



Module 6. Trauma & Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

Time: 65 minutes

Slides: 23

Purpose: This module provides a greater understanding of trauma, the adverse effects that traumatic stress can have on a person, and how traumatic stress can manifest differently in different people. Specific emphasis will be given to understanding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), its signs and symptoms, as well as intervention strategies for responding when someone experiencing traumatic stress or someone with PTSD may be experiencing a crisis.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completing this module, participants should be able to:

1. Define trauma;
2. Describe the prevalence of trauma;
3. Explain the adverse effects traumatic stress can have on a person in the short- and long-term;
4. Define PTSD;
5. Describe traumatic stress reactions/symptoms and how they may appear to an officer on-scene; and
6. Describe approaches that law enforcement officers can use when interacting with someone demonstrating traumatic stress symptoms.

This curriculum was created through support by Grant No. 2020-NT-BX-K001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official positions or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.