

**Importance of Association Membership and Support - AFI-LLC Newsletter July 2018**  
 (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-newsletters/importance-of-association-membership-and-support-afi-llc-newsletter-july-2018>)

7/2/2018

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(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/>)



**INDEPENDENCE DAY - Our Nation's 242nd Birthday!**

We hope you have (or had - depending on when you read this) a fun and safe Independence Day celebration of our Nation's 242nd birthday!

July 4, 1776: America Declares Independence from Great Britain

In Philadelphia PA the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, which proclaims the independence of the United States of America from Great Britain and its King. First, on July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted to approve a Virginia motion calling for separation from Britain. The dramatic words of this resolution were added to the closing of the Declaration of Independence. Two days later, on July 4th, the Declaration of Independence was formally adopted by 12 colonies after minor revision. New York approved it on July 19. On August 2, the declaration was signed.

The Declaration of Independence came 442 days after the first volleys of the American Revolution were fired at Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts and marked an ideological expansion of the conflict that would eventually encourage France's intervention on behalf of

the Patriots.

**Private Investigators Day**

From the first renewed recognition - Private Investigators Day - July 24, 2014

Our agency celebrated the first (and likely only other) National Private Investigators Day almost 20 years ago (Bob Mackowiak, then owner/publisher of PI Magazine). We are glad to participate in this and are asking our colleagues to do the same. Promote the day and all the goodwill that PIs do!

-- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/private-investigators-day](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/private-investigators-day) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/private-investigators-day>)



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-association-membership-and-support>)

support)

**Importance of Association Membership and Support**

"I'm not getting anything for my dues" or "One case referral pays my dues" are two of the most common responses to association memberships. One is no more common than the other, yet they are complete opposites of each other.

What is the importance of association membership and support? First, let's look at different types of associations for professional investigators:

- State Associations

**Welcome!**

Beginning December 2016 we are posting our newsletters here. It will take a couple months to transition our archived newsletters to here. Please email us with any questions and suggestions -

[associates@DeathCaseReview.com](mailto:associates@DeathCaseReview.com)  
 (<mailto:associates@DeathCaseReview.com>)



(970) 480-7793



(</contact-us.html>)

Subscribe (<https://goo.gl/n4RE1>)

2010-2016 Archives (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/newsletters/archives/2010-2016-archives.htm>)

**Archives:**

- June 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/06-2018>)
- May 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/05-2018>)
- April 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/04-2018>)
- March 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/03-2018>)
- February 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/02-2018>)
- January 2018 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/01-2018>)
- December 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/12-2017>)
- November 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/11-2017>)
- October 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/10-2017>)
- September 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/09-2017>)
- August 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/08-2017>)
- July 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/07-2017>)
- June 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/06-2017>)
- May 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/05-2017>)
- April 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/04-2017>)
- March 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/03-2017>)
- February 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/02-2017>)
- January 2017 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/01-2017>)
- December 2016 (</afi-llc-newsletters/archives/12-2016>)

- National Associations
- International Associations

To each of these, not so much state associations, you may have specialized association for legal investigations, legislation, expertise, security, etc. To learn and network in your specialized areas, join associations for your expertise. This includes fraud, fire, social work, etc. This may also include causes that you believe in for the work you do – such as charities, innocence projects, etc.  
 -- read the full commentary at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-association-membership-and-support](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-association-membership-and-support)  
<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-association-membership-and-support>

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- IN CLOSING...

**Together We're Better - Together We Make the Difference!**

*What is your association news that we can share?*

**In Passing - Jeff Saviano, JDS Criminalistics (Colorado Springs)**

It is with great sadness we learned our friend, and forensics colleague, Jeff Saviano of JDS Criminalistics, passed away in April. Jeff was a pillar in our community and profession. He gave presentations nationwide, never consider a colleague competition, and worked diligently for the facts in criminal and civil litigation.

He will be missed!

<http://obits.gazette.com/obituaries/gazette/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=188664582>  
<http://obits.gazette.com/obituaries/gazette/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=188664582>



**Associates in Forensic Investigations LLC**

Rocky Mountain West Agency owned by Dean A. Beers, CLI CCDI CFI-FTER and Karen S. Beers, BSW CCDI CFI-FTER.

