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Duplin County Leads Initiative in Law Enforcement Training

DUPLIN COUNTY, NC) The Duplin County Sheriff's Office has invited Critical Perceptions LLC, a provider of fundamental training skills to nationwide law enforcement, first responder, and other organizations that are ready for change, to bring its *Getting Beyond the Badge* seminar to the department on September 8 and 10. In this course developed by officers for officers, the eighty-eight participating deputies and detention officers will develop invaluable skills they can use in their everyday jobs. These skills include learning how to identify bias in their daily perceptions; to understand how they think of people and the differences in those assigned perceptions vs. people's self-perceptions, to discover the power of their words and how different people use words differently; and to explore the impact of their perceptions on interactions, assumptions, and community goals.

"This class helps law enforcement figure out how they fit in, their role in the bigger picture, and their why," said Critical Perceptions Founder and President Daniel Edwards, a retired Captain serving thirty years with the Durham, NC police department. "That ownership empowers people to become ambassadors—not just for their agency—but for the profession. We realize how easily just one officer's actions can impact the lives, safety, and jobs of officers around the nation. The goal of this course—of all of our courses—is to ensure officers go home safe—both physically and mentally." Edwards has an extensive criminal justice enforcement and training background, a master's in psychology, and professional coaching expertise, including hostage negotiation.

"During these uncertain times and periods of unrest, I am pleased with Sheriff Blake Wallace, Chief Deputy Phil Humphrey, and Captain Scott Kennedy for their initiative in seeking out Critical Perceptions, LLC," said Wayne Branch, Commissioner Elect - District 5, Duplin County. "Their solutions for providing enhanced, specialized training for officers aligns with our community's and our officer's goals." Captain Scott Kennedy of the Administrative and Support Services Division of the Duplin County Sheriff's Office agrees that it's critical right now to continue to provide deputies and staff with the very best training. "I've been in law enforcement for 30 years and I've never seen the way things are right now," he said. "We want to make sure we are equipping ourselves with everything we can to bridge gaps and better serve the community. At the same time, we want to equip officers to have long, healthy careers and to deal with the everyday stress and demands. Because of their long experience in law enforcement, Critical Perceptions has the knowledge to help us sharpen ourselves, to make us better, more aware, and more empathetic, so we can do our part as law enforcement to heal. There's healing and trust-building needed now. Sir Robert Peel, the father of modern policing said in the early 1800s, The public are the police and the police are the public."



(More)

“We are the public who have taken an oath to serve. We need to keep that in mind and do our best to sharpen it.”

Specializing in personal and professional development, Critical Perceptions provides courses for a variety of learners: from first responders to corporate executives, student organizations to nonprofits. Training classes include de-escalation tactics; situational, community, and cultural awareness; body language; conversation enhancement; conflict resolution; emotional resilience; mental preparation; workplace violence; and risk assessment. To learn more about Critical Perceptions and targeted training designed to help organizations resolve difficult situations and create a paradigm shift for good, visit <https://criticalperceptions.com/> or call 919.724.3146.

About Critical Perceptions

Critical Perceptions LLC provides fundamental training skills to nationwide law enforcement, first responder, and other organizations that are ready for change, including 911 centers, student unions, pep rallies, private agencies, corporate executives, human resources professionals / recruiters, community centers, community outreach organizations, and nonprofits. Critical Perceptions uses a proven methodology and curriculum combined with extensive law enforcement experience, a firm foundation in psychology, and professional coaching expertise to deliver measurable skills improvement metrics and enhanced accountability scores. Training courses include de-escalation tactics; situational, community, and cultural awareness; body language; conversation enhancement; conflict resolution; emotional resilience; mental preparation; workplace violence; and risk assessment. For more information about learning new ways to resolve difficult situations, visit our website <https://criticalperceptions.com/>, email d.edwards@criticalperceptions.com, or call 919.724.3146.

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