

TESTIMONIALS

Tony, just heard a great story from a patrol officer. He and several other officers were trying to talk a violent subject down during a disturbance. When Officer Van Pelt told this guy he was under arrest, he suddenly got very quiet and put his hands on the car. When Van Pelt began searching him, he spun and tried to hit Van Pelt. Van Pelt flinched and drove a protective SPEAR into the guy, bowled him over the car and the other officers helped him handcuff the guy. He included all of this in his use of force report so it will make it to the Assistant Chief of Patrol. From him to me to you, Thanks.

- DT Instructor Dana Jackson
Little Rock, AR

We've been using the High Gear (4 sets) for the last two years in our Force Scenario Training here at the Academy. We've had great results and couldn't do the training and testing we have in place without it.

- Officer Joe Engman
Control and Defensive Tactics Instructor

In keeping with the "train to realism" philosophy, the High Gear suit is second to none; using the suit allows the operator real-time speed and agility without bulky equipment to interfere. Every time my students saw me in a High Gear suit, they knew it was "Game On!" The level of reality just moved up several notches. After CQB runs with the High Gear Suits, introducing Blauer's No Time to Shoot/No Room to Shoot scenarios, students would thank me for the "Real" training, saying that was the first time they were allowed to "go that far"... Did the suit stop me from feeling all the punches and kicks? I wouldn't want it to, I want to know what punch is working and when a kick didn't hurt. I want to be able to give true feedback to students without getting injured. High Gear allows me to do that. I know incorporating the High Gear suits into my training has helped save lives in Afghanistan, Iraq and other parts unknown.

- FC (Ret) Phil Crowley
CQB/Combative Instructor

Tony's work is the definition of inclusiveness, and can't be captured under a single word. For those of you have an interest in understanding more about Tony's system (and I genuinely hope this includes all of you), he has put together a text that maps out his practices in great detail. The volume is entitled PERSONAL DEFENSE READINESS (When Push Comes to Shove... BE YOUR OWN BODYGUARD.) The book provides a wealth of detail...it maps out an entire approach, providing you with the knowledge for further study. Be Your Own Bodyguard goes far, far beyond technique. In all seriousness, A BJJ player and a Thai Boxer will both find the material equally useful in increasing their ability to defend themselves on the street. That statement may seem unbelievable. All I can say is, get a copy of Be Your Own Bodyguard, and discover it for yourself. You have only a few bucks to lose, and a whole new world to gain access to!

- Kirik Jenness, President
New England Submission Fighting

I began my martial arts training in 1967, and have seen a lot of junk get passed off as effective self-defense since that time. On the advice of my first Sensei, Van Canna, I have sought out the best, toughest, and most effective instructors I could find no matter where I lived. Years later, I learned about Tony Blauer. He was the first person I ever heard referred to as a martial scientist, and upon investigating his S.P.E.A.R. system I found his research to be very thorough. His knowledge of the psychological side of survival in the streets, coupled with economy of movement and devastating follow-ups sets Tony Blauer in a class by himself. You can learn from him or learn it the hard way, if you live long enough.

- Frank DiMeo
Crossfit Gulf Coast

Mr. Blauer-

Just wanted to take a moment to relay a short story to you. I work as a patrol officer, SWAT team member and DT instructor for the Green Bay PD. I attended your S.P.E.A.R. Instructor Development course in Green Bay last March. A couple of days ago officers from our department were working a case late at night which involved a man who was beaten severely in his home, held in his room against his will and robbed. The victim was finally able to escape and stumble to an intersection where police were working an accident. This was done by friends of the victim's roommate and they were all still inside the house and refused to answer the door for police. A consent to search was signed by the victim and supervisors decided to make forced entry.

I was sent to the residence to assist with the entry. SWAT was not called out, but as a team member I was told to form an entry team with officers present and make entry. I was on point for the entry and we breached a rear door and made entry into a very small kitchen that was dark inside. A few feet from the door was the entryway to the living room and bedrooms (it was a very small lower apartment with very confined space). Standing in the entryway to the living room was a male and I could see others in the dark starting to scramble and hide in the bedrooms. The male in the entryway was holding his ground and after two loud commands would not comply.

The entry team was in jeopardy of getting jammed up in the doorway in a fatal funnel if this guy was not moved. As I closed the reactionary gap on this guy, my left arm came up in a 1/2 S.P.E.A.R. and my right hand brought my handgun in close to my body. The 1/2 S.P.E.A.R. worked perfectly as it made contact and moved this guy back out of the entryway and on his ass. I literally sat there afterwards and could not believe how well that worked. The officer behind me in the stack talked about the S.P.E.A.R. the whole next night at work. The rest of the team moved through with no problem and took four others into custody that were in the house.

The S.P.E.A.R. System is spreading like wildfire at our department. Myself and other DT instructors can't wait to attend your training in the future. Thanks for everything!

