



CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SAFETY FOUNDATION

www.codeofficersafety.org

Code Official Safety Specialist



Setting the standard on officer safety training for code professionals.

The **Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation** is recognized by the **International Code Council** as a Supporting Organization and Preferred Education Provider (#2696)



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Code Official Safety Specialist

Code Enforcement Officer | Building Official | Housing Inspector | Zoning Inspector | Fire Inspector | Health Inspector | Animal Control



Code Enforcement Dept | Planning & Development | Police Dept | Fire Dept | Community Enhancement | Health Dept



OUR MISSION

"The Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation exists to promote best practices for the safety of Code Enforcement Officers; to provide a resource for officers; report incidents; provide up-to-date training and to encourage a high standard of professionalism within our chosen profession."

Code professionals have been severely injured and killed in the line of duty by violence. These professionals go by a variety of job titles and work for a variety of departments. Regardless of job title or department name all deserve to be safe.

The **Code Official Safety Specialist (COSS)** program is a progressive 5-course series on officer safety & survival principles, concepts, and practices. This comprehensive training program provides foundational officer survival skills that allow you to be safer in the performance of your job. This training strongly encourages avoidance and de-escalation. The reality is that not all acts of violence can be avoided or de-escalated and being instructed to "*just walk away*" is not a safety strategy.

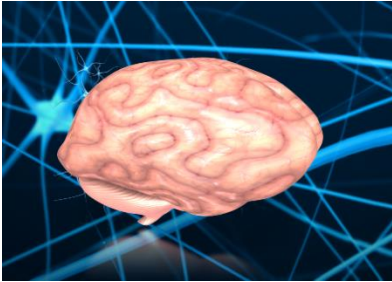
The **Code Official Safety Specialist** program consists of the following 5 courses:

1. Tactical Mindset
2. Fear Management
3. Verbal De-escalation
4. 3 Phases of a Contact
5. Surviving a Violent Encounter

Whether you are new to code enforcement or are a seasoned professional you will gain knowledge that, if implemented and practiced, can keep you safer. Each course is approximately 3 hours in length - *15 hours total* - and includes a comprehensive participant workbook with activities to reinforce course content.

As the leader on Code Official officer safety and recognized by the **International Code Council (ICC)** as a Supporting Organization and Preferred Education Provider, the Foundation is excited to offer this international safety training program.

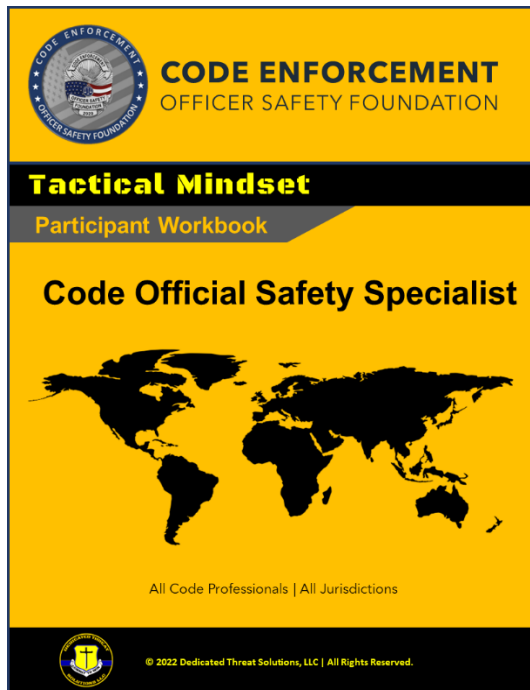
01: Tactical Mindset



Code professionals have been seriously injured and killed in the line of duty. The **Tactical Mindset** covers fundamental officer safety principles with a strong emphasis on developing a “never quit” mindset. Oftentimes the “routine” nature of the job can provide a false sense of security. This thinking can lead to complacency where code enforcement officers begin taking shortcuts that can negatively impact one’s safety. This course provides foundational skills that allow you to make safety a priority.

Topics covered include:

- CEO's Killed in the Line of Duty
- Dedicated Threat
- Combat Mindset
- Faulty Assumptions
- Complacency
- Mental Awareness, Preparation and Conditioning
- Visualization and Mental Imagery
- Instructional Self-Talk
- Situational Awareness
- Color Codes
- OODA Loop
- Basic Safety Principles (SPAR Model)



Tactical Mindset Participant Workbook

Activity 1: Self-Assessment

Activity 2: What do you see?

