

Valente Brothers Defensive Tactics

Integrating Defensive Tactics and Behavioral Health

Valente Brothers (VB) is a self-defense and wellness training organization dedicated to the promotion and instruction of a comprehensive approach for personal, professional, and organizational self-defense. The VB methodology includes teaching cutting-edge self-defense techniques and perspectives, as well as a strong mental and emotional education, grounded in a holistic philosophy. VB is headquartered in North Miami Beach, Florida and has affiliate locations across South Florida, as well as nationally and internationally.

Because of the vast experience and expertise of its educators, VB is among the most globally recognized training organizations in the field. Beginning in the 1970's, the original three Valente brothers from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Pedro Valente Jr., Guilherme (Gui) Valente, and Joaquim Valente, have arguably among the most prolific training backgrounds of any modern self-defense experts.

Since early childhood, the brothers were extensively trained in the Japanese martial art of jūjutsu, sometimes commonly known as Brazilian jiu-jitsu (BJJ). They were primarily directly taught by the person globally recognized as its modern founder, Grandmaster Hélio Gracie. His contributions to modern self-defense are considered legendary, and he is the person primarily responsible for the current prominence and recognition of jūjutsu and mixed martial arts (MMA) internationally over the last 27 years. His photo hangs on the walls of most jūjutsu schools in the world. Additionally, the brothers' were also greatly influenced by their father, Grandmaster Pedro Valente Sr. who was a globally-recognized medical doctor, wellness and self-defense expert and lifelong confidant of Hélio Gracie.

The brothers have a combined experience of over 65 years of teaching self-defense, which also includes judo, boxing, and striking. They also have multiple graduate university degrees. Their self-defense expertise is comprehensive, and includes defending one's self against surprise unarmed attacks and strikes, as well as defense against knives, guns, bats and other weapons. It also includes extensive expertise in maintaining control and both physical and emotional balance when a subject uses their hands in an attempt to control another's body, balance, or weapons.

The VB methodology has been crafted over a period of decades, evolving through implementation at a wide variety of law enforcement organizations, including the FBI, Miami-Dade PD, Miami Beach SWAT Team, City of Miami PD, Aventura PD, Surfside PD, Houston PD, and the Federal Police of Brazil.

Additionally, Valente Brothers has been honored to support the U.S. military by providing realistic hand-to-hand combat training for military units both stateside and overseas. In 2009, VB was invited by Major General Michael Ferriter to Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq to train the U.S. Army in hand to hand combat. While in Iraq, Professor Gui had the opportunity to work with several military groups, including the Special Forces.

In addition to Iraq, VB has also worked extensively with the Navy Special Warfare Development Group, Florida National Guard, the 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the crew of the U.S. Navy war ship USS Gridley and troops from the U.S. Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and U.S. Southern Command Protective Services Detail.

The breadth of that experience is what allows VB to be at the forefront of law enforcement self-defense training. The best way to deal with a potential confrontation is through the most efficient means, using the minimum amount of force, energy, and violence possible. Often the best defense is one's words and attitude, while maintaining one's physical skills to always prevail. The vast majority of jūjutsu instruction in the U.S. is focused on training for sport competitions (aka BJJ). While BJJ is certainly valuable as an athletic activity, VB's jūjutsu instruction is focused completely on techniques and methods that will enable someone to defend themselves against a real assault. Among self-defense martial arts, jūjutsu is both extremely effective, but also very humane. Unlike many striking-based martial arts, our self-defense system includes grappling techniques that allow for a student to effectively subdue someone without the necessity for strength.

Because police officers are sometimes required to use force, even deadly force in certain extreme situations, it is imperative for them to receive continuous training on how to safely and humanely deal with physical altercations. Police departments around the world have utilized martial arts techniques in their training for over a century. When the feudal system was abolished in Japan, jūjutsu became the official hand-to-hand combat system taught to the Japanese Imperial Guard.

Currently, police departments around the globe still utilize a variety of combat arts to enhance their training programs. However, it is important to understand that there is a substantial difference between a street fight or a combat sport match and an encounter between a police officer and a subject. At Valente Brothers, we are extremely proud of our long lasting relationship with the law enforcement community. Since 1995 we have worked with hundreds of police officers from virtually every police department in South Florida. Additionally, we have instructed dozens of law enforcement-specific courses at various departments.

This experience allowed us to design Valente Brothers Defensive Tactics (VBDT), a comprehensive program for modern policing, designed to focus on and enhance officer professionalism, mindfulness, emotional intelligence, well-being, and safety.

VBDT is the only program of its kind and VB instructors are exclusively qualified to teach it.

VBDT is an integrated program of specific techniques and procedures directed toward the safety of police officers in the area of confrontation and arrests. The Program teaches socially, organizationally and legally accepted training techniques that are based on sound police practices and tactics. It addresses the entire use of force continuum with segments impacting legal aspects and teaching methodologies. All procedures integrate into a system that gives the police officer the ability to use techniques interchangeably relative to necessary force.

When implemented, the Program results in a transformed, modern professional police force with newly acquired expertise in maximizing positive interactions during officer-citizen contacts, resulting in safer outcomes for officers, subjects, and the public at large. It unlocks the full potential of each officer to be the most professional, empathetic, and effective public servant possible. Officers will be trained and developed in a multitude of dimensions, including philosophy, health, emotional intelligence, and mindfulness, in addition to technical skill. This customized methodology will also greatly enhance each officer's ability to solve challenging problems in the field, communicate effectively, deescalate, and resolve conflicts. If fighting techniques are taught and practiced by officers without a deep grounding in a holistic program that includes a philosophy of responsibility and mindset of being emotionally and physically balanced at all times, officers could potentially use those techniques in a violent, unjustified way.

The Program has three primary objectives:

1. To enable officers to deal with dangerous and resistant subjects, while maintaining minimum risk to the officer. The officers will learn skills to handle a person of superior physical strength and size.
2. To provide officers with arrest and control techniques which are highly effective, but also humane. This minimizes the risk of serious injury to both the officer and the subject.
3. To teach officers a philosophy of physical, mental and spiritual wellness, enhancing behavioral health and enabling them to handle interactions in a poised and controlled fashion, which increases the likelihood of deescalation and a safe, peaceful resolution.

The Program consists of the following elements:

- Verbal and Non-Verbal Deescalation
- Compliant Arrest Procedures

- Resisting Subject Procedures
- Surprise Attack Counters
- Weapon Disarming Procedures
- Weapon Retention Procedures
- Arrest and Control Techniques
- Ground Survival and Escape Techniques
- 753 Code™ Philosophy (Behavioral Health)
- Instructor Training

When implemented, the Program will drastically reduce the risk of lawsuits, benefit the department's relationship with the public, reduce the risk of injuries, promote overall wellness, nutrition, rest, and overall health, with officers that are more poised, calm, and patient.

Based on our experience and expertise as one of the most globally recognized educators in these fields, applying our approach to the needs of the Hallandale Beach Police Department will deepen the bond between the department and the community, enhancing officer morale, confidence, and professionalism. Ultimately, we aim to support the department in being a leader in the field, providing a proud example everywhere of what effective, modern policing can be.