

TOPIC: Funding for State, County and Local Law Enforcement agencies for trauma-based training

I would like to see the legislature prioritize funding for police departments throughout the state, including officers, supervisors, and staff.

Most law enforcement professionals are not trained adequately in how to discharge the excess energy that is in their bodies during and after a traumatic event. They don't know how to calm their fear responses in a tense situation.

All I have to name is Treyvon Martin, Adam Toledo, George Floyd and dozens of others for you to know what I mean. There needs to be ongoing trainings to address the reflexive, fear-based responses that often arise and too often end up in tragedies..

We live in a country where people of color are often fearful for their safety and even their life while participating in normal life activities, such as shopping, driving, walking and playing; where there constant vigilance creates ongoing traumas. We live in a country where many law enforcement officers are on edge when involved with what used to be simply routine encounters with the public.

Law enforcement needs to be trained just as well in how to calm themselves in high stress, high tensions situations as they are trained in the use of their firearms.....maybe more so.

Thank you for you time.