

Ethical Decision Making: Policing with Principled Insight

Ethical Decision Making: Policing with Principled Insight, an eLearning course, explores the practice of decision making and the ethical principles that support effective policing with a focus on perspective, purpose, obligation, and integrity. Take a thought-provoking journey that explores the practice of decision making and the ethical principles that support effective policing.

This course emphasizes that police ethics are not just an after-thought or a means of discouraging bad behavior; instead, ethics are a controlling insight that inform and guide police practitioners from an internal, personal capacity. Join a 2500-year-old conversation on ethical decision making while exploring realistic, modern-day challenges faced by policing professionals. Recognizing that for policing professionals, public trust, integrity, and liability hinge on every decision, this concise and relevant course addresses the realities of policing in the 21st century.



Learning Hours:

4 hours

Target Audience:

Law enforcement practitioners, criminal justice and public safety professionals, and other community stakeholders.

Completion Standards:

Certificate of Completion awarded based on assigned learning hours and minimum 80% score on post course assessment.

Portal course sessions are active Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of each year and course content must be completed by December 31 to earn your certificate.

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Learning Objectives

- *Define and identify characteristics of ethics*
- *Explain the concept of "A Priori" knowledge (Thinking Backwards) as a means of building a body of ethical knowledge*
- *Explain the concept of a controlling insight and a delineated process for developing it as part of ethical decision making*
- *Discuss the relationship between effective community policing and ethical decision making*
- *Discuss the concepts of Perspective and Paradigms and their relationship to ethical decision making*
- *Discuss the relationship between effective community policing and ethical decision making*
- *Explain the concept of De-Policing and its relationship to ethical policing practices*
- *Access the Police Ethical Navigator (PEN) and apply module content in completing the PEN activities and exercises*
- *Explain the concept of Purpose and its relationship to Perspective and ethical decision making*
- *Discuss the fundamental purpose of policing in terms of societal stability*
- *Explain the concept of Virtue Ethics in terms of a sense of obligation and ethical decision making*
- *Explain the concept of Formalism in terms of a sense of obligation and ethical decision making*
- *Explain the concept of Utilitarianism in terms of a sense of obligation and ethical decision making*
- *Explain the concept of Integrity as it relates to choice and ethical decision making*
- *Identify the steps of the decision making process*
- *Explain the relationship between ethics and the science and mechanics of the decision making process*
- *Identify the physiological processes involved in decision making*
- *Identify the role that awareness plays in ethical decision making*
- *Explain strategic approaches that tend to improve ethical decision making*

Cooperative Partners:

This tuition-free online training was developed by the Virginia Center for Policing Innovation (VCPI) and funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

Visit the **COPS Portal** and get started in under 5 minutes!



No-Cost | Web-Based | On-Demand