



LAW ENFORCEMENT MESSAGE

THE 988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE BECOMES OPERATIONAL NATIONWIDE ON JULY 16, 2022

On July 16th, “988” will become the [nationwide 3-digit dialing code for crisis and suicide prevention](#). This new resource for those in crisis may impact the law enforcement and first responder community.

Agency leaders should review the Risk Analysis - [Phone and Communication Mandates Impacting Law Enforcement](#), issued June 2021, that addresses considerations associated with 988 in New Jersey, Kari’s Law, Ray Baum’s Act, and VOIP and 911.

As the new 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline rolls out in New Jersey, agency leaders are reminded of the available live webinar, *Violence Prevention and Risk Considerations for CIT Trained Officers and Mental Health Professionals*. Although the course title specifically mentions CIT Officers, this course is ideal for any officer who may respond to a call for service involving a person in a mental health crisis and for agency leaders and commanders responsible for policy and procedure development. This course addresses numerous elements of the New Jersey Extreme Risk Protection Order Act, and the recently revised New Jersey Use of Force Policy that should be well understood by police officers in light of the possible increased demand for police response to mental health incidents as 988 becomes more widely known.

The course is 1.5 hours in length, and registration is available for two upcoming sessions:

[August 8, 2022, 0900-1030](#)

[September 20, 2022, 0900-1030](#)

If you have any questions, please contact your J.A. Montgomery Law Enforcement Risk Control Consultant