- Jeff Engelbrecht
Green Bay Police Department

We have been using Tony's research in the training of our fighters at The Armory fight team for a year now. I have been a student of Tony's material for a few years and find it invaluable in developing training sessions and picking apart specifics of the MMA world. Most recently we used some of Tony's system in dissecting elbow striking from the top and bottom with one of our UFC fighters. The material, if properly studied, is very transferrable to the MMA world and should be considered in any persons training program. The HIGH GEAR equipment is also a great training tool. All equipment that is strapped on a fighter has some limitations to it. We have found however that the HIGH GEAR allows the highest level of movement, with a minimum level of restriction and just the right amount of protection. We have 6 full suits and a few partial suits at our training academy and they are a great training tool.

- Joe Mullings 'The Armory'

I first met Tony Blauer 5 years ago at a special meeting at the GORE-Tex facility in PA. I was impressed with Tony's skill and ability to teach and immediately invited him to Texas for a TTPOA sponsored event in Baytown. His approach to training and his methods were unique. His philosophy was different than conventional training; everything was about converting the Murphy Moment during extreme close quarter situations. The class of SWAT operators ran through basics of Blauer's SPEAR System that included handgun & long gun transitions, weapon defense & groundfighting. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, not just because Tony is a dedicated teacher, but because his tactics were really simple and practical, and in fact, within a month of the class, this simple introduction to the SPEAR System helped save the life of one of our officers who found himself face-to-face with an armed suspect about to fire at him. As the suspect turned to fire, the officer, used an actual drill from Blauer's class and intercepted the gunman's arm with the, stepped into the assault simultaneously engaging the suspect with his own firearm; the ability for the SPEAR System to blend with the firearms transition was crucial to this officer's success. We even wrote about the incident in our COMMAND magazine. Because of successes like these and the practicality of Tony's research we've had him back for TTPOA conferences as well as advanced SWAT classes. While Tony's physical tactics are effective and work well under stress, his most important contributions to officer safety & survival training are his research into mind-set, fear management and the psychology of performance.

**- Sandy Wall
Houston Police Department, SWAT (ret.)**

Tony, A belated thanks once again for without a doubt the best personal defence course that we have taken since being in the police.

**- PC1373 David Smith
Leicestershire Constabulary, United Kingdom**

I have met many instructors, however, only a few of them stand out as truly inspirational, Tony Blauer is one of those instructors.

**- Anthony Lambraia
Detective/Training Coordinator**

When it comes to reality-based training there are few people that have really pioneered training or forced advancements in the field of combative sciences. Tony Blauer is one of those individuals. His approach to breaking down confrontations and development of the Ballistic Micro-Fight allows trainers and warriors to understand close quarter tactics at the deepest level. His HIGH GEAR suit is also an invaluable addition to the world of scenario-based training. Tony's ideas on what 'protective' suit should do for training is a complete paradigm shift from the conventional model. In the classes I teach I have had the opportunity to work with many types of protective gear. While each of the protective suits available on the market serve various purposes during training, when speed, intensity and realistic movement are required in the scenario, I prefer the HIGH GEAR suit.

- Kenneth Murray, Armiger Police Training Institute

Tony Blauer's S.P.E.A.R. System™ is the new paradigm of combatives training. As a law enforcement officer, use of force trainer, and academician, I have studied the efficacy of use of force tactics and techniques for well over a decade and have concluded that the S.P.E.A.R. System™ is the most comprehensive combatives program currently available. The system has also become the genesis and springboard of my professional research and training. The reason is simple: the S.P.E.A.R. System™ is 'totality in training'. I will never again train or live without its principles.

- Brian Kinnaird, Ph.D. Forceology Research Group

Tony! I am a BIG fan of your work. I think that your contributions have taken the warrior community into an entirely new evolutionary step. And this new program of yours is a major step forward. In my science fiction series (The Two-Space War), set hundreds of years in the future, they refer to our current era as the "Warrior Renaissance." We have learned more about the psychology and physiology of combat in the last 50 years than in the previous 5,000 years put together. And in the distant future Tony Blauer is referred to as "Saint Blauer."

This is an inside joke, half in jest between friends, but it is also half in truth. I believe that hundreds of years from now, when the history of this Warrior Renaissance, this Golden Age of Warriors, is written, that Tony Blauer will be remembered as one of the great pioneers who propelled us forward to the next evolutionary step in warriorhood. And you can quote me on that!

**- LT. Dave Grossman, U.S. Army (Ret.)
Director, Killology Research Group**

We just got and used the HIGH GEAR for our last in-house recruit training and it worked great. I have used elements of the SPEAR System several time in the field and it works like magic.

- Clay Fallis, Tallahassee Police Department

Tony Blauer is the ANTHONY ROBBINS of the self-defense world"

**- Dale Floyd, Fmr. North American Director
World Kickboxing Association**

I wanted to tell you how amazed I was at the S.P.E.A.R. Instructor Certification you taught a few months ago in Salemburg, NC. I finally received approval to start training the guys on my extraction team. They too, are amazed at how effective and easy it is to learn.

