



**CATT**

## **Aaron McGowan**

Albany, Oregon

Counter Assault Tactics and Training: [Counterassaulttactics.com](http://Counterassaulttactics.com). (971)239-8883- Business Cell

Grip Works Designs: [Gripworksdesigns.com](http://Gripworksdesigns.com)

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### **Education:**

- Oregon DPSST basic Parole and Probation class– graduated-Completed Advanced level certification.
- Oregon DPSST basic Police class- graduated with the Victor G. Atiyeh award. Completed Advanced level certification.
- Oregon BPSST basic Parole and Probation class - graduated with the Defensive Tactics award and the Carol Fagan award for academic achievement. I also received the marksmanship award after attending the BPSST firearms training.
- Oregon State University - Corvallis, Oregon. Completed a Bachelor of Science in Sociology with enough credits for a double minor, one in Psychology and the second in Women’s Studies.
- West Albany High School - Albany, Oregon.

### **Professional Work Experience:**

January 2026- Present

Over about the past 25 years I have been experimenting and designing purpose build knife designs for weapon retention and self-defense for law enforcement. I am starting up a new knife design business (**Grip Works Designs**) and part of my monthly efforts go towards this endeavor.

January 2026- Present

**Counter Assault Tactics and Training LLC:** Providing customized survival skills training for civilians and law enforcement on a part time basis in areas including but not limited to: residential security, walking route security assessment, escape and evasion tactics, safe movement, counter assault, Use of Force decision making, TCCC (basic combat casualty care), edged and improvised weapons, basic hand to hand combat and other survival skills for urban and rural environments. I tailor individual and group training sessions based on the topic matter the client wants to training in and adjust the information based on the prior experience or expertise of the client. I work with people with disabilities who are concerned about safety and offer training to those who may not be inclined to sign up for a tactical or more military style training but still want valid information and survival skills training to protect themselves and their loved ones.

May 2025- Present

Full time working as a Use of Force instructor with a state level training agency.

November 2024-May 2025

Part time instructor for a state level training agency for Use of Force.

Approximately 21+ years as an Adult Parole and Probation Officer. I also worked part time for a period of time at a state level training organization as an instructor teaching firearms, building search and confrontational simulation (con sims). I was sworn in during this time as a Special Deputy for a Sheriff's Office and participated on SWAT as a Sniper. I have worked for three different parole and probation agencies.

About 6+ years as a Sheriff's Deputy on patrol and about a year of that working for a city police agency. During this I also served as a Sniper/Operator on a SWAT team and was an agency survival skills trainer.

### **General Summary of Certifications/ Training/ Awards:**

- Use of Force IDC
- Tactical Duty Knife Instructor certification
- Defensive Tactics Instructor certification
- O.C. Instructor certification
- Range 2000/3000 MILO Instructor certification (Range 3000 IDC)
- Krav Maga Instructor certification (Basic Combatives, Self Defense, Handgun Retention, Defenses Against Threats with a Handgun, Defenses Against Attacks with an Edged Weapon, Defenses Against Threats with an Edged Weapon)
- Firearms Instructor certification
- Taser Instructor certification
- American Council on Criminal Justice Training Ground Defense Instructor Course certification
- Previously certified by a state level training agency (2004) to teach Defensive tactics, OC, Ground Control tactics, Knife/Counter Knife, Weapon Retention/Disarming and Handcuffing. I also have prior training in Ninjutsu, wrestling and Tae Kwon Do.
- Advanced Sniper/Observer Course
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Tactical Operations - Operations Level
- Law Enforcement Response to WMD Incidents - Awareness Level
- Responding to Chemical and Biological Warfare Threats
- Prior member of the American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers: training in Ground Control/Arrest and Control tactics, Edged Weapons, Shooting from Unconventional Positions and other various survival skills courses.
- Glock Armorer (multiple years and agencies)
- Tactical First Aid
- Tactical Combat Casualty Care -TCCC
- First Aid/CPR
- LEADS
- I have a background in high school level wrestling along with training in Togakure-ryu Ninjutsu and Taekwondo. I was first exposed to knife use and firearms with continued frequency around 7 years of age and have continued to learn and practice with those implements over the past 48+ years. I am currently involved in knife design for Law Enforcement/Military weapon retention use and am working with custom knife makers to develop new generations of my designs.

- I participated on SWAT for two different teams and received training throughout my participation on the team including reconnaissance, camouflage, building clearing, hostage rescue, covered pile, armed-barricade, etc. I have limited experience utilizing the shield and key and while I did participate in some entries, the majority of my experience was as a sniper/observer.
- Parole and Probation Officer of the year 2000/2001 presented by the American Legion
- Parole and Probation Officer of the year 2000/2001 presented by my department
- Distinguished Service Award
- Parole and Probation Employee of the Year for one of the prior agencies I worked for.

I have taught survival skills to Law Enforcement including: Krav Maga, Edged Weapon/Improvised Weapon Tactics for Law Enforcement, Counter Edged Weapon Tactics for Law Enforcement, Firearms, Oleoresin Capsicum, Taser and Range 3000/Milo-use of force decision making, Building Clearing, Active Shooter/ Threat Response and firearms training while working in Linn County. I supervised a general caseload as a Parole and Probation Officer which included typically people under supervision for drug offenses, property offenses, weapon possession, assault/murder or other person to person crimes.

I was actively involved in risk/needs assessments, LSCMI/WRNAs, Behavior Change Plans, generating reports to the Courts/Supervisory Authority/Parole Board, conducting interviews and interrogations, monitoring offender compliance in the field as well as in the office environment, conducting search and seizures, processing evidence, investigating new criminal activity, participating in prosecution as well as conducting resource referrals and working with the criminal population to attempt and effect positive change and a reduction in future recidivism.

I have extensive experience working with the criminal population including those who were homeless, dealing with mental health issues, personality disorders, impulse control issues and antisocial personalities many of whom had co-existing substance abuse issues. I have worked with many community partners in facilitating system supports to try and increase the likelihood of positive outcomes for the offender population as well as our community.

Upon retirement I was also the lead firearms instructor and head armorer for a Parole and Probation department. I remained active in training there as one of the members of their Training Team developing and conducting trainings for that agency. I have taught and coached many people through my career offering instruction in survival skills. I have presented information before classes at Linn Benton Community College as a guest lecturer and have presented field safety information for the Oregon Department of Human Services as well as for civilians, Law Enforcement and select groups of non-sworn personnel.

During my part time and currently full-time position working for a state level training agency, I have gained further training in areas including Use of Force, tac-med, building search, firearms, Con Sims, active threat response, defensive tactics and arrest and control tactics.