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COURSE TITLE

The WZ Seminar for Lead Homicide Investigators with Forensic Technology

COURSE LENGTH

Forty (40) Hours - Five (5) Consecutive Days

PREREQUISITES

None

TARGET AUDIENCE/DISCIPLINE

The target audience for this course is Homicide Detectives, Lead Investigators, Prosecutors, Major Crime Task Force Members, Coroners and Medical Examiners, Evidence Technicians and First Response Teams.

TYPE OF DELIVERY

Classroom lecture and discussion is supported by participant workbooks, handouts, videos, case examples and practice scenarios. The course is taught by three instructors - Lou Tessmann, ex-Commander of the Lake County (IL) Major Crime Task Force, Jeff Pavletic, a prosecutor with the Lake County IL State's Attorney's Office and Carol Gudbrandsen, Cyber Crimes Analyst with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office. Lou covers the first three days from a field investigation perspective and provides a full day of training in multiple methods of non-confrontational interview and interrogation. Carol teaches a 4-hour block on the 4th day on cell phone and computer analysis. Carol covers investigative challenges in preserving digital evidence and the best practices in collecting and viewing the evidence. Jeff instructs the last 12 hours with a comprehensive review of legal and prosecution instruction. Jeff customizes his presentation for state-specific cases, law and statutes. His expert instruction includes a comprehensive analysis of Miranda law, electronic recording of custodial interviews, personal electronic device issues, eyewitness identifications, vehicle-related issues, report writing, effective courtroom testimony, Illinois Supreme Court rules on the release of information, and Fourth and Fifth Amendments.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers the types of techniques necessary to manage investigations of death and homicide cases from initial crime scene examination through autopsy, suspect interviews and successful prosecution. The program includes an in-depth review of a diverse combination of homicide cases, and provides strategic tactics in the apprehension and prosecution of the offender(s).

This seminar provides the investigator with the tools necessary to conduct death and homicide investigations. Using actual investigations, participants work through cases from the moment of arrival until its conclusion. This program offers tips, techniques and methods to successfully close cases.

Discussion topics include talking about the mental state of a suspect and how it impacts the solvability of a homicide, the differences between how homicides were previously investigated and solved, versus today's investigations and how technological advances have expedited this process.

The course will feature interactive lecture and discussions of actual case histories, videos, statutes and laws specific to the state(s) represented by the seminar participants. In addition, this program has been approved by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board to meet the 40-hour course requirements of Illinois Public Act 96-1111 (SB 3491) for a training program in death and homicide investigation for law enforcement officers of local government agencies. Illinois Officers completing this training program will be issued a certificate by the State and may be assigned as lead investigators in such investigations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course of instruction the participant will be able to:

- Develop leads, identify potential suspects and effectively interview those responsible.
- Apply factual analysis to the investigation of the crime scenes.
- Uncover patterns, trends and correlation of evidence.
- Enhance their skills to effectively investigate a wide range of cases including suicide, homicide and accidental deaths.
- Understand the command and control options of a Lead Homicide Investigator.
- Recognize and access the internal structure of a death and homicide investigation's strengths and weaknesses.
- Assess the methods of information control and distribution available to the task force and its Lead Investigator.
- Recognize the critical nature of the first responder's control of the crime scene.
- Recognize and evaluate the basic causes of death and the implications associated with them.
- Recognize the important information contained in the crime scene and subsequent forensic examination of the body; and their implications for the investigator.
- Analyze the body position and forensic evidence to develop investigative leads.
- Discuss, analyze, and evaluate investigative strategies in and their specific application to death investigations.
- Learn and evaluate methods for dealing with the media before during and after a death investigation.
- Learn the sources of information available to an investigator making a death inquiry and the contents of each.
- Evaluate an informant, his information, and motive for cooperating in the investigation.
- Learn and evaluate methods for controlling and using an informant to develop information in a death investigation.
- Recognize the legal implications of using an informant to develop information in a death investigation,
- Understand the law on criminal interviews and interrogations and the development of the admission into legally acceptable confession.
- Effectively incorporate audio/video in accordance with State mandates to record interviews and interrogations of homicide and other capital crime suspects.
- Establish the ideal room setting to increase interviewer effectiveness.
- Apply factual analysis to the interview/interrogation process.
- Employ non-accusatory interview techniques to obtain information and deduce the truthfulness of the subject.
- Utilize the WZ Non-Confrontational Interrogation Methods to employ a softer more conversational approach to the interrogation.
- Understand the proper form and content of a written statement from a homicide suspect.
- Determine the best methods to preserve cell phone evidence
- Understand the investigative information needed by the Cyber Forensic Examiner.
- Understand how digital memory is created and destroyed.
- Utilize various forensic tools to examine digital media.
- Incorporate questions during the interviews and interrogations regarding passwords, encryption and hidden digital media.
- Understand the obstacles in preserving evidence in Apple products and the various possibilities in getting around them.
- Determine the safest methods to collect computer evidence.

