



Greetings!

With October we welcome Disability (Employment) Awareness Month. We encourage all of our trainers to ensure their departments have received the full training while continually reminding them of the resources NU FR DAT has to offer, to include our website. The best way to ensure appropriate, accurate response with individual disabilities response is with training and education.



**OCTOBER 2016**



NU FR DAT Program Director Dave Whalen answers questions at

## Suffolk County Police Academy to incorporate comprehensive Disability Awareness Training into curriculum.

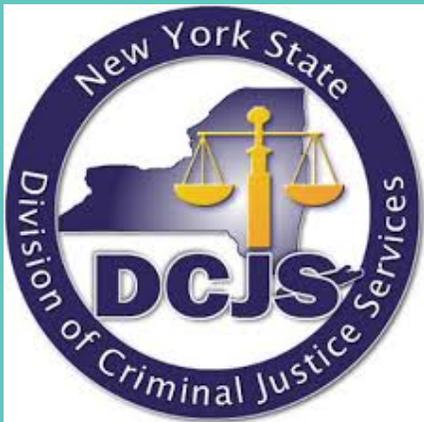
On September 28th, Suffolk County Police Commissioner Timothy D. Sini and Legislator DuWayne Gregory, County Chairman held a press conference with NU's Project Director David Whalen to announce the incorporation of the entire law enforcement disability awareness curriculum into the training for all recruits, effective immediately.

This will be the first academy in the nation to have police officers be educated in all disabilities that may challenge them in the line of duty.

[Click here to watch the CBS TV news report.](#)

[Read the Newsday coverage.](#)

OTHER RECENT HEADLINES	RESOURCES
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### DCJS MPTC Adds Niagara University's FR DAT Course to Basic Training

The NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services has approved the expansion of the Basic Course for new recruits to include the full comprehensive training for all new officers. NYS will be the first state in the nation to mandate that training cover all disabilities police

officers may encounter. Niagara University's program will also provide community resources, information to further education, and on-going development of new materials.

NU FR DAT will work in conjunction with its partner, the New York State Justice Center to ensure that trainers will be well-versed in the topic area and able to deliver the material with deeper insight.

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## **NU FR DAT moves forward in Missouri and Montana**

Program Director Dave Whalen will be travelling to Missouri the first week of October to begin the customization of first responder curriculum. Dave will meet with leaders in law enforcement, 911 operations, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and the disability community to introduce the program, move forward on state accreditation, and begin identifying training locations and dates.



Dave will also be in Montana in mid-October providing the Train the Trainer program for all four disciplines. The law enforcement training has been accredited, and the 911 dispatch and EMS programs are in the process of being approved.

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## **FR-DAT's Program Director David Whalen presents at NYS Association of Counties**

New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) held their Fall Seminar at the The Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls.

Disability Awareness Training's founder David Whalen presented a session on "Complying with the ADA and New Accessibility Requirements" along with Frank Cammarata from the County of Erie's Office for People with Disabilities. NYSAC's Fall Seminar is where New York's county leaders come together to share vital information.



Pictured L to R in photo: Dave Whalen and Frank Cammarata.

NU offers the highly acclaimed Disability Education and Awareness for Municipalities (DEAM). It addresses all areas of compliance relative to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and proper response to citizens with disabilities. Whalen sits on the Erie County (NY) Disability Advisory Board and chairs the Town of Amherst (NY) Committee on Disabilities.

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## **DISABILITY AWARENESS TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND 911 DISPATCHERS AND PARENTS OF DISABILITIES**

### **Upcoming Training & Conference Schedule**

**October 12 - NENA Education Summit in Columbus, Ohio**  
[Link](#)

**October 17-20 - Montana First Responder Train the Trainers**  
[Link](#)

**October 22 - Safety Awareness for Children of Disabilities**

**November 1 & 2 - Broome County Law Enforcement Train the Trainer**  
[Link](#)



## **October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month!**

Reflecting the important role disability plays in workforce diversity, this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) theme is

**"#InclusionWorks."** Observed each October, NDEAM celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and educates about the value of a diverse workforce inclusive of their skills and talents. The annual theme is announced early to facilitate advance planning of events. The official 2016 NDEAM poster is now available. [Click here for PDF version.](#)

## **FRDAT SAYS FAREWELL TO SAMANTHA MORGAN**



Samantha Morgan joined the FRDATA staff in 2012 after graduating from Niagara University as a Graduate Assistant. In January 2014, she completed her Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with a capstone titled "Examination and Analysis of Disability Awareness Training for Law Enforcement."

In December of 2013, Sam was hired as a full-time Project Manager for FRDAT. Sam was pivotal in the growth and recognition that the program has attained.

Samantha will continue serving the disability community through the ARC of Monroe County in Rochester, NY. We would like to thank Sam for all her hard work and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

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