



Tony Pustizzi

Tony Pustizzi began his career with the Coral Springs Police Department in 1988. Over his 30-year tenure, he supervised every unit within the agency with a strong emphasis on investigations, including homicide and special victims. Additionally, he served on the SWAT team for 15 years, the last eight of which as team commander. Tony rose through the ranks to ultimately become chief of police in 2012. He also served as the city's interim city manager and retired in March 2018 as the chief of police/deputy city manager. In January 2019, Tony came out of retirement to serve as the special counsel to the new sheriff of Broward County upon his appointment by the governor of the state of Florida.

He graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in criminology and law and received a master's degree in public administration from Florida Atlantic University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the Southern Police Institute Command Officer's Course, FBI's LEEDA course, Center for Creative Leadership Program and Florida Atlantic University's Executive Leadership Program.

Tony has served as state president for the Florida chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, the chair for the National Benchmark Cities Chief's Association, an executive board member of the South Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program, and an executive board member of the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association.

As owner of Four Star Strategies, Inc., Tony conducts training throughout the country on school and workplace violence preparedness. He has also been a keynote speaker at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia and is a presenter with the FBINAA's School Shooting Prevention Leadership Forum and the School Safety Advocacy Council.

The Parkland School Shooting Through a Police Chief's Eyes

Designed especially for... law enforcement and fire/ems commanders; school superintendents and administrators; university and college administrators; school resource officers and supervisors; school security directors

Presented by

Tony Pustizzi
Coral Springs Police Department - Chief of Police (Retired)

On February 14, 2018, a former student entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida, killed 17 innocent people and injured another 17 students. Chief Tony Pustizzi (Ret.), a 30-year veteran with the Coral Springs Police Department, along with members of his agency, arrived at the school within minutes. A complex law enforcement approach, including stopping the shooter and extracting victims from within the school, was initiated. He will discuss many of the issues that ensued in communication and leadership that he observed that day and the unique challenges he experienced from his perspective.



Learning Objectives:

Attendees will gain an understanding of the events that occurred that day as well as in the year following this tragic event from Chief Pustizzi's unique perspective as one of the on-scene commanders. He will review his department's response to the shooting and provide an analysis of the lessons learned. Attendees will leave with an understanding of the unique circumstances that contributed to the overall response and communication issues. Some points: dispatch and multi-jurisdictional issues (federal, state and local), active killer training and officer preparedness, coordination with family members (during and after the event), tactical considerations, media and political trap doors.

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