

**F**irst responders (police, firefighters and EMTs) constantly face extreme levels of personal danger. Our first responders frequently deal with desperate, traumatic, and emotionally exhausting scenarios. They encounter the worst societal evils known to humanity on a daily basis. Therefore, it is not surprising that statistics show our first responders are at the highest levels of risk for:

- Suicide
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Substance Abuse
- Divorce

While mental health care professionals can help first responders on an emotional and mental level, there is growing awareness of the need for chaplains in providing “spiritual first aid.” ***The safety and wellbeing of our communities is directly linked to the mental and spiritual wellbeing of our first responders.*** Life Line Chaplaincy exists to offer spiritual support for our brave first responders and their families as they face these crises.

photo: Lindsay Perry, *The Stamford Advocate*



**Life Line Chaplaincy**, a not-for-profit corporation, is governed by a board of directors that reflects the highest standards of excellence in pastoral ministry, chaplaincy, not-for-profit management, financial management, and business. For a complete list of directors, email: [info@llchaplaincy.org](mailto:info@llchaplaincy.org)

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#### Gary Coffman

*Owner, ASM Law Enforcement Consulting, LLC, Titusville, FL; DEA supervisor (retired); former police officer, Broward County, FL*

### Funding

**Life Line Chaplaincy** is a not-for-profit corporation registered with the State of Connecticut and is funded through the generous contributions of corporate donors and sponsors, as well as by tax-deductible contributions by individual donors and sponsors. To contribute to this vital service for our first responders, visit “Funding” on our Website:

[WWW.LLChaplaincy.org](http://WWW.LLChaplaincy.org)



### LIFE LINE CHAPLAINCY

*serving first responders ... in crisis*

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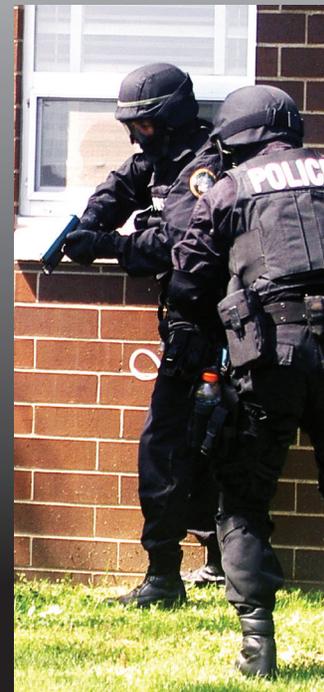
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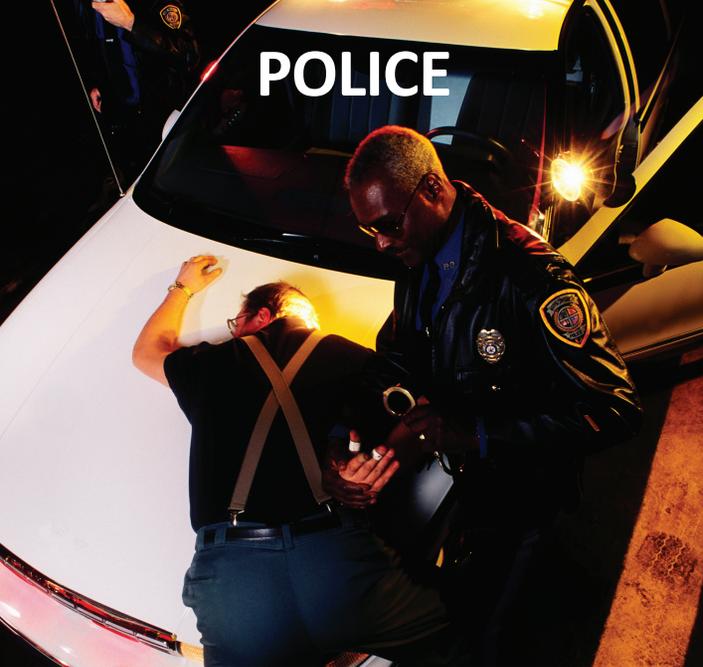
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# LIFE LINE CHAPLAINCY

*serving first responders ... in crisis*





**POLICE**



**EMTs**



**FIREFIGHTERS**

## Vision

Our vision is to offer spiritual aid for first responders and their families in SW Fairfield County, CT, and SE Westchester County, NY, by helping them cope with the crises they face, resulting in a positive impact on their lives and their communities.

## Objectives

**To be available to help first responders deal with traumatic events and scenarios, such as:**

- Sandy Hook/Newtown and similar events
- Terrorist attacks
- Loss of life (particularly involving children) from fire, accidents, and violence
- Death of immediate family members
- Serious Illness
- Traumatic investigations involving child porn, child abuse or neglect, sexual trafficking, homicides, and suicides
- Serious work-related injury

- Suicide of a family member
- Coping with PTSD, through one-on-one listening and providing counselors for formal and informal gatherings

**To cultivate relationships with first responders so that they feel comfortable calling when there is a need by:**

- going on “ride alongs” with officers
- meeting informally over breakfast or lunch
- keeping regular hours at HQ

**To strengthen marriages and families by:**

- Providing online marriage resources for first responders and spouses
- Distributing free literature designed to help spouses understand each other
- Scheduling free marriage and family seminars for first responders
- Offering free basic marriage and family counseling

**To provide “Ministry of Presence” by being on-site with first responders when they encounter a crisis scenario.**

**To develop a network of trained chaplains available**

**to serve the various municipal departments in SW Fairfield and SE Westchester Counties as volunteers or in part-time capacities.**

## Unique Value

**Independent** — We receive no funding from and have no formal links to local, state, or federal agencies. First responders need not fear that their personal and critical situations may somehow make it back to their employers.

**Faith Oriented** — We are available to address the spiritual needs of those who acknowledge a spiritual need and request assistance.

**Unrestricted Access** — We are available to people of all faiths or of no faith.

**Extensive and Need-specific Training** — Primarily through the *International Critical Incident Stress Foundation*, the source of crisis interventions models used in U.S. armed forces, U.S. law enforcement agencies, and first responder agencies throughout the U.S.