



# Crater Criminal Justice Training Academy

Jon J. Cliborne  
Executive Director

Crater Academy is proud to be able to present the 2026 Training Digest. It may be helpful to see some facts about the calendar, “at a glance.” Highlighted here are just some of the many training opportunities for 2026. You are encouraged to view the entire calendar online (<http://www.ccjta.org>) and, as always, please contact us with any questions that you may have.

## **Some Administrative issues:**

In 2016, we introduced the course pre-requisites document which contains requirements to be registered for individual courses. It was very helpful during the previous years, and we will continue to use them in 2026. Please continue to utilize this document to help ensure that each officer is registered for the appropriate class and meets all of the pre-requisites for each class that they are registered for, as we have recently updated them. It is a requirement of DCJS that we make sure that individuals register for classes for which they are qualified for and have the appropriate job function for.

Also, low and no enrollment classes continue to be an issue. As we attempt to bring more and more training opportunities, we encourage you to visit the training page on the Academy website for these low/no enrollment classes and support them as you are able, to prevent vital training opportunities from being cancelled.

## **Here are some of the Catalog highlights:**

In 2026, we will be holding two 40-hour Law Enforcement In-service classes, one in each half of the year. The remaining in-service classes will become topic-focused classes that we will be calling ‘**Law Enforcement Seminars**’. Instead of having general in-service classes with various topics, our plan is to utilize information gleaned from previous years “Training Needs Analysis” surveys to present the most-requested topics, so you can send your staff to what they are interested in or need more training in.

Some examples of the “**Law Enforcement Seminar**” classes that we will be offering are:

**Advanced Search & Seizure:** This class will provide a more in-depth look at case law and other factors relating to search and seizures, to ensure that officers are upholding the complicated and ever-changing laws related to them.

**Advanced Evidence Collection, Handling, & Packaging:** Topics that will be covered include:  
Maintaining equipment/paperwork in order  
Identifying pieces of evidence and how to properly package each item  
Proper documentation of evidence collection  
Vouchering/itemizing evidence  
Submitting items to the state lab via Request for Laboratory Examination (RFLE)  
VA Department of Forensic Science (DFS) paperwork with certain evidence



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**Communications with Individuals with Different Abilities:** This day of classes will include a block on identifying and communicating with those who require additional attention and/or skill, including those who:

- Are deaf/hard of hearing and communicate with American Sign Language (ASL)
- Are on the Autism spectrum
- Have Alzheimer's Disease or dementia

**Gangs/Human Trafficking:** This two day class will feature a day on each of the following topics:

**Gangs:** an updated overview of national street gangs operating in Virginia, how to build a case from identification to prosecution, and some trends in neighborhood based gangs as well as outlaw motorcycle gangs

**Human trafficking:** a refresher course for the definitions of human trafficking and general awareness of the issue facing our country/state, including proactively targeting commercial sex trade and victim advocacy/aftercare concerns.

**Spanish for Law Enforcement:** This class is an overview that will go over some of the most used phrases in law enforcement and how to say them in Spanish, as well as provide a guidebook for quick reference.

**Other topics to be presented include:**

CPR/First aid/AED instructor class

Instructor-lead and topic focused defensive tactic refreshers

New Supervisor Development Class

In addition to the above-mentioned seminar classes, here are some other featured classes for 2026:

**In-service Training for Telecommunicators:** CCJTA will be offering in-service training to our 911 communications personnel in 2026, but in line with coming changes from DCJS, they will be 2-day (16 hour) classes, incorporating legal, cultural diversity, and career development hours. These courses may also include the updated "CIT for Telecommunicators" that the VACIT Coalition has worked with DCJS on.

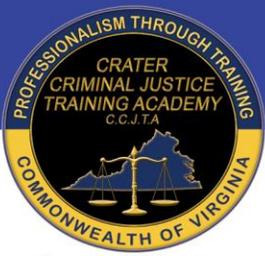
**FBI Seminars:** Over the years, we have hosted several FBI seminars. Once again, this year we hope to be partnering with the Richmond area FBI office to bring some training courses to CCJTA; potential courses may include:

Interviewing & Interrogations

Crisis Negotiations - First Responders

Civil Rights – Hate Crimes

Report Writing



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**IPMBA Police Cyclist Course:** This essential training combines Emergency Vehicle Operations for bike officers with patrol procedures, tactics, night operations, mock scenes, and basic bike maintenance and on-the-road repairs.

