



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
February 10, 2016

Contact: Deputy Jim Bickel for LA Sheriff's Dept
Mobile: 909-518-2516
Contact: Becky Warren for City of Industry
Mobile: 916-607-0129

**Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Industry Station Completes Six-Week
Hands-On Mental Health Training for Officers**
City of Industry Provides Critical Funding for Special Training

Los Angeles, CA – The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Industry Station completed a six-week training course today focused on mental health and recommended response methods when encountering related issues in the field. This training will be unique to the Industry Station, with a focused segment on autism, funded by the City of Industry.

"Industry Station is being proactive when it comes to addressing mental health in the field to avoid using force whenever possible," said Captain Timothy K. Murakami, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Industry Station. "Thanks to the support from the City of Industry, our deputies will be able to participate in a robust and hands-on program that goes above and beyond the status quo."

The program, taught by Autism Interactive Solutions, will provide a focused two-hour session specifically on how to address autism in the line of duty. This specialized session provides hands-on training, including a decision making simulator to help sheriffs better determine the appropriate use of force in these unique situations.

"This training is a first of its kind for the L.A. Sheriff's Department in terms of local station one-day training opportunities for patrol deputies, particularly with regard to the use of a simulator and the in-depth presentations, which include the integration of affected families," said Lieutenant John Gannon. "In 28 years on the Department, I felt it was one of the more memorable training experiences that will have a lasting impact for me and for the Industry Station deputies going forward."

According to Autism Interactive Solutions, with the rates of autism increasing every year, the number of high-profile incidents involving this population is on the rise. The program aims to provide effective education in autism identification, safety and communication tactics.

"As a mother to an autistic son, I, like many in the San Gabriel Valley, appreciate this forward-thinking program that will better equip law enforcement on mental health issues," said Mayor Pro Tem Cory Moss. "This type of hands-on program will support local law enforcement and better protect our residents."

For information on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Industry Station, please visit:
<http://shq.lasdnews.net/pages/patrolstation.aspx?id=IDT>.

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