

In-Service Training

Sergeant Donald Hanson

Our primary training goal for 2007 was emphasis and implementation of a core mandatory training curriculum and policy for all officers. We focused on developing higher minimum standards for in-service training, while augmenting the core curriculum with additional, more diverse and specialized training to individual officers. We met our goal of mandatory training requirements and implemented the policy. Core training all officers received this year included:



C.P.R. and First Aid Training: re-certification for first responders.

Report Writing: to set standards for consistency of both the content and structure of police reporting.



M26 Taser: training and re-qualification of officers in the proper use and deployment of a non-lethal use-of-force option. Officers were also instructed as to the proper procedures for care of suspects after a Taser is deployed.



Firearms Training: four different sessions to train and re-qualify officers in the use of pistols, patrol rifles, and shotguns.

Defensive Tactics: The proper use-of-force techniques, proper subject control, the application of



hand-cuffs, and reporting and review requirements according to policy.

Response to Active Shooters: a new training block, organized and taught by the Ingham County Sheriff's Office, consisting of 16 hours of lecture and scenario-based training which helps prepare officers for a worst case scenario of violence on a larger scale.

Specialized training officers attended included:

Tactical Encounters for Patrol Officers: a 24-hour, grant-funded course that 3 officers attended at Camp Graying, Michigan, targeting proper response techniques to high-risk incidents, while maintaining officer and public safety.

Officer Response to Sexual Assaults: instructed by Sparrow Hospital Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (S.A.N.E) nurses. Several officers attended to educate them in how to properly investigate and preserve evidence in suspected sexual assault cases.

Legal Update Training: informed officers of changes in criminal law and legal processes.

Death Notification Training: attended by several officers to learn how to make unfortunate, but necessary, notifications to families in a manner that emphasizes empathy and understanding.

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training: taught to several officers to help improve awareness of commercial vehicle laws and potential violations. This was done in response to an increase in commercial vehicle traffic complaints.

Homicide Investigation Training: a 32-hour course attended by Detective Lynne Mark, updating his investigative skills and his professional credentials.



There were several other courses and training blocks officers attended, designed towards professional development and ability to meet law enforcement standards and community needs. Each officer averaged between 45 and 134 hours of in-service police training. As a whole, officers received approximately 845 total hours of in-service training.

Looking forward, one area we plan on investing resources into is scenario-based training. We are partnering with the Ingham County Sheriff's Office for annual Active Shooter Training which will replace one of our four current firearms training sessions. The Department will also be providing an instructor. We have recently obtained two Glock pistols that are specially designed not to shoot real bullets, but rather, special marking cartridges. Officers experience both the stress of being shot with marking cartridges, and shooting at actors in these scenarios. Officers become more prepared for the proper response to a critical or life-threatening incident, adding a level of reality and stress to simulate real life conditions.



In 2008, we intend not only to maintain a strong training regimen, but ensure we, as an agency, continue to meet the ever-changing needs of the community, the Police Department, and its officers and staff.

Report Writing Training (In-Service Training) Officer Carrie Nettles



During 2007, all of the sworn personnel at the Mason Police Department attended in-service training on report writing. The ability to write an accurate and detailed report of an incident is an absolute necessity in police work. A police report is used to recall events months—and sometimes, years—after the event happened. An officer's ability to write a good police report results in a better understanding of an incident by those who will eventually read the report,

most of whom were not at the original incident.

The training gave the officers the most up-to-date information on how to write police reports, including what documentation is necessary and how to most effectively convey what happened in an incident. This type of in-service training is done in an effort to keep our officers proficient in an important part of their job as law enforcement officers.