- Understand the volatility of digital evidence in electronic media.
- Determine which forensic analysis tool may work best in each case.
- Recognize and interpret metadata in digital evidence.
- Preserve internet webpages using various software.
- Create, or enhance consent forms and search warrants as they relate to searching digital evidence.
- Understand the forensic importance of documenting digital media evidence collection as it relates to accusations created by the defense's expert forensic witness testimony.
- Recognize the legal implications of a death investigation as they relate to search, seizure, interview and interrogation.
- Evaluate and discuss case examples and explore investigative decisions from investigator, prosecutor, and defense perspectives.
- Plan and prepare for testimony with a prosecutor.
- Discuss the evidence and testimony examining it from a defense and prosecutorial perspective.

WZ SEMINAR WORKBOOK – TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section One: Introduction to Death & Homicide Investigations

Section Two: Overview of Crime Scene Investigations

Section Three: Preliminary Crime Scene Investigations

Section Four: Death Notifications

Section Five: Causes of Death

Section Six: Autopsy from the Investigator's Perspective

Section Seven: Managing the News Media

Section Eight: Investigative Tactics and Role of Task Force

Section Nine: W-Z Non-Confrontational Method of Interview and Interrogation

Section Ten: The Participatory Approach, Fact-Finding Interview and Selective Interviewing

Section Eleven: Rationalizations

Section Twelve: Handling Denials

Section Thirteen: Explanatory Denials and Overcoming Objections

Section Fourteen: Submissions

Section Fifteen: Assumptive Question and Obtaining the Admission

Section Sixteen: Developing the Admission and Bringing the Suspect into the Conversation

Section Seventeen: Elements of Written and Formal Statements

Section Eighteen: Digital Forensic Evidence

Section Nineteen: The Role of the Digital Forensic Examiner

Section Twenty: Digital Media Memory and Storage

Section Twenty-One: Digital Evidence Collection in the Field

Section Twenty-Two: Passwords and Encryption in Digital Media Devices

Section Twenty-Three: Preservation of digital and Internet Evidence

Section Twenty-Four: Viewing Digital Media Evidence

Section Twenty-Five: Introduction of Legal Aspects, Miranda and Electronic Recordings

Section Twenty-Six: Fourth Amendment Law, Search and Seizure and P.E.P

Section Twenty-Seven: Fifth Amendment Law, Eyewitness ID and Vehicle-Related Issues

Section Twenty-Eight: Report Writing

Section Twenty-Nine: Effective Courtroom Testimony

Section Thirty: Questions and Answers

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The first day provides the participant with the framework to operate and organize a death and homicide investigation. The instruction will enable the participant to make tactical and strategic decisions in the investigation of a death. The material will provide a template for an investigator to organize and distribute information as the flow of leads begins to develop. In addition, the basic types of deaths are presented in an overview to prepare the investigator how to deal with modifications of the investigation for each case type.

Day two focuses on sources of information available to investigators and their use to develop new leads in the investigation of a death. Evaluation, control and use of informants are discussed at length. A wide ranging discussion surrounding the body position and subsequent forensic examination of it as they relate to developing leads and theories about the crime will be lead using death case examples the instructor has participated in while a Lead Homicide Investigator.

