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## Autism Spectrum Disorder Awareness CJSTC #022

This course is part of the CJSTC Specialized Training Program and is used to train officers to recognize the symptoms of autism spectrum disorder, typical behaviors of individuals on the spectrum, and best practices for how officers can respond when dealing with individuals on the spectrum.

Students will learn the prevalence of autism and what autism spectrum disorder is. They will also learn what items and personal characteristics indicate that a person may be on the spectrum. This course is designed to develop techniques to effectively interact and communicate with a person who is autistic.

### Course Topics

- Recognition
- Common calls for service
- Local resources
- De-escalation techniques
- Information gathering and disclosure
- Communication limitations and strategies

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**September 2, 2025**

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Fees: **Trust Funded Region IX**

Registration: (727) 341-4492

Facilitator: Paul Althoff

Agency/Self-Registration

<https://spcollege.augusoft.net>

Registration & Hotel information

SEPSI Authorization form Required

***\*Priority for registration into this class is given to agencies within Pinellas County.  
Remaining seats will be open to all agencies 14 days from the start date.***

Casual clothing is recommended. Shorts, tank tops and/or offensive T-shirts are unacceptable attire. Law enforcement personnel not in uniform that are carrying exposed firearms must prominently display agency ID and/or badge at all times while on college property.

**Training Calendar <http://pstc.spcollege.edu/>**

### Lead Instructor

Ronald "Doc" Davis has a PhD in psychology with a focus on hostage negotiation, crisis intervention, stress, and Autism. After serving 4 years in the military and 20 years in law enforcement, he retired from the Boynton Beach Police Department as a sergeant in charge of their crime prevention unit. Additionally, he served as the team commander for both the hostage negotiation and critical incident stress management teams. Doc also taught undergraduate college courses for a number of years before deciding to focus on the law enforcement community's training needs.

Doc provides a unique learning experience through his ability to combine his academic, professional and personal experiences into his courses. Whether discussing academic theory, realities faced by law enforcement professionals, or the amazing journey his Autistic son has taken him on, Doc is able to make the most complicated scenarios understandable, relatable, and memorable.