



## Advanced 24-hour School Resource Officer Course Outline and Objectives

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The NASRO Advanced School Resource Officers Course is a twenty-four hour (24) block of instruction that focuses on more advanced techniques for the School Resource Officer. Topics covered include law updates, technology and social media, improving communication with administrators and information on current youth-related topics. Participants will also spend two hours at a school building conducting a “Site Assessment.”

The Course is designed for any law enforcement officer working in an educational environment. This course, following the SRO Triad model, advances the SRO's knowledge and skills as a law enforcement officer, informal counselor, and educator.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Learn strategies to work closely with school administrators on problem solving and crime prevention strategies.
- Develop a better understanding of the causes and solutions for school violence.
- Conduct a site assessment on the school buildings within their school district.

**PREREQUISITES:** It is recommended that participants attend the NASRO Basic SRO course prior to attending the Advanced SRO course.

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY:** This course uses a combination of classroom and interactive techniques, lecture, power point presentations, video presentation, handout materials and practical scenarios

**METHODS OF EVALUATION:** Successful completion of the course requirements will be measured by participant participation and the CPTED presentation on the final day of class.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Participants of the Advanced class will be allowed to miss no more than 10% of the course time. Individuals who miss more than the allowed time will receive “certificates of attendance” rather than the standard “certificate of completion”.

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

### **I. Introduction**

### **II. Leadership and Working Effectively with the School Community**

#### Module Rationale and Overview:

Leadership is a quality that all Advanced SRO's need to demonstrate in all aspects of their day to day duties. This module will discuss why this leadership role is so vital to the success of any school -based policing program. This module will also examine how the SRO will utilize exceptional leadership qualities to work effectively with school staff, administration, students, parents, and the community.

#### Learner Objectives:

- The learner will understand the importance of effective leadership and how this leads to a more efficient partnership with the school community.
- The learner will gain a better understanding of the overall structure of the school community and how the structure impacts their role as a SRO.
- The learner will reflect upon their own personal experiences with the school community and identify ways they could enhance their communication skills to become more effective.
- The learner will reflect upon ways he or she can improve their skills as an SRO in the triad areas of Law Enforcement Officer, Informal Counselor, and Educator.

### **III. General Legal Updates**

#### Module Rationale and Overview:

School resource officers play an essential and unique role in campus safety. Each officer remains sworn to enforce and uphold the law while taking on the added task of assisting educators in maintaining a safe climate. The goal of this module is to strengthen your understanding and clarify the school/SRO collaboration within the bounds of what the law requires and allows.

This module is designed to provide generalized information regarding the continual legal decisions that potentially or directly impact the daily duties and responsibilities of the school resource officer and the school team.

#### Learner Objectives:

- The learner will be able to locate available legal issue related resources to address local school/district concerns and questions.
- The learner will be able to explain how the generalized legal updates have a potential relationship to their school/district's current needs.

#### **IV. Interviewing Skills for the SRO**

Module Rationale and Overview:

This module will focus on the school resource officer conducting student interviews in a school setting. To conduct successful interviews, the school resource officer will administer active listening skills to get the interviewee to elaborate on the topic being discussed.

Learner Objectives:

- The learner will achieve an understanding of active listening skills.
- The learner will achieve a basic understanding of interviewing skills.
- The learner will be able to conduct a successful interview by using active listening techniques.

#### **V. Technology and Social Media Online Based Investigations**

Module Rationale and Overview:

This module will give the school resource officer an understanding of the types of online based incidents that they are likely to encounter along with a logical approach to investigating these incidents. This module will provide information, resources, and skills helpful in online investigations. In addition, you will gain insight to enhance your student Internet safety prevention programs.

Learner Objectives:

- The learner will gain an awareness of the most common online based crimes affecting students.
- The learner will be able to merge traditional investigative skills with the element of technology and understand a logical progression of investigative steps for online crimes.
- The learner will have the ability to retrieve online/cellular based information and be able to distinguish the various types of information, how long it may be available, and the legal process needed to retrieve the information.

#### **VI. Threat Assessment**

Module Rationale and Overview:

The purpose of this module is to guide school and law enforcement personnel in the establishment of threat evaluation teams. With this information schools, and those that reside in them, will be better able to make informed decisions regarding threats of varying degrees and suggestions on how to deal with those who make the threats.

Learner Objectives:

- The learner will recognize some commonalities of youth in crisis.
- The learner will be able to formulate a composition of a threat assessment team and their functions.
- The learner will be able to assist in establishing responses to various threat levels.

## **VII. Incident Command System for Schools**

### Module Rationale and Overview:

The purpose of this module is to give school resource officers the knowledge to assist their schools in applying the Incident Command System. The module includes an overview of the National Incident Management System and local Emergency Operations Plans which will aid an SRO in connecting the school plan to the larger community.

### Learner Objectives:

- The learner will have an increased understanding of the application of the Incident Command System to an educational environment.
- The learner will have a better understanding of the National Incident Management System and how it may impact schools.
- The learner will have a basic knowledge of a local Emergency Operations Plan.

## **VIII. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design**

### Module Rationale and Overview:

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) will assist the school resource officer in the prevention of unwanted activity around the school by creating a sense of ownership and the perception of a safe and welcoming setting to enhance the learning environment.

### Learner Objectives:

- The learner will be acquainted with physical and behavioral elements that make students feel safe or unsafe.
- The learner will gain an understanding of the CPTED concept and six principles from which improvement strategies may be developed.
- The learner will be familiar with of how CPTED may be applied in a school environment.

## **IX. Skills Assessment**

### Module Rationale and Overview:

During this module, participants will apply information and skills learned within the NASRO Advanced Course to an on-site practical skills assessment. Participants will show mastery of skills learned by creating a presentation of the assessment findings.

### Learner Objectives:

- The learner will use skills and knowledge learned from previous modules and apply them to a practical assessment.

# NASRO Advanced School Resource Officer Training Agenda

## Day One

8:00am	9:00 am	Registration, Welcome, Introductions, Course Overview
9:00am	10:30am	Leadership and Working Effectively with the School Community
10:30am	12:00pm	General Legal Updates
12:00pm	1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	2:00pm	General Legal Updates
2:00pm	5:00pm	Interviewing Skills for the School Resource Officer

## Day Two

8:00am	10:00am	Technology and Social Media
10:00am	12:00am	Threat Assessment
12:00pm	1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	2:00pm	Threat Assessment
2:00pm	5:00pm	Incident Command System for Schools

## Day Three

8:00am	12:00am	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
12:00pm	1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	3:00pm	CPTED: Practical Exercises and Reports
3:00pm	5:00pm	Skills Assessment

### **Day One**

Day one begins with a brief overview of school based policing programs and the history of the SRO program. The importance of the SRO in a leadership role and effective communication will be discussed. General law updates will be explored by participants. The day will conclude with interview skills for the SRO.

### **Day Two**

During day two, participants will learn the latest in technology and the impact on the school environment. Participants will also discuss threat assessment tools and Incident Command for the school setting. Focus will be given to the SRO's role on the school safety team.

### **Day Three**

Participants will participate in specific crime prevention techniques designed for the educational environment. A major portion of the day is spent in an overall school safety assessment incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principals. Hands-on, practical applications are utilized, as participants will be required to visit a local school (when possible) and complete a comprehensive site survey of the campus. Time is allowed for presentation preparation. Discussions allow for participants to seeking advice, additional information, or the opportunity to share experiences with the class. A course review takes place before evaluations and closing.