

# 2013 Verbal Defense & Influence Trainer Roster

## Gary Klugiewicz



Gary Klugiewicz, who heads up our Consultant team at Verbal Defense & Influence, is well placed among the top law enforcement trainers in the nation.

Gary has developed programs for police, corrections, mental health, security professionals and the military, including team tactics training for SWAT, CERT, and Crowd Management Teams. He is the developer of the Active Countermeasures System of Unarmed Blocking and Striking Techniques. Additionally, he is a former Street Smart Survival instructor.

Gary's known for his high-intensity approach to training, a reflection of his years as a national champion fighter in Kyokushin Karate (he's fought both here and in Japan). Since then, his name has become synonymous with safe but realistic, intense, dynamic simulation training.

Gary is gifted educator who understands the needs of adult learners. His teaching encompasses sub-skill development, guided discovery, decision making simulation scenarios, and positive group debriefing techniques.

Gary is often called to testify as a use-or-force defense expert, defending scores of officers in legal proceedings. He is a former captain with 25 years of experience within the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department.

He is currently employed by PoliceOne as a use-of-force expert, researcher, program developer and training specialist; Gary is also the director of Active Countermeasures Instructional Systems (ACMi® Systems), a partner in the Vistelar consortium.

More about Gary:

1. During his last years with the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, Gary headed up a special management unit for the mentally ill: "When I retired, there was some question whether I would be released or not ... I related too well to the persons displaying signs and symptoms of mental illness."
2. Kyokushin Karate is also known as "Knockdown Karate;" Gary is the survivor of a black belt testing procedure in which he had to fight 3-minute rounds against a new opponent. He fought in 30 consecutive rounds.
3. Gary's Curriculum Vitae is 38 pages long. It's either a throwback to his law enforcement days where you "document everything, or it didn't happen." Or, he concedes, it's because he just can't remember it all (see #2).
4. Leaving nothing to chance, Gary travels to training engagements with a full range of audiovisual equipment. In airports around the country, Gary is profiled as HEBV (Habitual Excessive Baggage Violator).

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## Peter Harrell Jr.



Peter Harrell, Jr. is President of Harrell Communications. He has been trained and certified as a National Trainer for the Verbal Judo Institute by Dr. George Thompson PhD, founder of the Verbal Judo Institute. Peter has recently been certified as a Verbal Defense & Influence Consultant.

He also has a BA Degree in Theatre Arts, and Organizational Development from St. Edwards University. Peter formed his company in 1995 and hails from Austin, Texas.

Peter has also been certified to train, Dispute Resolution, Managing Group Conflict, and three of Franklin Covey's top Leadership programs; "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People", "The 4 Roles of Leadership", and "Great Leaders, Great Teams, Great Results." Peter has also provided training and consultant work for The University of Texas at Austin, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, The Texas Attorney General's office, the Texas Association of School Boards, the City of Austin, and many other public and private entities. He is also a National Institute of Corrections Trainer.

Recently retired from a 20-year career with the state of Texas, Peter excelled as an executive management trainer. Peter was given the responsibility of creating, implementing, and delivering leadership training, for executive managers and supervisors in seven of the largest agencies in the state.

Peter continues a 39 year acting career with roles in 50 national and regional commercials, 25 movies, 20 theatrical productions, and over 40 roles in television. Peter's engaging, dynamic style of facilitating has both entertained and left audiences with a truly "value-added" experience.

## Tony Pinelle



Anthony "Tony" L. Pinelle was an employee of the State of Colorado for more than thirty-three years. He completed psychiatric technician training at the Colorado State Home and Training School and was licensed as a Psychiatric Technician with a developmental disabilities option. He worked seven years as a Licensed Psychiatric Technician before pursuing a career in law enforcement.

Tony retired, June 30, 2009, as the Chief of Public Safety for the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo, where he was responsible for directing and managing all security and law enforcement operations. Prior to being promoted to Chief, Tony served as Deputy Chief, Sergeant, Corporal, Police Officer, and Security Officer.

In addition to his experience at the Mental Health Institute, he has been an active Reserve Deputy Sheriff in Pueblo County since 1984 and has provided security and law enforcement services to the Colorado State Fair, as member of their security management team. He is an established Instructor at the Pueblo Area Law Enforcement Academy at the Pueblo Community College. He holds a degree in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Instructor Development Course

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and the Colorado Department of Human Services Professional Instructor Program.

He has trained thousands of police officers, correctional officers, business professionals, educators, and psychiatric caregivers in the Verbal Judo technique. He has intervened in countless volatile situations involving the general public and psychiatric patients, including forensic, general adult, and adolescents.

He is committed to the Verbal Judo philosophy and brings to the Institute his unique teaching style.

## Jill Weisensel



Jill is a consultant/instructor for Verbal Defense and Influence and has campus law enforcement experience, in part, directing and managing shift patrol operations within an urban campus environment. She is the lead Defensive and Arrest Tactics Instructor and the lead Tactical Communication instructor, teaches applications of Tactical Strength and Conditioning at Marquette University and has close to a decade of experience in the field. She is also a member of the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association.

