QUICK-GUIDE ON HOW TO MENTALLY SURVIVE AS A POLICE OFFICER

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A QUICK GUIDE TO:

A. STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINING A POSITIVE PERSPECTIVE THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

TAKING CONTROL - DICTATE YOUR ROUTINE CONSCIOUSLY MAKING AN EFFORT

- 1. MEDITATION
- 2. EXERCISE
- 3. READING
- 4. YOGA
- 5. ELECTRONICS
- 6. SURROUND YOURSELF WITH POSITIVE
- 7. SELF-TALK MINDSET
- B. POLICING IS NOT WHO YOU ARE BUT WHAT

YOU DO

☑ DO

× DON'T

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MEDITATION

- RELIEVE STRESS
- FIGHT DEPRESSION
- FIGHT ADDICTION
- **✓** IMPROVE SLEEP

EXERCISE

- **EXERCISE CAN HELP YOUR MOOD IMPROVE**
- OF YOUR TIME, 20-45 MINUTES OF FOCUSED AND INTENSE EXERCISE IS GOOD.





- ALLOWS YOU TO BETTER ADAPT TO TENSE AND UNPREDICTABLE SITUATIONS BY EXPLORING **ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS.**
- MORE ADAPTABILITY TO STRESSORS, MEANS THE LESS EFFECTS
- IT IS INSPIRATIONAL, MOTIVATIONAL AND **CONSTRUCTIVE**

YOGA

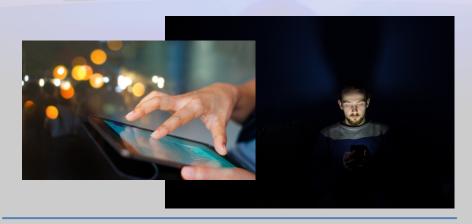
- PROMOTES THE BODY'S ABILITY TO SELF-HEAL (SHOULD BE PRIORITIZED OVER PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTION, IN MY OPINION).
- PHYSICAL BENEFITS: IMPROVES PHYSICAL
 FLEXIBILITY, STRENGTH, LUNG CAPACITY,
 METABOLISM, WEIGHT LOSS, CARDIAC HEALTH, AND
 MUCH MORE.
- THE MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS: HELPS TO PREVENT A MYRIAD OF STRESS- AND INFLAMMATION-RELATED DISEASES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO HEART DISEASE, CANCER AND STROKE.



ELECTRONICS

- UNCHECKED USE OF ELECTRONICS CAN HARM MENTAL HEALTH.
- NIGHT TIME USE OF ELECTRONICS: THE BLUE LIGHT IMPEDES
 BODY'S ABILITY TO DISTRIBUTE MELATONIN. LESS
 MELATONIN MEANS DISTURBED SLEEP, AND ENSUING
 DEPRESSION, AND SUICIDE RISK.
- CHECKING YOUR PHONE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING "DOPAMINE LOOP": MEANS YOU SEEK MORE THAN YOU ARE
 SATISFIED, YOU ARE ADDICTED TO NOTIFICATIONS.

 DOPAMINE DEFICIT IMPLANTS SOME NASTY THOUGHTS IN
 YOUR HEAD.
- REGULATE AND CONTROL YOUR DEVICE/SOCIAL MEDIA USE.





- GET RID OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEGATIVE INFLUENCES
- SURROUND YOURSELF WITH POSITIVE PEOPLE WITH POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON YOU
- INFLUENCE NEGATIVE CO-WORKERS INTO A POSITIVE PERSON

SELF-TALK AND MINDSET

- CONSTANTLY DREAMING ABOUT RETIREMENT IS ACTUALLY A FORM OF NEGATIVE SELF-TALK.
- MINDSET CAN ACTUALLY IMPACT PHYSICAL HEALTH
 VIA THE MIND-BODY CONNECTION. EVEN MORE
 RELEVANTLY, IT CAN FEED THE THOUGHT PATTERNS
 THAT LEAD TO DEPRESSION, PTSD, ANXIETY, AND
 YES SUICIDE.



B. POLICING IS NOT WHO YOU ARE BUT WHAT YOU DO

DON'T

ALLOW YOUR CAREER TO DEFINE YOU: IT IS

DAMAGING A MENTALITY.

WHEN POLICING BECOMES WHO YOU ARE, YOU HAVE
INTERNALIZED IT IN AN UNHEALTHY WAY.

DO

- REMEMBER WHO YOU WERE BEFORE YOU BECAME
 AN OFFICER AND YOU'LL FIND WHO YOU WILL
 BECOME AFTER YOU'RE AN OFFICER.
- LOVE WHAT YOU DO, BUT DON'T CONFUSE IT FOR WHO YOU ARE.
- HELP YOURSELF BUT GET HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT.
 YOUR MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS.

NONE OF THESE STRATEGIES WILL WORK UNLESS YOU WORK ON THEM. TO LEARN MORE, <u>CLICK HERE.</u>

BE WELL AND STAY SAFE.

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