Activity 3: Officer Survival Creed

Activity 4: Complacency – Are you at risk?

Activity 5: Avoiding Complacency

Activity 6: Condition White

Activity 7: Safety Practices

Article 1: “Just Walk Away” Why Leaving is Often Not an Option

Article 2: Situational Awareness

“Provided excellent information and informed me of things that I never thought about. I feel this should be a course for all new inspectors.”

02: Fear Management



When confronted by violence, especially from a **Dedicated Threat**, fear is a normal response. Your ability to manage fear during a violent encounter can be the deciding factor between a successful outcome or victimization. This course reviews different components of the **Fear Model** and its impact on your ability to respond. Fear can inhibit you from taking action or it can be a motivating drive for you to respond in a manner that is timely, effective, and within the parameters of the law and department policy.

Topics covered include:

- Fear
- Psychological Reactions to Stress
- Physiological Reactions to Stress
- Fight, Flight, Freeze Response
- Fine, Complex, Gross Motor Skills
- Inverted “U” Hypothesis
- Perceptual Distortions
- Fear Model
- Ambush Attacks
- Startle Flinch Response
- Stimulus-Response
- Combat Breathing



Fear Management Participant Workbook

- Activity 1: Your Biggest Fear
- Activity 2: Internal State – “Typical Day”
- Activity 3: Internal State – “Bad Day”
- Activity 4: Internal State – What sets you off?
- Activity 5: Lessons Learned
- Activity 6: Prior Fearful Experience
- Activity 7: Mental Imagery Practice

“Great class. So important to know that fear is normal and can be a motivator when properly managed.”

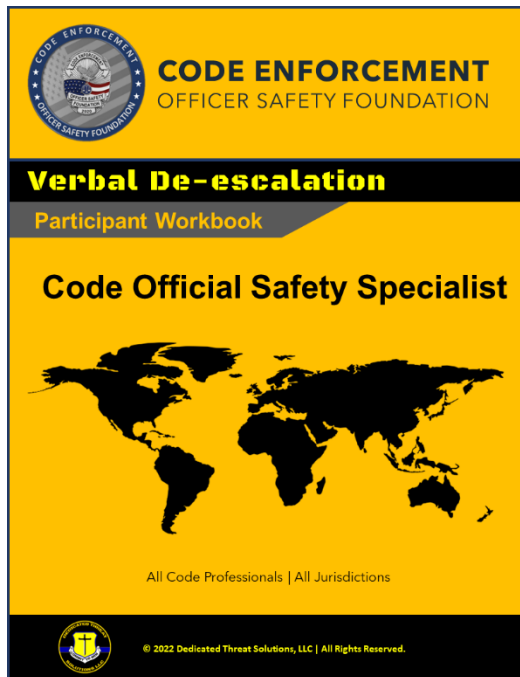
03: Verbal De-escalation



Code professionals use communication skills on a daily basis when interacting with members of the community. This course on Verbal De-escalation provides an overview of effective tactics and techniques to mitigate verbal incidents from escalating into physical violence. Yet, because the threat has a say in how an encounter will develop the importance of body language, proxemics, and paraverbal communication is covered so that code professionals can use appropriate safety strategies. Also covered are the 4 stages of a crisis along with intervention strategies for each stage.

Topics covered include:

- Violence Spectrum
- Goal of Violence
- Verbal De-escalation
- Communication Barriers
- De-escalation Strategies
- Proxemics
- Paraverbal Communication
- Body Language
- 4 Stages of a Crisis
- Crisis Intervention



Verbal De-escalation Participant Workbook

- Activity 1: Prior Contacts
- Activity 2: Attention Distractors
- Activity 3: Body Language
- Activity 4: Applied Body Language
- Activity 5: Initial States
- Activity 6: Intermediary State - Escalation
- Activity 7: Release Stage of Crisis

“An outstanding class that gives great insight into how to de-escalate potentially violent encounters.”

