



AVOIDING PREVENTABLE USE OF FORCE

Hosted by: Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Commission

Located at: Fairview Heights Police Department
10027 Bunkum Rd, Fairview Heights, IL 62208

April 20, 2026 • 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

During this 8-hour ILETSB-certified free course, highly experienced national trainer, Rick Robertson, will dissect real-world force encounters, recorded on body cameras, with the goal of identifying what, if anything, could have been done to reduce or avoid the need to use force.

He will explore an array of important topics including acute stress and its impact on officer decision-making and performance; high-tension interaction strategies designed to depressurize subjects in crisis; legal, ethical and tactical considerations regarding use of force; effective tactical communication; myths and realities of deescalation; responsibilities of command staff and trainers to thoroughly prepare officers to apply a force-avoidance skillset to forestall the need for force when possible, and more.

This course is designed to realistically take into account human factors limitations that impact officers' mental and physical performance in high-stress, time-compressed circumstances. Course Topics Include:

Illinois mandates covered in this training include:

- Legal Updates: 1.50 hours
- Procedural Justice: 3 hours
- Deescalation Techniques: 1.50 hours
- Officer Safety Techniques: 1 hour

This complimentary training is courtesy of your friends at ILEAS, funded by The Less Lethal Alternatives for Law Enforcement Grant, and administered in cooperation with ICJIA

For more information, contact Jenna Arnold at jenna@calibrepress.com