

**:WHITEPAPER:**

# **Law Enforcement Training Limitations**

*Part 4*  
**Training Efficiency**



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## **SUMMARY**

Time is a valuable resource that few law enforcement agencies can afford to waste. Unfortunately, when it comes to training, the vast majority of products and solutions available are often very inefficient. Instead of actually running exercises and training for all types of situations, personnel are spending time preparing, cleaning, and shutting down areas after use. When time is wasted, so is money. iCOMBAT presents a solution for maximizing force-on-force training efficiency, saving time and money for more important things. Get more reps in thus being far more prepared in real-world situations.

## Problem

Law enforcement training today is rife with inefficient training products and methods. Hours and hours of time are wasted and funding can quickly be drained because of that. Personnel must be paid during training and the equipment used must be purchased. Plus, certain training products require a special area to use them in, meaning it has to be booked and rented for the time used.

Transportation to and from such places are also a drain. Law enforcement agencies should seek out training solutions that allow them to quickly get started and spend more time training.

The average law enforcement training program in the United States requires a certain amount of hours spent training. How much of this time is wasted *preparing* for the training? Would law enforcement officers benefit by spending more time doing instead of waiting? Less tax payer dollars would be wasted and more lives would be saved.

One of the most expensive and time consuming training options today is Simunition. Simunition provides a realistic training experience, but at a high cost. Aside from outfitting everyone's firearm to fire the Sim round and purchasing the rounds, an appropriate area must be secured. Then preparation of the protective gear, loading magazines, and going over safety rules takes time. Any law enforcement officer who has trained with Simunition will tell you that it's dangerous. Therefore, the training must occur in a special area. Finding and getting to that area might add a lot of time. If Sim training is taking place in an approved area such as a normally public building, hours of clean up may be required as well. Overall, training with Simunition, although somewhat effective, is not very efficient.

Then there are training methods such as paintball and airsoft. These types of training run into the same problems as Simunition, but on a larger scale. They are few and far between, making training areas harder to find.

Last but not least, training occurs with various Virtual Reality systems. The biggest problem with these types of training platforms is not every department or agency can afford them. Huge start up costs often outweighs the amount of times they will be used and the value of the experience provided. Part of training efficiency is find the most rewarding training experience at the lowest cost.

## Solution

In contributing an Officer.com training article entitled *Confessions of a Training Instructor*, Dennis Haworth explains "...we cannot become outdated and ignorant to better, more efficient and tactically sound ways of getting the job done." This holds true in all aspects of law enforcement training, whether it's driving technique, armed response, or tactical training. When a law enforcement agency equips itself with iCOMBAT training systems, they begin using one of the most efficient training products available. The system allows for very quick training. Simply prep a few SmartMag's and go.

Since preparation is much simpler, exercises can be run over and over again with little wasted time. With iCOMBAT, there is also little to no clean up involved so training can occur for longer periods of time. More technique and methodology can be learned and rehearsed, leading to better prepared officers on the street. No gear conversions are needed. Officers training can power on the gear and instantly begin.

No time is wasted finding the right place to practice. iCOMBAT allows training to occur anywhere, so time finding an area is reduced. Programs can schedule training in virtually every building in the area, including the police department!

In an Active Shooter Training event held at the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater in 2011, iCOMBAT hosted roughly 8 departments over a weekend to train in 6 different scenarios using iCOMBAT equipment. Officers we're able to train for two days straight, in multiple exercises, with plenty of reps. Scenarios included classroom shooters, school bus and vehicle shooters, stairway and hall clearing, and more. The total cost was \$50 per officer.

In another 2011 training event in Santa Barbara, CA, iCOMBAT provided systems for 2 days of training. Multiple SWAT and police teams ran through a variety of exercises and spent \$200 total on supplies. That's \$5 an officer for 2 days of training! *Equipment was leased for free.*

In 2013, over 16 departments (450 officers) trained for 2 months in NE Wisconsin with iCOMBAT equipment for a cost of only \$5,000.

For more information on how iCOMBAT systems can benefit your law enforcement agency, please visit [www.iCOMBAT.com](http://www.iCOMBAT.com) or call 888-950-1221.

## **References**

<http://www.officer.com/article/10226552/confessions-of-a-training-instructor?page=2>

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