Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy Certifies Its Fourth Graduating Class

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) announces its fourth graduating class from the Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy (FLEAA). The 27 analysts in this graduating class represent 21 local and state law enforcement agencies throughout the state. These 27 join 70 graduates from the previous three academies, totaling 97 trained analysts that FDLE's academy has certified since its charter graduation on November 21, 2003.

The goal of creating the Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy was to establish and provide a uniform training curriculum for the area of law enforcement intelligence analysis. FLEAA was rolled out, in June 2003, to the entire Florida law enforcement community. It has served to enhance the area of law enforcement analysis by providing analysts with the specialized set of skills needed to provide law enforcement with the information and intelligence required to successfully prevent crime and conduct complex investigations.

Analysts are often those who develop a lead, identify a connection between affiliates, or determine the location of a suspect. The role of analysis in a law enforcement agency is to support the investigative, intelligence, and planning activities of the agency.

The new war on terrorism has placed a premium on a higher level of analysis with the primary function of predicting and preventing criminal activity. Funded through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to advance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies throughout the state, FLEAA is a highly specialized training program for crime intelligence analysts assigned to anti-terror investigations. Available to the entire Florida law enforcement community, FLEAA is a standardized advanced training curriculum in intelligence analysis, data management, and crime pattern analysis.

The only formalized program in Florida to establish and provide a uniform training curriculum for the area of law enforcement intelligence analysis, FLEAA was developed in response to recommendations of the *National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan* (NCISP) and the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) Intelligence Working Group (GIWG).

The six-week academy provides uniform training curriculum to arm its participants with criminal and intelligence analysis skills that are used by law enforcement and other emergency responders. Prerequisites include working as an analyst for at least one year, completion of the 40-hour basic analyst class, and 40 hours of approved basic computer classes. The academy also creates an opportunity for interagency networking.

The value of competent and professional law enforcement analysts in support of investigations continues to become even more evident. The anticipated impact of intelligence-certified analysts is enhanced investigative outcomes and professionalism among this critical investigative support position.