

# What We Don't Know About CIT

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# WHY?

“I was seriously tripping [having a flashback] when I got arrested. The officer put his hands on me, and I went right back to the last time I was raped. And I fought like hell...Ever since I've been here, I can't trust anyone. If someone moves towards me too fast, I'll just go off. And then I have nightmares all night long.”

*21-year old woman detained in urban jail*



# CIT Officer Intervenes

**I do not even know how to begin to “Thank You” for your class/session “Improving Police Encounters with Returning Veterans” at the CIT Conference in Atlanta. I have been home just over a week and was already confronted by a Marine OIF with PTSD!**

**Your video helped me interpret reckless driving and anger as possible PTSD symptoms...It saved us from having to go hands on because I was able to reach out with the verbal skills I learned in your class and this situation not escalate.**

**In fact, because of that same video and that scenario where the VET had the handgun, I was able to ask the right question “do you have any weapons?”. He looked me straight in the eye and began to weep and asked me to take the weapon for safekeeping until he felt he was ready to have it back. What a heart wrenching sight to have this honorable Marine hand over his weapon to me.**

**I gave him and his wife the Veteran Suicide phone number that I put in my contacts during your class/session. On Monday, I will contact the VA in my area and have them follow-up. THANK YOU will all my heart.**



# Dispositions of Cases Handled by a Specialized Police Response at Three Sites

<b>Disposition<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Birmingham (N=100)</b>	<b>Knoxville (N=100)</b>	<b>Memphis (N=100)</b>
<b>Taken to treatment location</b>	20	42	75
<b>Situation resolved on the scene</b>	64	17	23
<b>Referred to treatment</b>	3	36	0
<b>Arrested</b>	13	5	2

# Call Resolution – Las Vegas

- 485 (74%) Hospitalization
  - 344 (71%) Involuntary
- 25 (18%) Onsite resolution
- 6 (4%) Arrest
- 6 (4%) Treatment referral

*Skeem & Bibeau (2008)*

# Dispositions of Mental Disturbance Calls – Akron, OH\*

CIT training status <sup>a</sup>		Transport to psychiatric emergency services	Transport to other treatment facility <sup>b</sup>	Transport to jail	Police interaction, no need for transport <sup>c</sup>	Total %
<b>Before CIT</b>		25.8%	13.4%	6.5%	54.3%	100%
<b>After CIT</b>						
	<b>Non-CIT-trained officers</b>	26.6%	12.3%	5.2%	55.9%	100%
	<b>CIT-trained officers</b>	32.8%	15.9%	7.0%	44.3%	100%
<b>Total</b>		28.0%	13.6%	6.0%	52.4%	100%

\*Adapted from “Crisis Intervention Team Training for Police Officers Responding to Mental Disturbance Calls.” J. Teller et al, Psychiatric Services 57(2): 232-237, February 2006.

# Making CIT

- Training
- Attitude Change
- Behavioral Change
- Policies / Procedure Change



# Outcome Measures for CIT

- Injuries
- Use of force
- Arrests
- Referral / Transport for Treatment





# Need, But Don't Know

## Training

- Type
- Amount
- % Trained



# Need, But Don't Know

## Attitude Changes

- What
- How Much
- Associated Individual Factors  
(e.g. military experience, age,...)



# Need, But Don't Know

## Behavior Changes

- Attitude links
- Type of changes
- Who does better
- Influence on fellow officers



# Need, But Don't Know

## Policies and Procedures

- Dispatch
- Chain of command
- Paperwork
- Drop-off procedures