In understanding the need for non-escalatory tactics and a more effective and professional way to relate with and manage people, she became an advocate of the universally applicable Verbal Defense and Influence program.

Jill is currently researching and developing bystander intervention programming for bullying and sexual violence prevention, with a particular focus on threat assessment and bystander mobilization. Her academic background (she earned her Master's degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis in Sports Psychology from the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, and her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology from Carthage College), athletic training and professional experience make her uniquely qualified to address topics in teaching and speaking such as: the need for personal credibility and professional development, training in motivation and adherence, nutrition and holistic wellness, team building and the development of leadership and life skills.

## Vanessa Holmes



I am employed with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in Jefferson, Wisconsin. I have worked for Jefferson County for 15 years. I began my career as a 911 dispatcher. I worked in the 911 center for 11 years. I was a field training officer in the dispatch center for 9 years. I have a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Phoenix and I am a certified law enforcement officer in the state of Wisconsin. I am currently assigned to the jail division as a Huber officer. I have been a deputy sheriff for 4 years and am a certified verbal judo instructor and hostage negotiator. I am also on the board

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of directors for a local youth center in the community I live in.

I have been involved in training in my department over the years. I trained dispatchers in skills necessary to answer and handle emergency and non-emergency calls. Currently I work with my department members to improve verbal communications skills using the verbal defense and influence model, created and founded by Dr. George Thompson. I have worked with a private school, Paul's Lutheran School in Fort Atkinson, WI to bring awareness to the wide-spread bullying problem, which affects my community and communities around the nation. I successfully provided workshops using the Verbal Defense and Influence model. Currently I am working with a local youth center, The Escape, to further encourage outreach to others in the community, including parents, teachers, churches, and community centers.

Certified Law Enforcement officer

Certified Verbal Defense and Influence Instructor and Consultant

Agency Assigned Instructor for the Crime Information Bureau

Board Member for The Escape Youth Center in Fort Atkinson, WI

Hostage Negotiator

### John Nebl



John Nebl is a police sergeant with over 27-years of experience as a suburban Chicago police officer. He currently is assigned as the Community Relations Sergeant and serves as his agencies Public Information Officer dealing with the Chicago media. His work has been recognized with awards on the local, county, state, and national level. Most recently Mr. Nebl became the first person in the State of Illinois to receive the prestigious certification as a National Crime Prevention Expert (Advanced) from the National Crime Prevention Association

Mr. Nebl has been a trainer and speaker for the past 26-years. Initially his focus was on law enforcement matters instructing use of force, defense tactics, and firearms. In 1999 he brought the Crime Free Multi-Housing program to his community and was subsequently asked to be a National Trainer for the program. Since then he has trained thousands of rental property managers around the country in strategies aimed to reduce and prevent criminal activity.

In 2001 Mr. Nebl was given the opportunity to become certified as a Verbal Judo instructor. Reflecting on the subsequent instructor re-certification course and his current position as a Verbal Defense and Influence consultant Nebl said, "I had the unbelievable opportunity to study directly under Dr. Thompson. That experience alone has benefited me both professionally and personally. I am truly honored to be able to continue his legacy and share Doc's work with you". Over the last 11 years Mr. Nebl has trained thousands of law enforcement officers in how to use words effectively to deal with difficult persons and how to communicate while under stress. He has trained over 1,000 recruit officers in the Cook County Department of Corrections Academy. Most recently Mr. Nebl was invited to join the

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Vistelar Group as a speaker, trainer, and consultant for Verbal Defense and Influence

Mr. Nebl has been extensively interviewed, quoted, and featured in numerous newspaper and magazine articles regarding the Crime Free Multi-Housing program and the topic of Crime Prevention. Mr. Nebl has also appeared on television and radio newscasts and interview / talk show programs. He has served as a presenter or keynote speaker for the Municipal Clerks of Illinois spring seminar, Illinois Association of Code Enforcement quarterly training seminar, Schaumburg Park District managers and administrators annual training, Northwest Police Academy (suburban Chicago command officers), Illinois Crime Prevention Association annual conference, and several International Crime Free Association annual conferences.

Mr. Nebl was an honorable mention recipient as a runner-up for the 2003 Police Officer of the Year from the International Association of Chief of Police and Parade Magazine. He was the 2004 Illinois VFW Law Enforcement Officer of the year and received the Cook County Sheriff Law Enforcement Award of Merit in 2000. Mr. Nebl has received nine Honorable Mentions and one Chief's Award of Merit.

Mr. Nebl lives in the Chicago area with his wife of 27-years and their two German Short-hair Pointers. The Nebl's have three adult children that reside in Washington, DC, Ohio, and suburban Chicago. Mr. Nebl is an amateur (ham) radio operator having spoken to other "ham's" in 75 countries around the world as well as at the South Pole and on-board the International Space Station. He is also an avid amateur astronomer.

