

STAY ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH "LEFT OF BANG"

When law enforcement officers are serving their community, they're constantly making critical decisions. But, when faced with a difficult choice, how do they know which direction to take?

"LEFT OF BANG" is a timeline where "BANG" is Time Zero and is in the middle of the line. "BANG" is whatever event you are trying to prevent from occurring. (Drug deal, shooting, ambush, bombing, etc.)

BANG

< PROACTIVE

REACTIVE >

Getting LEFT OF BANG is being able to identify some of the pre-event indicators that exist before a crime is committed and gives us time to be **PROACTIVE**. We have the tactical advantage and initiative.

If you are Right of Bang, the event has already occurred and requires us to be **REACTIVE** in our response to the criminal's actions. The criminal has the initiative.

LEFT OF BANG is not just a point on an abstract timeline, but a state of mind that requires that we re-examine our situational awareness.

Being LEFT OF BANG is about being able to intervene earlier on the attack timeline and prevent criminal acts from occurring.

Identify baseline or normal activity

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Look for the anomalies by asking:

- What's here that shouldn't be?
- What's not here that should be?

Law Enforcement training needs to focus on training that keeps us LEFT OF BANG:

- Identify pre-incident Indicators
- Regardless of whether we have two seconds, two minutes or two hours, the goal is always to get LEFT OF BANG.



W.I.N. = WHAT'S IMPORTANT NOW?

Asking ourselves this question often helps keep us in a proper mindset or state of awareness so we will prioritize our mission, the threats and our actions.



COLONEL JOHN BOYD'S "OODA LOOP" DECISION CYCLE

Colonel John Boyd's "Ooda Loop" Decision Cycle is critical to keep top of mind. Make sure you're able to Observe, Orient, Decide and Act quicker than your opponent.



BASELINE + ANOMALY = DECISION

Situational Awareness – Being aware of something, while valuable, does not automatically lead to connecting the dots that results in the correct action needed. We can generally recognize when something is wrong with someone's behavior. To be LEFT OF BANG we need to have a state of **Informed Awareness** in order to generate the correct immediate hypotheses and follow through.

