

The Responder

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Website Edition

Lt. Robert Speer Featured Spring Trainer

Evaluations from the Spring training expressed appreciation to Lt. Robert Speer for his valuable perspective on SWAT. His presentation provided a better understanding of the stress involved with each SWAT call-out. The supporting videos allowed the team to see real life unfold with all its anxious and unexpected moments.

As second responders, AR-CRT can integrate the candid information into improved methods of responding to law enforcement. Lt. Speer encouraged us to not be afraid to ask an officer what he needs. Like others in the midst of a critical incident, first responders need to be heard and have the opportunity to ventilate and be validated. Listening is still our greatest tool in an intervention.

Lt. Speer said, "AR-CRT and local crisis teams have provided



*Lt. Robert Speer
SWAT Commander
Arkansas State Police*

invaluable service to the law enforcement community over the past few years. It is essential that crisis counselors understand that the first words they say to an officer after a critical incident can start the healing process for that officer or cause great emotional damage."

AR-CRT congratulates Lt. Speer, his SWAT team and Arkansas State Police for its recent recognition as the top State Police team at the 2006 World SWAT Challenge held at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock.

The Spring Training Session concluded with a panel discussion on suicide call-outs. Participants were from SEACRT, Faulkner County CRT and Methodist Family Health CRT.

