



Northwest Illinois Criminal Justice Commission

Jeff Ragan, Regional Director
2308 E. Lincolnway, Suite E - Sterling, IL 61081
Phone: 815-288-6695- Fax: 815-288-6787- www.mtu1.com

Mobile Team Unit #1 is funded in partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board

Autism & The Law Enforcement Response

DATE: May 22, 2026

Registration Ends: May 15, 2026

TIME: 8:00 AM—4:00 PM 8 Hours

LOCATION: Dixon Police Department, 220 S. Hennepin Ave., Dixon, IL

INSTRUCTOR: Bart Barta

This course will provide law enforcement personnel 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 tips and effective strategies to defuse and de-escalate potentially volatile situations. Additionally, it will address how to conduct interviews involving victims, witnesses and suspects who have autism.

Bart Barta is the proud father of Daniel, an adult with autism. When Daniel was diagnosed with autism at age three, Bart recognized there was a need for autism training for law enforcement officers so individuals with autism and law enforcement officers could remain safe. In 2007, he began instructing law enforcement officers on recognizing and appropriately responding to individuals with autism. Bart teaches from the dual perspective of being a law enforcement officer and the parent of a child with autism. He understands many of the challenges faced by the autism community and the law enforcement community. Bart is a retired law enforcement commander with over 31 years of experience. He is also a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) certified law enforcement instructor who has trained more than 12,000 first responders nationwide to interact with people with autism successfully.

This course has been certified by the ILETSB and approved to meet the following mandates:

- De-Escalation Techniques - 1.0 hours
- Officer Safety Techniques - 1.0 hours
- Crisis Intervention – 3.0 hours
- Const. Use of LE Authority – 1.0 hours
- Human Rights – 1.0 hours

REGISTRATION:

All registrations are received on the [MTU#1 website](#). Find Registration instructions [here](#)

THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC MEETING