### Andrew Garrison



M. Andrew Garrison has been a provider in the fields of exercise, education, wellness, and coaching for over twenty-three years. He earned his M.S. in Physical Education from the University of New Mexico, along with a B.A. in Spanish and a minor in business management. He is nationally certified as a personal trainer by the American Council on Exercise and serves as a subject matter expert in their national test development. He achieved staff-faculty designation from the Wellness Council of America and is the former Chair of the New Mexico Healthier Weight Council.

Andrew Garrison was elected to serve on the New Mexico Public Education Commission in 2004 (re-elected in 2008), serving as Chairman for three years. He has worked for local government in Albuquerque since 1989, most recently in the role of Health & Wellness Administrator. Through his physical fitness and wellness teachings within the public safety field, he has garnered national attention as a presenter at public safety and healthcare conferences. His wellness curriculum is accredited by the New Mexico Department of Public Safety as a professional development course.

In business, Andrew Garrison owns K O Cartel® & K O Cutie® Sports Apparel for contact sports athletes. He is President and CEO of wellness consultation company BODYFACTS LLC and is in the process of obtaining a third clothing trademark for a private label wellness line. Athletically, he was a letterman in

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Division I football at the University of New Mexico, a National Physique Committee natural bodybuilding competitor, and posted a 1,200 lb. total at the Natural Athlete Strength Association State powerlifting competition.

His philanthropic efforts have been realized primarily through Rotary International, where he was the Centennial President in 2004-2005 and recipient of the Rotary Service Above Self Award in 2005-2006 for his coordination of international grants with Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and District 4110 in Mexico.

## Mark Gotsch

Mark Gotsch, known for his comfortable and stress-free facilitation style, has over twenty years of experience in law enforcement and twenty years of experience in program development, coordination and training as well as serving as a collegiate adjunct professor.

Mark started a law enforcement career with a suburb of Chicago after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in the Administration of Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois. While serving as a police officer he was assigned to a crime prevention task force working the streets to curtail robbery and burglary. He was also assigned as a detective in Robbery/Burglary and served as a Field Training Officer.

Mark quickly learned that how you speak to people radically determines the cooperation and responses from both the victims and suspects. Mark left the Midwest and moved to Southern California where he started his new career as a police officer in a city near San Diego. While at that department Mark worked in Patrol and Traffic divisions. In Traffic, Mark became a lead Accident Investigator and motorcycle operations trainer.

During this time Mark was instrumental in starting a community relations program for the Traffic Division serving as a speaker for numerous community groups and schools.

Mark served on the Adjunct Faculty at Palomar Community College for over 10 years and taught a variety of courses in the Administration of Criminal Justice program and at the regional Police Academy. Mark earned a M.A. in Leadership in Adult education and became the Administrative Coordinator for the Police Academy after being retired on a disability retirement. He continued to teach in such topics as community relations, effective communication, traffic investigation related topics, firearms, persons with disabilities and emergency vehicle operations.

Mark moved to Arizona and became a Criminal Investigator for the Maricopa Criminal Courts and was recruited by EDFUND, a guarantor for the student financial aid system. Mark worked as a Client Training Consultant providing professional development training for the staff of colleges and universities throughout the country. Mark was certified by "Jimpact", on participant focused training and Developmental Dimensions International for facilitation of their professional development courses.

Many of those topics were communication related and emphasized tools on how to communicate with those people who are in crisis and are elevated emotionally. Mark has spoken at numerous conferences

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throughout the educational system. After losing his position when the private student financial aid system was eliminated, Mark joined AAA Arizona as the Traffic Safety Educator providing community talks, workshops and outreach in traffic safety issues.

Mark designed and updated a number of workshops for the community as well as organizing and managing special safety related events. Mark left AAA and started Professional Connect LLC providing the professional development workshops and consulting to the schools once served under the former program and now not available.

He continues to offer communication topics along with customer service and leadership related topics. He added the "TIPS" alcohol awareness training to his programs for the hospitality industry and after becoming certified in the delivery of the Verbal Defense and Influence workshop is in the process of becoming a speaker, trainer and consultant for the Vistelar Group. Mark has also been a consultant with Group One Productions in Southern California for over twenty years working in television, video and photography. Mark has appeared as the host on numerous television shows and various industry videos as well as voice over work.

### Katherine Isgren

Katherine Isgren is a native Texan and grew up in Houston Texas and attended Texas State University and Houston Baptist University. Katherine lives in Austin, Texas and has 3 adult children and 7 grandchildren

Working experience includes:

Public Office: First Republican elected official to have an office (inside) Ft Bend County Courthouse .....as Tax Assessor/Collector

20+ years working as a woman owned small business after leaving public office.

20+years teaching in women's groups and one on one for business and personal development

Leading and facilitating for 12 step groups

Teaching Bible studies, Vacation Bible Schools

One on one personal mentoring, coaching and sponsoring

2012 Certified Verbal Defense and Influence Instructor

Workshops, speaking and teaching is Katherine's passion and Verbal Defense and Influence a primary focus for business or personal use in real life communications.