

SWAT Liability

“Why Are We Getting Sued?”

Course Overview

This course is designed to help officers and agencies understand and manage liability risks in tactical, SWAT, and emergency response contexts. It examines recent and foundational court decisions that define acceptable standards of police conduct and highlights the growing landscape of civil litigation against law enforcement. Participants will gain practical knowledge of liability exposure under both civil rights and tort law and develop strategies for risk reduction and compliance with legal standards.

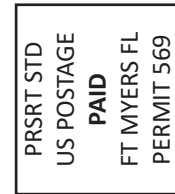
Key Themes

- **Litigation Trends:** Understanding the surge in lawsuits against police officers/agencies and how Supreme Court rulings shape liability.
- **Tort Law Exposure:** Recognition of state-level tort claims (e.g., negligence, wrongful death) and how they intersect with civil rights litigation.
- **Use of Force:** Deep dive into deadly and non-deadly force, including key precedents (*Tennessee v. Garner*, *Graham v. Connor*) and recent cases on pepper spray, positional asphyxia, less-lethal tools, and K-9 deployment.
- **Proactive Risk Management:** Identifying risk areas, applying qualified immunity correctly, and structuring agency policies to reduce exposure.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- False Arrest / Malicious Prosecution / Seizure Issues
 - Analyze claims of unlawful arrest or seizure
 - Understand evolving case law and apply it to tactical operations
- Duty to Protect / Public Duty Doctrine
 - Explain the limits of duty to protect and how courts interpret the public duty doctrine
 - Evaluate liability when officers fail to act or when harm occurs despite intervention
- Arrestee Suicides / Medical Needs of Prisoners
 - Identify liability risks when custodial suicides or medical neglect occur
 - Apply best practices for supervision, monitoring, and intervention
- High-Speed Pursuits & Emergency Vehicle Operations
 - Understand liability tied to vehicle pursuits and emergency response driving
 - Review balancing of exigency vs. public safety through recent case law
- Supervisor & Agency Liability
 - Learn how supervisory failures can result in personal and agency liability
 - Explore deliberate indifference and failure-to-train claims under Section 1983 Monell liability
- Risk Assessment & Risk Reduction
 - Conduct agency-level risk assessments
 - Develop strategies to reduce exposure through training, supervision, and policy updates
- Qualified Immunity
 - Apply the qualified immunity doctrine in operational and courtroom contexts
 - Recognize its limitations in tactical and SWAT deployments
- New Legal Trends in Police Liability
 - Examine emerging case law (e.g., review of officer conduct leading up to force incidents)
- Anticipate future challenges in use-of-force, technology integration, and public accountability



Legal and Liability
Risk Management Institute
700 N. Carr Rd., #595
Plainfield, IN 46168

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November 9, 10 & 11, 2026 • Corpus Christi, Texas

TRAINING SEMINAR

SWAT Liability

“Why Are We Getting Sued”

November 9, 10 & 11, 2026
Corpus Christi, Texas

SPONSORED BY:

Corpus Christi Police Department
Corpus Christi, Texas

TCOLE Credit Will Be Provided to Each Attendee

★ **LLRMI Experienced Instructors** ★
Make the Difference

Instructors

Jack Ryan, Attorney
Captain (Retired)
Providence Police Department
Providence, Rhode Island

Register On-Line at: www.llrmi.com



Legal & Liability Risk Management Institute

James R. Alsup, Director

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Seminar Agenda

Monday, November 9, 2026

8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 – 9:00 am	Opening & Introduction/Course Overview
9:00 – 10:00 am	Overview of Liability in Law Enforcement Operations
10:00 – 11:00 am	When is the Agency Liable for the Actions of Officers?
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Documented Training, An Inexpensive Step to Avoiding Liability
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch (On Your Own)
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Liability in Tactical Operations
2:00 – 3:00 pm	High Risk Warrant Service/No Knock Warrants
3:00 – 4:30 pm	Selection of the Team/Training the Team

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

8:00 – 9:00 am	When you Fail to Prepare, You Prepare to Fail – Pre-Operation Intelligence and Planning
9:00 – 11:00 am	Pre-Shooting Events – The Wrong Tactical Approach May Lead to Liability
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Confronting the Mentally Ill and the Emotionally Disturbed/Suicide By Cop
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch (On Your Own)
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Hostages and a Duty to Protect/Enhancing or Creating the Danger
2:00 – 4:30 pm	Regional Tactical Units/Understanding Liability

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

8:00 – 10:00 am	Supervisory Liability for Special Response
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Policy Development for the Special Response/Emergency Response/SWAT/Tactical Units
12:00 pm	Certificate Presentation

Instructor Bio:

Jack Ryan is an Attorney in Rhode Island, a graduate Juris Doctorate, Cum Laude Suffolk University Law School and has20 years of law enforcement experience as a police officer with the Providence Police Department, Providence, Rhode Island.

Jack’s law degree and experience as a police officer gives him the unique perspective of public safety legal and liability issues. Jack is a former adjunct faculty member at Salve Regina University and lectures frequently throughout the United States. He has authored several legal publications, including the LLRMI Best Selling “Legal Guide for Law Enforcement Officers and Supervisors” – an annually updated quick reference guide to U.S. Supreme Court case law impacting law enforcement policies and procedures. Jack has authored “Law Enforcement Best Practices” 6th Edition,“Jail and Best Practices” and Emerging Legal Trends for SWAT, Tactical and Emergency Response Operations.” Jack has written policies and procedures that have been adopted by over 1,000 law enforcement and corrections agencies across the United States.

3 Ways to Register

Register Online at www.llrmi.com
Fax Form to: 317-386-8228
Mail Form to: Legal and Liability Risk Management
700 N. Carr Rd., #595
Plainfield, Indiana 46168
Federal ID: 81-0692135



If you have any questions please call: 317-386-8325

❖PREPAYMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER❖

Upon receiving your registration we will send an Invoice to your department or agency. Checks, claim forms, purchase orders should be made payable to LLRMI.

Seminar Title:	SWAT Liability “Why Are We Getting Sued”
Seminar ID:	#17382
Dates:	November 9, 10 & 11, 2026
Registration Time:	November 9, 2026, 8 am
Instructors:	Jack Ryan
Seminar Location:	Police Training Academy 6902 Yorktown Blvd Corpus Christi, Texas 78414
Hotel Reservation:	Hilton Garden Inn 6717 South Padre Island Drive Corpus Christi, Texas 78412 1-361-991-8200 \$119.00 King Bed (Plus Tax)
Group Code:	C-LLRMI To receive special room rates, please identify yourself with this group code.
Registration Fee:	\$350.00 SWAT Liability “Why Are We Getting Sued” Training, Printed Training Manual and Certificate of Completion



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