

Richard is a retired police officer / K9 handler with over 26 years of experience. He began his career in 1997 with the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority (BMHA) Public Safety Department, serving there for six years before moving over to the Town of Amherst (NY) Police Department for the next 20 years, retiring as a K-9 Handler/trainer for Police Service Dog Harley. During his employment with the BMHA, Richard was assigned as a task force officer with the FBI's Buffalo Field Office for 3 ½ years where he was involved in the investigation of individuals and organizations involved in narcotics trafficking and gang violence. During his time with the task force Richard was directly involved in several hundred investigations, many of which were prosecuted in the US District Court, and which resulted in the incarceration of dozens of individuals.

Richard is a Master Police Instructor employed by the Erie County Law Enforcement Training Academy since 2006 and has been actively involved in various levels of law enforcement training. Additionally, Richard is certified by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYS DCJS) as a Radar/Lidar Instructor, a Defensive Tactics Instructor, and an Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC) Instructor and is the coordinator and lead instructor of the EVOC program for the Basic Course for Police Officers as well as for EVOC in service courses, Richard has trained thousands officers in his role as an EVOC instructor. Richard also serves as the coordinator/facilitator for the Instructor Development Course and Police Field Training Officer's (FTO) Course where he has trained and certified hundreds of new police instructors and FTO's. During his employment with the BMHA Public Safety Department, Richard helped to develop and implement a field training and evaluation program for the department, which did not previously have one.

In his last assignment as a Police K9 handler and trainer for Police Service Dog (PSD) Harley, Richard was responsible for the proper training, utilization and deployment of PSD Harley and served as the police canine maintenance trainer and evaluator for several other area police K9 teams.