



INTEGRATING MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS INTO CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAMS



SCHEDULE

ONLINE

- Course Introduction and Philosophy of Integration
- The “WHY” Behavioral Health Advisors in Crisis Negotiation and History
- Roles, Authority, and Boundaries
- Recruitment and Integration
- Case Study #1
- Operational Use and Legal Issues
- Case Study #2

8 HOURS OF TRAINING OVER 1 DAY

This entire course is conducted online via Zoom through the NTOA’s Learning Management System.

This course is intended for law enforcement personnel assigned to Crisis Negotiation Teams (CNT), Supervisors, Tactical Commanders, and Behavioral Health Professionals involved in or preparing for operational integration into negotiation teams. This course reviews foundational negotiation principles and applies them specifically to the integration of Behavioral Health Advisors (BHAs) into Crisis Negotiation Team operations. Emphasis is placed on role clarity, legal safeguards, information-sharing boundaries, operational discipline, and maintaining unified command. Through instructor-led instructional blocks, facilitated discussions, and structured case studies students will examine both successful and problematic integration models and develop agency-specific implementation strategies.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- The history, purpose, and evolution of behavioral health integration into crisis negotiation operations
- Understanding the role, authority, responsibilities, and operational boundaries of the Behavioral Health Advisor (BHA)
- Legal, ethical, liability, confidentiality, and information-sharing considerations surrounding BHA integration
- Crisis Negotiation Team structure, command relationships, and how BHAs function within operational environments
- Recruitment, selection, onboarding, and integration of Behavioral Health Professionals into Crisis Negotiation Teams
- Communication strategies, behavioral assessment, stress recognition, and decision-making support during crisis incidents
- Common integration failures, role confusion, lessons learned, and strategies for avoiding operational pitfalls
- Practical implementation strategies, case study application, and building a sustainable BHA integration model for agencies