

# East Central Illinois Mobile Law Enforcement Training Team

MTU #13

## Course Announcement



### Interviewing Children

May 22nd, 2025

0830-1630 Hrs

Denny Stewart Police Training Center

3121 Dewitt Avenue

Mattoon, Il.

Submit enrollment to:

Registration form at

[www.mtu13.com](http://www.mtu13.com),

[ecimlett@gmail.com](mailto:ecimlett@gmail.com)

Or call 217-345-3344

**COURSE OVERVIEW:** This course has been designed to provide patrol officers, investigators, or juvenile officers with additional methods and information for interviewing children in criminal investigations. Interviewing children requires a special skillset.

This course will provide a framework for interviewing children who are victims or witnesses to crimes. Our instructor conducts over 125 forensic interviews of children per year.

EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON PRACTICAL EXERCISES CONDUCTED THROUGHOUT THE COURSE. THIS COURSE WILL UTILIZE CASE VIGNETTES FOR PRACTICAL APPLICATION.

Topics to be discussed include the following:

- Interview settings for children

- Child development and cognitive abilities – What should your expectations be for different age groups

C- ognitive evaluation

- Types of questions – from open-ended to leading

- Interviewing aides

- Stages of a child interview

- Establishing timelines with children

- Blocks to interviewing children – Disabilities and Mental Health issues

#### **Observed Mandates Include:**

**Civil Rights**

**Constit. Use of Proper LE Authority**

**Crisis Intervention**

**Human Rights**

**Procedural Justice**

**LHI Refresher**

**Ofc. Youth Interactions**

While issues of domestic violence to children and sexual assault of children will be discussed, it is not the intent of this course to teach those types of interview techniques specifically.