Instructions

Bring your written answer to class to discuss in a small group. Reassess your original response and discuss in writing any additional insights after the discussion, including any changes you might make. Turn in assignment for Advisor review and feedback.

Los Angeles Police Department Video Discussion

Rodney King Case

Advisor should show the entire 25 minute LA film if it is available.

If the full tape is not available, skip this exercise.

If both the full version and the TV news edited version are available use them both to show the Explorers how different the perception is when only part of the tape is viewed.

Discussion Group or Panel

Was this excessive force?

Why did the other officers not intervene?

Is this an aberration?

What would you have done?

What are the long term consequences for officers, the agency, society, and the law enforcement profession?