**Handling Animals (Animal Response & Handling) for Law Enforcement Officers**

 Police Officers encounter dogs, cats and other animals (including wildlife) in the course of their normal investigative and response activities.

It is estimated that 47% of the 3.5 million households in NJ have a domestic animal. Each year police departments receive unwanted criticism for shooting a domestic pet. The Department of Justice estimates that 25 pet dogs are shot every day by law enforcement across the United States of America.

Police Officers often sustain bites & injuries that might have been avoided had they had a better understanding of animal behavior and how to handle each encounter safely.

This course will cover the following topics which will help officers deal safely and effectively with situations when animals are present:

Where do animals fit in the family hierarchy

How dogs and cats behave in stressful situations

Communication techniques to use with animals and their owners

Animal Aggression (why animals lash out and bite)

Equipment used to de-escalate situations

Safe capture techniques

Dealing with Injured or Sick animals

Animal Safe Transport

Wildlife encounters

Non-lethal versus lethal approach

Resources available for assistance

Being confident and calm when animals are involved

This 4 hour course is specifically designed for all law enforcement officers who encounter animals in the course of carrying out their daily duties. All materials and a certificate of completion are included.

The instructor is:

Geoff Goyette, ACO, ACI, NJCEM,

Vice President of Training & Development, Career Development Institute

Mr. Goyette is a New Jersey Certified Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator who worked as an Animal Control Officer and Manager of Animal Control & the Animal Shelter for a township serving six municipalities (200,000 residents) where 100’s of animals were rescued, cared for, behavior modified, and re-homed annually. He co-founded an all-volunteer 501c3 animal rescue organization.

He is an instructor in the NJ Certified Animal Control Officer Course and Animal Cruelty Investigator Course. He holds numerous state certifications including being the first and only animal control officer and animal cruelty investigator to be certified as a NJ Emergency Manager through the NJ Emergency Management Commission. He is a NJ Certified Police Training Commission Instructor. He has completed over 50 FEMA and animal related courses. He is the Bureau Chief of the Middlesex County Animal Response Team (CART).

In 2011, he was recognized by the United Way as a “Hometown Hero” for his volunteer work with animals. His teaching partner, who passed away in February 2017, was a state and nationally recognized certified therapy & canine good citizen golden retriever named Belle who was inducted into the New Jersey Veterinary Association Animal Hall of Fame in March 2014.

For questions and additional information please contact:

**Career Development Institute** 732.821.6997