



Ten Key Mindsets for Academy Training

1. **Prioritizing respect for life in all encounters.** A commitment to protecting other peace officers, members of the public, individuals in crisis, suspects, and oneself from danger and physical harm whenever possible. This includes a recognition that peace officers may sometimes need to prioritize others' safety over their own safety.
2. **Reducing, preventing, and managing behaviors associated with conflict,** where "conflict" includes verbal or physical agitation, misunderstanding, aggression, violence, or similar behaviors in interactions between two or more individuals.
3. **Respect for and commitment to the rule of law.** A recognition that supporting and upholding the Constitution is the foundation of, and priority for, all law enforcement work, and a commitment to performing all such work in accord with the constitutional and statutory provisions that protect individuals' rights and identify peace officers' legal responsibilities.
4. Recognizing that the primary goal of policing is to **promote safe communities through crime prevention and community policing.** A commitment to earning the public support for and trust in police that is key to crime prevention and reduction.
5. **Respect for all.** A commitment to treating all individuals with dignity, fairness, and respect.
6. **Integrity, ethical decision-making, and problem-solving.** A commitment to honesty, fairness, and compliance with applicable law and policy, and an understanding of the process for evaluating and choosing among alternatives in a manner consistent with ethical principles like trustworthiness, responsibility, caring, and good citizenship. This process includes identifying problems, developing effective options, identifying, and eliminating unethical options, and selecting from the best ethical alternatives when implementing solutions.
7. **Effective communication** (where effectiveness turns in great part on empathy and emotional intelligence). A commitment to try to see things from another person's point of view and to exchange ideas, thoughts, opinions, knowledge, and data so that one's message is received and understood by one's listeners.
8. **Community awareness and knowledge.** A commitment to continually build one's knowledge and awareness of who makes up the community, along with an awareness of the community's challenges and resources.
9. **Officer wellness.** A commitment to the regular practice of healthy habits for better physical and mental health.
10. **Situational awareness.** A commitment to maintaining awareness of one's immediate environment and its changes, understanding what is happening at a given moment, and anticipating what may happen in the immediate future.