



*‘Suicidal in Seattle’
Suicide by Cop Case Studies*

*Presented by
Sergeant Bill Waltz & Officer Bruce Wind, Ret.*

With a combined total of 62-years patrol experience and 40-years of Hostage/Crisis Negotiation experience, Sergeant Waltz and Officer Wind will present ‘*Suicidal in Seattle*’.

After an overview of current academic thinking of this phenomenon, these two experienced police negotiators will present two case studies showing violence that street cops and negotiators can experience on any day.

First, a textbook example of suicide by cop. Tom Morgan had suffered from mental illness for years, but no one, including his immediate family, knew the depths of his pain. Then one morning in December he killed his brother and sister-in-law, and then summoned the Seattle Police Department to end his pain. This was a classic example of suicide by cop with all the warnings signs and a few twists along the way.

Second, a subtle example of law enforcement assisted suicide. Robert Estrella was a thirty year old who struggled with methamphetamine addiction and domestic violence abuser. On a sunny March afternoon in Seattle, police confronted Robert as they responded to yet another chapter of domestic violence and court order violations. This time Robert took his infant son hostage and stood face to face with negotiators. The ending is predictable but the signs of suicide were not so obvious.

Sergeant Waltz and Officer Wind hope to provide you with an informative look at how the Seattle Police Negotiation Team performed during these two incidents.

Our goal is to be both educational and entertaining.

Stay safe & sane,

Bruce A. Wind

“Your presentation was outstanding! Bill and Bruce not only talk the talk, they’ve walked the walk. Armed with extensive personal street experience in dealing with suicidal individuals, they share their insights and observations with officers who need to understand these highly charged and extremely dangerous incidents. FBI national statistics demonstrate that police negotiators are far more likely to deal with suicidal subjects than any other type of individual, often threatening to harm others in addition to themselves. Bill and Bruce provide a dynamic one two punch which provides both meaningful information and practical guidance. This is a must see presentation for all active crisis (hostage) negotiators.”

Gary Noesner, FBI Retired Unit Chief, Crisis Negotiation Unit

Bruce Wind and Bill Waltz gave a detailed, relevant and informative presentation to the annual East Midland Regional Training event in Lincoln, England, November 2007.

Delegates commented that they found the input to be professionally presented and given with the appropriate use of humour. The audio and video product provided was of high quality and both officers had a wealth of experience in crisis situations that established their credibility amongst an audience of negotiators whose experience ranged from newly-trained to those who have been deployed as UK negotiators abroad in international crisis situations.

I would certainly recommend 'Suicidal in Seattle' as a 'must see' presentation to crisis negotiators at all levels as an invaluable training input.

David Wheeler, Chief Superintendent, Lincolnshire Police, Lincoln, England