



Preparing for and Responding to Political Violence in the Community

As political polarization, ideological friction, and civil unrest increasingly intersect with community operations, emergency managers, first responders, and human service professionals face an evolving threat landscape. *“Preparing for and Responding to Political Violence in the Community”* offers a behavioral science-informed perspective on understanding, mitigating, and managing political violence before, during, and after critical incidents. Rather than focusing solely on physical security or tactical response, this session examines the psychological drivers, warning signs, and social contagion effects that fuel targeted unrest. Participants will gain insight into how behavioral risk management frameworks can help agencies anticipate volatile flashpoints and navigate the behavioral complexities of community disruption.

This practical, one-hour webinar bridges behavioral science and operational readiness to strengthen multi-disciplinary collaboration across public safety, local government, and community health organizations. Attendees will explore actionable models for identifying concerning behaviors and pre-incident indicators, applying de-escalation and risk-communication strategies during heightened tension, and managing acute psychological impacts across affected populations. Whether preparing for election cycles, contentious public forums, or spontaneous demonstrations, professionals will leave equipped with structured behavioral tools to foster community resilience, safeguard personnel, and mitigate the cycle of ideologically driven violence.

Wednesday, October 27, 2026 | 10:00-11:00 am EDT

Registration is required at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0b9idHk5Qzy2lTXU86PH7g

About the Instructor

Steve Crimando, MA is the founder and principal of Behavioral Science Applications LLC. He is an emergency and disaster behavioral health clinician, educator and crisis responder with four decades of field experience. Steve is a Certified Threat Manager (CTM) with the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP), a Certified Master Instructor with U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (NTER) program, and a certified Disaster Response Crisis Counselor (DRCC). He served as a Field Operations Supervisor for FEMA’s mental health response to the 9/11 attacks in New York City, coordinated psychological operations at New Jersey’s Anthrax Screening Center, assisted at major incidents including the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, a Unabomber strike, several hurricanes, and multiple air crashes, and has assisted many individuals, communities and organizations following incidents of mass violence and terrorism.