

**Command Spanish® Program Data Sheet**  
for  
*Survival Spanish for Jail Facilities*

**Materials Description and Content:** *Survival Spanish for Jail Facilities* (SSJF) is published by Command Spanish®, Inc. and consists of a 68-page manual bound in a 3-ring binder with 2 accompanying CDs. It was developed in consultation with nationally known experts in the field of corrections and directors of training of major criminal justice training institutions and academies. In addition to a special section devoted to pronunciation, SSJF contains the following work-specific language sections: Body Commands; Control; Strip Search; Cell Search; Housekeeping; Intake Questions; Health Matters; Hallway Control; Visits; Showers; Prisoner Transport; Restraining Prisoners; Crowd Control; and Dirty / Alert Words. SSJF also contains the following appendices: Spanish Surname System; Jail Facility Glossary; Spanish Nicknames, and Signs for the Jail.

**Program Description:** This program is designed for non-Spanish-speaking correctional officers and jail support staff to provide functional Spanish language skills for monitoring and managing Spanish-speaking prisoners in city and county jails. Emphasis is placed on officer safety, effective prisoner management, institutional security, and protection from legal liability. **No prior knowledge of Spanish necessary.**

**Goal:** To provide city and county correctional staff with specific Spanish language skills so that they will be able to manage Spanish-speaking prisoners more effectively.

**Objectives:** Upon completion, participants will be able to use Spanish to: intake and release prisoners; issue orders and body commands; assist in medical emergencies; facilitate the transport of prisoners; search prisoners and cells; facilitate family and legal visits; manage recreation and exercise; monitor work and housekeeping details; maintain jail security; and diffuse potentially dangerous situations.

**Methods of Instruction:** Modeling, intensive drill, choral response, alpha-beta line, learning pairs and triads, Total Physical Response, role-playing, simulations, and situation cards.

**Cross-Cultural Component:** Not included in manual. Suggestion: 1 hour with emphasis on differences among Latino groups, and levels of language ability among Hispanic prisoners.

**Intended Audience:** This program is intended for correctional officers, guards, receptionists, administrators, transport personnel, and intake officers.

**Length of Instruction:** 8 to 24 hours, depending on client's needs and interests.

**Special Considerations:** This program is for city and county jails, NOT for state or federal penitentiaries. This program can be taught with segmented instruction.

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## **About the Author**

Dr. Sam L. Slick is a Professor of Spanish and former Chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Southern Mississippi. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Spanish from Illinois State University, and a Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Iowa, as well as diplomas from the Ibero-American University in Mexico City, and from the University of Madrid, Spain. He is a specialist in language acquisition and is one of this country's foremost trainers in Spanish for criminal justice.

Dr. Slick has written and lectured widely on Spanish language training for law enforcement. His textbook, entitled *Survival Spanish for Law Enforcement Officers*, is used by hundreds of police agencies and academies throughout the United States, and has been adopted by the U.S. Defense Language Institute for use in Task Force 6, the federal government's war on drugs. In conjunction with Gene Blair, former Director of the Police Academy at Sam Houston State University, Dr. Slick co-authored "Survival Spanish: Needed Training for Police," in the journal, *The Police Chief*, in January, 1990; and "Survival Spanish for Police Officers," in *The Police Investigator*, in January of 1991.

He has accumulated many years of experience working with criminal justice officials. He has also logged hundreds of hours riding with police officers, while observing first-hand virtually all police interventions -- from traffic control to homicides. Dr. Slick completed line tours with such diverse groups as the U. S. Border Patrol and the "Chicano Squad" of the Houston Police Department. He has participated in INS raids where he served as an interpreter. He is the former chief translator for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and has been a consultant to numerous county correctional facilities.

Dr. Slick has taught survival Spanish and cross-cultural training at dozens of police academies throughout Texas, Idaho, California, Washington, Missouri, Louisiana, Wisconsin, Georgia, Florida and Virginia. In addition, he has provided training for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Customs, and the U.S. Special Forces in counterdrug interdiction. He has developed the materials and curriculum for survival Spanish at the U.S. Regional Counterdrug Training Academy where he serves as lead Spanish instructor. He also teaches regularly for the National Association of Criminal Interdiction Officers.

Dr. Slick is a member of the American Correctional Association and the Southern States Correctional Association. He has taught survival Spanish and cross-cultural training to hundreds of probation officers.

## **Acknowledgments**

In addition to the consultants listed below, Command Spanish would like to thank Officer Amalia Ballesteros of the Waller County Jail in Hempstead, Texas, for her continuing support of this project. Additional thanks go to Marcus Kenter, Executive Director of the Texas Jail Association.

Command Spanish, Inc. is indebted to Mrs. Lauree Mills-Mooney for her perseverance and great skill in formatting and word processing the manual. A special thanks to Elizabeth Verley for proofing the manual.

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