



Basic Field Training Officer (FTO) Course

Hosted by the York County, NE Sheriff's Department

Description:

This Basic Field Training Officer Course is specifically designed for experienced employees serving as Field Training Officers in any capacity within their department. Using the San Jose Model as its core, this course features the “best practice” legally defensible evaluation process used in public safety agencies nationwide. This course is designed for all categories: sworn law enforcement officers, corrections officers, or communications operators who conduct on-the-job field training of newly hired employees.

Topics include:

- Basic FTO program concepts and philosophies
- Standard evaluation guidelines (SEGs) and the evaluation process
- Adult learning strategies
- FTO program-related legal issues
- The recruit training checklist, training strategies, and remedial training
- The daily observation report, rating scale application, and other program forms
- Ethics and Burnout dilemmas facing all FTOs

Dates and Cost: July 28-31, 2025 | 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | \$400 registration fee

Location: York County Sheriff's Department

510 N. Lincoln Ave.

York, NE 68467

Seminar Contact: Sgt. Taylor Samek | 402-362-4927 | tsamek@yorkcountyne.gov

Instructor: Dr. Steve Rathman

Dr. Rathman is a law enforcement veteran with over thirty years of experience who has served in all capacities of the field training and evaluation program. During this time, Dr. Rathman has acted as a field training officer, provided leadership, supervised and managed field training programs, developed evaluation programs utilized by federal, state, county, and municipal agencies, and trained numerous field training officers and supervisors. Dr. Rathman holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska, a Master of Arts degree in Management from Doane University, a Doctorate in Strategic Leadership from Liberty University, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy-216th Session, Quantico, VA. With extensive practical experience in his areas of specialization, Dr. Rathman serves as an adjunct professor of practice in the College of Business at Doane University in Nebraska and as an adjunct professor in the College of Professional Studies at Peru State College in Nebraska. He is also certified as a professional law enforcement instructor in the state of Nebraska.