

James “Buster” Hall
Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice/Homeland Security
Northeastern State University

Education:

Juris Doctor, University of Oklahoma, 1997

Courses included Advanced Legal Research and Writing, Criminal Procedure, Death Penalty Seminar, Directed Legal Research, Environmental Law, Water Law, Administrative Law, Constitutional Law I and II.

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Oklahoma State University, 1992

Studies included Honors Composition, Ethics, Ancient, Medieval and Modern Philosophy, Critical Thinking, Existentialism, Philosophy of Art, Literature, and Film.

Employment History:

Senior Advisor to the Kosovo Police Service for Policy, Planning and Legal Affairs, May 2006 to December 2006

This position requires me to review all pending policy changes proposed for addition to the Kosovo Police Service Policy and Procedures manual. Additionally, I mentor and advise the senior command staff of the Kosovo Police Service in regards to budget, training and legal issues as regards accepted democratic international police practices. Additionally, in the absence of the Chief Advisor, I am responsible for all activities of over 75 International Police Officers within our organizational pillar.

Executive Officer to the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK) Police Commissioner, December 2004 to May 2006

As Executive Officer I was responsible for handling all correspondence of the UNMIK Police Commissioner - the former Police Chief of Copenhagen, Denmark; representing the UNMIK Police and Kosovo Police at governmental meetings, as well as serving as the UNMIK Police focal point for inquiries in relation to the UNMIK and Kosovo Police; the preparation of briefs for the Commissioner, the Special Representative of the Secretary General in Kosovo and the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations in New York using analysis of open, restricted, and confidential source material. Furthermore, I worked extensively with the Ombudsperson Institute in Kosovo in investigating allegations of improprieties concerning both UNMIK and Kosovo Police.

Corporal, Sand Springs Oklahoma Police Department, September 1995 to October 2003.

I completed my employment as Supervisor of the School Resource Officer Program for the police department. However, I had other responsibilities as well. Following 9/11, I participated in the Oklahoma Joint Terrorism Task Force and attended meetings in Oklahoma City for discussion and updates on terrorism and potential threats within Oklahoma. I was also certified by the Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management to inspect public education facilities for disaster and terrorism preparedness. I attended several conferences on terrorism both locally and nationally. I assisted our local fire department and emergency management director in conducting an inventory of public and commercial sites within Sand Springs in order to evaluate the risk posed by terrorism as well as disasters. I also was a Crisis Negotiator with the department's Special Operations Team, an instructor for the department in Criminal Law and Procedure, a Grant Writer, and Field Training Officer, as well as being only one of two EPA Certified Environmental Crimes Instructors in the state.

Additional Experience:

While in Kosovo, I substituted as an instructor at both US Army bases in Kosovo for colleagues on leave who taught Criminal Justice classes for Central Texas College as adjunct faculty through their distance learning program. The courses were Law Enforcement Ethics and Introduction to Criminal Justice. Representatives of both Central Texas College and the University of Maryland asked that I teach for them while in Kosovo but due to my responsibilities and time commitments to my position, I could only substitute when the occasion arose.

I have taught classes on many subjects from First Aid to Criminal Procedure to as varied an audience as a Sunday school class, kindergarteners, elementary, middle and high school students, and adults.

Certifications:

Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate, State of Oklahoma
Colorado Equivalency Certificate, State of Colorado
Environmental Crimes Instructor, US Environmental Protection Agency
Public Education Facility Inspection, State of Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management

Honors and Awards:

Employee of the Year, City of Sand Springs, 1999
Lifesaving Award, City of Sand Springs, 2002
Chief's Award (4 times), City of Sand Springs
Certificate of Valor, City of Cushing, 1985
Various awards for Community Policing and Humanitarian Assistance

Honors Student, Oklahoma State University
Nominated for Freshman Composition award at Oklahoma State University

Interests:

I have read extensively for the past ten years on terrorism, both domestic and foreign. While working as a patrol officer at Sand Springs my awareness of domestic threats and knowledge of groups resulted in identifying a leading member of a white supremacist group headquartered in Idaho who had recently moved to the Tulsa area. Working with Tulsa Police and the Tulsa office of the FBI, we were able begin an investigation of this individual which later resulted in his addition to the FBI's database.

On September 11, 2001, I was sitting in a classroom for a course on Police Management when someone turned on the television monitor to see a report of a plane that had crashed into the World Trade Center in New York City. I, like most people, thought it was a terrible accident. I recalled that during World War II a bomber had crashed into the Empire State building, but that was during a fog and before advanced avionics. I was still watching when I saw live the second plane turning and angling into the second tower. As the plane impacted, I turned to the officer sitting next to me and said, "This is Al Qaeda and Usama bin Laden and we are under attack." I left the classroom as did most of the officers and returned to Sand Springs and reported for work. I had studied the threat posed by radical Islam prior to 9/11 and knew that Al Qaeda posed the greatest threat to the United States and this incident was also indicative of their tactics, simultaneous attacks.

Due to my interests and my studies I was asked for comment concerning the threats faced by us within the mission in Kosovo. My comments were taken into consideration by policymakers both within the UN and with representatives of various governments.