

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CASE NO.: 1:15-CV-01046
)	
Plaintiff,)	
vs.)	JUDGE SOLOMON OLIVER, JR.
)	
CITY OF CLEVELAND,)	
)	
Defendant.)	<u>CITY OF CLEVELAND’S</u>
)	<u>REPORT ON OFFICER CRISIS</u>
)	<u>INTERVENTION TRAINING</u>

The City of Cleveland files this report to inform the Court on the training of Cleveland Division of Police (“CDP”) officers in responding to individuals in crisis. An “individual in crisis” is defined in the Consent Decree as “a person in a mental health crisis or who appears to be significantly under the influence of opioids or PCP.” (Dkt. 7-1, *Settlement Agreement*, ¶ 431). The Consent Decree establishes that CDP officers are to be provided with at least eight hours of initial training that addresses how situations involving individuals in crisis should be addressed. (*Id.*, ¶ 143).

The required eight hours of training provided to CDP officers was developed by CDP in conjunction with the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”). The Advisory Committee was developed to “foster relationships and build support between the police, the community, and mental health providers and to help identify problems and develop solutions designed to improve outcomes for individuals in crisis.” (*Id.* at ¶ 132). The membership of the Advisory Committee includes representatives from the CDP, local community, Cleveland Municipal Court, the Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and

Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County (“ADAMHS Board”), and other relevant mental health care organizations. (*Id.*, ¶ 133).

The Eight-Hour Curriculum developed by the CDP with the Advisory Committee to satisfy the CDP’s initial crisis intervention training obligation was reviewed by the Monitor and DOJ and submitted by the Monitor for approval of the Court on May 22, 2017. (Dkt 129, *Motion Regarding All-Officer Eight Hour Crisis Intervention Training*). The Monitor concluded:

[T]he Curriculum reflects an exceptionally high-quality curriculum that follows best practice strategies concerning effective adult learning. The curriculum covers an impressive but reasonable quantity of material within the eight hours provided. It focuses on the type of training that will strengthen the officers’ capacity to respond to individuals experiencing a behavioral crisis and provides enough scope to build a good foundation for future annual in-service training *Id.*, ¶ 143. More specifically, the training addresses the circumstances in which a specialized CIT officer should be dispatched or consulted and addresses how situations involving individuals in crisis should be addressed if a specialized CIT officer is not immediately available.

(*Id.*, p.3). In recommending approval of the Eight-Hour Curriculum, the Monitor further commented:

[T]he training that the Division, Advisory Committee, and representatives of the Cleveland community have collaboratively developed represents some of the strongest and best training on basic crisis intervention issues that the Monitoring Team’s experts have seen across the country. The Monitor commends the extraordinary progress and high-quality work product that the Advisory Committee has generated to date.

(*Id.*) CDP’s crisis intervention training incorporates eight (8) hours of in-class training. The general goals included with this training include providing officers with (1) a better appreciation and understanding of behavioral disturbances that may be associated with severe mental illness, (2) improved communication and active listening skills, (3) an understanding of the advantages of verbal de-escalation in resolving crisis situations, (4) an understanding of CDP’s Crisis Intervention Team response and individual officer responsibilities in dealing with individuals in

crisis, and (5) an overall understanding of CDP’s Crisis Intervention Team program and the goals and policies associated with the program.

2017 Officer Crisis Intervention Training

There are 1435 CDP officers who have been identified as potentially eligible to receive the eight hour crisis intervention training. As of the date of this report a total of 1347 officers (approximately 94 % of CDP’s officers) have received and completed the eight hour crisis intervention training required by the Consent Decree. The scheduling and completion of training necessarily takes into account limiting factors that affect the present eligibility of officers to be trained. A final crisis intervention training class is scheduled to be completed on December 15, 2017.

A review of crisis intervention training undertaken in 2017 provides:

Officers Potentially Eligible for Training:	1435
- Officers Trained to Date:	1347
- Officers to be Trained (December 15):	17
- Officers Not Trained:	<u>71</u>
Total	1435

The 71 officers not trained in 2017 include:

- Officers on extended medical leave:	38
- Officers on restricted duty status:	22
- Officers scheduled to retire in 2017:	2
- Officers on extended military leave:	3
- Officers on extended probationary period:	6

It is anticipated that all of CDP’s active, eligible officers will have received the required eight hours of crisis intervention training before the end of this year. .

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the City of Cleveland's Report on Officer Crisis Intervention Training was filed electronically on November 27, 2017. Notice of this filing will be sent to all parties by operation of the Court's electronic filing system. Parties may access this filing through the Court's system. Pursuant to the requirements of the Consent Decree the Monitor Team has been delivered a copy of this filing.

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