

Cleveland Division of Police

2023 CPC Training

June 3, 2023

Topic: Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE)

Presenter: Kenneth Ryan, Lieutenant

Time: 30 min

Location: CPC Office, 3631 Perkins Avenue, 4th Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114

I. ABLE - Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement

- a. Years of academic research and on-the-ground experience have shown us that effective active bystandership can be taught. The Georgetown Law Center for Innovations in Community Safety, partnering with global law firm Sheppard Mullin, has created ABLE (Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement) to prepare officers to successfully intervene to prevent harm and to create a law enforcement culture that supports peer intervention.
- b. Active bystandership training is a tool founded upon decades of social science.
- c. It is about preventing harm – to the community, to officers and to the profession
- d. 324 Participating agencies, 160,000 officers at ABLE agencies.
- e. All officers and recruits will receive the initial, 8-hour ABLE training as well as 2 hours of annual refresher training using the curriculum provided by ABLE. Only ABLE-certified instructors—individuals who have successfully completed the ABLE Train-the-Trainer—may teach the ABLE curriculum.
- f. Provides training, technical assistance, and research, all with the aim of creating a police culture in which officers routinely intervene as necessary to:
 - i. Prevent misconduct
 - ii. Avoid police mistakes
 - iii. Promote Officer Health Wellness
 - iv. Authorizing and empowering officers to intervene in each other's actions that may create unnecessary harm, regardless of their rank

- g. Law enforcement officers are frequently faced with high-stress, high-stakes decisions. ABLE believes it is the responsibility of every officer to act to prevent mistakes, prevent misconduct, and promote their fellow officers' health and well being
- h. Teaches how officers can intervene and accept intervention. There are three steps for able
 - i. Notice
 - ii. Decide
 - iii. Act
- i. Protects those who do intervene
- j. Creates a culture that expects and supports intervention

II. Instructor Certification

- a. Certified Instructors are responsible for advancing ABLE Training within their agencies
- b. 20 hour ABLE Train-The –Trainer session to become certified
- c. Instructors must adhere to content, organization and timing of the curriculum provided

III. Division-wide training beginning in 2021

- a. Commissioned personnel must receive the core, 8 hour ABLE training
- b. ABLE training added to the police academy training curriculum
- c. 2 Hour refresher training annually thereafter
- d. Includes role-playing in scenarios similar to officers' everyday experiences