



# NOA(h)

Speaker: Battalion Chief Dino Beltz

# Neurodivergent Operational Awareness (for healthcare providers)



Students will be given the tools to recognize and identify aspects, behaviors, and challenges facing individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Students will also learn how to purposefully engage with compassion and understanding when serving those with their own unique strengths, challenges and abilities.

## NOA(h) Key Topics & Much More!



**ASD foundations:** Definitions of neurodivergence and ASD, spectrum variability, common behaviors, comorbidities, and key statistics



**Interaction and response:** Communication tools, practical engagement strategies, and managing sensory needs, stimming, and meltdowns.



**Safety and support systems:** Elopement response strategies and the role of families and caregivers in effective care.

**Register  
Here**



Recommended for: Nursing, Physicians, Social Work, Child Life, Pre Hospital Personnel, PT, OT, or ANYONE working with this population!

**February 19<sup>th</sup>**

**@ 11am-3pm**

**Wong Kerlee – Slate Room**

**FREE**

**\*\*Lunch Provided\*\***

**CE Approval Pending**



## BACKGROUND

At least 1 in 20 people in the general population are affected by Sensory Processing Disorder. Neurodivergent Operational Awareness -NOA(h) - is a training program developed by a first responder and a father of a child with Special Needs. Realizing the need for front line personnel to become better equipped to identify, engage, and care for those with Special Needs. This training has been delivered to EMT/paramedic programs, Fire departments, Law enforcement, security personnel, entertainment venues, and conferences across California.

## OBJECTIVES

- Provide the student with actual tools to aid in identifying those with special needs
- Provide the student with practical tools in caring for those with special needs
- Increase awareness of a growing special needs population
- Provide the student with a baseline of understanding Neurodiversity
- Offer solutions to some of the nuances that present themselves when engaging with Neurodivergent individuals

## BIOGRAPHY

With over 30 years of Fire and EMS experience, Battalion Chief Dino J. Beltz has dedicated his professional career to serving and protecting others. As a father of a son with Level 3 Autism and Intellectual Disability, it became obvious that there was a gap between Frontline workers in how we serve those with Special Needs. After over a decade of exposure and interaction with Special Needs parents, teachers, therapists, and doctors, he created this course to bridge that gap and help Frontline workers expand on their existing skill set. Battalion Chief Beltz was also awarded the 2024 EMS Educator of the Year for the development of this groundbreaking program.