

A Guide to Report Writing

Agenda

1. Understanding the purpose of the report writing and adhering to department specifications;
2. Gather and evaluate relevant information;
3. Structure material in a logical and coherent order;

Overview: This workshop will discuss the fundamentals of report writing. The do's and don'ts of what should be contained in your report. It is a dive into the pet peeves of prosecutors and how good report writing can help strengthen your case.

Human Trafficking: Examining the line between consent and coercion

Agenda

1. Understanding Human Trafficking
2. Understand how consent and coercion play into trafficking cases
3. Tools to avoid the pitfalls of coercive consent in your human trafficking investigations
4. Better understanding of state and federal laws around trafficking

Overview: This workshop will delve into the difficult debate surrounding human trafficking, consent and coercion. This workshop will examine human trafficking laws both federally and throughout the US and how consent and coercion play a role in the ability to investigate and prosecute sex trafficking. We will discuss the definition of consent and how societal definitions can hinder investigations and what we can do to avoid those pitfalls. The workshop will use real life examples to help illuminate the problematic idea that sex workers enthusiastically consent to trafficking.

Investigating Drug Facilitated Sexual Assaults

Agenda

1. What is Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault?
2. Uncovering and Collecting Evidence to Prove Your Case
3. Interviewing Techniques for Drug Facilitated Sexual Assaults
3. How to Track Serial Rapists

Overview: Approximately 90 percent of rapes perpetrated by an acquaintance of the victim involve alcohol. About 43 percent of sexual assault events involve some form of drug including alcohol use by the victim. We know that as sexual assault investigators the vast majority of our cases are drug facilitated sexual assault. These crimes are different than a "stranger rape" and they have to be investigated that way. This training will explain

Sexual Assault-The Trauma-Informed Investigation that leads to successful prosecution

Agenda

1. What is Trauma?
2. What is a Trauma-Informed Investigation?
3. Tools and Techniques to conduct sexual assault investigations that lead to successful prosecutions
4. Using your state's sexual assault law to your advantage

Overview: Study after study has shown that trauma affects memory. This training explains the basics of trauma and why trauma-informed interviews and investigations can lead to more successful investigations and prosecutions of sexual assault. This training will explore why it is important to focus on a survivor's experience and not the details of the sexual assault. It will provide law enforcement the tools to conduct better sexual assault investigations that will lead to more successful prosecutions.

Child Abuse - from homicides through neglects

Agenda

1. Infant homicides – how to investigate the death of an infant prior to a homicide finding by an ME
2. Physical Child Abuse – Examining Abusive Head Trauma, the Ten-4 Rule, pattern injuries, breaks and burns
3. Child Exploitation – Investigation and prosecution of child pornography, solicitation and sextortion
4. Child neglect – when neglect becomes criminal

Overview: Child abuse cases are unique with rapidly changing evidence and witness statements. The investigations require recognition of the injuries and immediate preservation of evidence. In infant homicides 80% of the infants have no signs of external trauma. This training will examine what to preserve on scene and how to properly do re-enactments. This training will further cover the signs, symptoms and family dynamics that lead to the most commonly scene physical child abuse. We will also examine how to investigate child exploitation crimes that most commonly occur on-line and through apps for successful prosecution. Finally we will examine child neglect and the differences between families in need and criminal neglect. Specifically what should be investigated and documented in order to prove criminal neglect.

Overview:

Domestic Violence - Investigation through Trial of a recanting or uncooperative victim

1. Understanding the Dynamics of Domestic Violence
2. Tools and Techniques to conduct a thorough investigations while the victim is still cooperative
3. How and where to collecting evidence- knowing that the victim may become uncooperative

4. What a prosecutor needs to prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt without a witness or with an uncooperative witness

Overview: Domestic Violence investigations can be some of the most frustrating investigations for law enforcement. You conduct the initial interview and investigation, lock up your suspect and then within days the case has fallen apart. Understanding the cycle of violence will assist in knowing why victims recant. This training will also provide you with tools to ensure a successful prosecution even in the face of a recanting or disappearing witness.

Internet Crimes against Children and in the Domestic Violence Setting

Agenda

1. Identity Theft
2. Stalking
3. Revenge Porn/Sextortion
4. Sexual Solicitation of a minor

Overview: This training will discuss the most common internet crimes committed against our child victims and domestic violence victims. It will delve into the elements of identity theft and how to prove it. The training will cover stalking from GPS monitoring with apps and social media to hidden cameras. We will also delve into the use of revenge porn or sextortion to gain compliance from the domestic violence or minor victim, specifically looking at the preservation and collection of necessary evidence in order to prove the case. Finally we will examine sexual solicitation of a minor over the internet and how to prove intent and preparation.

