



# SPEAKERS BUREAU



## Presentation Information

Presentation Category	Miscellaneous Topics
Presentation Title	Sensory Awareness Training
Presentation Length	180 Minutes
Presentation Objective	<p>To present attendees a basic overview of the most common sensory needs conditions (Autism &amp; PTSD) and their effects on those living with the condition. We will also show the verbal and physical cues that first responders can look for when interacting with sensory needs individuals.</p> <p>To give the attendees the training needed to safely interact and if needed, de-escalate, a situation involving someone with sensory needs or psychological challenges.</p> <p>To show the importance of this training for all first responders and provide examples of both deadly officer involved encounters, as well as success stories of why this training is vital to the safety of those with sensory needs. We want to increase the success stories and eliminate the deadly officer involved encounters.</p>
Presentation Description	<p>One in five individuals in the US has some type of sensory issue, whether it be autism, PTSD, early onset dementia or other psychological challenges. These invisible disabilities can cause them, specifically during an interaction with law enforcement, to act in ways that the officer may perceive as aggressive, hostile or under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Unfortunately, the rate of deadly force encounters with sensory needs individuals by law enforcement is still slowly climbing across the country and we must educate and train our officers on what to look for and how to safely interact with</p>

	<p>and deescalate stressful and tense interactions with those living with sensory needs.</p> <p>This course will provide attendees with a basic overview and foundation of what exactly are sensory needs, as well as discuss the most common invisible disabilities such as Autism and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. This will include discussing common physical and verbal actions exhibited by those with sensory needs that can easily be misunderstood by law enforcement as hostile and threatening. The course will then provide them with additional information and skills on how to not only safely manage an interaction with someone with a sensory need, but also how to effectively communicate with them so as to bring the contact to a safe resolution.</p> <p>The goal of this presentation is to generate discussion and thoughtful review on behalf of the attendees so that they will return to their agencies and update or create a sensory awareness program for their personnel.</p>
Speaker Name & Session	Brad Flynn, NA Session 245
Speaker Phone Number	(205) 332-9145
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Speaker's Biography	<p>M Brad Flynn currently serves as the Chief of Police for the Helena, Alabama Police Department. He has worked in law enforcement for over 31 years and has served in many capacities during his career, including Narcotics and Undercover Investigations, Tactical Operations Operator and Team Commander, Traffic Homicide Investigator, Media Relations Officer and 10 years as Criminal Investigations Division Commander.</p> <p>During his tour in the Criminal Investigations Division, he assisted the Queensland, Australia Police Service into the death of an American citizen, Christina Thomas Watson, who died under suspicious circumstances while scuba diving off the coast of Australia in 2003. This investigation garnered world wide attention and lasted for over 8 years and spanned the globe in the search for justice. Chief Flynn continues to speak around the country on the landmark case.</p>

Chief Flynn has also obtained certifications as a Hazardous Materials Technician and Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate during his career, and is a senior active shooter response instructor/coordinator for the State of Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and has trained thousands of law enforcement officers in basic active shooter response, tactical medicine, and advanced outdoor tactical operations. Chief Flynn is also a counter terrorism instructor for the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama, and the National Center for Biomedical Research & Training (NCBRT) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where he travels the country training local, state and federal law enforcement on how to address the threats of terrorism.

In 2021, Chief Flynn partnered with KultureCity, the largest sensory awareness and inclusion nonprofit organization in the country to launch a nation-wide program to train first responders in sensory awareness and inclusion of those living with invisible disabilities such as Autism and PTSD. Chief Flynn currently serves as the Law Enforcement Training Liaison for the organization and works constantly to promote the training of first responders in safely and effectively serving those with sensory needs.

Chief Flynn has received numerous awards and honors during his career including Officer of the Year, a Life Saving Award and honors from the Queensland, Australia Police Service. He holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of Alabama Birmingham and is also a graduate of the 245th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.