



Out To Protect

Education And Support For Law Enforcement Professionals

Media Information

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ABOUT THE BOOK:

Coming Out from Behind the Badge – 3rd Edition

Released: January 1, 2023

6"X9" 336 pages

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022918066

Hardcover ISBN: 9781667870182 Suggested Retail Price: \$39.95

Publisher: Book Baby

Wholesale Distributor: Ingram Books, Baker & Taylor, NACSCORP, Bookazine, Diamond Comics, BPD Inc.

Recommended Categories: Self-Help, Health and Sexuality, LGBT Studies, Law Enforcement, Diversity Studies, Anthologies

FROM THE BOOK INTRODUCTION:

"It's been nearly 20 years since I wrote Coming out from behind the Badge and so much has changed. In 2004, same-sex marriage was a pipe-dream former San Francisco Mayor, Gavin Newsome attempted to make real. In 2015, marriage equality became the law of the land and same-sex couples can marry in all 50 states. We are finally really talking about non-heterosexuality and gender identity in schools, in the workplace, and even in law enforcement training. I've always said, and still maintain, that law enforcement is 20 years behind the rest of society in its acceptance and understanding of diversity. In the 1970s and '80s, it was racial diversity and women that were issues of struggle in law enforcement. Today, it's gay and transgender people. The good news is that change is happening."

This new edition is focused on promoting LGBTQ+ awareness within law enforcement and all other first-responder professions. You will find some of the same stories as well as many new and updated ones in this book. I have included all of the basic knowledge

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needed for delivering LGBT awareness training along with a new chapter on LGBTQ+ terminology and an updated and expanded section on LGBTQ+ history. This includes LGBTQ+ history that is relevant and important for law enforcement personnel to know. Like many minority groups that have had to fight for equality and civil rights, LGBTQ+ people have clashed with law enforcement. Over the last century and a half, LGBTQ+ people have been targeted by police in ways that have left scars and a lack of faith and trust in law enforcement. It is important for anyone in law enforcement to know the origins of these scars and of the events that contribute to the lack of trust many LGBTQ+ people still carry with them.

I chose, "LGBTQ+ Awareness for Law Enforcement and All First Responders," as a subtitle to connect the content of this edition of the book with the LGBT awareness training taking place across the United States in public safety agencies large and small. I've been so inspired by the work trainers are doing to improve the cultural competence of first responders and I hope this book will support this work as a text for college classes as well as a resource for trainers. Of course, it goes without saying that this book is also intended to help any individual who is struggling to come out and to live their life as they were born to be. Coming out is a significant and life-changing event that is often surrounded by tremendous fear and shame. But coming out is so very worth it and the experience of having done it is one I will always consider the most significant of my life.

I hope that you appreciate and enjoy the stories contained in these pages. Each one is special and unique, but I am confident you will find commonality of experience and advice. I hope you learn from the experiences of everyone who shared their journey. If you are searching for a way to "come out," look for it here. And if you are an ally, student, or colleague, I offer you an explanation and insight to the LGBTQ+ community. Thank you for taking the time to learn."

FROM ABOUT THIS BOOK:

Coming Out from Behind the Badge is a book intended to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ+) law enforcement and other professional first responders who are seeking a way to "come out" and be successful on the job. It is also intended to educate heterosexuals (persons attracted to the opposite sex) and cisgender people (persons who identify their gender in a way that is consistent with their birth sex) to better understand differences in sexual orientation and gender identity and how to support their colleagues.

In addition, this edition of Coming Out from Behind the Badge was written to support students who are preparing for a career in law enforcement and those already in the field



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seeking a better understanding of a large segment of the community which law enforcement serves.

The book is intended to serve as a text for instructors providing LGBT awareness training for law enforcement and other first responders. It is an ideal read for law enforcement leaders and executives who seek a better understanding of how to create an inclusive workplace for LGBTQ+ employees. It includes instruction for how a law enforcement agency can build a trusting relationship with the community and how to create an LGBT Liaison Program.

NEW IN THIS EDITION

- All of the content you need to provide LGBTQ+ awareness training.
- A new chapter on terminology.
- A new chapter on serving the community and LGBT Liaison Programs.
- An updated and expanded history of law enforcement and the LGBTQ+ community.
- New and updated stories and interviews.
- New content on supporting transgender members of law enforcement.

THIS BOOK IS PERFECT FOR YOU IF YOU ARE...

- An instructor providing LGBT Awareness classes for first responders.
- A college professor teaching criminal justice and community policing.
- A law enforcement leader wanting to create an inclusive workplace.
- An out gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender first responder.
- A student preparing for a career in law enforcement, the fire service or EMS profession.
- A law enforcement psychologist who wants to understand better.
- Anyone who is searching for how to “come out.”

