

WESTERN STATES HOSTAGE NEGOTIATORS' ASSOCIATION

2018 Featured Presenters
April 29, 2018 - May 2, 2018



Annual Hostage/Crisis Negotiation Team Competition

Our good friends from CSM will again be conducting our very successful Annual HNT Competition on May 3, 2018 at the Atlantis Hotel & Conference Center. Enter your team or as an individual, but enter early. Past years have proved this competition to be the most successful training of the entire seminar. This is a full day of very well planned scenario training with your every move being judged by leaders in the field of HNT.



Presentation Summary for Tim Suttles

The presentation is a look at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupation which occurred in the winter of 2016 in Harney County, Oregon. The presentation centers around the negotiations to include negotiation strategies. The presentation is two full hours.

Biography for Tim Suttles

Tim is the FBI Portland Division's Crisis Negotiation Coordinator and has been since 2008. He has been with the FBI and assigned to Eugene, Oregon since 2001 working multiple criminal cases. His main area of investigation is Domestic Terrorism, including Militia Extremism, White Supremacist Extremism, Animal and Environmental Rights Extremism, etc.. Prior to the FBI Tim was an investigator for Ohio Attorney General's Office.



Presentation Summary for Terry Holmes & Victor Torres

Kenneth Knight Hostage Taking. In the early morning of March 20, 2013 Kenneth Knight, boarded a Citilink Bus with a shotgun, concealed it underneath his seat and waited for his ex-girlfriend. Knight taunted her, then pulled her off the bus, and shot her 3 times in front of kids waiting for their school bus, Knight fled the scene to a acquaintance's house. Subjects inside the house fled abandoning a 3-year old in the house. When police arrive Knight refuses to release the child and our standoff begins.

Biography for Terry Holmes

Terry has been with the Fort Wayne Police Department for twenty-three years, mostly as a Patrol Officer. Currently Terry is a Detective in Robbery/Homicide. He has been a member of Crisis Response Team and a Crisis Intervention Team Officers for five years.



Biography for Victor Torres

On September 1, 2015 Victor retired from the Fort Wayne Police Department in Fort Wayne, Indiana after nearly 25 years. Victor has served his agency in many capacities ranging from DARE Officer, Motorcycle Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Crisis Intervention Team Officer and trainer, Street Operations Patrolman and a 20-year Crisis Response Team member as a hostage and crisis negotiator. Victor's last assignment was in the Detective Bureau's homicide division. Victor has been fortunate in negotiating numerous barricaded, suicidal and hostage incidents with success. Victor currently works for the Ossian Police Department in Ossian, Indiana, as a second shift Sergeant.

Since 2012 Victor has served as Board member and former Chair of the Board of Directors for Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana and still remains on a Mental Health America subcommittee. Since 2009, Victor has served and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Park Center Inc. Fort Wayne's leading mental health provider. Victor also serves on the Board of the Indiana Association of Hostage and Crisis Negotiators and has held that seat since 2012.



Presentation Summary for Harry Drucker

On Thanksgiving Eve, an Officer of the Inglewood Police Department was shot. The suspect, along with two hostages, are barricaded in a house. The Inglewood Police Department has its own SWAT and Hostage Negotiation Team, but given the circumstances they asked the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to respond. The negotiations, the transition of two specialty teams, inter-agency cooperation, and command challenges will be discussed.

Biography for Harry Drucker

A 30 year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Sergeant Harry Drucker has served more than 20 of those years as a hostage/crisis negotiator. Now serving as one of the Department's negotiation team leaders, Sergeant Drucker has responded to over 300 barricaded suspect and hostage situations across over 4,000 square miles of Los Angeles County. Sergeant Drucker has instructed thousands of hostage negotiators across the United States and Canada.

Like most of the nation's negotiators, Sergeant Drucker maintains a collateral assignment. Between call-outs, he runs the Department's studio that produces training videos. Sergeant Drucker has worked a variety of Custody and Patrol assignments including five years as a Civil Litigation Investigator and four years as one of his Department's Public Information Officers.

Sergeant Drucker is a member and frequent presenter for the California Association of Hostage Negotiators (CAHN) and is a graduate of the FBI's National Crisis Negotiation Course at Quantico.

An avid alpine snow skier and racer, Harry is a member of the board of directors of the North American Police Ski and Snowboard Championships (a non-profit organization that raises funds for the winter sports programs of Special Olympics). Harry is also very active in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics (LETR) Organization. He serves as the Production Manager for the LETR International Conference and has been the videographer for the LETR Final Leg for the Special Olympics World Games in South Korea, Los Angeles and Austria.