Because of the sensational nature of the crime or death there is often a need to deal with the media. Using real examples the instructors speaks to the media's need to provide news and information to the public and their various strategies to gain information.

The third day of the WZ Seminar for Lead Homicide Investigators teaches and reinforces the sound fundamentals of the interview and interrogation process for the investigator, homicide detective, major crimes task force member, coroner, medical examiner, special agent, or other law enforcement professional. The participants will learn a broad range of cutting-edge methods and proprietary tools to conduct more effective interviews and interrogations, resulting in quicker admissions and better statements.

This 8-hour block of instruction is especially appropriate for those investigators and other personnel who are tasked with the investigation of homicides or death cases. The seminar participant will learn to assess verbal and non-verbal behavior and become more effective at focusing an investigation and obtaining admissions.

Instruction includes a comprehensive overview of a variety of non-confrontational interview and interrogation techniques to overcome the resistance of both a traditional criminal and a capital offense suspect. The student will learn to offer rationalizations, handle denials, detect deception and evaluate truthfulness. Videos of actual interviews and interrogations of homicide suspects will be presented and discussed.

The non-confrontational approach to interviewing and interrogation has been recognized for the way it produces faster and more accurate results. In many cases, admissions are achieved without the suspect ever making a denial or protesting his innocence. Additionally, suspects often reveal more about their activities than during a traditional confrontational interrogation approach.

The WZ instructor will also teach the Participatory Interviewing Approach and the Selective Interview. The Participatory approach invites the subject to participate in a decision-making process leading to an admission. It allows suspects an opportunity to define the boundaries of their actions or to present an alibi before an accusation is made by the interviewer. This effectively commits the suspect into an alibi, story or decision-making process with which he must live and limits his ability to explain away any incriminating evidence. The Selective Interview Technique (SIT) is a non-accusatory interviewing technique that is designed specifically to elicit verbal and physical behavior from individuals to eliminate them from suspicion.

The multiple non-confrontational interview and interrogation strategies that are taught offer the seminar participant a wide flexibility of approaches permitting him to alter strategies depending on the reactions of the suspect. Simply said, if one method is not working, the investigator has additional techniques to utilize.

The 4-hour program on the morning of Day Four will provide the students with an understanding of the role of the Digital Forensic Examiner and the evidence they can provide for the investigator, which can be used during the death investigation. The instructor will begin by describing the forensic methods used to preserve digital evidence, the different types of digital media devices that can be examined, and the limitations and obstacles associated with preserving specific evidence from various storage devices.

The instructor will discuss specific points that need to be considered when conducting the interview, or interrogation. Points will include obtaining details needed by the forensic examiner and by the investigator for digital evidence follow-up actions. The primary topics discussed will be seizing digital evidence including considerations starting with obtaining the search warrant to the actual evidence collection at the scene, physically handling digital technology in general and preventing damage to digital evidence.

Explanations of how digital memory is stored on different media devices will be discussed along with the importance of understanding the volatility of digital evidence. The instructor will discuss the various considerations at the scene, which include collecting non-digital evidence that can be of value to the investigator and forensic examiner, preserving video recordings and addressing network issues.

The 4-hour block will conclude with a demonstration of various digital forensic tools, (free, low cost and high cost), and how these tools can be used by the investigator in the beginning stages of the investigation. Ample time will be reserved for questions.

Over the last twelve-hours of the 40-hour seminar, the participants will examine the necessary preparation and legal background information necessary to manage, advise, and command a complex death investigation. The discussion is led by a veteran state's attorney who prosecutes homicides and understands the legal complexities of custody, Miranda, search and seizure as they apply to homicide cases.

This comprehensive examination of the law will prepare the investigators with the legal foundation to make the correct decisions during a homicide investigation. Testimony and proper preparation for trial will be discussed along with a perspective from the judge or juries point of view.