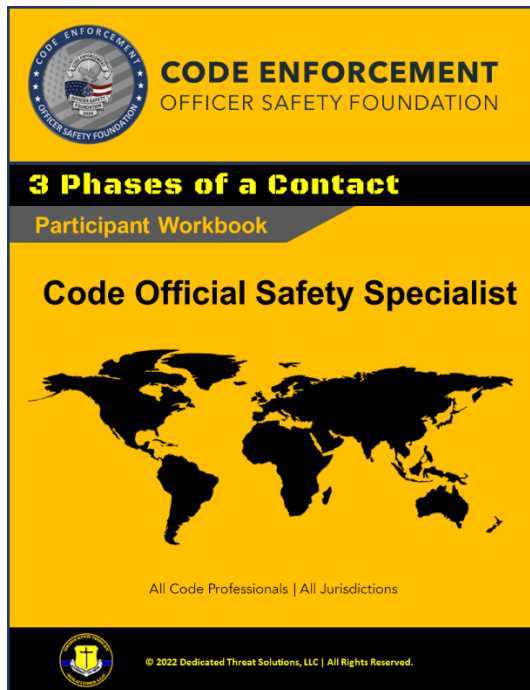
04: 3 Phases of a Contact



The majority of code professionals killed in the line of duty were murdered while conducting fieldwork. The field is where you are most likely to be seriously injured or killed. Therefore fieldwork should never be done in a haphazard manner. 3 Phases of a Contact provides safety strategies relating to pre-contact, contact, and post-contact phases with the goal of avoiding or mitigating violence. Responsible and safe use of social media is also covered because the reality is that members of the community who you interact are researching you on a variety of social media platforms.

Topics covered include:

- Officer Safety Practices
- Working with a Partner
- Identifying Exits
- 3 Phases of a Contact
- Pre-Contact Research
- Components of an Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK)
- Use of Social Media
- Vehicle Parking
- The “Front” Door
- Inside the Residence
- Observing Illegal Activity
- Handling a Hostile Armed Subject
- Post-Contact Debrief



3 Phases of a Contact Participant Workbook

Activity 1: Stayed Too Long

Activity 2: Be Proactive

Activity 3: Pre-Contact Field Checklist

Activity 4: Excuses

“Very informational and I'm glad that the safety of Code Enforcement Officers is being taken seriously.”

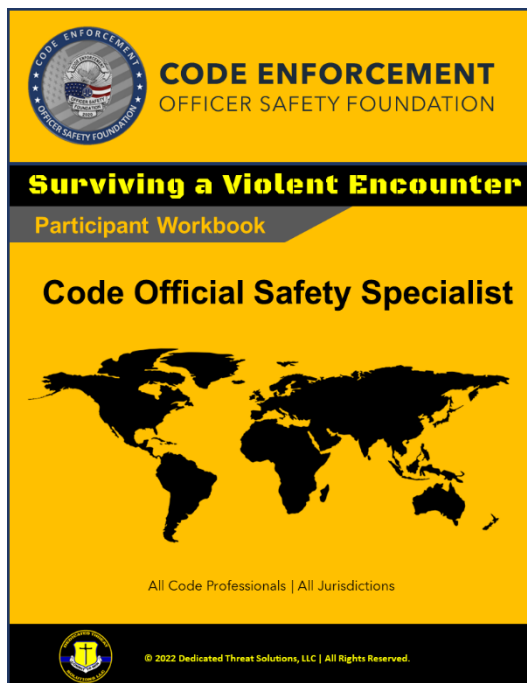
05: Surviving a Violent Encounter



Surviving a Violent Encounter covers the worst-case scenario against a Dedicated Threat where the possibility of “walking away” is not possible. In such a situation there is no option for avoidance, de-escalation, or mitigation of violence. This is an encounter where you must take action or you will be victimized with may result in serious bodily injury or death. Violence is an unpleasant topic that most people attempt to avoid. Yet not all violence is avoidable. This course explains options to help maximize your chances of survival in a manner that is legal, moral, ethical, and within department policy.

Topics covered include:

- Use of Force
- Survival Mindset
- Realities of a Violent Confrontation
- Self-Defense Requirements
- Factors in Violent Encounters
- Reactionary Gap & Reactionary Time
- Defensive Targets to Consider
- Multiple Attackers
- Avoiding the Ground
- Do NOT Become Restrained
- Light as a Weapon
- Cover vs. Concealment



Surviving a Violent Encounter Participant Workbook

Activity 1: Encountering a Dedicated Threat

Activity 2: Willing to Survive

Activity 3: Hope is not...

