

DR. THOMAS STRENTZ

LEAD INSTRUCTOR-CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS /SOTT-I LLC

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE

Dr. Strentz is a professional anti-terrorism expert with a background and expertise in hostage taking, negotiations, instruction, and survival. Backed with extensive experience in the FBI, he has been involved in resolving terrorist situations world-wide. He utilizes his expertise for organizations and individuals who work and travel in high-risk areas; such as domestic and international air lines, law enforcement, government agencies and the military. A proven administrator, instructor, public speaker, consultant, author and training film producer, he has concentrated his academic and professional efforts instructing persons in the physical and psychological tactics needed to survive hostage situations. He designed, developed and directed the FBI hostage negotiations program, was on loan to several countries to assist them in similar programs, helped create the FBI Hostage Rescue Team selection program, was a pioneer in psychological profiling of criminal and terrorist offenders. He developed and refined aircraft hijacker and terrorist profiles currently used internationally. He is the Co-instructor in the POST accredited hostage negotiators course at San Jose State University in California and teaches similar material in a Department of State Anti-terrorism course. He is retained to investigate/negotiate kidnapping in South and Central America.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

He has worked with the U.S. Departments of Defense, Justice, State, Transportation and Treasury as well as domestic and foreign police, government, and military units. Assignments include establishing the FBI hostage negotiator selection and instruction program, research on hostage survival as part of the FBI preparation of its counter-terrorist forces for the 1984 Olympics, the debriefing of the Teheran, TWA 847, Pan Am 73 and Kuwait 422 hostages.

He represented the FBI on the Presidents Inter-agency task force on Aviation Terrorism, was an adjunct professor at the University of Virginia and was the Distinguished Alumni from California State University, Fresno in 1992.

He is the editor of The Negotiator and author of The Psychological Aspects of Crisis Negotiations and serves as a Vice President in the Louisiana Association of Crisis Negotiators.

He is regularly retained as an expert witness in US District, State and County courts on aviation counter hijacking procedures, victim reaction to the stress of captivity, prison and hostage situations. He has traveled to dozens of countries to every state to deliver lectures and provide instruction on preparations for hostage situations, criminal and terrorist profiling, counter terrorist training, hostage negotiations, kidnap investigations, and post traumatic incident recovery procedures.

He is continuously called upon by national and international air lines, police, business, and government organizations to advise and consult on hostage survival, kidnapping, and crisis intervention, prevention, investigation, and recovery issues.

SPECIFIC WORK EXPERIENCE

- The Academy Group
- Editor, The Negotiator
- Instructor at FBI Academy
- Institute for Defense Analysis
- Psychiatric Social Work Supervisor
- JMARC Associates Video Productions
- Helliwell Associates Video Productions
- Instructor at San Jose State University
- American Society for Industrial Security
- Adjunct Professor University of Virginia
- Social Worker in Child Welfare/Protection
- Adjunct Professor George Mason University
- Expert Witness in Superior Court on Hijacking
- Expert Witness in U.S. District Court on Training
- California Police Officers Standards and Training
- Kidnap Investigations in Central and South America
- Editor California Association of Hostage Negotiators
- Vice-President Louisiana Crisis Negotiators Association
- Expert Witness in Circuit Court on Hostage Negotiations
- U.S. Department of State Anti-Terrorism Assistance Program
- Distinguished Alumni Award California State University Fresno
- Federal Bureau of Investigation/1968-1988
- Presidential Task Force on International Aviation Terrorism
- Presidential Task Force on Aviation Terrorism
- FBI Academy Instructor/Supervisor Special Agent

- Behavioral Science Instruction/Research
- Special Operations/Research
- Special Agent, Organized Crime/Counter Intelligence
- San Antonio and Austin, Texas and Washington, D.C.
- Social Work Supervisor Fresno County Department of Public Welfare 1961-1968
- Sergeant, United States Marine Corps, Active Duty and Reserve 1955-1961

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Social Policy, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
1986 Masters of Social Work, California State University, Fresno, California
Bachelor of Arts, California State University, Fresno, California

SPECIAL NOTES

Between 1975 and 2010, Dr. Strentz authored over three dozen articles on various aspects of crisis negotiations and hostage survival, most of which have been repeatedly re-published. In addition he is the sole author of Psychological Aspects of Crisis Negotiations, published in 2005. Between 1984 and 2005 he was featured in over a dozen instructional videos and has made numerous appearances on CNN, NBC, and ABC news programs.