**- Sgt. Jurgen Kohler
Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office**

As physicians we have years of experience treating injuries that are the result of humans fighting other humans. We are also students of the martial arts and we have studied how humans fight for an equal number of years. After participating in several of Tony's courses, it is our opinion that the SPEAR system is the most anatomically and physiologically sound system of fighting available to the professional combatant. Tony Blauer's SPEAR system is usable, effective and reliable because it is based on the intrinsic pathways of human survival physiology. What makes the SPEAR System fundamentally superior to other combat systems is its utilization of instinctive human response to focus the fight back onto the initial aggressor of that fight. Thus, Blauer's system trains the fastest possible reaction of the "fight or flight response" to become the fight response. Anatomically, SPEAR is sound because it uses areas of the body that are least susceptible to injury to strike areas of the body that are the most susceptible to influence. Compliance of the opponent, therefore, is obtained with the safest use of combative force that is anatomically possible. The SPEAR, when executed properly, is a safe and effective mechanism to defend self, influence opponents, and overcome an aggressor, rapidly with a measured response. The SPEAR system is the most pragmatically safe way of responding to an attack. It makes sense from the medical standpoint because it intelligently utilizes intrinsic neurological pathways to effectively respond to unexpected attacks in a smoothly rapid way that dominates the opponent from point of first contact. It is used in the real world because it is grounded in fundamental anatomy and physiology of the human weapon system.

The S.P.E.A.R. System™ utilizes instinctive motion to effect a combative change in both participants. Its effectiveness is grounded in basic physiology and as a result although initially apparently simple it is fundamentally as complex as the system it is designed to protect, humans.

**- Robert C Smith, MD
Medical Director, Direct Action Medical Network**

Dear Tony, I recently had a good ex-SPEAR-ience. While on patrol, I stopped to see what 8 Polynesian males were doing outside a Bowling Alley. Two approached and said, "What the f**k you looking at punk ". I then asked for some ID, they both began an array of "F**k you, Dickhead". As I was reaching for my radio to call for backup, the one on the left took a swing (Sucker punch) with his right hand. I immediately responded with the SPEAR sending him reeling into the other which bought me enough time to draw my OC and spray both of them and keep the others at bay until backup arrived. I've never attended any of your seminars, only have a couple of your videos, but appreciate the valuable info and research you've done. It could have been a bad situation had I not practiced and made your technique part of my repertoire. Mahalo,

- Jason Groff, Pearl Harbor Police

For those of you who have searched for someone to teach true self-defense and been disappointed time after time - your patience has paid off, Tony Blauer is here.

**- Steve Neklia, 'Grappler's Corner'
Black Belt Magazine**

Following my first PDR weekend, I spent hours studying the seminar material. As questions arose, I corresponded with Coach Blauer and other PDR attendees. Soon, Coach Blauer's "uncommon sense" became clearer and clearer to me. The wisdom of his teaching and the genius of his system slowly became my own. Years of memorized martial arts "moves" were replaced with lightening fast instinctual responses. Where fear once existed, a vast psychological arsenal stood in its place. Today, after several PDR weekends, I feel I am a far better "3 Dimensional" fighter. I train and prepare myself for real world violence emotionally and psychologically-not just physically any more. As a result, I am more aware, more prepared and more dangerous to bad guys. I would never trade my decades of traditional martial arts training. I can say without exaggeration, however, that I found as much information, confidence and truth in a weekend with Tony Blauer as I had in a veritable lifetime of studying classical karate technique.

- Gary Khoury, Khoury's Karate

Tony Blauer is not just on the cutting edge of mental preparedness, he is the cutting edge. I have already learned many invaluable tools from Tony, and I know that I have just scratched the surface of his extensive research.

Thank you, Tony, for putting in all the years of work so that you can easily pass your findings along to my students and me. I look forward to many years of fruitful collaboration.

- Burton Richardson, Jeet Kun Do Unlimited

Simply, one of the best martial artists I know

**- Michael DePasquale Jr., Ju Jitsu Master
Editor Karate International**

Mr. Blauer, I would like to relay the following incident regarding the S.P.E.A.R. technique. In June 2000, I along with several other Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office SRT members attended one of your S.P.E.A.R. System seminars. Upon our return, we continued to practice your system. In April 2001, our SRT was executing a Search Warrant for the Narcotics Division. My assignment was primary entry team member. Upon making entry, the suspect rapidly exited the bedroom less than two feet in front of me, the suspect, with a pistol in his right hand, lunged at me. Using the half S.P.E.A.R. technique off my MP5, I drove him into a wall and then to the floor causing him to drop his weapon in the process. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your instruction in your excellent system and feel that it was primarily responsible for this incident ending without injury to any law enforcement officers or the suspect.

- Sgt. Mitch Woodruff, PBSO

Tony, I would like to thank you for the class at Oak Creek PD. Now that I have had an opportunity to see what those who have attended before me saw, all I can say is I wish these tactics were here when I started 28 years ago. It would have meant fewer fights and less ruined uniforms. I wanted to let you know that the National Geographic channel ran a special on unborn children the other night that showed a child in the womb flinching due to a loud and startling noise introduced by researchers. Using cameras that viewed the child inside the mothers womb, loud noise actually caused the child's hands to move up toward the face in the startle flinch response. What was even more amazing was the fact that they had just finished talking about the baby's nervous system just developing, providing even more evidence of the hard wiring present in our system, just as your research has shown. Thought you may want this information as further evidence of how correct you are in speaking about the hard wiring of the flinch. Again thanks for the class, it is truly a gift you possess to teach officers how to stay alive.

