

# In Crisis: Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Training for Special Ops



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# Exercise



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## Resist Coming Out of the House

- Sensory issues
- Social challenges
- Future care / abandonment
  - Who will feed me?
  - Who will help me with meds?
  - Where will I sleep?
- Disruption of structure/routine
- Is there a service animal inside?



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## Challenges for Special Ops

- May be afraid to come outside – people, cars, lights, sunlight, sounds, touch
  - Less stimulus



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## Challenges for Special Ops

- Understanding resistance
- May need one person to make contact
- The person inside may not be able to use a phone



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## Challenges for Special Ops

- May not understand the danger they are in
- Caregiver may be only person they have
  - Not want to leave
- May not typically leave house



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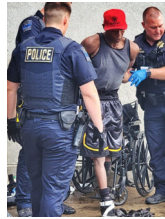
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## Challenges for Special Ops

### How are you getting them out of the house?

- Impaired cognitive abilities and judgment
- Physical disabilities and limitations
- Insufficient adaptive behaviors
- Write your name on page four



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## Exercise Time



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### Communication/Language Processing Disorder

- May communicate with or without words
- May use alternative mode of communication – iPad or other assistive technology, gestures, sign language, PECS
- May be verbal, but unable to sustain a conversation
- May only cite scripts or use echolalia
- May use repetitive or idiosyncratic language (ASD and Tourettes)
- Articulation difficulties (ID/Down syndrome and Cerebral Palsy)



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### Communication/Language Processing Disorder

- May appear deaf and may not respond to verbal cues and commands
- Receptive and Expressive Language may require additional processing time



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### Communication/Language Processing Disorder



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When Interacting with a Person with a Developmental Disability . . .

A diagram with a black arrow pointing up labeled 'ANXIETY' and a red arrow pointing down labeled 'PROCESSING'. The PFA logo is in the bottom right corner.

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Behavioral Effects

- May have obsessive tendencies (passions)
- May act impulsively

Two photographs: one of a police SUV and another of a police officer standing with a dog and a small robot. The PFA logo is in the bottom right corner.

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When Interacting with a Person with a Developmental Disability . . .

A diagram with a black arrow pointing up labeled 'ANXIETY', a red arrow pointing down labeled 'PROCESSING', and another black arrow pointing up labeled 'BEHAVIOR'. The PFA logo is in the bottom right corner.

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### Special Ops Considerations

**Individuals with a developmental disability  
MAY –**

- Pretend to understand consequences/danger when they don't
- Say what they think you want to hear
- Have a high tolerance for pain
- Want to run back into the house



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### Special Ops Considerations

**Individuals with a developmental disability  
MAY –**

- Be overwhelmed by police presence
- Not recognize the uniform as a sign of authority



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### Special Ops Considerations

**Individuals with a developmental disability  
MAY –**

- Repeat words or mimic gestures of the officer
- Not respond to "stop" or other commands
- React with "fight", "flight" or "freeze"
- Answer "no" or "why" to all questions



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## Take Down Team

- What intel has been gathered?
- Make sure you understand the person's:
  - Processing time
  - Physical limitations
  - Communication challenges



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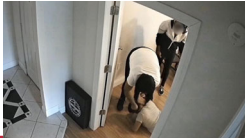
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## Group Homes

- House with 3-5 individuals with I/DD and mental health issues
- Who owns/manages the house
  - Contact the house supervisor
  - Respond out with Person-Centered Plan and additional staff
- Crisis may be result of environment or staff



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## When Interacting with a Person with a Developmental Disability . . .

- Remain realistic and honest
- Explain your actions in advance
  - I am going to place you in handcuffs
  - You are going to the hospital
- Don't make promises you can't keep
  - We'll stop and get lunch



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## Communication Strategies

- Give plenty of time for the person to process the information and respond
- Avoid complex words



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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