

December 3, 2007

Libby,

Thanks for a very "interesting training" class. I hope that you do not think ill of me, as I often "push back" in a concerted effort to understand things that are being presented to me. I do not do so, just to be obstinate.

Believe it or not, I have taken your information to heart and actually have used it at home and at work.

At home, I am becoming a better communicator and more supportive of my family as often times, police officers have a tendency to believe and portray themselves as the "all knowing, all seeing." I did qualify my approach at home with my wife because I didn't want her to think that I had completely walked off my rocker. Just to make a long story short, the clearing the swamp, and dealing effectively with confrontation without guilt or conflict has worked well. I guess you can teach old dogs new tricks. With your techniques, I have found that just the mundane operations of the home can be shared if each person understands what you "really want to say and what expectations that you really have." I specifically want to tell you my fourteen year old son really appreciates you as I received a bright light from you when you fully explained what "common sense" is. That was a real stumbling stone for me and I was absolutely amazed at your flow of info on that. I would love to share that pearl with you on a one to one as it was earth moving for me.

Thank you.

Now, at work I was amazed that so far.....IT WORKS!!!! I had a very nice talk with my Lt. that I have never had before and I actually had input that I wanted to share. I reviewed some of the things that we covered in class and he was receptive but a little hesitant, telling me "as long as it doesn't become a burden, you can do it" He bought off on my suggestions for better supervision.

With the officers that work with me on shift, I was very honest and told them that I had something that I wanted to share with them that would make me a better supervisor and make their lives easier, specifically the Performance Log. I gave them copies of the log, explained the form, made appointments for a meeting and have actually had one of those meetings which proved very productive and worthwhile. The officer told me, at the conclusion of the review meeting that he really felt that he benefited from the meeting and we both agreed on future training that would be beneficial to him. We also agreed on another meeting on 12/16/07. Good Stuff. The second meeting is forthcoming and I will keep you posted.

I know that there are so many other facets to this class, but for now, what I am using is working well for me. I will broaden my horizons as time and other circumstances allow. I just have to keep telling myself that I don't sound phony and that I truly believe that a better work environment can be had by confronting without guilt.

Thank you again and it was a pleasure meeting you.

Sgt. Jerry Lingle
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