**- Lt. Craig Busche
Greenfield Police Department**

Tony Blauer fills in the gaps that other martial artists never think about when teaching self-defense. Leaving no stones unturned, Tony places your mind in the forefront, where it belongs, then gives you the physical skills and tools to get the job done. You will learn a lot from this man. I sure have.

**- Matt Furey, World Kung Fu Champion
National Champion Wrestler**

... a comprehensive holistic system ... in my opinion, the equivalent of Einstein's $E = MC^2$ for the self-defense field ... I make this statement based on 27 years in the martial arts and extensive experience in the military.

**- Robert Suggs, Ph.D 5th Degree Tang Soo
Do Captain, USNR (Ret)**

Tony, your attention to detail and genuine concern for my survival as an officer honored me. Thank you.

- Michael Archer, U.S. National Park Service

As a martial artist and career military officer with over 25 years experience ...the significant emotional event that changed the way I think and practice self-defense was my exposure to Mr. Blauer's tapes and information... always in search of "what works", yet leery of false advertising, I answered one of Tony's ads for some inexpensive introductory material on CHU FEN DO and became a believer... I highly recommend Tony Blauer and his material to anyone interested in self-defense, conflict management, or just plain combat survival. Accept no imitations, Tony is the 'real thing'.

**- Lt. Col. Kevin Leonard,
Chief Instructor, Heidelberg Martial Arts, Germany**

After participating in some of Tony's seminars & workshops, I immediately incorporated his confrontation psychology, weapon defense strategies and your close quarter tactics into the Australian Federal Police Special Operations Team program.

**- Wayne Comyn, Fmr. Chief Defensive Tactics
Instructor, Australian Federal Police**

Tony is one of the most skillful martial arts instructors I have ever known. As a professional police educator, I was particularly impressed with his psychological approach to confrontations.

**- George Sylvain, 8th degree Ju Jitsu Master
Chief Tactical Training Officer**

Tony, this is Jeff Okon from Bexar County I'm in Iraq with my army unit. Last week my guys were attacked along with another unit. The end result was 2 dead, 5 trucks destroyed, and seven wounded. It sounds like we lost but we won. The two dead soldiers were from the other unit, My soldiers survived a vicious battle where they were out numbered and out gunned because of the things that you taught me. Things like make a "Mental Blueprint" "Presumed Compliance" "Moving through the enemy and beyond instead of backing up and defending yourself" I know I'm not one of your best students but I learned how to control the enemy instead of trying to control the fight. Thank you for all that you have taught me.

**- First Sergeant Jeffrey B. Okon
U.S. Army Reserves, Iraq**

I have been training with my unit I am going to Afghanistan In January we have been training for three months I cant say much more for security reasons. I look forward to have the honor and pleasure in training and meeting you when I return. keep up the great work I appreciate the help you give to our military and our law enforcement. Without dedicated people like you we could not be as successful. Thank You. **AIRBORNE!!**

- Jason

The training was excellent. I am a police officer and everything that was taught has a practical application to my job.

- Steve Poulos, Phoenix Police Department

Tony's books, videos, equipment, and seminars are all designed to help you manage violence not only with effective techniques, but through psychology, fear management, and behaviorally sound tactics. I attended Tony's Combatives Camp in August '04 and learned an incredible amount in three short days.

- **Barry Eisler, Author of the John Rain series**

Tony Blauer will take your natural reactions and rewire them to serve the purpose of keeping you alive and on top of the game. Old dogs who supposedly cannot learn new tricks, take note: the S.P.E.A.R. System is easily integrated with whichever CQC or martial arts skills you already have.

- **Pavel Tsatsouline**
Author of The Russian Kettlebell Challenge

I am a 10 year veteran Deputy Sheriff and Trainer in a 1500 manned Sheriff's Office in a major Texas City. We have implemented the S.P.E.A.R. system in the 1st Quarter of 2000 in-service training cycle. In the first 3 months of training we had around 10 incidents that occurred in our streets and jail where the SPEAR was implemented. Tony Blauer's insight is ahead of his time. His information has changed the way my officers respond to violent encounters. All I can say is, it is the only trainer's training that I have received in this area where I have received immediate feedback from veteran and rookie officers.

- **Larry Pearson**

I know you are busy this week, but I have another story. A new guy on the team I work with found me today, and said last night he and another officer got in a foot chase with a BG. He caught the BG, and grabbed him from behind. The BG turned to his right, swinging his left arm at the cop (haymaker). The cop primal/protectively flinched, stopping the strike.

He immediately followed with a straight right, catching the BG square in the face. The BG backed up into the other officer, who struck him in the common peroneal with his flashlight. They overwhelmed the BG quickly. BG was caught so offguard, he thought he had been hit in the face by a maglight.

Anyway, this is due to your System, and how easily it transferred to the troops. We practiced all 3 of the flinches, but this time concentrated on doing something immediately after the flinch. Like you said, and I passed on to the troops, if you don't have a follow up, you are only prolonging your a**-whooping.

