

Officer in Charge

Trainee Name	Date
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As you watch the video, follow along and complete the questions in this guide. You can stop the video and view a section again if needed. The goal is for you to complete this guide and then discuss the material with your designated agency trainer or facilitator.

As a general rule, in the first moments of a critical incident, the first person on scene and the actions that person take will rarely affect the outcome of the incident since all critical incidents are chaotic and disorganized at first.

True _____ False _____

If you are the first officer on the scene of a critical incident and a supervisor is also responding, you should not take charge of that incident. Instead, it's best to wait for the supervisor to arrive to make decisions on necessary actions to be taken.

True _____ False _____

What might be an inherent risk when a law enforcement officer is not responding within his or her capabilities? What might be a risk when that officer is perhaps driving beyond their capabilities and/or does not sound like they are in control of their emotions?

According to a subject matter expert, when a lawsuit is filed against an agency, a key defense against that lawsuit is:

- A. Someone stepping up within the first minute of an incident to “take charge.”
- B. A supervisor being immediately notified of the incident.
- C. How well the officers followed the department policy.
- D. Whether or not an officer deemed “Officer in Charge” had been through formal training.

What are some of the things that should be discussed and/or learned from the debrief of a critical incident?

- A. What was done right?
- B. What was done wrong?
- C. What can be done better?
- D. Debrief is to learn and not to criticize individuals.
- E. Even small things can make a difference.
- F. All of the above
- G. A, B and C only



What was meant by the term, “one year of experience, 20 times?”

- A. A supervisor with one year of experience who thinks they are 20 times better than other supervisors.
- B. An officer who has experience at the level of an officer with only one year on the job, but has been an OIC, more than 20 times.
- C. Someone who has 20 years on the job, but because they have not worked to advance themselves or improve their skills, they really have only one year of experience, 20 times.
- D. A supervisor promoted within the last year, but makes decisions as if he or she had 20 years of experience as a supervisor.

According to the subject matter experts, most agencies and most supervisors/command officers believe it demonstrates weakness when an OIC asks for help or guidance from other supervisors and/or command officers.

True _____ False _____

In the scenario where an officer in briefing is selected as an OIC (Scenario 4), the officer selected to be OIC offers some suggestions to a younger officer seeking advice on how to be an OIC in the future. Which of the following was NOT one of the suggestions given by the selected officer in charge?

- A. Seek specialized training.
- B. Seek input from peers on what they would like to see in an OIC.
- C. Push yourself a little each day.
- D. Try handling something complex, out of your comfort zone.

One subject matter expert refers to the OODA Loop as a decision making model. How was this model described?

- A. Observe, Other Factors, Detailed Analysis, Actions Needed
- B. Observe, Orient, Decide, Action
- C. Outside Influences, Other Factors, Decisions Made, Abilities
- D. On scene, Observe, Detailed analysis, Abilities of officers

Being a respected and effective leader also means that at times you are able to follow others.

True _____ False _____

