



POLICE DEPARTMENT

US Deputy Sheriff's Association

Dear Sponsors,

On behalf of the SC training Officers Association and the Williamston Police Department it is with great appreciation that I write this letter in recognition of the Tactical Entry training provided by instructors Mike Willis and Dave Hanners October 26 and 27, 2013 at Palmetto High School. The Williamston Police Department in partnership with the United States Deputy Sheriff's Association, Palmetto High School, School Districts 1 and 2 Career and Technology Center, and Battlecat Sports were able to provide Active Shooter training to law enforcement students across the upstate of South Carolina.

Among the participating agencies participating were Williamston Police Department, Belton Police Department, West Pelzer Police Department, Anderson Police Department, and the State Constables Association.

Small town and rural police officers face a variety of trends that make it increasingly difficult to provide police training in the traditional way. Statistics show that incidents of crime are increasing in small towns and rural areas and the methods of response must also be adapted to meet the challenge. Most of the school shootings across this nation have happened in small rural and suburban towns. The need for small town law enforcement officers to obtain this training is vital to the ability to provide adequate protection to its citizens, however funding can be difficult to secure for such initiatives.

This course which was provided at no cost greatly assisted patrol officers from smaller agencies who may initially have to face an active shooter crisis with limited resources and they were trained to function as multijurisdictional teams therefore reinforcing their abilities to respond to such crisis.

The training provided by Mike and Dave was informative, relevant, and desperately needed by officers in attendance. I believe this training has enhanced officer safety as well as their abilities to provide protection to the communities they serve.

Sincerely

Kevin Marsee

Captain