He holds an Associate of Science degree in Administration of Justice and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Harry lives in Sherman Oaks, a suburb of Los Angeles, with his wife and their two children.



Presentation Summary for Tammy McCoy-Arballo

This presentation will provide Insight into the minds of people who commit suicide by cop, including the associated mental illness, triggers, and helpful insights and tips for negotiators pertaining to such events. Discussion will also include information about suicide awareness and common reactions from law enforcement officials who respond to suicide by cop events, including ways to safeguard the mental health of law enforcement officials.

Biography for Tammy McCoy-Arballo

Tammy McCoy-Arballo, Psy.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist who works primarily with law enforcement officials and their families. She worked extensively with law enforcement officials who responded to the Dec. 2, 2015 terrorist attack in San Bernardino and was subsequently recognized for her work by that department. Dr. McCoy-Arballo is trained in hostage negotiation and works with the Riverside (CA) Police Department's Hostage Negotiation Team. She is certified in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and completed crisis counseling training when she was volunteered as a suicide hotline counselor in the 1990's. Dr. McCoy-Arballo is an Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) trained psychologist. Beyond treatment, Dr. McCoy-Arballo teaches Suicide By Cop/Cop Suicide to law enforcement as well as Significant Other Survival to law enforcement families. She is The Counseling Teams lead researcher on a study examining pre-employment screening of law enforcement candidates. Her research on pre-employment screenings as well as the use of brief personality measures to predict behavior were selected for presentation at national and international conferences, including the Society of Police and Criminal Psychology.



Presentation Summary for Dennis Flynn

A husband and wife got into an argument in their home on Christmas night in Las Vegas, Nevada. Their four children were also in the residence and heard the argument. The husband was a previously deported felon, addicted to methamphetamine, had been physically abusive to his wife, and had both outstanding bench warrants and deportation warrants. The wife called 911 to report the incident but the husband smashed the phone as she was talking. When responding patrol officers arrived, the wife was able to flee the residence with three of the children, but was unable to bring her 18-month-old son along, leaving him behind. When officers approached the residence, they saw the husband inside, carrying the baby and had armed himself with a pistol. SWAT and Crisis Negotiators were dispatched the scene. Negotiations with the suspect were done via a public-address system, a 'throw phone', through a robot, and finally voice to voice. The debrief of this incident shares not only audio and video of the lengthy negotiations but also includes the lessons learned from the incident.

Biography for Dennis Flynn

Dennis Flynn served with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for over 30 years, retiring in the Fall of 2015 as a Lieutenant assigned to the Robbery Section and also as the Team Leader of their Crisis Negotiation Team. In addition to commanding the Robbery Section, which consisted of five investigative squads including a

joint federal bank robbery squad, Dennis previously served as the supervisor of the Narcotics Section, Gang Unit, Problem Solving Unit, and as the Swing Shift Commander of the Las Vegas Strip. Prior to his promotion, he also worked as an undercover detective in both the Vice and Narcotics sections as well as serving as a field training officer. He has been an instructor in the Police Academy for over 15 years, teaching to nearly 3,000 recruits as well as instructing to new detectives on the topics of Interview and Interrogation, Preliminary Investigations, Narcotics, and Crisis Negotiations.

Dennis was a member of the agency's Crisis Negotiation Team for 18 years, serving 10 of those years as their Team Leader. During his tenure, he has responded to over 1,000 barricaded, suicidal, and hostage incidents. He has received two Unit Medals of Valor, and three Unit Meritorious Service Awards for his work as a negotiator including the resolution of a suicidal subject from the top of the Stratosphere Hotel and four separate hostage incidents.

During his time as a negotiator, Dennis taught in numerous crisis negotiation schools, for his own agency, others in Southern Nevada, and for the Las Vegas office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Crisis Negotiation Course in Quantico, Virginia and had the honor of presenting incident debriefs to their school. He has also provided crisis negotiation training to several other law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and served as a guest speaker for the California Association of Hostage Negotiators, National Tactical Officer Association, Baltimore Hostage Negotiation Seminar, Calgary Canada Hostage Negotiation Seminar, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation – Chicago. Dennis's work has been published in the National Tactical Officer Association's magazine, The Tactical Edge. Dennis holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma University in Criminal Justice. He currently teaches courses in Crisis Negotiations.
