

Mansfield University
Public Safety Training Institute
65 Clinton Street
Mansfield, PA 16933



Autism Training for First Responders (3 hours)

Date: March 13, 2022 1300-1600

Location: Mansfield University, Allen Hall 104

Registration: Lisa Rice, lrice@tiogacountypa.us

Audience: First Responders

The class is geared towards all disciplines of responders. All personnel will benefit from being better able to identify individuals on the autism spectrum and learn strategies to overcome communication challenges as well as tactics to manage sensory challenges. This allows responders to gain cooperation and compliance without force and includes the use of de-escalation techniques. The class will include tactics necessary to navigate the most critical calls for service all while including empathy for the challenges facing autistic individuals and their families.

This class will:

Improve Communication - "Nonverbal" does not necessarily mean "Unable to Communicate". This class will teach responders insights and strategies to establish critical communication.

Save lives - Autistic individuals rarely just "WANDER". There is always a goal, destination, or purpose to their behavior. This class will teach your responders insights and strategies to organize more effective SEARCHES.

Reduce Complaints - Autistic individuals and their families have the right to be understood, treated with dignity, and served with professionalism. The class teaches responders insights and strategies to avoid unintentional negative encounters.

Improve Community Relations - Often under-represented and isolated, special needs families are a vital part of our communities. The class will teach responders insights and strategies to foster lasting positive relationships within the community.

The Instructor

Gerald Turning, Jr has extensive background in the law enforcement community and has been providing training to First Responders about Special Needs families as well as training Special Needs families about First Responders since 2007. Gerald founded Blue Bridge Training as a way to "Bridge the Gap" between families and First Responders.