

Officer safety through continued education and training!

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Officer safety-related articles, resources, upcoming VALOR trainings, and research studies available on [www.valorforblue.org](http://www.valorforblue.org). The VALOR Digital Dispatch is provided to all registered VALOR Web Portal members. Share this email with others in the law enforcement community.

Access to articles and training resources may require logging in to your VALOR account. Law enforcement officers can sign up for a VALOR account, [here](#).



The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) VALOR Program is highlighting the latest Spotlight on Safety, [Cybersecurity and Officer Safety—Increase Awareness, Assess Your Information, and Protect Your Digital Footprint](#). This series looks at keeping officers safe online by exploring what personally identifying information is on the internet and how to sanitize and protect officers' digital footprints.



## Law Enforcement Use of Social Media

### [Center for Social Media](#)

In October 2010, in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) launched its [Center for Social Media](#). The goal of the Center is to build the capacity of law enforcement to use social media to prevent and solve crimes, strengthen police-community relations, and enhance services. IACP's Center

for Social Media serves as a clearinghouse of information and no-cost resources to help law enforcement personnel develop or enhance their agencies' use of social media.

- [2016 Law Enforcement Use of Social Media Survey](#)
- [Managing Cybersecurity Risk: A Law Enforcement Guide](#)

## Mission Essential Topics for Research

Your continued professional development and training are critical to your safety and well-being, as well as that of your fellow officers and the community you serve. The following topics are areas that you may want to further research and explore.



### Culture of Safety

#### [Video: How to Encourage a Culture of Officer Safety](#)

In this National Institute of Justice video, Dr. Jeff Rojek, Associate Director for the Center for Law and Behavior at the University of Texas, explains what the research reveals about why law enforcement officers are more or less likely to use seat belts. Dr. Rojek describes how training, improved policy and accountability, and organizational justice create a more comprehensive approach to officer safety. Also, Hank Stawinski, Chief of the Prince George's County, Maryland, Police Department, discusses how law enforcement agencies can reinforce a culture of officer safety using subtle messages such as radio broadcasts to remind officers to avoid rushing to resolve a situation. [Watch the video.](#)



### Shift Length Experiment

#### [The Shift Length Experiment](#)

The Police Foundation, also a VALOR Initiative partner, conducted the "shift length" experiment. This experiment was designed to assess the advantages and/or disadvantages of various shift lengths and to examine

whether there were differences in efficacy across different shift lengths. This study examines whether the length of a shift, independent of the time of day, impacts performance, health, safety, quality of life, overtime usage, and a variety of other outcomes. [Read the study.](#)

## Register for Training

- [VALOR Train-the-Trainer Workshop | April 5, 2018 | Tallahassee, Florida](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | April 17–18, 2018 | Trussville, Alabama](#)
- [VALOR Train-the-Trainer Workshop | April 19, 2018 | Trussville, Alabama](#)
- [VALOR Executive Leadership Workshop | April 19, 2018 | Salt Lake City, Utah](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | April 25–26, 2018 | Washington, DC](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | April 26–27, 2018 | Indianapolis, Indiana](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | May 7–8, 2018 | West Valley City, Utah](#)
- [VALOR Executive Leadership Workshop | May 8, 2018 | Little Rock, Arkansas](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | May 8–9, 2018 | Glendora, California](#)
- [VALOR Train-the-Trainer Workshop | May 9, 2018 | Salt Lake City, Utah](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | May 16–17, 2018 | Las Vegas, Nevada](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | May 16–17, 2018 | Hampton, Virginia](#)
- [VALOR Train-the-Trainer Workshop | May 18, 2018 | Las Vegas, Nevada](#)
- [Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers | June 12–13, 2018 | Jacksonville, Arkansas](#)

### Save the Date!

#### **VALOR Survive & Thrive: Protecting You and Your Fellow Officers**

Kalamazoo, Michigan—June 21–22, 2018

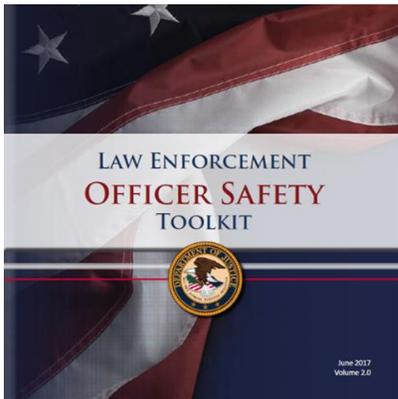
Baton Rouge, Louisiana—June 25–26, 2018

## VALOR Train-the-Trainer

Baton Rouge, Louisiana—June 27, 2018

## VALOR Executive Leadership Workshop

Baton Rouge, Louisiana—June 4, 2018



### [Law Enforcement Officer Safety Toolkit](#)

This toolkit, developed by the U.S. Department of Justice, provides resources to improve the efforts of state, local, and tribal law enforcement personnel to increase officer safety and wellness.

Access these officer safety and wellness resources by visiting the [Law Enforcement Officer Safety Toolkit website](#) or by [viewing the booklet](#).



### [VALOR Program Bulletin—Officer Safety Concern: Fentanyl Exposure](#)

Law enforcement officers often come in contact with unknown substances, unaware of the hidden hazards. A frightening rise in fentanyl encounters by law enforcement personnel is a cause for alarm because the drug is extremely dangerous after even a brief exposure. Learn more about fentanyl and how to protect yourself. [Read the bulletin](#).



## [Officer-Involved Shooting—Online Training](#) (VALOR login required)

This online training module will examine the sensory distortions that officers may experience before, during, and after officer-involved shootings. It will also provide some training considerations and recommendations on how officers may improve their reactions to the stress of shootings, such as reality-/scenario-based training to improve situational awareness and communication and coordination skills.

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