



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas

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May 3, 2010

Dear Law Enforcement Colleague:

There is a brutal truth in law enforcement... that an officer is more likely to be a victim of suicide than a homicide. More officers die from suicide than from line-of-duty deaths, yet little is being done to address this highly preventable loss.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas is pleased to be one of the sponsors for this FREE 1-1/2 day training to assist you in becoming aware of: the common myths and facts about law enforcement suicide; post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression; recognition of warning signs of suicidal behavior; intervention techniques for officers in crisis; policies and protocols. We are very pleased to be offering this training delivered by experts from around the country.

It is time for agencies to recognize the fact that the extreme stressors their officers face on a daily basis eventually take a toll. Every law enforcement officer, trainer, supervisor, and executive needs to know about the signs of suicide and what steps can be taken to prevent it. The stigma of asking for help must be stripped away and the need for open and frank discussion should be encouraged.

There is still space available and time to register for this very valuable training to protect yourself, your employees and your friends on the job. Please see the attached announcement regarding conference details and registration information.

I hope you or someone from your department will be able to take advantage of this excellent commitment to officer safety and the future of those in your department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "José Angel Moreno". The signature is written in a cursive style.

José Angel Moreno
United States Attorney

Enclosure

IN HARM'S WAY

Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention Conference

May 25-26, 2010
Crowne Plaza Hotel Downtown
Houston, TX

Presented by
Florida Regional Community Policing Institute at St. Petersburg College
United States Attorney's Office – Southern District of Texas
Texas Regional Center for Policing Innovation at Sam Houston State University
Bureau of Justice Assistance, U. S. Department of Justice

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Topics covered during this 1 ½ day conference:

- Awareness of law enforcement suicide
- Common myths and facts about suicide
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression
- Recognition of warning signs of suicidal behavior
- Intervention techniques for officers in crisis
- Policies, protocols, and postvention

This conference is free of charge.

TCLEOSE credits available.

It takes courage to ask for help. Be courageous!

This conference is part of a nationwide effort to inform, educate and provide assistance to law enforcement agencies on the critical issue of law enforcement suicide. This project encompasses three regional conferences, eight train-the-trainers, a speakers bureau and technical assistance.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS CONFERENCE and MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS, GO TO <http://policesuicide.spcollege.edu> AND SIGN UP ONLINE.

Registration deadline is May 10, 2010. Space is limited, so register early!

The host hotel is the Crowne Plaza Hotel Downtown, located at 1700 Smith Street, Houston, Texas. A room rate of \$118.00 per night plus tax is available to conference participants.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The hours of the conference are: May 25 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; May 26 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- A networking continental breakfast will be served both days from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- A working lunch will be served on May 25.
- A certificate will be provided to you upon the completion of the conference.
- Attire is business casual.
- Hotel check-in is 3:00 p.m. and check-out is 12:00 p.m.

For more information about the conference, please contact Laura Heisler at 727-341-4437 or heisler.laura@spcollege.edu.



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice



This project was supported in part by Grant No. 2008-DD-BX-0688 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice, to St. Petersburg College.