- **Lt. John 'JT' Goodman**
High Point Police Department

Just wanted to drop you a line and let you know how much I enjoyed the SPEAR presentation at the San Diego workshop. You have a tremendous system and a great presentation. Even with little MA experience I was able to learn a piece of the system and use it right away - Very rare for most "defense" styles. Thanks for the opportunity to learn from you and experience the S.P.E.A.R. System.

- **Brett Jones**

On Wednesday March 24th 2004 you saved my life. We were dispatched to a residential area for a report of a suspicious person. Upon arrival, myself and two other officers encountered the male who was walking in the area. We made contact with him. As one officer pat down I observed him looking around in all directions. I immediately recalled the video you showed while we were in Ga. Talk about "telegraphing". Moments later as the pat down moved toward his waist; he made a sudden aggressive move reaching for his waist. There was no primal, or protective..... It was all tactical. I used the SPEAR tactic from the side knocking him to the ground landing on his stomach. A struggle followed for about three seconds. Then, the sound of a gunshot came from underneath him. After the shot was fired ten to twelve metallic clicks were heard. These clicks were the sound of the hammer dropping on a spent casing inside of a 9mm semi auto. The weapon failure was from the slide in contact with the ground when the first round was discharged. He was taken into custody and transported to a local hospital, and later to the county jail with multiple charges. There were no injuries to law enforcement, or civilians who were watching in disbelief.

- **Sgt. Gary P. Roy, GD Public Safety**

It was an absolute pleasure meeting you last week. I was presented with my first opportunity to "put the LE back on point (Blauer)" yesterday. Our agency is currently conducting two Defensive Tactics Instructor Training Programs here at FLETC. While I prefaced my presentation with the fact that I have not completed the Blauer Tactical S.P.E.A.R. System certification, I did give them an overview of the system. We also viewed your L.E.T.N. segment. They were very impressed with the system and are eager to learn more about it. I am in the process of completing my lesson plan for your approval. I recall you giving me your approval to reproduce this L.E.T.N. segment for dissemination to our Use of Force Instructors. In your response this email, could you kindly confirm that approval. The National Criminal Investigation Training Academy wants to ensure that we don't reproduce anything without your approval.

On a personal note... by attending your seminar I am finally facing the fact that my battle with Fight 1 centers around the fact that I must get fit. I'll stop in to see in you October...and trust me... I will be back on point.

- **Linda T. Porter, Resident Course Developer**
National PFP Coordinator
National CI Training Academy

The training was excellent. I am a police officer and everything that was taught has a practical application to my job.

- **Steve Poulos, Phoenix Police Department**

Top quality instruction from instructors who have the ability to demonstrate their skills and points.

- **1st Lt. Jeff Pattay, USMC**

Tony Blauer's S.P.E.A.R. system is intuitive, easy to learn, understand, and apply and very effective, even for the new user. The beauty of the program is in its simplicity and universal applicability, My DT program will be greatly enhanced by taking out the Hee Yahh Kung Fu Louie stuff and simplifying things with the SPEAR.

**- Eugene R. Allen
Pierce County Sheriff's Department**

The Applications for the Gunfight school in Oak Creek was great. I am looking forward to continued training and becoming an instructor. Thanks for all you do to keep us safe and make us dangerous.

**- Sergeant Ken Brand, Walworth Co. Sheriffs Dept.
Patrol /SWAT**

I am a recently retired law enforcement officer with 20 years service in a tactical warrant unit in a large metro department and a martial arts instructor. I am a big believer in Mr. Blauer's training philosophy; it has changed the way that I look at defense tactics and my preparation for combat. I listened to his audiotapes on the way to work everyday as a way to prepare for duty.

they remind you that there is much more to a confrontation than just the physical and that fear management is a learned skill that is a often overlooked in our training. His article on Presumed Compliance was a favorite article within our unit, it should be required reading for every officer. I read it everyday just before hitting the streets.

- John Hanson, Atlanta, GA

I wanted to relate our latest deployment of the S.P.E.A.R. Tactic. This past week two officers from our department were assigned foot patrol to beer garden areas.

Needless to say the crowds were large and a good portion had been drinking since much earlier in the day. One of the officers was approached by a bouncer who told then that he needed their assistance with an individual who was causing a disturbance inside the crowd waiting to get inside. There were approximately 50 people in line waiting to get in and officers saw the individual pushing and shoving several individuals. One of the officers immediately took control of this individual and was removing him from the crowd. The second officer was keeping an eye on the perimeter. As the first individual was being removed the crowd started to get unruly and the proverbial "leader" began to verbally assault the cover officer. This individual encroached the officer on two occasions and was promptly lightly pushed back and told to stay back. This individual then began walking with a purpose towards the cover officer and the cover officer engaged him with a Tactical Spear Tactic. The individual flew back several feet and found himself looking up. He was handcuffed seconds later and more importantly the crowd dropped back to approximately 20 feet. On a side note the officer who used the tactic was impressed by the results and the defendant apologized for not listening.

