

BRIDGING THE GAP:

Officers • Clinicians • Researchers • Policy Makers • Community

a collaborative workshop
addressing suicide among police officers

March 22, 2019 8am-5pm
Chicago, IL

FREE for Law Enforcement and Public Safety Personnel



Thomas Joiner is a licensed psychologist and leading expert on suicide. He is the Robert O. Lawton Professor of Psychology at Florida State University, where he operates his laboratory for the Study of the Psychology and Neurobiology of Mood Disorders, Suicide, and Related Conditions. He is author of *Why People Die by Suicide* and *Myths about Suicide*, and is the current editor-in-chief of *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*.

Mark DiBona is a Patrol Sergeant with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office and a Police Academy Instructor. Mark has an extensive Law Enforcement career and has held various positions and assignments. Mark is dedicated to advocating for the elimination of stigma concerning mental health issues, prevention of suicide and self-harm. He is a board member and Public Information Officer for Blue H.E.L.P. He is also a member and The Italian American Police Officer Society.



Michael Sefton is a retired police sergeant who has provided consultation to police departments and first responders in New England at the Direct Decision Institute, Inc. in Massachusetts. He is a licensed psychologist with expertise in risk assessment, aftermath intervention, and stress and resilience. Sefton is a co-author of a Police Chief's Guide to Mental Health Emergencies and has utilized psychological autopsy following suicides. His work with LEO's utilizes a peak performance biofeedback protocol designed to reduce the impact of acute stress reaction and decrease the debility associated with the cumulative stress and trauma in order to build resilience on the job.



Hosted by Daninger Solutions, Inc., BRAVE, & Bethune-Cookman University





Leo Polizoti is a licensed police psychologist and the Director of the Direct Decision Institute in Worcester Massachusetts. He works with approximately 40 police departments and 15 fire departments conducting pre-employment psychological screenings; fitness for duty evaluations; psychological testing for promotional candidates; anger management programs; academy training; stress program training and development; and psychotherapy. He serves as a Training Consultant and Subject Matter Expert to the Municipal Police Institute and the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association. He also writes a monthly article for the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Newsletter on police psychology topics.

Daniel Hollar is the Chair of the Department of Behavioral & Social Science Studies in the College of Liberal Arts at Bethune-Cookman University. For over 12 years, he worked alongside law enforcement at the largest forensic psychiatric hospital in Florida providing treatment, competency evaluations, mental status evaluations and expert testimony. In addition to subcontracted work with Department of Juvenile Justice, he has 15 years of psychological assessment experience; with an expertise in suicide risk assessment. He has co-authored a book chapter on Mental Health Treatment for Diverse Populations and authored a book on Suicide & Eating Disordered Behavior.



This workshop brings together officers, researchers, and practitioners to devise immediately implementable solutions to the problem of suicide among law enforcement. ***We welcome your participation!***

Topics Include:

- Understanding the decision of lethal self-harm
- Improving officer support and risk assessment
- Reducing the stigma of EAP referral
- Building resilience and career self-esteem in the academy
- Identification of signs of stress and intervention following high stress incidents
- Critical incident resilience training
- Peak performance – growing acceptance for mindfulness training

Location:

BRAVE Public Safety and Police Wellness Center
6323 N. Avondale Ave
Chicago, IL 60631

Registration fee: \$175
FREE to Law Enforcement

**[Register at
www.daningersolutions.com](http://www.daningersolutions.com)**

