



## Law Enforcement Training Advisory Commission

840 S. Spring Street, Suite B • Springfield, IL 62704

Phone (217) 726-7014 • Fax (217) 726-7833 • Email [letac@mtu10.com](mailto:letac@mtu10.com) • Website [www.letac.org](http://www.letac.org)

Bruce Liebe, Director

# Interviewing Children

**February 2, 2024**

**8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Lincoln Police Department**

710 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Lincoln, IL 62656

*This course has been approved and certified for the following mandates: Civil Rights (.5hrs), Constitutional/Proper Use of LE Authority (.5hrs), Crisis Intervention (.5hrs), Human Rights (.5hrs), Procedural Justice (3hrs), Lead Homicide Investigator (8hrs), School Resource Officer (Officer & Youth Interaction (8hrs)*

**Course overview:** This course has been designed to provide officers with additional methods and information for interviewing juveniles in criminal investigations. This course will provide a framework for interviewing juveniles who are victims or witnesses to crimes, such as domestic violence, homicides, batteries, etc.

Emphasis will be placed on practical exercises conducted throughout the course. This course will utilize case vignettes for practical application.

Topics to be discussed:

- Interview settings for juveniles
- Child development and cognitive abilities
- Cognitive evaluation
- Types of questions – From open-ended to leading
- Trauma informed interviewing
- Interviewing aides
- Stages of a juvenile interview
- Establishing timelines with juveniles
- Blocks to interviewing juveniles – Disabilities and Mental Health issues.

While issues of domestic violence to children and sexual assault of children will be discussed, it is not the intent of this course to teach those types of interview techniques specifically.

**Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board Mobile Team Unit #10**

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**Instructor:** **Danielle Butts** is the Founder and CEO of All Our Children's Advocacy Center, located in Justice Illinois. Danielle has her Master's in Social Work and is trained as a Forensic Interviewer. Danielle has conducted over 5,000 forensic interviews of children over the course of her 24 year career at AOCAC. Danielle specializes in a trauma-informed, child-focused approach when working with children ages 3-17. Danielle has also been a law enforcement instructor for the past 16 years. Danielle is currently the instructor for the 40hr SRO Certification course, 16hr SRO Recertification course, Juveniles Case Review course, 8hr and 16hr Sexual Assault course and Extreme Ownership as Applied to Law Enforcement course.

**Non-Member Tuition:** There is no non-member tuition for this class, as it is covered under a School Resource Officer grant.

**To Register:** Email registration to [register@letac.org](mailto:register@letac.org). You may also fill out and submit our online registration form through the website at [www.letac.org](http://www.letac.org) or call 217-726-7014 to register by phone (be sure to include all pertinent information). **MTU#10 Members will be given the preference up until two weeks prior to the scheduled course. Once the two weeks are up, all others will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, we cannot accept registrations from individual officers. All registrations must go through your Chief, Sherriff, or department training office, even if you are attending class on your own time.**

**Cancellation:** If a class must be canceled for any reason, every effort will be made to do so at least 2 weeks before the class is scheduled to begin. However, there are circumstances where last minute cancellation is out of our control. All officers who have been registered for training will be contacted at the email address given at registration, so please be sure to provide an email address which is checked often.