



CTV reporter Bill Fortier tests out a new training simulator Thursday, used to train sheriff recruits in real-life scenarios.

New high-tech training tool for sheriffs

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Two new simulators have been set up at the Solicitor General Staff College to give prospective sheriffs and correctional peace officers some hands-on experience. A driving simulator puts recruits behind the wheel of a sheriff's cruiser into realistic situations they face everyday, ranging from driving through city streets with heavy traffic to suburban areas.

The advanced use-of-force simulator includes situations in correctional facilities, inmate transport and traffic enforcement, allowing recruits to practice with pepper spray, firearm and baton use.

Each of the tailored simulators cost \$150,000 but worth the cost according to Alberta's Solicitor General.

"We're looking at making sure that our officers when they hit the street have the best available training we can give them and this is just one way that we're able to enhance that," said Fred Lindsay, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security.

Recruits will be able to start using both simulators next month.

Similar training simulators are already in use by RCMP and police.

With Files from Bill Fortier

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