

# DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

## First Amendment Issues For Supervisors

FBI-LEEDA is proud to announce an additional course to our Distance Learning course. The new course is titled First Amendment Distance Learning program. During this four-module training, you will receive an overview of the First Amendment, its impact on Law Enforcement, and what supervisors need to know to protect themselves and their departments. This training will provide an understanding of the First Amendment specifically, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, and Freedom of the Press. The training will provide attendees operational standards as it relates to crowd management, recording police, social media, and seizure of electronics. This class requires four to six hours per week for four weeks. The program can be accessed at any time to fit your schedule.

### **Module One: Law Enforcement and the First Amendment what every Supervisor Should Know**

This topic area will cover an overview of the First Amendment, its impact on Law Enforcement, and what supervisors need to know to protect themselves, their departments, and their subordinates. This module will provide an understanding of the First Amendment and how the First Amendment has become an issue for Supervisors. Specifically, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, and Freedom of the Press.

### **Module Two: Social Media - Dealing with Haters and Trolls**

This topic area will cover an overview of government employee free speech and how to evaluate a departments ability to investigate and discipline officers when they post on social media, blogs, or department intra-net. It is important that supervisors be able to evaluate what speech might be protected and what speech is not protected. This module will also review a 4th Circuit case where a departments policy was determined to be too restrictive and what limitations the Court put on Management.

### **Module Three: Recording Police and Protecting Civil Rights**

This topic will review the legal standards and applicable policy guidelines set by the Court, allowing citizens to record officers in the performance of their duties. 11 Circuits have now clarified the issue that recording a police officer is a constitutional right and should be protected. So, what can an officer do in this situation, and more importantly, when a supervisor is called to the scene what are the legal standards they must protect. This module will also cover the authority to the police to record citizens with body-worn cameras.

### **Module Four: Seizing Electronics while Protecting First and Fourth Amendment Rights**

The final module will review the legal standards for seizing electronics from citizens. A review of the Sharp case will identify necessary policy standards for how a supervisor should handle the situation.

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