

# Government Training Institute Newsletter

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## A Word from GTI's President

web: [www.gtitraining.org](http://www.gtitraining.org)

I am extremely pleased with the overwhelming response we have received from officers throughout the country to our Department of Homeland Security pre-approved Immediate Action Teams (IAT) course. Agencies all over the United States and US Territories see the value of this training and are taking action. It's application to all law enforcement officers, no matter rank or divisional assignment, is widespread.

There is little doubt that the average American can quickly and accurately list the five major metropolitan areas inside the US where crime is most likely to occur. Unfortunately, most Americans and even many law enforcement officers stood back and collectively said, "I wouldn't have dreamed it could happen here" when active shooter events in schools galvanized towns like Jonesboro, AR; Pearl City, MS; West Paducah, KY; Bethel, AK and so many others since. These incidents required law enforcement to re-think our responses to active shooter events.

The concerns with schools have been exacerbated since Columbine. Other deadly shootings in schools and universities and shopping malls have kept the need for training a top priority but we cannot become myopic in our view of what a violent event looks like in a school. The events that unfolded on September 4th, 2004 in Beslan, Russia displayed to the world that children are considered legitimate targets of terrorists (although this was the case long before this event). Let us not forget Beslan, the confiscated video tapes of Al Qaeda training for school takeovers, the 300 plus terrorist attacks on schools around the world or Bin Laden's statements that he will kill one million of our children.

Simply stated, at some point in the near future, another state and local law enforcement jurisdiction will have to respond to a violent attack at one of our nation's schools. It is our duty to protect the innocent from the next attack that we all know is coming. Train hard, train often and be prepared because success is not by chance.

-- Chadd Harbaugh, GTI President

For more information, download the [State Sponsored Course Catalog](#).

## GTI to Present at SWAT Conference

**April 10-13 at the TTPOA 2008 SWAT Conference in Austin, Texas**

When dealing with a terrorist, it may be less a matter of arrest and prosecute and more one of kill to save lives or be killed. That's why GTI's senior instructor, [Peter N. Spagnolo](#), will present on the topic of "Re-Examining Tactical Mindset" at the [Texas Tactical Police Officers Association \(TTPOA\) SWAT Conference](#). The lecture course will discuss the dynamics of SWAT operations in a terror environment, how the operator must view his enemy and how that view must impact the operation. Other sessions at the conference include "Critical Incident Management/Course of Action Matrixes," a lecture course presented by GTI instructor [Steve Messer](#), and tactical course "Hostage Rescue Techniques," instructed by GTI's director of training [Scott Gunderson](#) and senior instructor [Jessup Davidson](#).

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### Approved Vendor

GTI is registered as a GSA approved vendor under the Federal Supply and Service Schedule 084. A GSA schedule is a highly effective, efficient, and rapid method to contract for GTI's services. A GSA schedule derived contract is typically one page in length and can be put into effect in a very short time frame.

Complete instructions are contained in [GSA schedule / price list](#) and additional information may be found in the [GSA Advantage](#) section of our website. The Government Training Institute is



Photos (left to right): Peter N. Spagnolo, Steve Messer, Scott Gunderson and Jessup Davison. Click to view biography.

In addition to participating in the lecture and tactical courses, GTI will exhibit at the expo.

## Department of Homeland Security Training

### DHS Funded Immediate Action Teams Training

The Preparedness of State and Local Law Enforcement officers is one of the major initiatives of the United States Department of Homeland Security. The immediate action team course provides law enforcement officers with proven tactics and techniques for first responders dealing with an active shooter and terrorist incidences.



#### Topics Covered:

- mechanical and ballistic tactical breaching
- proven tactical shooting skills during range sessions and force on force scenarios
- traditional response vs. acceptable response to an active shooter situations
- techniques and skills needed for initial response to terrorist situations
- historic active shooter incidents
- current theory on the priority of life and the differences surrounding traditional and acceptable responses
- detailed blocks of instruction on terrorism, the siege of Beslan, Columbine and other shooter incidences

[More about immediate actions teams...](#)

[Download State Sponsored Course Catalog \[ID-004-RESP\]](#)

The Government Training Institute (GTI) was founded in 2003 to address needs of state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Please let us know how we can assist you. GTI's 30+ courses contain a cooperative curriculum base and ongoing research from the staff with 400 years of operational military and law enforcement experience. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Government Training Institute, Inc.

listed in the U. S. Government GSA Schedule (Contract #: GS-07F-0300T).

GTI provides a full range of operational military and law enforcement training services to federal, state and local government and the private sector. Our mission is to offer intense and realistic training, thorough and comprehensive research, and honest and ethical consulting, to prepare our country's military, law enforcement and first responders who face challenges associated with living in a post 9/11 world. Major areas include: SIN 426-4F found in the "Emergency Preparedness and First Responder Equipment, Training and Services" category.

#### Special Thanks

GTI would like to thank the Law Enforcement Officers from Austria, New Mexico, Idaho and Washington who attended Basic SWAT class in February. You make a difference!