

CHAMELEON CONSULTING OF NEW ENGLAND

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Brief Bio of RICHARD N. VAN WICKLER

Rick Retired in June 2020 as the superintendent of the Cheshire County Department of Corrections after 27 years in that position. Rick has managed adult aggressive behavior in corrections since 1987. The Cheshire County NH Board of Commissioners recruited Superintendent Van Wickler in 1993 to assume responsibility of the Cheshire County Jail and House of Corrections, which faced significant litigation in Federal Court and to revitalize an agency that was in need of training, structure and professionalism. Crediting this training curriculum, the Cheshire County Department of Corrections has celebrated significant success at maintaining a peaceful environment and virtually eliminating litigation against the agency for unprofessional conduct.

Mr. Van Wickler is both an active duty and reserve Army veteran who retired from the Army reserve after 26 years of service.

Mr. Van Wickler has extensive background in training and management, which led to the founding of Chameleon Consulting of New England in 2001. Rick has provided numerous presentations on the management of aggressive human behavior in many jurisdictions of NH, ME, MA and CT. Rick has been an observer to the United Nations in Vienna, Austria participating in discussions about International Drug Policy Reform. He has presented at the National Press Club in Washington DC several times. He has testified before the House and Senate of NH on numerous occasions as well as to committees of the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa, Canada. Rick's book "FREEDOM'S GUARDIANS" was released in December 2022 in which he argues that we must free ourselves from confusion and ignorance to seeing circumstances exactly the way they are and lists all of what we need to be free *from* building back our civility one independent thinker at a time.

Rick Van Wickler holds a BS in Management from Franklin Pierce University and is a co recipient of the President's Community Partner Award from Antioch University Graduate School. Mr. Van Wickler was selected as Correctional Superintendent of the year in 1997 and 2011. He also received NH's "Profile Service Award" for his many contributions to County Government in 2009.

R.N. Van Wickler

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How to Manage Aggressive Behavior, Presentation description;

Rick has been studying different methodologies for how best to prevent an aggressive situation with people and also how to best manage the event if it progresses to violence.

Rick has been managing aggressive behavior in the adult correctional arena for 33 years, which lends to plenty of practice with different approaches. Many different models were examined and tried. Some worked. Some did not.

This program is an orientation to “what works” and is based on Rick’s experience, different models that he has tried as well as some information shared from various sources that he finds effective. This two hour program is not a certification in any discipline nor does it contain any physical component of instruction, although that can be available if needed.

This session examines triggers to verbal and physical aggressive behavior, a discussion on changing culture, continuums of violence, personal safety rules and guidance for “do and don’t” behaviors along with “warning signs”. We also examine critical decision-making and problem solving solutions. A participant guide is provided for attendees to follow along and refer to in order to increase retention of the material.

Please contact Rick Van Wickler with any further questions about this program.

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Thank you!