Women in Criminal Justice Conference
By: John Busby, Intern

On April 9th and 10th, 2019, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute hosted the Women in Criminal Justice Conference, which was held in Bloomington, Illinois. Approximately 300 women from law enforcement agencies participated. The theme was the Power of You!, which focused on officer safety and wellness. Other topics discussed include mentoring, leading, breaching the glass ceiling, resilience, emotional survival, and time management.

The keynote speaker was Chief Carmen Best of the Seattle Police Department. Chief Carmen Best spoke on how healthy officers create healthy communities, how to secure and protect our communities, and the importance of mental health resources for law enforcement. Best also spoke of a program in Washington called Code 4 Northwest, a volunteer-run, free and confidential crisis response for active and retired first responders, corrections, civilian support personnel, and their families. It provides a community of support to first responders and critical care families.

Programs like Code 4 Northwest can be implemented across the country to help enhance the resilience of first responders through education, awareness, and crisis response.

The Women in Criminal Justice conference was an excellent experience for all involved. The conference brought strong, confident, goal-oriented women in law enforcement from all over the State of Illinois to come together and discover new viewpoints on officer safety and wellness.

References
1 - http://www.code4nw.org/about.php
National Dam Safety Awareness Day

By: Deja Brown, Intern

National Dam Safety Awareness Day, May 31, was implemented after the South Fork Dam failure in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on May 31, 1889. The South Fork Dam was originally constructed in 1852 to provide a source of water for a division of the Pennsylvania Canal. Ten years after its construction, the outlet culvert, which is a structure that allows water to flow under the dam from one side to the other side, collapsed and led to a significant portion of the dam to be washed away. Seventeen years later, Benjamin Ruff bought and planned to repair the dam. Ruff planned to create a retreat for the wealthy. As the South Fork Dam gained status, a major storm caused water to exceed the height of the dam. Twenty million tons of water flowed eight miles to Johnstown. The dam failure caused 2,209 fatalities and is regarded as the worst dam failure in the United States to date.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) acknowledges the importance of encouraging individual and community responsibility, and supporting best practices for dam safety. Today however, low head dams cause more deaths than dam failures.

A low head dam is a manmade structure bridging a river or stream channel from bank to bank in which water flows over the entire length of the top of the dam. Moderate to high flowing water runs over low head dams, which create strong recirculating currents at the base that push victims underwater, and then jerks them back to the face of the dam in a repeating cycle. These dams typically range from a one to fifteen-foot drop. Due to their relatively small size and drop, low head dams may not easily be spotted. The top of a low head dam can be several feet below the water’s surface. It is nearly impossible to escape the recirculating current of a low head dam without assistance. If caught in the boil of a low head dam, try to swim along the face of the dam towards the nearest bank. Visit here to see what the boil is, the backwash spiral in which victims get caught in, and the downstream drop.

Low head dams are notorious for exhibiting dangerous conditions for swimming, boating, fishing, and other water activities. Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Pennsylvania have had the most low head dam fatalities since the 1960s. Visit here to see the states that have been affected by low head dam fatalities. In 2016, the total number of fatalities was 377.

These dams do not only victimize recreationists, but they also endanger rescuers and first responders who attempt to save victims trapped in a low head dam.

“Illinois and Pennsylvania are the only states that have comprehensive laws that require owners of low head dams to mark their low head dams and identify the dangers of ignoring the warning.”

The Association of State Dam Safety reminds people who encounter dams to “keep your distance, keep your life.” Essentially, it is best to stay a safe distance away from low head dams to avoid hazards. They also mentioned five tips for people who use such waterways for recreational purposes:

1. Know the area: Check maps or speak with locals to get information about hazards on that waterway.
2. Read the signs: Obey any and all posted signage and barriers in the area.
3. Dress for danger: Wear a personal floatation device (i.e. life jacket) if you are boating, fishing, swimming, or otherwise recreating in or around a waterway.
4. Tell someone your plans: Let someone know, such as a friend or family member, when and where you are heading out, and let them know when you return so they know you are safe.
5. If you see someone in trouble, do not enter: Never enter the water yourself to try and help someone. Instead, call 911 and use a remote assistive device, such as a rope or throw bag, to try and pull them back to safety. (https://damsafety.org/public-safety)

Some dams are deteriorating, which can also put people in danger. Removing the dams that no longer serve their original purpose will save lives and money in the future. During Governor Quinn’s administration, he removed several low head dams as a part of his initiative to protect the public and wildlife. The removal of low head dams improves the health of Illinois waterways, preserve Illinois’ natural resources, and make water recreation safer.

References
1. https://damsafety.org/NDSAD
Police Supervisory Role in the 21st Century
Session PS-200

This course, formerly titled Effective Police Supervision – Transformation to Leadership, delivers the fundamental skills new supervisors and experienced supervisors, who have not completed formal supervisory training, need in order to better manage contemporary police environments.

The course focuses on the role and functions of the first-line supervisor in law enforcement agencies and it builds a solid introduction to management-level decision making.

This course is designed to provide the foundation for the upwardly mobile supervisor in their agency.

PSR21C is a part of our Leadership, Empowerment, Advancement and Development (L.E.A.D.) training and certification program.

