



**NY/NJ HIDTA
TRAINING ALERT
*training@nynjhidta.org***

Enrollment Status	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>There is NO cost associated with this class See Registration Instructions Below</i></p>
Course	<p style="text-align: center;">“Ghost Gun” and 3D Printing Investigations Course</p>
When	<p style="text-align: center;">March 10, 2026</p>
Where	<p style="text-align: center;">26 Federal Plaza – 6th floor Conference Room</p>
Time	<p style="text-align: center;">Sign-in 8:15 class starts at 9 am, class ends at 4:00 pm (Casual Attire)</p>
Instructed By:	<p style="text-align: center;">Sponsored By: NY/NJ HIDTA Hosted By: Federal Protective Service U.S. Department of Homeland Security</p>
	

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Palestra Group International in coordination with LNC Security Consulting has developed a one-day “Ghost Gun” and 3D Printing Investigations Course designed to assist prosecutors and officers with target development and long-term investigations into the manufacture and trafficking of Personally Made Firearms or “ghost guns”. The course highlights the use of open-source intelligence, online retailer information, the utilization of undercover operators, and case development beyond the trafficker. The course also details the significant differences between Commercially Manufactured Firearms and Personally Made Firearms (Ghost Guns) and the implementation of current State and Federal guidelines. Covering actual in-depth case studies, this course gives attendees the tools to identify, initiate, develop and interdict PMF manufacturers within their own jurisdiction. This course is presented by former prosecutors, case officers and undercover operators that pioneered the New York City, State, and National model for identifying, investigating and interdicting ghost gun manufacturers and traffickers. Our instructors cover the steps in conducting in-depth long-term investigations; and includes hands-on access to current inert advanced DIY and 3D printed weapons systems, allowing officers to see and feel the weapons representing the current threat landscape.

Overview of Topics

- High-level overview of the inception, development and current trends of ghost guns and 3D printed weapons.
- Personally Made Firearms (PMF) vs. Commercially Made Firearms
- History and development of Ghost Guns

- Converting an 80% Polymer lower receiver into functional firearm
- PMF lowers and kits on the market
- The Gun Show loophole and interstate trafficking
- Ghost Gun Case Development
- Issues specific to undercover purchases
- Actual video of Undercover ghost gun purchases
- Case studies of several Long-term Ghost Gun Operations
- Search Warrants and Subpoenas
- Ghost Gun prosecutions
- 3D Printed firearms, components, and accessories
- 3D Printed auto-sears, suppressors, magazines, FRTs and switches
- “Zero Percent” firearms
- Advanced threat detection, risk mitigation and deterrence
- Ideology and Online presence of the “3D2A” Community
- OPSEC and countermeasures under “the New Second Amendment”
- Hands-on access to current advanced DIY Weapons Systems
- Practical session demonstration of 3d printed weapons system models with screening equipment (*where screening equipment accessible*).

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR: Victor Cardona is the Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of LNC Security Consulting LLC, where he leads strategic operations and innovation in threat management. With over 25 years of combined military and law enforcement experience—including 21 years with the NYPD—Cardona brings unmatched expertise in identifying and mitigating emerging weapon threats, particularly in the area of decentralized and additive manufacturing technologies, known as 3D printing.

A U.S. Marine Corps veteran with deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, Cardona’s career reflects a deep dedication to safeguarding communities through innovation-driven security solutions. His tactical precision and operational leadership have shaped some of the most forward-thinking approaches to public safety in the field.

As the architect behind LNC’s operational frameworks, Cardona integrates forensic intelligence, cybersecurity, and physical security into cohesive strategies that protect critical infrastructure and public safety. His experience initiating and leading the NYPD Major Case Field Intelligence, “Ghost Gun”, Team exemplifies his dedication to advancing proactive threat mitigation and fostering effective interagency coordination. It was in this role that Victor was instrumental in crafting the national model for identification, detection, deterrence and investigation of personally manufactured firearms. Victor has extensively trained and collaborated with local, state, federal and international stakeholders to safeguard critical infrastructure from the emergence of this invisible threat.

Now, Cardona is channeling his expertise into the private sector and the education system—developing training programs, consulting on security innovation, and mentoring the next generation of security professionals. His mission is to bridge the gap between tactical experience and institutional knowledge, ensuring that both industries are equipped to confront evolving threats with clarity and precision.

Register

***** Please read and follow ALL of the instructions *****

1. Open your web browser and log into [**https://registration.nhac.org**](https://registration.nhac.org)
2. Enter the word **Class** (case sensitive) for username
- 3. Enter \$Training33172 (case sensitive) for password**
4. Select *(training HIDTA name New York /New Jersey HIDTA)*
5. Select **Click to view Training Events** link
6. Select *(course name)*. Select the event using the date to indicate the proper event.
7. Fill in the **HOTT Online Application**
8. Select **Complete Registration**
