

# Use of Force for Investigators Certification Course



Hosted by:  
Lac La Biche County &  
Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services Training  
Academy  
December 4-6. 2024

Objective, Neutral, Thorough



## What You Will Learn

- The 'Rules' of use of force analysis as described by Canadian case law.
- The correct application of use of force models / frameworks.
- Understanding of various force techniques, & their risk profiles.
- Situational Factors impacting officer perception, decision-making and risk assessments.
- Action / Reaction.
- Speed of assault principles.
- Realities and Myths of disengagement.
- Time to start / time to stop human factors.
- The role of schema and heuristics.
- How attention and vision impact performance.
- Memory & memory impairments.
- Unintended discharges & other human error.

## Why is this course Necessary?

### The Obligation to Conduct Objective, Neutral, Thorough and Informed Investigations

Law enforcement is a unique profession in which split-second decisions, especially those involving force response options are evaluated in a protracted fashion and from every conceivable angle. As a result, the ensuing investigation may produce forensic fact patterns which are substantially dissimilar from those experienced by the officers at the time that critical decisions resulted in the responses to a perceived threat. The resulting investigatory judgments based upon weeks, months or years of microscopic focus on a police officer's actions, which typically occur within seconds or milliseconds, are in constant danger of unintentional hindsight bias, attributional errors and leading justice astray.

## What You Need To Know

### You Only Get One Chance to Get The Investigation Right

To ensure officers, agencies and the public are afforded with the most thorough, professional, objective, fact-finding investigation possible, an investigator must have a basic understanding of the fundamental issues relating to use of force principles. Critical human factors are present in almost every significant use of force incident. These principles are thoroughly discussed in this course include, among others, biomechanics, human movement, perception and attention issues, decision making and decision errors.

## When:

December 4-6, 2024 (0800-1700)

## Where:

Training Academy, Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services.

1568 Hector Road NW, Edmonton, AB

## Course Cost

\$700.00 / Student

## Contact to Register

Email: [training@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:training@laclabichcounty.com)



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## Who Should Attend?

This course is intended for use of force trainers, use of force reviewers, investigators tasked with conducting investigations, senior officers, and policy makers as well as investigators assigned to independent oversight agencies.

## Course Facilitator

Chris Butler, Chief Training Officer for Raptor Protection & Safety Services Inc., retired as an Inspector after 34 years in law enforcement.

During his policing career, Chris became a full-time instructor in the academy, teaching both recruits and in-service police officers a variety of physical use of force techniques as well as combat firearms instruction. For the last several years of his career, Chris developed and instructed Incident Command / Crisis Decision-Making training to sergeants, staff sergeants and Inspectors.

Chris has an extensive background in law enforcement use of force and has been certified as an instructor or instructor trainer in numerous incident command, firearms, physical combatives, less lethal/chemical agents and emergency vehicle operation disciplines. Chris is currently a National Trainer for National Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) and a senior instructor for Force Science as well as a Force Science Advanced Specialist. Chris has testified as an expert witness in criminal and civil cases as well as coroner's inquests and fatality inquiries across Canada for over 15 years.



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