- Joe (last name and department withheld)

Finally was given the opportunity to present the S.P.E.A.R. System to 16 Officers for consideration as our DT training. The response was phenomenal. Two of the Sergeants, and our Union Director could not believe that a System could be that effective for such a cross range of Officers (Gender, size, physical condition...).

They were able to experience first hand "The 10's get better and the 2's get a fighting chance". Every Officer who attended was thoroughly impressed by how

much their personal safety level and skill increased in one 4-hour training session. What a difference from the Subject Control Class every Officer was last required to attend. Our Chief Training Officer commented to me after that he was impressed how the principles from this class would fit in with our firearms training and our non-violent crisis intervention. All the Officers at the end of the class

asked the same question "Who do we have to write letters to in the County to get this as our training program."

Coach I know you already know it and experience it weekly, but it is a fantastic feeling when you can teach something to others and know that you have made their lives safer. That you haven't just followed the excepted plan, but empowered someone with proven truth. Thanks for your System, the coaching and most of all thanks for helping make 16 Officers lives safer today.

**- Joe Skovira, Cuyahoga County
Department of Protective Services
PDR/S.P.E.A.R. Coach**

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the awesome and intense training you provided to my colleagues from my company and my police department as well as myself. For years I have trained my SWAT team and many other SWAT teams in reality "based training" and it wasn't until now that people see the true importance of realistic training in their training programs. Your SPEAR course that I attended back in March in Abington PA was a tremendous wake up call to me to make this system get FORCED into the state of New Jersey. It has been a great asset to my SWAT team-training program. For all the skeptics who doubt the training systems, I say to them, they have not learned the true meaning of training. Your passion and dedication was a refreshing thing to see from the dog and pony shows that are being presented. I thank you and our team thanks you!

**- Jose Medina, President
Awareness Protective Consultants LLC
Police Officer and SWAT Trainer, State of New Jersey**

I have had the pleasure and honor to train with Tony Blauer on several occasions. His ability to teach and instill in me the warrior mentality that is inherent to the SPEAR system was profound. I frequently use techniques he taught me during real-life confrontations while performing the duties of a Deputy Sheriff. I am always amazed by my body's ability to recall the principles of SPEAR movement, even during moments of fear, fatigue and surprise. Thanks Tony.

- Greg Amundson, Deputy Sheriff

I would like to thank you for the class at Oak Creek PD. Now that I have had an opportunity to see what those who have attended before me saw, all I can say is I wish these tactics were here when I started 28 years ago. It would have meant fewer fights and less ruined uniforms. I wanted to let you know that the National Geographic channel ran a special on unborn children the other night that showed a child in the womb flinching due to a loud and startling noise introduced by researchers. Using cameras that viewed the child inside the mothers womb, loud noise actually caused the child's hands to move up toward the face in the startle flinch response. What was even more amazing was the fact that they had just finished talking about the baby's nervous system just developing, providing even more evidence of the hard wiring present in our system, just as your research has shown. Thought you may want this information as further evidence of how correct you are in speaking about the hard wiring of the flinch. Again thanks for the class, it is truly a gift you possess to teach officers how to stay alive.

**- Lt. Craig Busche, Greenfield Police Department
Greenfield, WI**

Hope all is well. I was holding my boy the other day, and he was leaning against me with one arm for support. His other hand was busy eating the boat keys. It's interesting to watch him find outside 90 for efficiency. I was having a beer with a buddy, who happens to be a Physical Therapist. I know you already know this, but he said the muscle with try and find its optimal length for strength by aligning (spelling) "meyo actison bridges" etc. etc. Here little Joseph is finding this length, and can't even speak a word. Makes me think " what does your body want to do naturally and is there a combative application" I found it fascinating.

**- Travis White (S.P.E.A.R. System Instructor)
Las Vegas MPD**

I have been studying Tony Blauer's material since the mid 90's and I can't say enough good things about it. It is truly the missing link for someone who just trains mixed martial arts or any individual martial arts style. The research he has done into the psychological aspect of real world violent confrontations is revolutionary and vastly unaddressed/ under-trained by almost everyone in the martial arts community.

I often teach seminars to martial arts schools, police, soldiers, correctional officers and more. During my teaching I regularly quote and give credit to Tony for passing along concepts that he brought to light for me. There are many out there who have studied his material and are bastardizing it in their own names, but there is really only one Tony Blauer. He is truly cutting edge. If you haven't checked out his material I highly recommend that you do so... your life will never be the same. It perfectly complements a well rounded mixed martial arts skill set with the psychological factors that must be addressed for any success in real world violent confrontations.

**- Vincent Fields, President
Realistic Martial Arts Training Association**

Tony, I never did send you an email and thank you for the exceptional course that you put on in Madisonville, Kentucky. I was honestly blown away with the concepts and tactics that you have developed and feel that it enhances any DT program. Your knowledge astounded me and the way present the material made it very easy to comprehend.

I have been to a number of courses that have let's say, made it hard to keep my focus. Yours was an eye opener and a mind expander. I never arrived in Madisonville until 4 am, and the course started at 8 am, because of the info I was more alert and learned more than if I had actually slept all night for other courses.

