**Greg Ellifritz of Active Response Training** and **William Aprill** **of Aprill Risk Consulting** are pleased to announce a new course of instruction, available now for registration.

Course date: January 24-25, 2015

Location: Columbus, OH

**Unthinkable: Concepts and Techniques for the Gravest Extreme**

How can we make ourselves safer?

Of all the answers to that question, how do we decide which are best?

For participants in this course, a systematic approach to these decisions will be undertaken in an engaging and fast-paced format over a very full day of training.

**Defensive awareness** is rooted in realization of risk.

**Defensive preparation** adds the commitment to mitigation of threats and the decision to be able to do something about it should our fears be realized.

Whether experienced or observed, circumstances have proven to us that we are vulnerable to threats against life and safety. This paradigm shift inspires inquiry into self-protection in most people, unless awareness of the new reality is actively rejected and a path of denial chosen.

For far too many, a rush to acquire tools and and gear outpaces the development of a mindset of effective self-protection. Without a sound foundation, we unknowing limit and degrade our capacity to respond and, perhaps most importantly, make critical and ongoing errors in thinking about the problem of violence.

Thus unprepared for the realities of risk, from mere exploitation to victimization by physical aggression, and without a sound conceptual foundation as a basis to proceed, we make practical/logistical choices that compound the problem, leaving us in greater danger without the ability to perceive it. Our defensive preparation, doctrine, defensive tool and gear choices, practice regimen, and preferred tactics, techniques, and procedures become self-reinforcing traps, impermeable to new data.

**It is the goal of the instructors to drag awareness of risk from the back of the mind to its very forefront, ensuring that an actual life-threatening scenario will not be the first time participants have honestly faced what will be necessary.**

Course components include intensive, interactive lecture on:

**Tactical First Aid for Gunshot Wounds**

This hands-on class will develop proficiency in basic battlefield medical techniques utilizing the

military's latest "Tactical Combat Casualty Care" protocols.

Students will learn to stop traumatic bleeding from gunshot and knife wounds using the latest

pressure bandages, tourniquets, and hemostatic agents. Self-care and care under fire will also be

practiced. Students will also learn simple patient assessment techniques, how to treat a sucking chest wound and decompress a tension pneumothorax.

This is the first aid class you always wished you could take. No theory. All useful “ditch medicine” concepts to keep yourself or companions alive in the unfortunate event that they are shot in a violent confrontation.

**The Explosive Threat: Recognizing, Detecting, and Neutralizing the Terrorist Bomber**

If you research terrorist and active shooter events both domestically and worldwide you will quickly recognize a growing trend.  Terrorists and Active Shooters are using bombs to increase their body counts.

Did you know that majority of terrorist events that have occurred in the United States have been bombings?  Did you know that many of the more famous active shooter events also involved bombs?  This trend is only likely to increase as terrorists implement the expertise and tactics they have learned on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan.  In today’s ever-hostile environment, knowledge about explosive devices has become critical for both police officers and aware citizens.

In this class you will learn about:

-          Basic explosive characteristics

-          Terrorist Bomb Designs

-          Improvised Explosive Devices

-          Response tactics for dealing with a suicide bomber

-          A de-brief of recent terrorist bombing incidents

-          Safe standoff and evacuation distances

-          How active shooters add to their body count with bombs

-          How to recognize precursor chemicals used to make homemade bombs

-          How to avoid secondary devices

-          Tactics of the Terrorist Bomber

 **Fatal Choices: Understanding VCAs and How They Identify Victims**

 In this fast-moving and interactive lecture participants will be led through contemporary theories and current, curated data on the process by which violent criminals select their targets for violent aggression. Particular attention will be paid to the internal mechanisms in play within the criminal psychology, the universe of signifiers around "good guy" behavior, demeanor, and attributes which may actually make selection for attack more likely, as well as considerations for responsible armed citizens to mitigate this risk. Previous iterations of this material have been presented to LE agencies and private citizen groups across the US as well as international LE educational events.

**Hostage Survival Techniques-** What to do in the event you are taken hostage, how to psychologically defeat the hostage taker, escape of common restraints: how to pick and shim handcuffs, how to break zip ties, and how to escape flex cuffs.

 **The 5 W’s of Risk: Constructing an Effective Pre-Need Defense Paradigm**

 Techniques, tactics, and procedures for the active, emergent context of violent assault are as common a topic as the weather, it seems. Abundant material on the aftermath of this sort of event is also available. However the preparatory period, what Craig Douglas has referred to as the ***pre-kinetic phase,*** prior to such encounters is given limited, if any, attention by the vast majority of erstwhile defenders. This presentation will review common mental and philosophical errors made by practitioners as they undertake preparation for effective defense against violent aggression. Practical pitfalls and limitations in thinking about lawful violence will also be reviewed in depth. Attendees will be exposed to a practical, programmatic method for undertaking the pre-need decision-making toward a sound self-defense and survival mindset, touching on all areas of the process which the defensively aware must address to maximize capacity for self-protection.

 **Open-Source Retention/Disarming**

 A hands-on block of instruction in the art and science of maintaining positive control of your own defensive handgun and of taking one away from an assailant when necessary.

 No prior experience or training in defensive tactics is required, no special physical gifts are necessary and the material is presented in a from-the-ground-up approach to allow conceptual understanding and physical grasp of an intuitive, robust skill-set in a relatively short time. Please bring an inert training version of your carry pistol, if possible (red gun, blue gun, SIRT, etc.) so that carry gear may be used if applicable.