COURSE OVERVIEW

This course will provide you with a basic understanding of autism and how individuals with autism behave, communicate, and react in various situations. Furthermore, it will address high-risk and crisis incidents and provide you with useful strategies to defuse and deescalate the situation. It will also address missing persons with autism and how to safely expedite their recovery. Additionally, it will address the challenge of conducting interviews with victims, witnesses and suspects who have autism.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand what autism is and how people are affected by it.
- Recognize possible signs of autism.
- Understand how autism affects people differently.
- Develop alternative ways of identifying people with autism.
- Understand the various challenges of interviewing people with autism.
- Understand what types of crimes and schemes that people with autism are more likely to become victims.
- Recognize the importance of developing departmental policies and procedures for addressing missing person cases involving people with autism.
TOPICS COVERED

Typical law enforcement contacts
Crisis intervention techniques
Interview techniques
Missing persons
Arrest and restraint
De-escalation techniques
Tools of disclosure
Available resources

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Autism and the Law Enforcement Response is instructed by Bart Barta. Bart is the proud father of Daniel, a teenager with autism. He also understands many of the challenges faced by individuals and families affected by autism spectrum disorder. Bart’s a retired law enforcement commander with more than 31 years of experience. He is also a certified law enforcement instructor who has trained more than 7,000 officers across the United States how to successfully interact with people who have autism.

Bart is recognized as a subject matter expert by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and was selected to contribute to the development of autism curriculum for officers in the state of Florida. For more than 10 years, Bart served as a instructor for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Program for Florida’s Eleventh Circuit Court’s Mental Health Project. Bart is a former SWAT and Crisis Management Team (Hostage Negotiations) Commander. Bart retired as the Commander of the Coral Gables Police Department’s Criminal Investigations Division. For six years, Bart served as a member of the University of Miami—Nova Southeastern University's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) Constituency Board. Bart now serves as the President of Autism Safety 101, Inc.

ENROLLMENT: Open to federal, state and local sworn LEO’S and prosecutors.

Enroll online at www.achidta.org.

There are no enrollment or registration fees for this course.

For information about this or other training offered by the Atlanta HIDTA go to www.achidta.org or to Atlanta-Carolinas Training Coordinator John “Buck” Smith by email at bsmith@achidta.org or by phone to 470-261-0410.

Follow all guidelines for outside training set by your department before enrolling in any HIDTA class.