Activity 4: Level of Confidence

Activity 5: Cover vs. Concealment

“ Amazing class! I have been POST certified and still enjoy any and all information on this. I always learn something new and very much enjoyed how Scott presented his wealth of knowledge. I cannot wait to hear and learn more. I was intrigued and involved through the entire class, never a dull moment. ”

Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation

www.codeofficersafety.org/

*** Credential of Learning Achievement ***



The Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation is a proud partner with the International Code Council.

The **International Code Council (ICC)** is committed to the safety of code professionals and is offering the opportunity to earn a respected **Credential of Learning Achievement (CLA)** upon completion of the **Code Official Safety Specialist (COSS)** training program. The Code Official Safety - CLA validates your willingness to go the extra mile in training and career advancement.

A Credential of Learning Achievement (CLA) is issued by the International Code Council to those individuals who complete the Code Official Safety Specialist training and pass an assessment (examination) based on the COSS training program.

All code professionals who complete the Code Official Safety Specialist training program are highly encouraged to take the next step and obtain the Credential of Learning Achievement from the International Code Council.



“We are committed to supporting those individuals who dedicate their careers to ensuring that our buildings and communities are safe. The Code Council and CEOSF have a shared commitment to promoting the safety of code officials, and our combined efforts to develop this new CLA will provide further resources to support the profession.”

Dominic Sims, CBO
Chief Executive Officer
Code Council



Path to Code Official Safety Credential of Learning Achievement (COS-CLA)



STEP 1

Go to the website of the CEOSF: <https://www.codeofficersafety.org> purchase and complete the training of the five-module COSS <https://www.codeofficersafety.org/training>

STEP 2

Go to the ICC website and sign into your MYICC page; go through the purchase process of COS-CLA, part of which will be uploading your certificate of course completion of the five-module COSS training. (See Note 1)

STEP 3

Purchase, take and pass ICC online proctored COS-CLA assessment

STEP 4

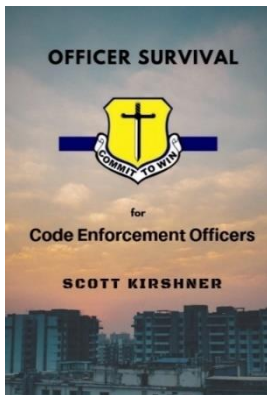
COS-CLA issued, good for 3 years (See Note 2)

As a former peace officer in the State of California, this training directed towards Code Enforcement Professionals was outstanding. This training is right on target concerning mindset, awareness, and the need to survive. Outstanding...

COURSE INSTRUCTOR



Scott Kirshner, M.Ed., COSCI, INCI, SAS-AP® is an accomplished trainer with decades of experience in safety and violence mitigation strategies. He has held many positions in the criminal justice system to include Parole Administrator, Supervisory Probation Officer, and Correctional Officer. As an officer survival instructor he was integral in the development and implementation of an officer safety curriculum for two large agencies. He served as a Certified Firearms Instructor, Lead Defensive Tactics Instructor, and Use of Force Instructor. He facilitated courses on: Use of Force, Tactical Mindset, Verbal De-escalation, Crisis Prevention, OC Spray, Expandable Baton, Handcuffing, Searches, Safety Policies, Applied Defensive Tactics, Firearms, Low-Light Shooting, Force-on-Force, Judgmental Shooting, Terrorism, Active Killer Incidents, and Surviving Violent Encounters. He is a two time recipient of the ***Excellence in Training Award*** by the Arizona Supreme Court. He is the author of the popular book, "[Officer Survival for Code Enforcement Officers](#)" which is used by code professionals, departments, colleges, and associations.



Mr. Kirshner has worked with numerous municipal, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. He has trained with the FBI SWAT Team - Phoenix Division, Phoenix Police Department, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Pima County Sheriff's Office, SureFire Institute, Proactive Training Institute, Combat Shooting & Tactics, Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, and many other government and private agencies on topics to include: Officer Survival, Active Shooter Intervention, Force-on-Force Training, Shoot House Instructor, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Building Clearing, Workplace Violence, Flashbang Operator, Tactical Scouting, and others.

Mr. Kirshner is a Nationally Certified Instructor (INCI) through the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training and a Certified Officer Safety Instructor (COSCI) through the Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation. He is a member of the National Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors Association (NLEFIA) and an International Liaison Officer with the International Law Enforcement Training (ILET) Network. He has received specialized training on the topics of: Mental Health, Sex Offenders, Domestic Violence, Terrorism, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, Motivational Interviewing, Risk and Needs Assessments, Faculty Skills Development, Advanced Faculty Skills Development, and Curriculum and Lesson Plan Development. Mr. Kirshner has a Master of Education degree in Counseling, Bachelor of Science in Business Management, and an Associate of Applied Science in Fire Science Technology.

