



# De-Escalation Strategies, Tactical Planning and Sound Decision Making:

## Enhancing Law Enforcement’s Response to Critical Situations

### About the Instructor

**Major Mark D. Sawa,  
Travis County (TX)  
Sheriff’s Department, Ret.**

Major Sawa brings over 30 years of experience in the Criminal Justice field, having achieved numerous advanced law enforcement certifications including Tactical Command and Decision-Making, Mental Health Certification and Instructor Certification, among many others. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice and is a court-certified use of force expert witness and a certified use of force analyst.

Major Sawa has trained thousands of officers as an instructor for U.S. Department of Justice programs as well as dozens of local, state and national law enforcement training conferences. He also provides consultation, policy review, and investigative follow-up regarding use-of-force situations and police tactics.

Law enforcement professionals face a nearly-unlimited variety of circumstances, and it’s impossible to provide training on specific tactics to be used in every encounter. Officers must be prepared with effective strategies and techniques to address complex, rapidly-evolving situations.

### Upon completion of this class, participants will be able to:

- Understand the importance of following the LEED model as a foundation for interaction during all citizen contacts
- Understand the communicative importance of body language, both in sending the appropriate message and receiving the message being sent by a citizen
- Understand the dynamics of human conflict and how this can assist participants in preventing a volatile situation from escalating
- Recognize the availability of *time* during critical incidents, enabling the implementation of de-escalation techniques and prevent the need for escalation
- Utilize a simple tool of fear and anger mitigation when these factors come into play during a stressful and tense citizen contact
- Understand and apply the “3-Tiered Approach to Defusing the Volatile Encounter”
- Utilize active listening skills that police negotiators, medical professionals, and educators use with great success during adversarial contacts
- Utilize the “10 Factors of Tactical Planning and Sound Decision Making” in a variety of law enforcement scenarios and greatly increase success during unpredictable street encounters
- Articulate – in reports and court testimony – the defusion and de-escalation strategies employed (or not employed) and the logic and reasons behind those decisions

### Contact us for all your training needs:

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Visit us online at  
<https://communitystrategies.net>



### Upcoming Training Date

**De-Escalation Strategies**  
June 23, 2021 – 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Hosted by  
**Tilton, NH Police Department**  
45 Sanborn Road, Tilton, NH 03276



**Register online at:**

<https://communitystrategies.net/De-EscalationStrategiesTiltonJune2021>