**CCJTA Online Training Classes:** CCJTA is continuing our relationship with the Training Response Network (TRN.) Our online training is always expanding, so be sure to check our website often for the latest in online course offerings.

### Vendor Training Classes

CCJTA is also looking at some other training opportunities for the upcoming 2026 calendar year. Some of these will be vendor classes, which may be fee-based, but we will be providing them here, at your academy, at a reduced cost and without the need for travel and lodging.

**FBI-LEEDA Leadership Trilogy:** We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting all 3 parts of the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy in 2026. The dates for each part are listed below and more information, including registration, can be found on FBI-LEEDA's website:

Supervisor Leadership Institute (SLI) will be held 3/16 – 3/20/2026

Command Leadership Institute (CLI) will be held 5/18 – 5/22/2026

Executive Leadership Institute (ELI) will be held 8/24 – 8/28/2026

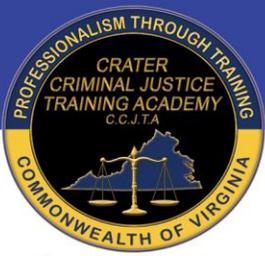
**Prioritizing the Health, Wellness, & Resiliency for Our Employees:** presented by Center for Police Leadership & Ethics. This class will be offered twice, once for supervisors and another time for line staff. This two-day course focuses on the mental, emotional, and behavioral state of law enforcement officers. From the road to the courts to corrections to dispatch, our public safety guardians are exposed to a range of stressors and traumatic experiences that can contribute to a wide variety of mental health challenges. This is an awareness and most importantly, an influence course. Answering the questions "How can I better recognize mental health challenges in others or even myself?", and "How can I better lead/influence those in dark spaces both individually and organizationally?"

### Jailor/Corrections classes

In 2026, CCJTA will, again, be holding Jailor/Corrections general in-service classes most months. We will hold 3-day classes once per half of the year and the remainder will be 2-days, so that our agencies who want their staff to get their mandatory hours done in one shot can do so, but our other agencies may send staff throughout the year, to allow proper staffing in their facilities. Wednesdays of these classes will always be the DCJS-mandated hours of cultural diversity and legal, while the other days of the week will be career development.

**Crisis Intervention Team (CIT):** Two 40-hour CIT classes will be offered in 2026:

March 16-20, 2026



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August 17-21, 2026

We will also be holding a CIT TTT class, with a date TBD.

## **Tactical Training Section**

These comprehensive tactical training programs are meant to meet the needs of our agencies by being cost effective and logistically feasible, as they are offered here and reducing travel costs.

**SWAT Operator I:** 16<sup>th</sup> Session, TBA

**SWAT Operator II:** 13<sup>th</sup> Session, TBA

**SWAT Operator III:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, TBA  
3<sup>rd</sup> Session, TBA

**SWAT Commander:** 5<sup>th</sup> Session, TBA

**SWAT Breacher:** 9<sup>th</sup> Session, TBA

**SWAT Sniper:** 7<sup>th</sup> Session, March 9-20, 2026

**Law Enforcement Protective Operations:** 4<sup>th</sup> Session, TBA

**NTOA (National Tactical Officers Association) Basic Crisis Negotiator:** June 15-19, 2026

**NTOA Sniper I:** March 23-27, 2026

**NTOA Sniper Instructor:** TBA

## **Additional Information**

**Range Master 2026:** This four (4) hour course is a ‘must’ for any agency Firearms Instructor who wishes to use the target controllers. If the Firearms Instructor who is running the range has not completed a ‘Range Master 2026’ course, they will be unable to retrieve the target controllers and shooters will only have access to shoot at the ‘static’ targets. This class will also include a portion on how to run the VirTra system, to provide additional training opportunities, including scenarios.