



To: **New York State Criminal Justice Executives**

From: **Joshua Vinehout, Office of Public Safety**

Date: **October 11, 2011**

Subject: **Police Mental Health In-Service Curriculum
Orientation Training - 2012 Schedule**

A national study concludes that nearly one in ten calls to the police involve a person in a mental health crisis. A third or more of the homeless in urban areas have a severe psychiatric disorder. Police officers are often the first, and sometimes may be the only responders to crises involving emotionally disturbed persons. Unless there is an attempt by the police to divert the EDP to appropriate medical services rather than continuing criminal justice services, the EDP is invariably going to be in very frequent police contact at a great expense to the community.

The Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Office of Mental Health are among many involved in improving the long term goal of treating those in need, both short and long term. Meanwhile, recognizing the need to keep police apprised of the best courses of action to take, we are pleased to announce the 2012 training schedule for the **“Responding to Situations Involving Emotionally Disturbed People: An In-Service Curriculum Orientation.”** This in-service training program is designed to supplement the Police Mental Health Recruit Training curriculum mandated for recruits. It provides experienced police officers with a more advanced content regarding mental illness, suicide assessment and intervention, response to people with acute symptoms of mental illness; a review of the NYS Mental Hygiene Law; and an opportunity for participants to hear from recipients of mental health services.

Dates and Locations:

***February 21-22, 2012
Orange County***

***March 13-14, 2012
Oneida County***

***June 5-6, 2012
Genesee County***

***September 18-19, 2012
Chemung County***

We hope that you send instructors from your agency, and the best candidate would be additionally certified for recruit training. However, in order to assure your

officers receive training, there is no requirement for special certification to attend the class or to present this curriculum inside your department.

Pre-Registration is required. All interested parties must **register two weeks prior to the course.** We expect a lot of interest, and seats are limited. The location of training and class times will be provided through an email confirmation; therefore you must register in order to attend. To register, use the downloadable form [here](#). **Any nongovernmental applicant must complete sections A and B on the registration form.**

If you have any questions about the training, please contact Senior Training Technician Molly Bates at the address in the letterhead, by email at molly.bates@dcjs.state.ny.us or by telephone at (518) 485-5304.