



Law Enforcement Training Advisory Commission

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Bruce Liebe, Director

Bridging the Gap: Autism Training for First Responders

Funded in the Partnership with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board

DATE: March 3, 2027

TIME: 8:00am – 12:00pm

LOCATION: Sherman Fire Dept. 2215 E. Andrew Rd. Sherman, IL 62684

INSTRUCTORS: Tamika Lecheé Morales

NON-MEMBER FEE: \$0.00

REGISTRATION LIMIT: 30

Meets Illinois Mandates: Procedural Justice (1.50hrs) and De-escalation Techniques (1.00hrs)

COURSE OF THIS COURSE: This one-day, 4-hour program has been designed by Tamika Lecheé Morales, President and Founder of **The Autism Hero Project**, to equip first responders with the foundational knowledge and real-world skills needed to recognize, communicate with, and safely support individuals on the autism spectrum. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of autism and how sensory sensitivities, communication differences, and behavioral responses can influence encounters in the field.

COURSE OVERVIEW: Students will learn critical identification techniques, non-escalation strategies, and effective verbal and non-verbal communication methods tailored to the sensory and cognitive processing differences of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The course also features real-life stories and a video documentary produced by **The Autism Hero Project** in collaboration with law enforcement, illustrating the contrast between uninformed and informed responses while highlighting the profound impact that understanding, empathy, and proper training can have on safer, more positive outcomes for everyone involved.

By the end of the course, participants will have the knowledge, empathy, and confidence to apply best practices that promote safety, dignity, and positive outcomes for both first responders and individuals with autism across emergency and crisis scenarios.

TO REGISTER: Email registration to register@letac.org. You may also fill out and submit our online registration form through the website at www.letac.org or call 217-726-7014 to register by phone. **MTU #10 member agencies will be given registration preference until seven days prior to the date of class. After that date, registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of MTU status. We cannot accept registrations from individual officers. All registrations must go through your Chief, Sheriff, or department training office, even if you are attending class on your own time.**

CANCELLATION: If a class must be canceled for any reason, every effort will be made to do so at least 2 weeks before the class is scheduled to begin.

Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board Mobile Team Unit #10

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