



Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Training Program

Mobile Team Unit 15

Training Announcement

Name of Training			Class ID#	Course ID#
Basic Crisis Negotiations			200195	73319
Date(s) of Training	Time	Hours	Location	
February 23-27, 2026	8:30-4:30	40	MTU 15 Headquarters 1740 Innovation Drive, Room 151 Carbondale, IL	

Course Description

This five-day course will cover the basics of police negotiations beginning with a review of the history of high-profile critical incidents in hostage negotiation and their impact on modern negotiations. It will explain the components of a negotiation team and the roles and tasks each component is responsible for. The SECRETS Model of Negotiation will be discussed to and its use in developing a plan for negotiation team response to critical incidents. Other topics will include negotiations and the law; "throw phones" and related equipment; integration with tactical unit; and goal-focused listening. The course will also feature scenario-based training exercises.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course attendees will be able to:

- ✓ Understand the duties of the primary, secondary, scribe, intel, runner, and team leader of a negotiation team
- ✓ Identify barriers to effective communications and attitudes unique to patrol officers that must be overcome in crisis negotiations
- ✓ Identify crimes that commonly precipitate crisis incidents and the laws that apply to police actions at critical incidents
- ✓ Identify offender behavior and determine what criminal statutes apply
- ✓ Identify components of a contained "throw-phone" system and how to assemble it
- ✓ Understand use of alternative communications in negotiations including text messaging and social media
- ✓ Understand the nature of the Incident Command System and define the Triad of Command and the role of the Negotiations Team in these structures

Instructor

Patricia A. McConnell is an FBI-trained negotiator and a recognized expert in the field of police negotiations. She is the team leader of the Negotiations Team for the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) Emergency Services SWAT Team and has been a member of NIPAS since 2003. As Team Leader, she has been involved in hundreds of negotiated high-risk incidents, including barricaded gunmen, suicidal subjects, and hostage incidents. Patricia retired as a Sergeant/Watch Commander from the Winnetka, Illinois, Police Department in 2005 after 28 years of service. Since then, she has served as the Director of Investigations for the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Illinois Attorney General. She has also conducted training and presented case studies at numerous conferences throughout the US.

Mandates Met by This Training

- Crisis Intervention, Legal Updates, Officer Wellness & Mental Health, Procedural Justice
- Use of Force (De-escalation Techniques)

This class is partially funded and certified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board