Law enforcement and all other first responder professionals need to be culturally competent and have a confident understanding of the LGBTQ+ community. LGBT awareness training is being provided to first responders across the United States and law enforcement is taking the lead. This book provides the foundational knowledge to support this training.

This book is an ideal textbook for use in LGBT awareness training, college courses in community policing, administration of justice, and LGBT studies.



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Short Bio:

Greg Miraglia is an LGBT activist, college professor of LGBT studies and criminal justice, author, and professional speaker. He has a master's degree in Education, a bachelor's degree in Business, and is a graduate of the California Commission On Peace Officer Standards and Training Master Instructor Development Program. Mr. Miraglia is a Dean Emeritus at Napa Valley College and currently serves as the program coordinator for Criminal Justice Education and Training and LGBT Studies. He is also a part time member of the faculty at City College of San Francisco and Santa Rosa Junior College. Mr. Miraglia serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Matthew Shepard.

Full Bio:

Greg Miraglia is an LGBT activist, college professor of LGBT studies and criminal justice, author, and professional speaker. He has a master's degree in Education, a bachelor's degree in Business, and is a graduate of the California Commission On Peace Officer Standards and Training Master Instructor Development Program. Mr. Miraglia is a Dean Emeritus at Napa Valley College and currently serves as the program coordinator for Criminal Justice Education and Training and LGBT Studies. He is also a part time member of the faculty at City College of San Francisco and Santa Rosa Junior College. Mr. Miraglia teaches six different LGBT studies courses and a number of criminal justice classes including introduction to administration of justice, community policing, 21st century policing, criminal law, and criminal procedures.

Mr. Miraglia serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Matthew Shepard Foundation. In 2021, Mr. Miraglia began serving as a guest instructor at the FBI National Academy and was the first to present LGBT awareness for law enforcement training in the FBI Academy's history.

Over the course of his 36 years of teaching experience, Mr. Miraglia served as a recruit training officer, academy coordinator and for ten years as the director of the police academy at Napa Valley College. He has over 35 years of experience in law enforcement with three different police departments working most recently as deputy chief of the Napa Valley Railroad Police Department.

In 2011, he authored curriculum for an accredited LGBT Studies Program now offered by Napa Valley College. This was the second program of its type offered by a California



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college. He expanded the program in 2018 to offer an Associate Degree. In July of 2013, Mr. Miraglia was awarded the "Dr. John W. Rice Diversity Award" by the Chancellor of the California Community College system for his work developing hate crime prevention and diversity education programs.

He is a nationally recognized speaker and expert on LGBT issues in the law enforcement profession and education. Most recently, he authored Assembly Bill 2504 which provides LGBT awareness training for California law enforcement officers and 9-1-1 dispatchers. Mr. Miraglia developed the first certified LGBT Awareness for Law Enforcement online training course and a train the trainer program in response to this Bill.

After coming out himself in 2004, Mr. Miraglia decided to work with others in law enforcement who are still struggling with the pervasive homophobia that still exists in many areas of the law enforcement, the fire service, and EMS profession. He authored three books including Coming Out from Behind the Badge and American Heroes Coming Out from Behind the Badge.

"The best law enforcement work is done by people for people. We are a profession of people and to that end we share many common human attributes including our sexuality. The variety of sexual orientation found in men and women transcends all races, ethnicities, nationalities, religions, and countries. It also transcends every law enforcement agency serving and protecting every community. It is not a choice, but rather a part of how we were created. Although it can be masked, it cannot ever be changed. It is a part of every human being who carries a badge."

Greg Miraglia, M.A. Ed.

ABOUT OUT TO PROTECT

In 2009, author Greg Miraglia formed Out to Protect Incorporated, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization. "Part of my dream for the book was to use the proceeds to support LGBT law enforcement students."

Out to Protect has the mission of "creating a greater awareness of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender professionals working in law enforcement and to support those pursuing a law enforcement career."



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Since its creation, Out to Protect has awarded multiple scholarships to LGBT students enrolled in a law enforcement training programs around the country. The first training grant was awarded in 2015 to the New England Gay Officers Action League to fund 7 LGBT awareness training classes for law enforcement in the region. Out to Protect offers a library grant program that provides copies of Coming Out from Behind the Badge and American Heroes Coming Out from Behind the Badge to law enforcement agency libraries and public libraries in the United States.

In 2016, Out to Protect began offering LGBT awareness training to law enforcement through an online course developed by Mr. Miraglia. Since then, new training programs including an LGBT Awareness Training for Trainers class, Hate Crimes Investigations class, and the LGBT Law Enforcement Liaison Academy have been added to the catalog of training offered by Out to Protect.

Out to Protect is funded entirely by proceeds from the sale of Greg Miraglia's two books and by private donation. The organization is governed by a small board of straight and gay law enforcement and education professionals.