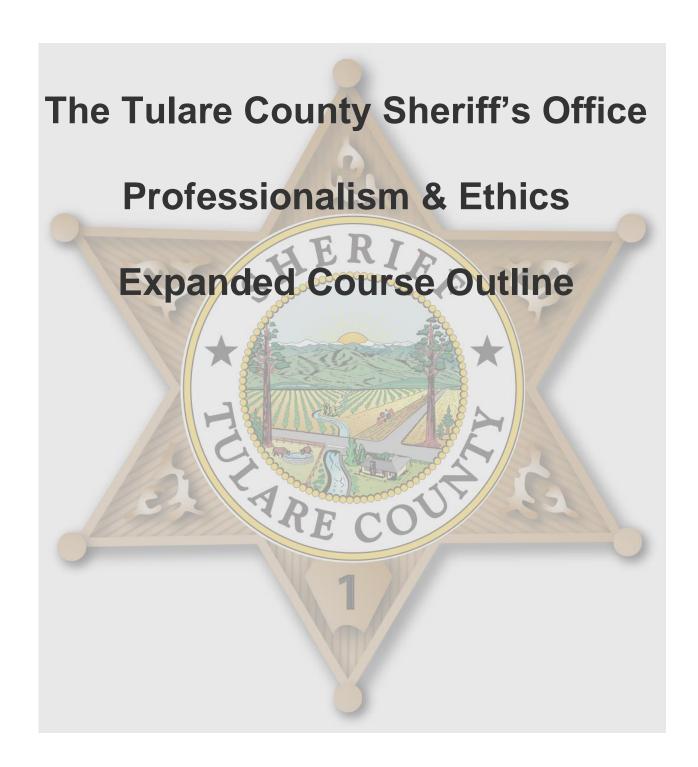
Tulare County Sheriff's Office (2850)
Professionalism & Ethics
Expanded Course Outline
Created 05/12/2020



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Professionalism & Ethics

COURSE GOAL:

This course will provide the student with a definition of ethics. It will generate dialogue on what ethical decisions and behavior look like. It will promote and facilitate discussion on the impact of attitudes and behaviors demonstrated by personnel working for a law enforcement agency and how they can promote or deteriorate community support and morale within the agency. It will give guidelines for identifying and handling unethical and unprofessional conduct. It will seek to encourage professional parameters between agency personnel and the community. The information in this course will be provided through lecture, group discussion and learning activities.

- I. Introduction to Ethics & Why Ethics are Important
 - a. A shared sense of purpose
 - b. A common body of knowledge
 - c. Standardized training
 - d. Vital to the well-being of society
 - e. A code of conduct
- II. Definition of Ethics & Principles
 - a. Ethics- The accepted principles of conduct governing decisions and actions based on professional values and expectations.
 - b. Principles- The individual beliefs that person relies on to make the personal decisions in their life.
- III. On Duty & Off Duty Behavior
 - a. Promoting professionalism for the officer / civilian employee
 - b. Promoting professionalism for the agency
 - c. Promoting professionalism for the community
 - d. Gaining & maintaining support from the community

Learning Activity: Groups will review videos and discuss the issue surrounding the unethical/unprofessional behavior.

- IV. Common Ethical Violations
 - a. Continuum of Compromise Dr. Kevin Gil Martin
 - b. Identifying acceptable and unacceptable behaviors
- V. Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviors by Agency Personnel
 - a. Deterioration of community respect
 - b. Public perception of the agency and the profession
 - c. Mixed messages about equal application of the law for everyone
- VI. Deciding to Intervene
 - a. Legal obligation

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- b. Ethical obligation
- c. Hesitation to intervene
- d. Why intervention is important

