

## Surviving Your Use of Force

This seminar is a dynamic blend of street survival, leadership, incident command, decision making, and risk management CONCEPTS AND TACTICS that are applicable to any law enforcement officer (LEO) regardless of rank or duty assignment. LEO's respond to a wide range of calls for service and situations that bring foreseeable dangers and threats with each tour of duty, predictably LEO's have to use force at times. The word "survival" encompasses every facet of the profession. It's not just about individually winning a violent encounter, it's also about surviving everything that happens in its aftermath. This includes your continued employment, as well as, your mental health and peace of mind while you navigate through the criminal investigation, the civil suits and the scrutiny of public opinion. Given today's era of policing, it is now imperative that we choreograph our use of force to paint a picture for today's audio & video driven society.

Yes, the suspect's behavior, defiance, or lack of compliance ultimately dictates an LEO's use of force response. Knowing this, could we not do a better job at using our radios and video systems as tools to choreograph almost every use of force, as if they were screen plays that any citizen could easily understand? What if we took away or at least seriously damaged the opportunity for unscrupulous people to insert a lie, opinion or innuendo about our recorded uses of force? What if we simply filled in the blanks of these recordings with facts that would help justify an officer's actions by using the attributes of proper timing, terminology and an ultra-professional demeanor? If we did this, could we not improve the public's perception of our profession and improve our relationships with the communities we so proudly serve? Would it not be beneficial in a criminal or civil proceeding?

This class gives the student a comprehensive look at using the police radio, mobile vehicle recorders, and body cameras to paint a portrait and reduce confusion when force, especially deadly force, is needed. Direct focus is placed on the individual officer to be responsible and to ensure these technological devices are utilized advantageously to "set the stage" and choreograph actions before, during, and after force is used in any situation. The course is designed to harness the warrior mindset in both physical and cognitive applications; it encompasses incident command, utilization of resources while on scene, thought processes, and managing pre and post incident stress. The course is an interactive discussion including the watching and debriefing of actual incidents. It's time to change the culture of the profession! We are trained, we are educated, we do care....lets show it by choreographing our uses of force and acting like we are "on stage," because we are!

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lt. Stacey Geik is currently employed by the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety and will retire after 25 years of service in April of 2016. Over the course of his career Stacey has held numerous assignments; patrol, community policing unit, SWAT Team for 15 years (Entry & Sniper), narcotics, CID, and in the training division. Stacey has been involved in two officer involved shootings. He has been an adjunct instructor for CMI since 2006.