

**UNITED STATES ARMY COMBATIVES COURSE**  
**1/29 Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning GA**

**Realistic Training**

Expectation of Compliant & Non-Compliant Scenarios

The largest mistake that armed personnel of all types make, specifically in Law Enforcement, is the assumption of compliance, that somehow assigned authority is universally recognized and respected. Along with that eventually comes complacency, the psychological and physical relaxation because you believe that you are in control. Control can only be determined at the end of an engagement, never during. Interactions between potentially opposing groups may be predictable based on previous experience, but are never absolute. Therefore, control can never be determined until after a definitive end-state has been achieved. If we enter into scenarios assuming compliance, we have already created a scenario that has heightened potential for failure. Now add complacency, that lack of situational awareness that fails to pick up an object/weapon of opportunity. Close the distance with the potentially non-compliant person and add your weapons / gear into the rapidly expanding field of variables and what you are left with is a perfect equation for a catastrophic outcome.

If there is a criminal or insurgent element involved in the interaction and you have them cornered, then all they're looking for is an opportunity to resist or escape. When this occurs, as you can clearly see in so many law enforcement case histories, increasing levels of force are met with increasing levels of resistance until either the individual escapes or the amount of force applied is overwhelming. This has to do with the perception that either the amount of applicable force is insufficient or there is a lack of awareness that provides that person of interest the opportunity to escape. And then there are the people who no matter what are going to resist to the maximum degree possible.

Now this may seem like too many things to account for, but there is one very simple solution. Enter into every interaction with the assumption of non-compliance. It's the worst-case mindset that allows you to interact authoritatively with a heightened situational awareness that effectively counters complacency. Add to that well-defined and rehearsed Tactical Standard Operating Procedures, utilization of Range, Angle, & Level, the Basic Fight Strategy, and small-group cohesion developed by countless repetitions and Live Application Exercises, and you will have created a base with rock-solid fundamentals and confident, capable Team/Squad members who can react appropriately and effectively in Close Quarters Engagement Scenarios.

To recap:

1. Assumption of compliance and complacency are potentially fatal errors.
2. The only two types of scenarios are compliant and non-compliant.
3. Assume that at some stage all encounters will become non-compliant.
4. Develop a baseline for meeting that resistance / aggression and mitigating as much risk as possible.