SEMINAR TIMELINE

Day One	
8:00 AM	Death Investigation
- 8:50 AM	Role of Lead Investigator/Task Force
9:00 AM	Crime Scene Protection and Investigation
- 9:50 AM	
10:00 AM	Preliminary Crime Scene Investigation
- 10:50 AM	
11:00 AM	Canvassing
- 11:50 AM	
12:00 PM	Lunch
- 1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Death Notifications
- 1:50 PM	
2:00 PM	Cause of Death
- 2:50 PM	
3:00 PM	Cause of Death
- 3:50 PM	
4:00 PM	Cause of Death
- 5:00 PM	
Day Two	
8:00 AM	Positions of Bodies
- 8:50 AM	
9:00 AM	Autopsy Dialogue
- 9:50 AM	
10:00 AM	Media Management
- 10:50 AM	
11:00 AM	Investigative Tactics
- 11:50 AM	
12:00 PM	Lunch
- 1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Investigative Tactics
- 1:50 PM	
2:00 PM	Informants
- 2:50 PM	
3:00 PM	Role of Task Forces
- 3:50 PM	
4:00 PM	Closing Remarks
- 5:00 PM	
Day Three	
8:00 AM	WZ Non-Confrontational Method
- 8:50 AM	
9:00 AM	WZ Non-Confrontational Method (continued)
- 9:50 AM	Participatory Interview Approach
10:00 AM	Selective Interviewing and Fact-Finding Interview
- 11:00 AM	
11:00 AM	Rationalizations
- 12:00 PM	

12:00 PM	Lunch
- 1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Handling Denials
- 1:50 PM	
2:00 PM	Explanatory Denials
- 2:50 PM	Overcoming Objections
3:00 PM	Submission
- 3:50 PM	Assumptive Question
4:00 PM	Developing Admission
- 5:00 PM	Written Statement

Day Four

8:00 AM	Intro: Digital Forensic Evidence / Role of Forensic Examiner / Digital Media Memory & Storage
- 8:50 AM	
9:00 AM	Digital Evidence Collection / Passwords & Encryption / Preservation of the Evidence
- 9:50 AM	
10:00 AM	Viewing Digital Evidence
- 10:50 AM	
11:00 AM	Viewing Digital Evidence (Continued)
- 11:50 AM	
12:00 PM	Lunch
- 1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Introduction/Overview
- 1:50 PM	
2:00 PM	Miranda
- 2:50 PM	
3:00 PM	Miranda
- 3:50 PM	
4:00 PM	Electronic Recording of Custodial Interrogation
- 5:00 PM	

Day Five

8:00 AM	Fourth Amendment
- 8:50 AM	Search and Seizure
9:00 AM	Fourth Amendment
- 9:50 AM	Search and Seizure
10:00 AM	Fifth Amendment
- 10:50 AM	Trace evidence, GSR, printing, speaking, etc.
11:00 AM	Personal Electronic Devices
- 11:50 AM	
12:00 PM	Lunch
- 1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Eyewitness ID's
- 1:50 PM	Vehicle-Related Issues
2:00 PM	Report Writing
- 2:50 PM	
3:00 PM	Effective Courtroom Testimony
- 3:50 PM	
4:00 PM	Effective Courtroom Testimony (continued)
- 5:00 PM	

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Lou Tessmann, CFI®, recently retired as Deputy Chief for the Waukegan (Illinois) Police Department after 23 years of service in a wide variety of experiences including patrol, investigations, training and ultimately Deputy Chief of Police.

Lou is a 26-year veteran of the U.S. Marines, retiring as a CWO-4. In addition to his service in Vietnam he was activated for Desert Storm and Desert Shield and has received numerous military awards including the Naval Commendation Medal. Lou began his career as a police officer with the City of Waukegan, Illinois assigned to the patrol division. He was later assigned to the detective bureau for nine years and as a juvenile officer for one year. Lou also served as the Commander of the elite Lake County Major Crime Task Force. The task force works on major criminal investigations relating to homicides, kidnappings, and police-involved shootings. During his career, he has conducted thousands of interviews and interrogations. Most noteworthy, Lou has obtained over 80 homicide confessions during his career with only three instances where he was unable to obtain a confession from the homicide suspect.

