

Keith Hanson

Current Member, CCSSEF Board of Directors
Co-Chief Training Officer



Keith Hanson is a career law enforcement, executive protection, and high-liability training professional with extensive experience spanning operational, instructional, protective, investigative, and curriculum-development disciplines. His career has centered on preparing law enforcement officers, armed professionals, instructors, and organizations to make better decisions and perform more effectively in environments where stress, uncertainty, time compression, and human performance have direct consequences.

For more than fifteen years, Keith has also worked in executive protection and protective intelligence, supporting national news personalities, political figures, musicians, corporate principals, and other high-profile clients in demanding public and private environments. His experience includes protective advance operations, executive protection site assessments, route and venue evaluations, executive risk and threat assessments, and TSCM-informed vulnerability reviews designed to identify potential exposure before it develops into an operational problem.

A graduate of the Executive Protection and Advanced Threat Assessment Academy through Gavin de Becker and Associates, Keith brings a disciplined, threat-informed approach to protective operations, organizational security, and behavioral threat assessment. He has extensive experience evaluating threats involving individuals, leadership teams, organizations, and public-facing figures and has assisted in the development, training, and support of corporate and executive-level Behavioral Threat

Assessment Teams. His work includes team development, policy and protocol guidance, training, operational consultation, and ongoing advisory support addressing concerning behavior, targeted violence, workplace violence, and executive protection concerns. He is also a member in good standing of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals.

Keith's broader professional background includes firearms instruction, tactical operations training, active-threat response, counterterrorism tactics, tactical medicine, use-of-force analysis, realistic de-escalation, and human-performance-based training design. He holds multiple federal, state, and professional instructor-level certifications involving firearms, active-threat response, rapid deployment, counterterrorism response, tactical casualty care, and high-liability curriculum development. His additional professional qualifications include Certified Force Science Analyst, Certified High-Liability Curriculum Development Specialist, Certified Realistic De-Escalation Instructor, Certified Advanced Threat Assessment Specialist, and Certified Forensic/Cognitive Investigative Interviewer.

A central focus of Keith's professional work is advancing firearms and high-liability training beyond traditional instructional models by incorporating what modern research tells us about how people actually learn, make decisions, react to threats, and perform under stress. He is a co-creator and senior program architect of NeuralTac™, an advanced instructional framework integrating neuroscience, combat psychology, neuropsychology, kinesiology, educational science, and contemporary human-performance research. NeuralTac™ is designed for law enforcement agencies, contract security organizations, instructors, and other armed professionals, with particular emphasis on developing advanced-level master trainers capable of sustaining rigorous instructional standards within their own organizations.

Keith also serves as Co-Chief Training Officer of the Cheshire County Shooting Sports Education Foundation, where he contributes his instructional, curriculum-development, and human-performance expertise to the advancement of responsible, evidence-informed shooting sports education.

In addition to his training and consulting work, Keith serves as a court-recognized expert witness and legal strategy consultant in matters involving use of force, firearms tactics, law enforcement training, defensive force, and the human-performance factors surrounding critical incidents. His work focuses not only on what occurred during a critical event, but on the physiological, psychological, perceptual, cognitive, and training-related factors that help explain human performance under extreme conditions.

Keith is the author of *Unlocking the Brain Code: Exposing the Limits of Traditional Firearms Instruction and High-Liability Training Through Neuroscience, Psychology, and*

Human Performance Research, which examines traditional assumptions within firearms and high-liability instruction through the lens of contemporary research and advocates for more evidence-informed approaches to training. (<https://a.co/d/06yxzok6>)

He is also a featured contributor to Officer magazine and Officer.com, writing a weekly series on firearms training and high-liability training, addressing instructional methodology, human performance, instructor development, training science, and the shortcomings of legacy approaches that are not supported by current research. (His work may be found here: <https://www.officer.com/55363165/>)

Keith additionally serves as a senior contributor to the book, *The Self-Defense Firearms Training Industry EXPOSED: What You Need to Know to Avoid Getting Ripped Off by Wannabes, Fakes, and Side-Hustling Con Men*, an examination of instructor qualifications, training quality, industry practices, consumer protection, and the standards students should expect when selecting professional defensive firearms education.

(<https://a.co/d/049nmpPD>)

Across these roles, Keith's work is unified by a common objective: raising the professional and educational standards of firearms and high-liability training through sound instruction, credible instructor development, responsible shooting sports education, and training practices grounded in contemporary science rather than tradition alone.