We provide Expert Consultations and Legal Investigations of Personal Injury, Negligence & Death in Civil, Criminal and Probate litigation. We are Subject Matter Experts in Equivocal Death Investigation and Analysis, Medicolegal Investigations of Death and Serious Bodily Injury.

Based in the Rocky Mountain West, we provide expert consultations nationally. Learn details at [www.DeathCaseReview.com](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/>)

**Commentary from the blog archives of AFI-LLC**

[www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog.html](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog.html)

<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog.html>

Keep up with the current events of our agency and profession through our blog. Dating back to the fall of 2011, there are dozens of articles, tips and resources for professional



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog.html>)



(<https://www.facebook.com/4N6Associates>)

Keep up with news of our agency and profession!

**Quick Links:**

- About AFI-LLC (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/about-afi.html>)
- Death and Injury Causation (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/death-injury-causation.html>)
- AFI-LLC Blog (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog.html>)
- Affiliated Experts (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/affiliated-experts.html>)
- AFI-LLC in the Media (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-in-media.html>)
- Contact AFI-LLC (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/contact-us.html>)
- Investigative Resources (<http://amazon.privateinvestigations.org/>)
- Investigative Training (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/training.html>)

(<http://www>)



(<https://twitter.com/4N6Associates>)



**Dean - LinkedIn**

(<https://www.linkedin.com/in/forensicinvestigators>)

**Karen - LinkedIn**

(<https://www.linkedin.com/in/karen-beers-8070a836>)

**Tools for the Litigation Attorney and Professional Investigator**  
 (click images for details)

investigators.

**Prescription Medications - The Danger of Legal and Illicit Drugs** (from 02/02/2014)

We are frequently contacted by the media for commentary on current events related to legal investigations and death investigations. Recently we were contacted for commentary on a story, and presented two questions...

-- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/prescription-medications-the-danger-of-legal-and-illicit-drugs](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/prescription-medications-the-danger-of-legal-and-illicit-drugs)  
(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/prescription-medications-the-danger-of-legal-and-illicit-drugs>)

**Death in Ohio – Suicide or Accident?** (from 02/11/2014)

In Sandusky Ohio on March 02, 2012, 19 year-old Jacob Lamberios was reported dead due to a gunshot wound to the head. The county elected coroner, John Wukie, was called and certified the death based on verbal reports from on scene sheriff deputies. No scene response from the coroner or medicolegal death investigators. It was ruled a suicide. The evidence was later lost and the decedent buried. No autopsy.

-- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/death-in-ohio-suicide-or-accident1](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/death-in-ohio-suicide-or-accident1) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/death-in-ohio-suicide-or-accident1>)

**Importance of Death Investigation Protocols and Consultations** (from 02/26/2014)

The Cause and Manner of Death can have various impacts

From civil and criminal charges to hereditary issues. It may even have unintended consequences.

(this post is not about the death penalty or defense strategy)

-- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-death-investigation-protocols-and-consultations](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-death-investigation-protocols-and-consultations)  
(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/importance-of-death-investigation-protocols-and-consultations>)

**PI Ethics and Morals** (from 04/19/2014)

Thanks to our friends at PursuitMag.com for posting 'Legal Pitfalls, Ethical Perils, and Moral Quandaries for Professional Investigators'. As professional investigators, we have certain legal, ethical, and moral obligations. The problem is: not everybody agrees on what those are.

-- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/pi-ethics-and-morals](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/pi-ethics-and-morals) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/pi-ethics-and-morals>)



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/affiliated-experts.html>)

**Expert Forensic Consultant Affiliations**

We believe that medicolegal investigation and consultation is a team effort. Stephen Cina MD

and Harold Schueler PhD are our agency affiliated experts in our respective fields offering our clients comprehensive medicolegal services.

Dr. Cina, based in Colorado, is the former Chief Medical Examiner of Cook County IL. and now provides contract and independent forensic autopsies and consultations.

Dr. Schueler is now a profession at mid-Atlantic university, and is the former Chief Forensic Toxicologist of a large mid-Atlantic metropolitan area.

Contact our office to consult on medicolegal death and injury causation. The CVs of both Dr. Cina and Dr. Schueler are available by [Contacting Us](#)

We are proud of our working relationship with Dr. Cina, since 2002 and Dr. Schueler since 2010.