Lou delivered Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, inc. (WZ) seminars since 1997 to police and private security organizations throughout the country, as well as internationally in locations such as Tokyo, Japan. He has been a guest speaker on programs such as the Discovery Channel, Real Detective and America's Most Wanted. Lou's work was recently featured in a Dateline NBC story about convicted child molester Arthur Ream and the unsolved 22-year old murder case of a 13-year old girl in Eastpointe, Michigan. Lou and Wicklander-Zulawski interviewers assisted local law enforcement with the non-confrontational interrogation of the suspect. Their joint efforts resulted in a first-degree murder conviction, a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole, and the subsequent recovery of the victim's body.

In addition to his TV appearances, Lou was the guest speaker for the 350 members at the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis in 2009, at the Missouri State Police Annual Homicide Symposium in 2010 and at the 2017 IHIA Annual Conference.

Lou graduated from Northeastern Illinois University with a B.A. degree in English and Physical Education and is a member of numerous professional and training organizations including the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association, International Homicide Investigators Association, and International Narcotics Officers Association.

Jeffrey J. Pavletic is an award winning trial attorney who has built a reputation of integrity and exceptional skill in the courtroom. As a prosecutor over the past two decades, he has tried countless cases to victory (including approximately 150 jury trials with a concentration in homicide and violent crime). In addition to trying some of the most high profile and complex cases that have occurred in the history of Northern Illinois, Jeff was Chief of the Felony Review Division, and is currently the First Assistant State's Attorney for the Lake County (Illinois) State's Attorneys Office.

Jeff served as Special Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee in the impeachment of President Clinton. His duties included all aspects of independent counsel review, the impeachment inquiry, presentation of articles of impeachment to the U.S. House of Representatives, all witness interviews and depositions of trial witnesses, and the actual impeachment trial before the United States Senate.

Jeff not only has developed a reputation for excellence in the courtroom, but he is also a published author and a well-respected instructor of law. He currently holds undergraduate and graduate faculty positions and has received accolades as a nationally renowned lecturer training thousands of police, lawyers, prosecutors, and judges.

He has received numerous federal, state and local awards. These include the Illinois State Crime Commission's State's Attorney of the Year, Felony Trial Attorney of the Year, The Fred L. Foreman Criminal Justice Award, The Ruth Rosengarden Victim Service provider Award, and special U.S. House of Representatives Award presented by Congressman Henry Hyde. Jeff has been featured on 20/20, The Today Show, Good Morning America, Court TV, and The Discovery Channel.

Carol Gudbrandsen is an instructor with Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, Inc. (WZ) and Cyber Crimes Analyst with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office in their Cyber/White Collar Crimes Division. She has been with the Lake County State's Attorney's Office since 2010. Carol has specialized training in digital evidence forensics of computers, mobile devices and computer networks. Carol has performed thousands of forensic examinations on various types of digital evidence and has been the forensic point of contact and resource in homicide cases investigated by the Lake County Major Crimes Task Force.

Carol's forensic examination abilities have made her an integral part of criminal investigations including homicides, crimes against children, sexual assault/abuse, drug investigations, theft, burglary, and white collar crime cases. Carol's forensic examinations on computers and mobile devices have been crucial to many criminal cases, due to her unique abilities in bypassing, or locating security barriers that otherwise would not have been discovered by traditional forensic methods.

Carol provides investigation and analysis services in the area of digital evidence forensics for all of the Lake County, Illinois police departments. She has also worked criminal forensic cases with Homeland Security, FBI, DEA, Illinois Attorney General's Office, and the U.S. Marshals. Carol has actively participated in executing search warrants with local law enforcement agencies, Homeland Security, and the Illinois Attorney General's Office. She has been qualified as an expert witness in the area of digital forensics for Lake County, Illinois criminal cases. Additionally, Carol provides support to law enforcement in the areas of search warrants, court orders, social media, and various forms of cybercrimes.

Carol trains law enforcement in the matters of technology, seizure of digital evidence, internet investigations, and transportation and chain of custody issues related to digital evidence. She conducts community presentations to schools, parents, staff, and professionals on cyber-related matters, including internet safety, cyberbullying, sexting, and identity theft.

Carol is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Carthage College, and has 30+ years of experience in the areas of Information Technology and Accounting. She is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Forensic Task Force, International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS), and High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA).