

Seven Fatal Tendencies & Ten Deadly Errors

Session Materials

Seven Fatal Tendencies of Slain Officers

1. Service oriented at the expense of safety
2. Tended to use less force than peers
3. Tended to use force later than peers
4. Tended to shortcut rules and procedures
5. Acted without waiting for backup
6. Relied heavily on “reading” people
7. Dropped their guard when “good” was perceived in the offender

Ten Deadly Errors

1. Failure to watch offender’s hands
2. Apathy toward suspect
3. Lack of rest (tired, sleepy, or asleep)
4. Tombstone courage
5. Preoccupation
6. Missing danger signs/pre-attack indicators
7. Taking a bad position
8. Relaxing too soon
9. Improper search or use of handcuffs
10. Failure to maintain proficiency with weapon, vehicle, or equipment

