VALOR Digital Dispatch provides officer safety-related articles, resources, upcoming VALOR trainings, new resources added to the VALOR Web Portal, and research studies that are relevant for the law enforcement community. The Dispatch is provided to all members of the VALOR Web Portal, www.valorforblue.org. We encourage you to share this e-mail with other members of the law enforcement community.

Contact valor@iir.com to submit an article for consideration in the VALOR Digital Dispatch.

Current Events

De-Escalation

Rookie South Daytona Police Officer Downplays His Talk to Calm Volatile Mentally Ill Suspect

At a time when police agencies around the country are training their officers to de-escalate confrontations with suspects rather than resort to deadly force, a rookie South Daytona, Florida, officer did what came naturally when he arrested a mentally ill man. *Read more*

Police Pursuit Safety

Reducing the Number of Dangerous Police Pursuits

According to Federal Bureau of Investigation figures, motor vehicle crashes are the major cause of line-of-duty deaths for law enforcement officers, eclipsing violent deaths in the mid-2000s. They accounted for nearly 60 percent of police officer deaths in 2015, the last year for which figures were available. *Read more*

Resilience

Wounded Washington Police Officer Wants to Keep Serving the Community

On December 15, 2016, police officer Mike "Mick" McClaughry was sent on a journey that took him literally to the brink of death. The 31-year veteran of the Mount Vernon, Washington, Police Department is now on his journey back. "Wherever I'm at, whatever I'm doing, I'm going to have a smile on my face," McClaughry said. "Because I've seen the depths, and I've come back from that." *Read more*

Wellness

Roughly One in Five Police Officers Frequently Feels Angry and Frustrated on the Job

Nationally, about one in five police officers (21 percent) says that his or her job often or nearly always produces anger and frustration—feelings that are linked to more negative views toward the public. These frequently angry, frustrated officers also are more likely than their colleagues to support more physical or aggressive policing methods, according to a Pew Research Center survey conducted from May 19 to August 14, 2016. *Read more*

Police Shootings

Reflections on Police Shootings: A Look at How Agencies Should React

The purpose of this article is not to suggest that officer-involved shootings can be eliminated. These incidents will continue to occur as officers fulfill their duties and obligations to protect citizens or themselves in a manner that may require the discharge of their firearms. However, the prevalence of officer-involved shootings enhances the public's right to know why such incidents occur and necessitates an accounting of the behavior of all involved. *Read more*

- VALOR Essentials | April 4–6, 2017 | Jackson, Mississippi
- VALOR Essentials | April 12–14, 2017 | Havana, Florida
- VALOR Essentials | May 2–4, 2017 | Boys Town, Nebraska
- VALOR Essentials | June 6–8, 2017 | Newberry, South Carolina

Save the Date:

- VALOR Essentials | June 2017 | Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- VALOR Essentials | August 2017 | Miami, Florida
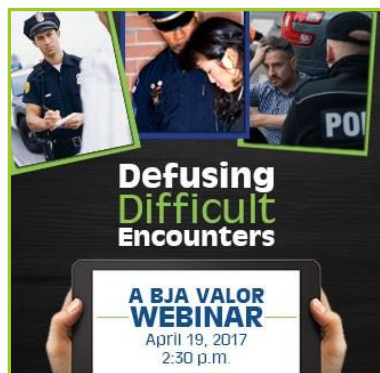
Registration Now Open!

BJA VALOR Webinar—*Defusing Difficult Encounters*

Join us for the *Defusing Difficult Encounters* Webinar, where you will learn from a subject-matter expert how to bring difficult encounters to successful conclusions.

This Bureau of Justice Assistance VALOR Program Webinar is geared towards law enforcement officers; please note that registration is available only on the secure side of the VALOR Web Portal to valid VALOR for Blue registered users. More information about the Webinar and the speakers is available on the Webinar Web page.

## Spotlight on Safety—Defusing Difficult Encounters

The BJA VALOR Program introduces the latest Spotlight on Safety! Defusing Difficult Encounters provides resources to help law enforcement officers understand some of the reasons for noncompliance in lawful encounters and strategies to positively impact the direction and outcome of many situations. Resources include an article, printable posters, podcasts, and other materials.

The [VALOR Program](#) has released an improved eLearning environment geared toward law enforcement officers, titled [VALOR for BlueLearning](#). It provides access to online training modules, roll calls, and Webinar recordings. The six new modules that have been added include the following:

- **Roll-Call Training: _Active Shooter Events—An Overview_**

- **Online Training: _Casualty Care—Tourniquets_**

- **Roll-Call Training: _Casualty Care—Recommended Equipment_**

- **Online Training: _Mental Health and Wellness_**

- **Online Training: _The Importance of Fitness for Law Enforcement Professionals_**

- **Online Training: _The Deadly Mix_**
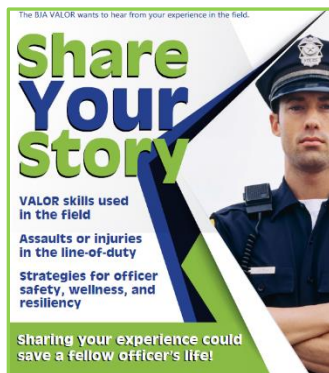
Share Your Story

Do you have a story or an experience that you wish to share? Your personal story could be used to help other law enforcement officers! Examples of the kinds of stories we are looking for include the following:

- VALOR skills used in the field
- Assaults or injuries in the line of duty
- Strategies for officer safety, wellness, and resiliency

Use this form to give us a brief description of your experience, and we will follow up with you using your preferred method of contact. **The information you provide will not be made publicly available without consent.**

If you have any questions regarding the VALOR Program, please contact the help desk at
https://www.valorforblue.org/ContactUs.aspx. Unauthorized reproduction
or redistribution of the VALOR Digital Dispatch is strictly prohibited.

IIR • Post Office Box 12729 • Tallahassee, FL 32317-2729 • www.iir.com

MANAGED BY

Institute for Intergovernmental Research