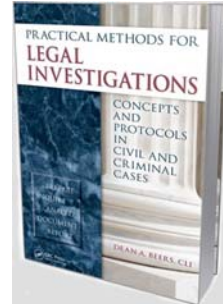
Through our colleagues, we also offer direct referrals from our Affiliated Experts Referral Program! Each are available nationally.

- Forensic Nursing
- Forensic Photography
- Digital Forensics - Cell Phones
- Digital Forensics - Computers
- Digital Forensics - GPS / Vehicles
- Forensic Debugging / Technical Surveillance Countermeasures

Contact our office for more details and a direct referral!



(<http://www.investigativecourses.com>)  
Learn Basics of Death and SBI Investigations



(<http://www.practicalmethodsforslegalinvestigations.com>)  
Buy the book - Practical Methods for Legal Investigations!



(<http://www.my007spy.com>)

Lawmate USA Covert Cameras, GPS, and TSCM Equipment - lowest retail prices and you may qualify for an additional 10% discount!



Distance learning - Ethics (FREE), Forensic Photography, Locates & Backgrounds, and MORE!

[ProfessionalLocateInvestigations.com](http://www.professionallocateinvestigations.com)

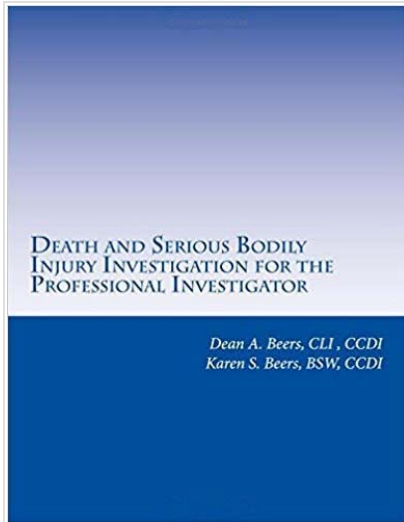


[CertifiedLocateSpecialist.com](http://www.professionallocateinvestigations.com)  
(<http://www.professionallocateinvestigations.com>)

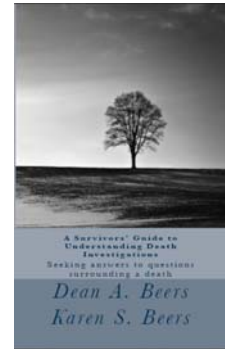
Buy the book - Professional Locates, Backgrounds and Assets & Liabilities



(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/theInvestigators/join>)  
Join theInvestigators on Yahoo Groups!



(<https://fali.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=8948697>)



(<http://www.understandingdeathinvestigations.com/>)

Buy the book - A Survivors' Guide to Understanding Death Investigations



(<http://www.privateinvestigations.org>)

Books, Tools and Resources for PIs!

### "Death and Serious Bodily Injury Investigation for the Professional Investigator"

FALI is offering, for a limited time, our latest - and very detailed book (over 200 pages) on Investigating Death & Serious Bodily Injuries for civil or criminal cases, "Death and Serious Bodily Injury Investigation for the Professional Investigator," by Dean & Karen Beers.

These are for a limited time! The guide is under revision and will be released Spring 2018 for \$95 - save 1/3 off the price now at just \$70, including shipping with 50% net proceeds going to FALI!

<https://fali.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=8948697> (<https://fali.site-ym.com/store/ViewProduct.aspx?id=8948697>)

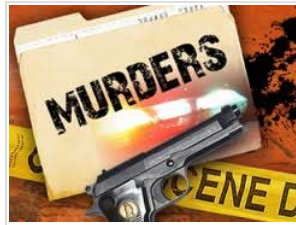
The manual is over 200 pages and begins with the core of the Beers's distance learning course manual. It includes over 20 additional forensic, death and serious bodily injury based articles.

### Case Studies from

AFI-LLC

[www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html)

(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/sample-cases.html>)



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/sample-cases.html>)

We are often asked about the types of traumatic injury and death cases we review - from family equivocal deaths to civil and criminal cases for attorneys and investigators. Each month we will present two previous cases - of hundreds - with a variety of circumstances, evidence, and conclusions.