Personal and Professional Impact
- Identify key characteristics of effective supervisors
- Work yourself to a higher level of thinking as it relates to your personal and professional growth
- Exchange ideas and learn new skills in an interactive setting
- Explore different supervisory skills, contemporary topics and emergent trends
- Learn to align your communication styles and strengths with performance in your work environment

Cost
Tuition is provided for Illinois local law enforcement by the ILETSB Executive Institute.

Lodging, transportation and meals are the responsibility of the registrant and/or the nominating department.

A non-refundable administrative fee ($250) for persons accepted into the class is due by August 30, 2019.

Academic Credit
Completion of PSR21C qualifies you for undergraduate and graduate academic credit from the School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration at Western Illinois University.
ILETSB Executive Institute

Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute

Law Enforcement Executive Forum

The Law Enforcement Executive Forum provides the criminal justice community with best practices and emerging technology for law enforcement leaders. The Forum is written for and by criminal justice professionals and scholars to share their opinions and success with others.

Published quarterly, the journal provides readers with current issues, trends, and evidence-based practices in the field of criminal justice.

Subscribe to the Law Enforcement Executive Forum today!

If interested in submitting an article, please submit it to the Law Enforcement Executive Forum via Scholastica.

The following articles will be available in 19.2 of the Law Enforcement Executive Forum:

**Law Enforcement Responses to Terrorism** covers police interactions with terrorists, conducting investigations and surveillance, receiving tips, role of the public, importance of traffic stops, preventing the next attack, and responding to an attack.

**Police-Community Positive Relations: Officer Education versus Officer Diversity** addresses the effectiveness of department diversity on citizen complaints, use-of-force, and community trust ratings. Research may appear to favor college educated officers to improve community relations.

**The Impact of Role Stress and Lack of Harmony on Police Officer Performance** analyzes how organizational structure can contribute to stress on officers. This study articulates suggestions to addressing role stress and lack of harmony within departments.

**Police Corruption and the Turkish National Police: A Case Study** examines a corruption scandal and how the government responded. This article also addresses how the government prevented future corruption.

**Law Enforcement in the Cyber Domain: Organizational Recommendations** investigates the positive and negatives associated with a single computer crimes investigation entity. Research may indicate a hybrid model which trains and supports, rather than solely investigating, is the best choice.

“From the Coastline to the City”: Cell Phone Location Data and Carpenter v. U.S. covers the recent Supreme Court ruling on the government’s acquisition of cell tower records without a warrant. Other cases concerned with using technology to monitor and track people are discussed.

Visit the Law Enforcement Executive Forum website here to purchase the whole volume or individual articles!

The Professional Research Pool for Criminal Justice Science

The Professional Research Pool for Criminal Justice Science (PRP) is a platform for researchers and participants in the criminal justice field to conduct and complete research. Research is essential for implementation of empirically-based criminal justice policies and practices. Through the PRP, researchers can disseminate studies to valid participants. Professionals from all criminal justice fields may join as a participant to contribute to studies. Research studies may focus on the six pillars of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, building trust and legitimacy, policy and oversight, technology and social media, community policing and crime reduction, training and education, and officer wellness and safety. To join the PRP and for more information, please visit here.

American Psychology-Law Society

Promoting Professionalism in Policing
Mental Health Awareness Course

Cost-free legal mandate training available! The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute launched the “Mental Health Awareness” course in March on the Online Learning Network.

This 8-hour course is meant to provide law enforcement officers with an awareness of mental health issues including a history of the mental health system, types of mental health illnesses including signs and symptoms, and common treatments and medications. The course also focuses on potential interactions law enforcement officers may have on a regular basis with these individuals, their families, and service providers including de-escalating a potential crisis situation.

Legal mandates met: Human rights, Law updates, Mental health awareness and response, Procedural justice, and Use of force.

Visit www.ptblearning.org to register for the course.

Illinois School and Campus Safety Program

The Illinois School and Campus Safety Program is a partnership between the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and Western Illinois University, which provides awareness and preparedness training to enhance organizational capacity to plan for, respond to, and recover from an emergency or disaster.

As such, the program partners with other entities invested in safety, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the State Terrorism & Intelligence Center, New Mexico Tech, and others.

A list of our available courses are available in our brochure, accessible here. Courses are divided into K-12 and Higher Education. Courses available include, Student Behavioral Threat Assessment, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings, Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incidents, Developing Emergency Operations Plans, and Campus Emergencies Prevention, Response, and Recovery.

Keeping our schools and campuses safe requires communication and collaboration on the part of administrators; faculty and staff; first responders including police, fire, and EMS; and many other entities.

Online Learning Network

The Executive Institute recognizes budgetary constraints or a tight schedule can limit officers from attending a traditional classroom course. That is why we introduced a series of cost-free online courses that gives the officer the flexibility to learn from home or at work. Click here for more information.

The Online Learning Network:

- Provides opportunity to work from a location with an Internet connection anytime, anywhere
- Has interactive learning activities;
- Has built-in learning and knowledge assessments;
- Meets current statutory requirements click here for mandates and related courses;
- Has a library of relevant topics for law enforcement;
- Tracks and retains officer training records;
- Provides a Certificate of Completion for training records.

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