I really wanted to thank you and tell you that I am doing all I can to get your info out to our people at the Halifax Regional Police.

**- Dennis Crowell
Halifax Regional Police Training Section**

Your S.P.E.A.R. certification class in Las Vegas was great. I have to admit I'm a little overwhelmed with the amount of information I need to re-organize and study, not to mention 40 pages of notes. Anyway, you were great to work with I believe in your system. My guys are chomping at the bit to get trained after hearing my reviews.

I also wanted to drop you a line to let you know I have already used the S.P.E.A.R. System two times in the last month. The first was on a bad guy we had tracked into the woods following a felony assault. Our K9 and handler went in to make the bite and apprehend him. The dog had a good bite on the suspect, but the suspect ignoring the dog, was turning to punch the handler. I was able to pick up the Pre Contact Cue, and caught him with a full SPEAR across the clavicle and neck. I basically rolled him with one shot. Between the dog and I, we stretched him out and took him into custody. Then, last Sunday, I got onto a vehicle chase with a male who had just assaulted his ex-wife with a hammer. I was able to get him stopped, but he came out at gunpoint and went after me, ignoring my commands, and my gun. He got a taste of his own medicine. After fighting hard, he ended up in the back of my squad. Only because you got me thinking about the flinch and holster, or flinch and draw, did the transition go so smooth. I holstered and jammed him good twice from the protective SPEAR then the tactical conversion. I have taught that concept to my guys. I just wanted you to hear some more success from your program.

**- Pete Dahl RCSI #1111, Deputy Commander
SCDIU-SWAT**

Tony's High Gear is AWESOME! It's lightweight, easy to put on and allows my team and I to train hard, injury free. I'm continuously impressed with how well it functions, regardless of if I'm striking or grappling, it protects without restricting movement.

- Dave Kovar

Tony, I just wanted to Thank you for putting on a great program in Ontario November 21st-25th. I came on my own dime because I believe in the principles and tactics that you teach, I know at some point it will save an officers life. I will start planning, as I would like to attend your PDR program in late 2006. I am interested to see if you would ever consider a two-day course here in the Queen city of Regina. Something that shows the diversity of the SPEAR System?

I would really like to bring you in at some point, and I know a number of officers who would consider it an honor to train with you. The system is so diverse, and has many applications. I am very interested in taking your officer survival school at some point, and I will continue to fly the SPEAR Flag her in Saskatchewan. I live in Regina and we have the Main Police College in my city, all Saskatoon officers to go the SPC, we also train Officers from Manitoba and Alberta so I think we could get a course here.

The DVDs I bought from you are priceless; it's like re-living the course over and over again. I will continue to study your teachings and methodologies, as I have for years. Also can you tell me how does a person get involved in your company, I realize you get a lot of requests like this but I hope to one day work with you at some level if the opportunity was present some day.

- Constable Troy Ostapiw

Our team conducted a simultaneous entry on a front and back apartment. We had information that the male living in the rear apartment was possibly armed with a .32 handgun. There was also information that he possessed a deer rifle and recent evidence collected showed that he had purchased ballistic tip shells for the rifle.

I acted as point for the rear apartment and after knocking and announcing Mike Wanta breached the door. The steel door was unforgiving, but on the second hit it sprung. As I entered the living room I immediately saw a large male standing approximately ten feet inside the doorway. He was standing in his boxer shorts with a stunned look on his face. I immediately shouted "Police, get down on the ground!" Of course he didn't move and he blocked access to the bedroom and bathroom of the apartment for my team to clear behind me. I immediately indexed my Glock 21 to my chest with my right hand and delivered a half SPEAR with my left, catching the suspect in the upper chest under his neck. I was astounded to see the bottom of his feet, which ended up above my head. The suspect flew approximately eight feet and landed with a thud on his back. He immediately rolled over and responded to my verbal commands to put his hands behind his back.

After we completed the warrant I was amazed to find out the stats on the guy who listed at 6'0" 270 pounds. I am 5'07" and weigh 190. One of our assistant team leaders who was behind me in the stack found it necessary to brief the warrant immediately after returning to the station. He told the rest of the team that it was the best takedown he had ever seen. I can tell you one thing, I played football throughout high school and have been a cop for 13 years and I have never hit someone that effectively in all my life. I applaud your system and thank Jeff for bringing it to our team. Keep up the fabulous work.

- Brad Biller, Green Bay Police Department

I have been training in, and using operationally, the S.P.E.A.R. System for nearly ten years. Whenever I think of Tony Blauer I recall watching a TV programme about the people who broke the German Enigma codes in WWII, in which an interviewee was talking about Alan Turing; the man who invented the computer. To paraphrase what he said:

"The difference between a genius and people who are just 'very clever,' or 'really clever,' lies, I think, not simply in their level of intelligence but in the level of abstraction in their patterns of thought. Turing was like this. Sometimes some of the answers he came up with were very simple, and once we were told the answers all of the 'very clever' people, (and we were all very clever around there), would say, "That's so obvious," but we couldn't think of it before he did, and wouldn't have thought of it if he hadn't been there. And it was often in the simple things that we found the most profound breakthroughs. But the 'really clever' people were the ones who can admit to themselves, "I could never have thought of that." I guess it takes a 'really clever' person to realize that, no matter how apparently simple Tony's concepts might appear, that we couldn't have thought of them without the help of a creative genius of a different level of abstraction, or maybe it just takes somebody with integrity to admit that they still have something to learn.

