



SHERIFF VIC REGALADO

UNDERSHERIFF GEORGE W. BROWN

## **TULSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

303 W. 1ST ST. TULSA OK 74103

### **TCSO ANNOUNCES OFFICER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The Tulsa County Sheriff's Office announces the implementation of a new Officer Assistance Program, (OAP) for all employees of the office. This program will include the identification and training of eligible candidates within the Sheriff's Office, for critical stress management and crisis response.

The training began with three members of TCSO's Chaplaincy Corps, whereas one fulltime and two volunteer chaplains recently received suicide prevention and peer support training which was held in Tulsa. In June, 15 members of the office will begin receiving peer support training and certification in crisis response, to be used as part of a Crisis Response Team or CRT. Any member of the Sheriff's Office may call upon a CRT member to assist during times of crisis, such as officer involved shootings, work-related stress or any other situation which may warrant a need.

"We have placed a lot of focus on meeting the needs of the public, which creates constant demand on deputies and members of the Sheriff's Office", said Undersheriff George Brown. "Many routine situations place stress on our law enforcement professionals, which in turn, draws upon the families and loved ones during times of crisis. This type of training combined with a solid Officer Assistance Program, will only prove to enhance the performance of our law enforcement personnel and hopefully increase the mental and emotional health, which so often gets drained by the demands of the job".

The program will serve not only deputies and detention officers, but also support personnel and their families if needed. It will extend past the Sheriff's Office and will be offered to other law enforcement agencies who may not have such resources available and have requested assistance with crisis management.

The OAP is being utilized for the first time this week. The Tulsa County Sheriff's Office is providing these resources as well as the use of our Chaplaincy Corps and color guard to the Craig County Sheriff's Office as they grieve the loss the Dep. Sean Cookson.

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