



BOONE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

2121 County Drive
DWAYNE CAREY, Sheriff

Columbia, Missouri 65202-9051
Phone (573)875-1111 Fax (573)874-8953

Media Release

Incident: Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) - Dispatcher Training
Location: 2111 County Dr - Boone County Sheriff's Dept Annex
Date & time: 06/22 - 06/23 | 0800 to 1700 hours

Details:

Public safety telecommunicators handle a large variety of calls ranging from acts of nature, to major accidents, to active shooters. Calls involving mental illness are becoming more frequent and dispatchers need to know how to effectively communicate with those in crisis on the other end of the line.

Approximately 45 public safety telecommunicators from throughout the state of Missouri are undergoing training at the Boone County Sheriff's Department to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to identify a mental health caller in crisis and to respond effectively.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is an innovative first-responder model of law enforcement-based crisis intervention with community, health care, and advocacy partnerships designed to improve the outcomes of police interactions with people living with mental illnesses and improves the safety of family members, patrol officers, and citizens within the community.

Training for the frontline civilian employees include how to best communicate with callers who may be having a mental health crisis, techniques to calm a situation before officers arrive, and how to recognize situations that may need a response from officers specially trained in crisis intervention. Topics include understanding mental illness, PTSD, de-escalation and active listening, suicide recognition and risk assessment, community resources and more.

For additional information about this, contact Boone County Sheriff's Department Sergeant Tracey Cleeton 573-228-4002.

Release date & time: 06/20/2017 - 1845 hours
Release authorized by: Sergeant Tracey Cleeton