Of course I do not believe that Tony's system is simple. The more I study it, the deeper and deeper I plunge down the rabbit hole. When I try to track down the intuitive leaps of thought he had 10, 15 & 20 years ago I find scientists on the cutting edge 'proving' what he said. When I study his drills and training philosophy I find 'emotional learning' is now at the cutting edge of skills learning, and that only now, with the benefit of MRI, are people learning how to take advantage of it; struggling to get to a place you left many years ago.

- Jim Keenan, Police Inspector, Lincolnshire Police

In 1997, I was introduced to Tony Blauer and the SPEAR system for a week long custom course geared towards instructor development. I did not fully understand, until after the course was completed, how this training would impact all future decisions related to training and my professional career. The Macon County Probation and Court Services Department fully embraced every aspect of Tony's teachings and philosophy. When I talk about the department it should be emphasized that the staff are the ones who have embraced his teachings. This is very critical when training individuals, who might have the physical limitations or handicaps. Each person walks away from the training with a sense of personal accomplishment. One important saying that Tony has engrained, "show them what they can do, not what you can do." The department has purchased numerous videotapes and 9 of his High Gear suits. The High Gear suits take staff to that next level of safety training. Today the department is still on the journey with Blauer Tactical System leading the way.

On a personal note, Coach Blauer has given me the confidence and competence to not only protect myself, but also manage life's little bumps in the road through the Three Golden Rules and the Cycle of Behavior. Tony Blauer has continued to help me become a better coach and person, and this I am truly thankful for.

- Patrick Berter, Macon County Probation

Tony I want to take some of your time to express how amazing your system is when it comes to fighting. I was first exposed to the system in 2001 at the Florida SWAT Round-up International. I was impressed then, but have enjoyed the evolution that has occurred since then. The Vegas Combatives Camp was awesome, and tremendously valuable to me as the lead defensive tactics instructor and coordinator for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

After the Vegas camp I was instructing a SPEAR course and a student called me over during the hyperflexion drill. He said that he could not establish a point of domination because his partner was too strong. I did what any coach would do and had them repeat the drill to see what was wrong. I was not able to recognize any major mistakes being made by the student other than minor inexperience with the system and a major size difference with his partner. Having "faith in physiology" I said let me try. Now I have to set the stage for you a bit. The student was 6'1 265 pounds of pure rock hard muscle as you know I'm 5'8 165 lbs. I was able to achieve a point of domination on the student, but I knew he really was not grabbing me with all he could so I said grab me like you would on the street. After hearing my vertebrae snap crackle and pop, I realized that I could not get out of his anaconda like hold with my arms at hyperflexion. Wanting him to be a good bad guy I said are you just going to squeeze me or would you drive me around the room. I figured if he drove me a bit I would be able to loosen his hold. I was wrong. At this point the class stopped to watch what was going on. I wrapped one leg and began to fall to the ground. As we fell I moved to outside 90 splayed fingers and the student and all 265 pounds came down across the sweet spot of my arm to his brachial nerve. I immediately rolled him so that I was on top side mount type position still maintaining outside 90 across his brachial. I noticed that he looked stunned and his eyes were hollow looking and fluttering so I checked to make sure he was ok. He was fine but he had one question. He asked how did you get on top of me? He later said that he had never been knocked out before but he thought this was the closest he had ever been. He was so stunned by the impact of his brachial on my arm he did not realize that I rolled him. He and everyone else in the class were amazed. This inadvertent David and Goliath impromptu demo really drove the "faith in physiology" point home. I love how the spear system can be used on the ground or anywhere. I look forward to having you come back to FDLE in the future for more instruction. The SPEAR System WORKS! Thanks for everything.

**- J. Knowles, FDLE
Special Agent Training Academy**

Mr. Blauer

I want to thank you again for the excellent training at the combatives camp in Virginia Beach. As always, it was well worth the 21hr drive to attend and I always pick up something to bring home from any of those events. The Virginia Beach training facility is a first class operation and as usual your staff is as good as it gets.

I recently had a conversation with a defense attorney who questioned the use of force by officers on many occasions and who reviewed the training material that you provide for instruction. He stated that he did not enjoy going to court against an officer who the S.P.E.A.R. System in an encounter for two main reasons:

1. Because of the training, the documentation of what occurred is typically much more detailed than in other use of force.

2. When the recovery from a startle flinch response is documented, the program provides scientific background on the sudden aggressive actions that bring about the initial flinch reaction. With the response caused by the stimulus from the attacker, the testimony in court typically begins with the aggressive actions of the 'bad guy', something he as a defense attorney really doesn't want to have leading the testimony.

That provides another powerful example of why the S.P.E.A.R. System should be an integral part of law enforcement defensive tactics training.

**-James Pierson
Assistant Police Chief
Henderson Police Department
Henderson, TX.**