



# Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office



## Gracie Survival Tactics I

Gracie Survival Tactics (GST) is a revolutionary defensive tactics system based on Gracie Jiu-Jitsu that incorporates time-tested techniques into an easy-to-learn system designed to help officers humanely prevail against larger and stronger opponents. Through the GST program, our goal isn't merely to teach defensive tactics, but rather to provide students with the tools to completely transform its culture from the inside out. Although GST was developed for its tactical effectiveness, its leverage-based techniques are less likely to cause serious injury to both the officer and arrestee. Above everything else, in GST we teach systems and strategies to reduce the intensity of each encounter, gain voluntary compliance, and mitigate the need for a higher level of force.

### General Information

**Date:** September 3rd - 5th, 2025 (24 hours)  
**Time:** 0800-1700  
**Instructor:** Master Deputy Philip McNiff  
Deputy Jonathan Strickland  
**Location:** HCSO Training Division - Mat Room  
1409 N. Falkenburg Road  
Tampa, FL 33619  
**Enrollment:** Limited to 30 (Sworn Personnel)  
**Facilitator:** Nicole Simon: [nsimon@teamhcsso.com](mailto:nsimon@teamhcsso.com)

**Registration:** All HCSO personnel shall submit a training request through your chain of command.  
All other agencies must submit an Advanced & Specialized Training Authorization form by your training section.

**Attendance:** Attendance at the initial class is mandatory. All students must adhere to the attendance requirements of the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and the Rules, Policies and Procedures of the Sheriff's Training Academy

**Dress Policy:** Grappling and PT attire. No jeans permitted. Law enforcement personnel not in uniform that are carrying exposed firearms must prominently display agency ID and/or badge at all times while on HCSO property.

**Fee:** There is no fee associated with this course.