How to conduct a trauma informed Title IX Investigation

Agenda

1. 2020 Changes to Title IX
2. Does the School have jurisdiction?
3. How should the investigation be conducted?
4. Alternatives students can select

Overview: In August 2020 the rules governing Title IX changed and all educational institutions are now required to run their investigation similar to a criminal investigation, specifically an assumption of innocence and cross examination. School officials must now conduct a thorough investigation, determine relevant evidence, conduct cross examinations and consider evidence exclusions. This training will review how to conduct a thorough yet trauma informed investigation, determine relevancy and other nuanced issues that arise during a sexual assault/harassment investigation.

When Title IX investigations and Criminal Sexual Assault Investigations Intersect

Agenda

1. What does Title IX cover
2. What is a Educational Institution required to do when a student reports a sexual assault?
3. What happens when the student decides to report to law enforcement?
4. What cooperation or evidence can law enforcement expect to receive from the educational institution?

Overview: In August 2020 the rules governing Title IX changed and all educational institutions are now required to run their investigation similar to a criminal investigation, specifically an assumption of innocence and cross examination. Will law enforcement need to reinvent the wheel if a student makes a report and the educational institution does a comprehensive investigation. Additional changes to Title IX states that educational institutions will no longer cover sexual assaults that occur between students off campus, approximately 80% of most colleges' student body. Where before many students reported to their institutions in order to have schedules or housing changed without going through the criminal process this may no longer be an option. The Department of Education anticipates a 39% reduction in Title IX investigations based on these new rules. This leaves students with a reporting option of law enforcement only.

Domestic Violence Homicides, the suspicious death or missing person

Agenda

1. A missing person/ no body case
2. An undetermined manner of death
3. Past is Prologue
3. Building and Presenting the case

Overview: Every year there are a number of missing persons and presumed dead individuals or individuals who are deceased but the manner of death is undetermined. What these cases have in common is a lengthy history of domestic violence. How can an investigation change a Medical Examiners opinion from undetermined to homicide? How can a homicide be charged in a no body case? This training will cover reopening cold cases, the use of cadaver dogs, and scene processing. The training will review how prior 911 calls, protective orders, social media posts and witnesses can be used to build and try the DV homicide.

Elder/Vulnerable Adult Abuse – Neglect, Sexual Abuse and Physical Abuse

Agenda

1. Who qualifies as a Vulnerable Adult or “Elder” – What evidence do you need to prove these elements
2. Neglect – When the neglect becomes criminal
3. Sexual Abuse – the ability to consent versus force
4. Physical Abuse – differential diagnosis and proving intent
5. Reluctant Victim – why your victims may not want to cooperate and how to battle the issue

Overview: Elder Abuse cases can cover our seniors and vulnerable adults. These victims are often reluctant to come forward to law enforcement, or cooperate with the investigation if someone else calls. This training will examine the different types of abuse and why victims are reluctant to come forward. This training will further cover the signs, symptoms and family dynamics that lead to the most commonly scene Elder Abuse. The training will also cover how to distinguish between the accidental fall defense and the actual assault. Finally we will examine elder/vulnerable adult neglect and the differences between families in need and criminal neglect. Specifically what should be investigated and documented in order to prove criminal neglect.

Domestic Violence Strangulation

Agenda:

1. The stats and facts of Domestic Violence
2. Mechanisms of strangulation
3. Proof of Strangulation
4. Use of Partners

Overview: A domestic violence victim who is strangled is 750 times more likely to be a victim of domestic violence homicide than any other domestic violence victim. An individual who commits a domestic violence strangulation is more likely to be involved in a police involved shooting. This training will cover the development and implementation of a strangulation protocol from the 911 call through the prosecution. The training will cover questions that should be asked by 911 operators and the first officers on scene. We will examine what the investigators should look/listen for and the use of forensic nurses for strangulation exams. Finally we will cover how the evidence can be presented at trial.

Domestic Violence in the Workplace

Agenda:

1. Signs and symptoms of domestic violence

2. The role of a supervisor
3. Safety plan for the workplace and the employee
4. Resources

Overview: Domestic Violence can often lead to workplace violence. From stalking to active shooters. How can an employer ensure the safety of all employees, and what responsibilities do they have to get involved. This training will review typical signs and symptoms of domestic violence from injuries to work performance. The training will also review how to develop a safety plan for the employee and the workplace. Finally we will review available resources and options that employees have.

Consent Education

Agenda:

1. What is consent?
2. How consent education reduce sexual assault and sexual harassment
3. The difference between bad behavior and criminal behavior

Overview: This training will review all types of consent from age, through intoxication and positions of power and authority. It will discuss how to determine if consent is freely and voluntarily given. The training will also review the studies that have shown the direct correlation between consent education and a reduction in sexual assault and sexual harassment. Finally the training will review the differences between what may be bad or rude behavior and what equals criminal behavior.

Sexual Harassment

Agenda:

1. Hostile Work Environment
2. Quid Pro Quo
3. What an employee and employer should do
4. Title VII protections

Overview: This training will review the three main forms of sexual harassment: verbal, non-verbal and physical contact. The training will review what rights an employee has and how an employer should handle a complaint from taking the complaint to conducting an investigation and determining what the appropriate final response should be. Finally the training will discuss Title VII legal remedies for both the employee and employer.

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