

# THE ARCURI GROUP SITUATION AWARENESS SPECIALIST® (SAS) PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE TRAINING PROGRAM

By, Thomas Pecora, SAS-MP – July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The Situation Awareness Specialist® (SAS) professional certificate training program was designed to educate an individual in the craft of situational awareness - to help build and enhance the capacity to better understand and deal with the dynamics of random and potentially threatening events.

The SAS certification program teaches a system of situational awareness concepts and principles over a comprehensive 4-hour training session. The SAS program provides the student with critical information to assess their environment and make appropriate decisions based on sound judgment. Some of the goals of the program include creating a survival mindset, teaching environmental awareness, explaining the human decision-making process, and learning about and focusing on human behaviors especially threat behaviors.

Situational awareness is a knowledge and skill set that utilizes a number of concepts, aptitudes, and abilities. Some of the concepts that make up the craft of situational awareness include an understanding of our senses, mindset, and awareness levels. Just understanding these concepts is not enough, they must be put into the correct context and layered into a logical framework so that they can be incorporated into a situational awareness 'system' (the most efficient use of our abilities). Context is everything especially in the craft of situational awareness.

Once the knowledge and concepts have been learned, they need to be applied via a specific set of skills. Some of the skills taught in the SAS course include learning to 'baseline' various environments, increase observation ability, and prepare for and react to threats.

Our philosophy is that once a student commits to the 4-hours of SAS instruction and has been exposed to a logical and systematic progression of materials, concepts, skills and, realistic examples, they will be in a position to take the training forward, apply it in their day-to-day lives and share it with friends, family and loved ones.

We consider individuals who have committed themselves to mastering the craft of situational awareness to be 'practitioners of the craft'. Helping people move from the conceptual stage to the practical application stage is an essential part of the SAS process. It is only through a commitment to the craft that the individual can truly learn and apply the SAS concepts and skills in their daily life. Layered skill building and real-world practice are the key ingredients to craft mastery.

The SAS certification process is recognition that the student has learned the foundations of situation awareness and is now in a position to apply it in their daily lives. It speaks to their commitment to master the skills and knowledge they have been taught.

*Thomas Pecora is a former US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Senior Security Officer who served over two decades protecting and training CIA personnel. He was responsible for the security of CIA personnel in several active war zones and has extensive worldwide operational security experience and in-depth knowledge of security disciplines through overseas postings and travel assignments in Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, Europe and The Middle East. Tom is a Senior Advisor and Trainer with Arcuri Group, as well as Director of Pecora Consulting Services (PCS LLC) where he provides leadership consulting services to companies with significant security elements.*

For more information on the Situation Awareness Specialist® (SAS) professional certificate training program please visit us at: [www.situationawarenesstraining.com](http://www.situationawarenesstraining.com)