#### Sexual Assault - Criminal Defense (Legal Investigation)

Our agency was retained by counsel on behalf of the defendant. In reviewing the available prosecution discovery, it was immediately determined that the official investigation was deficient and not properly conducted; it was incomplete and replete with errors. This included that only the alleged victim and defendant were initially interviewed by responding and arresting officers. The day of the incident (having occurred in the early morning hours), a plain clothes detective attempted to interview the defendant's two sons, who were witnesses. At a later date, two neighbors - one an active duty police officer in another jurisdiction, contacted the investigating detective and provided statements; these were not followed-up. No other investigation, including a neighborhood canvas or background of the alleged victim, were conducted.

- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/sample-cases.html>)

#### Suspicious Death - Independent Investigation (Expert Consultation)

Our agency was retained by the family to review the official investigation and provide a determination of the Manner of Death; the Cause of Death - Gunshot Wound to the head was not disputed. Assignments included to review the official records, reports and photographs and provide an opinion as to the fatal injury causation. At question was the if the decedent committed suicide as reported. Provided for review were over one hundred photographs, and several dozen pages of reports, records, and statements. The decedent was found supine in his bed, with both hands clenched and in a semi-pugilistic position. A semi-automatic handgun was next to his left side, in the blanket. A contact gunshot wound was determined near the left temple, and exit at the right ear lobe. His identification had been removed from his wallet and placed on the kitchen counter, next to a note initially thought to be a suicide note but determined to be from his girlfriend. His wallet was on the television in his bedroom.

- continued at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/sample-cases.html) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/sample-cases.html>)

**Time  
is  
money  
!**





(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/time-is-money-multi-tasking-is-time-recovered>)

Learn how we efficiently multi-task using these tools. Visit

this article on our blog at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/time-is-money-multi-tasking-is-time-recovered](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/afi-llc-blog/time-is-money-multi-tasking-is-time-recovered) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/afi-llc-blog/time-is-money-multi-tasking-is-time-recovered>)!

- DropBox - <http://DropBox.PrivateInvestigations.org> (<http://dropbox.privateinvestigations.org/>)
- Right Inbox for Gmail - [www.RightInBox.com](http://www.RightInBox.com) (<http://www.rightinbox.com/>)
- Desktop Texting - [www.MySMS.com](http://www.MySMS.com) (<http://www.mysms.com/>)
- Ring Central Faxing - <http://Fax.PrivateInvestigations.org> (<http://fax.privateinvestigations.org/>)
- Ring Central VOIP - <http://RingCentral.PrivateInvestigations.org> (<http://ringcentral.privateinvestigations.org/>)
- Toll-Free Numbers - <http://Kall8.PrivateInvestigations.org> (<http://kall8.privateinvestigations.org/>) (PIs - contact our office for more uses)
- Split View - [www.SplitView.com](http://www.SplitView.com) (<http://www.splitview.com/>)

**Be sure and also look for this article on this topic in The Legal Investigator, official journal of the National Association of Legal Investigators <http://www.bluetoad.com/publication/?i=495442> (<http://www.bluetoad.com/publication/?i=495442>)!**

Our apologies - due to our heavy schedule, we are behind on finishing the latest Facts & Forensics podcast. We will have this ready this month! Please visit [www.gimg.tv](http://www.gimg.tv) (<http://www.gimg.tv/>) for a forensic investigation based article from us!



(<http://www.gimg.tv>)

**Global Investigators Media Group (GIMG.tv)  
Facts & Forensics**

About every other month Dean host a podcast featuring topical information in the areas of legal investigations and forensic investigations. He is joined by his wife and business partner, Karen for 'Conversations with Karen' on special topics of interest. Dean closes each episode with a 'Special Guest' who is an expert in a forensic specialty. Tune in this, and every, month!

All shows are posted at <http://gimg.tv> (<http://gimg.tv/>) - the latest podcast topics include:

**Conversations with Karen**

Updates on trends and current events from our agency and profession!

