

## **Instructor Biography – Dustin Kulling, M.Ed.**

Captain Dustin Kulling's twenty-four-year law enforcement career started at one of the smallest agencies in the state of California. After seven years of service, he left at the rank of Sergeant to work as a Deputy Sheriff in his home county of San Joaquin.

Dustin worked in a number of assignments as a Deputy Sheriff, with a strong emphasis in narcotics investigations. Early in his career, he was CSTI-trained as a Hazardous-Materials Specialist. Having safely dismantled numerous clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, he is locally regarded as an authority in their investigation and safe processing. A seven-year assignment at the San Joaquin County Metropolitan Narcotics Task Force brought him throughout the west coast, where he conducted several years-long wiretap investigations of large-scale drug trafficking organizations with other local, state, and federal agencies. Dustin worked undercover at METRO, developing extensive expertise in surveillance and narcotics culture. He is a court-certified expert in methamphetamine production and narcotics sales.

In addition to patrol supervision, as a Sergeant, Dustin supervised the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Hostage Negotiation Team. His emergency management experience is recent; as a Lieutenant in 2017 he worked with a County Office of Emergency Services Incident Management Team, appointed as an Incident Commander in the Unified Command for a large-scale protracted disaster event. Also, as a Lieutenant he worked as a SWAT Commander, oversaw the Marine Safety Unit, coordinated a robust volunteer program, coordinated Search and Rescue, and functioned as the agency's Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator to state, local, and federal agencies.

As a Lieutenant, Dustin was responsible for transitioning newly promoted Sergeants into Field Forces, providing critical, agency-specific training concerning the work of first-line supervisors. Dustin is the Sheriff's Office Incident Command System instructor, and a Crisis Intervention instructor.

Dustin is servicing a two-year term as a Committee Member for the Region IV Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC), he is a Lifetime Member of the California State Sheriff's Association Foundation, a member of the California Association of Hostage Negotiators, and a member of the California Narcotics Officer's Association. Dustin completed FAA UAS Pilot licensing and authored the sUAS (drone) deployment for the Sheriff's Office.

Dustin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Liberty University, graduating magna cum laude, and a Master of Education: Higher Education – Instructional Design and Technology, graduating with High Distinction. Dustin is an Advanced POST Instructor. He is currently attending the exclusive P.O.S.T. Command College (Class 66) and will begin a Ph.D. in early 2020.

He is currently the Captain of Field Forces, where he leads a division of over 240 sworn and non-sworn staff members, providing front-line law enforcement services to the community. He is an Ambassador for the organization "Yoga for First Responders," teaching staff to achieve peak

performance and process stress constructively. Dustin teaches the P.O.S.T. “Principled Policing” course, and solely developed the newly certified P.O.S.T. “Principles of De-escalation” course.

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