As an experienced instructor and facilitator Mr. Kirshner remains passionate about safety and violence mitigation. Mr. Kirshner is the owner & Lead Instructor of Dedicated Threat Solutions, LLC. He can be reached at info@dedicatedthreatsolutions.com



"This course was very well organized and thought out. Scott is a great instructor."

Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation

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CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ We are utilizing this platform [COSS] for new hires prior to them going out on their own in the field. Thank you so much! ”

COSS Graduate
Senior Code Enforcement Officer
New Jersey



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ The class is AMAZING!!!! It is truly fantastic for ALL skill levels. It brings so much light to subjects that so many don't teach or teach accurately/effectively. ”

COSS Graduate



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ Thank you to both Justin and Scott for all you do to help save lives in the field. I look forward to graduating this course and finishing the book. You both offer so much to the field. Thank you for giving us the opportunity and knowledge to learn from you. #everydayinspection ”

COSS Student



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ I really enjoyed the class. I worked as a Community Service Officer in a police department for almost 20 years prior to retiring, and never received half of what I learned in this class. I am the only Code Official in my city, and each of the surrounding cities also only have one person. I will be recommending this course to them. ”

COSS Graduate
Code Enforcement Officer
Utah



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ I wanted to say THANK YOU to your organization for providing safety classes along with the Code Official Safety Specialist. This past month, [five] TX Building and Community Services employees achieved the Certified Code Official Safety Specialist designation. ”

COSS Graduate
Senior Director, Building & Community Services



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ Let me say it was time and money well spent. Scott Kirshner, M.Ed., COSCI, SAS-AP® does a fantastic job of explaining the topics in a fashion that can be understood by anyone in code enforcement, whether that be a fire, building, or neighborhood inspector, whether commissioned law enforcement official or not. ”

COSS Graduate
State Fire Inspector II/Investigator



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ Thank you so much, I learned a lot from this program. As the Lead Code Enforcement Officer for the ___ Tribes, I will be making this class a criteria as a requirement for the job. ”

Once again thank you and I look forward to seeing more of what is offered and conferences in the future. ”

COSS Graduate
Tribal Lead Code Enl. Officer



CEOSF Code Official Safety Specialist

LEARN TODAY!

CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST


ICC PREFERRED EDUCATION PROVIDER



CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST

“ Just started the online course this morning for ICC certification. I spent 35+ years in law enforcement and this training is incredibly comprehensive and presented in a very professional manner. Excellent training! My compliments and appreciation for your work. ”

Safety Director
Retired Lt. Colonel - Highway Patrol

@amazon

A MUST READ IN OUR PROFESSION

Want to continue to learn beyond our COSS program? Pick up this great book on Amazon. State Associations and Supervisors have bought this for their members and staff.

~ Code Professionals ~

Be proactive with your safety:

1. Register for the **Code Official Safety Specialist** training through the CEOSF
2. Obtain the **Code Official Safety - Credential of Learning Achievement (CLA)** through the ICC

#CEOSF #ICC #COSS #CLA
#EveryDayEveryInspection

*** REGISTER TODAY ***

CODE OFFICIAL SAFETY SPECIALIST (COSS)

Only \$250 per person for On-Demand Training

BENEFITS

- **Code Official Safety Specialist** designation upon completion of program requirements
- Authorization to use the "COSS" acronym
- Certificate of Completion upon successful completion
- ICC CEU's
- Opportunity for **Code Official Safety - Credential of Learning Achievement** from ICC
- State Association CEU's depending on state.
- Training facilitated by a COSCI and INCI certified trainer with decades of experience
- Comprehensive participant workbook with activities
- Professional growth and development
- Commitment to officer safety

TRAINING OPTIONS

This Code Official Safety Specialist (COSS) training program is available online for the ultimate convenience. You can complete the training from any internet connected computer.

The training can also be scheduled on-site over two-days in an appropriate training venue. Contact the Code Enforcement Officer Safety Foundation at info@codeofficersafety.org to inquire about in-person training options.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, please contact us at info@codeofficersafety.org



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