**Special Guest with Dean**

*This month - around the 15th of this month, we will be having our good friend and expert consultant (photography and GPS), Roberty Wyman, tell us about his most current offering of Cell Phone Call and Tower Mapping!*

- \* Obtaining the subscriber's Call Detail Records via subpoena
- \* Contacting the cellular telephone companies ("carriers")
- \* Extracting usable data from the Call Detail Records
- \* Mapping the cellular telephone towers which have hosted the calls with Google Earth or a mapping program
- \* Advanced mapping of each call's directionality from a tower using a Computer Aided Drafting (CAD), mapping or diagramming program
- \* Tabulating the Call Detail Records for additional analysis in Excel, including sorting records to uncover common telephone numbers and subscriber relationships
- \* Preparing exhibits and illustrations of the call and tower analysis
- \* Testimony regarding the accuracy and precision of the mapping effort



**Tidbits From Our Profession**

Do you have news of your associations and members to share? Please let us know!

**ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES**

**Texas Association of Licensed Investigators**

Aug 22nd-25th - TALI 2018 Annual Conference in Lake Conroe TX.  
Details at [www.tali.org](http://www.tali.org) (<http://www.tali.org/>)

**Arizona Association of Licensed Private Investigators**

Sep 07th-08th in Mesa AZ  
Details at [www.aalpi.com/events/conference](http://www.aalpi.com/events/conference) (<http://www.aalpi.com/events/conference>)

**World Association of Detectives**

Sep 27 to Oct 01 93rd Annual Conference in Las Vegas NV  
Details at [www.WAD.net](http://www.WAD.net) (<http://www.wad.net/>)

**Osmosis**

Oct 07th-09th - Osmosis Annual Conference in Las Vegas NV.  
Details at [www.osmosiscon.com](http://www.osmosiscon.com) (<http://www.osmosiscon.com/>)

**National Council of Investigation & Security Services**

Nov 08th - NCISS Mid-Term Meeting  
Details at [www.NCISS.org](http://www.nciss.org) (<http://www.nciss.org/>)

**2018 Investigators Superconference**

Nov 08th Pre-Conference / Nov 09th-10th Conference / Nov 11th Post-Conference  
Details at [www.2018investigators.com](http://www.2018investigators.com) (<http://www.2018investigators.com/>)

*Is your association planning a conference we can share? Email us the details - associates@DeathCaseReview.com!*

## Associations and News

### Professional Private investigations Association of

Colorado ([www.PPIAC.org](http://www.PPIAC.org) (<http://ppiac.org/>))

Monthly meetings, including a training speaker, are the first Wednesday of each month, usually in the Denver metro area.

PPIAC continues to hold specialized training sessions for new and veteran investigators, and also specific to the new licensing program.



PS - be sure and visit the new and updated site for PPIAC!

### National Association of Legal Investigators ([www.NALI.com](http://www.NALI.com) (<http://www.nali.com/>))

NALI is the premier association for legal investigators for civil plaintiff and criminal defense, and oversees the prestigious Certified Legal Investigator (CLI) program. Experience is required to join and all members are subject to a background check.

Legal Investigators working cases for civil plaintiff or criminal defense - join the National Association of Legal Investigators! (<http://nalionline.org/become-a-member> (<http://nalionline.org/become-a-member>)) - please contact our office and use us as a reference on the application)

The current issue of NALI's official journal - The Legal Investigator - is now available online at [www.nalionline.org/publications.htm](http://www.nalionline.org/publications.htm) (<http://www.nalionline.org/publications.htm>)

### National Council of Investigation and Security Services ([www.NCISS.org](http://www.NCISS.org) (<http://www.nciss.org/>))

Each day we find an increasing number of problems confronting the orderly growth of our profession. These problems include, among others: overly restrictive legislation regarding training and standards, proliferation of legislation requiring local licensing, public misunderstanding and misinformation on the role and contribution of private investigators and security services, and an uninformed media. It is the role of NCISS to meet and solve these problems while seeking to uncover and recommend action on any hidden potential problems which may have an effect on our profession.

The current issue of NCISS's official journal - Your Advocate - is available online at [www.nciss.org/your-advocate](http://www.nciss.org/your-advocate) (<http://www.nciss.org/your-advocate>)

Special news and alerts are at [www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news](http://www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news) (<http://www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news>)

### World Association of Detectives ([www.WAD.net](http://www.WAD.net) (<http://www.wad.net/>))

W.A.D. is a global alliance of investigators and security professionals with origins dating back to 1921 and formalized in 1925. W.A.D. is the longest established and largest association of its kind in the world.

Karen is the W.A.D. Administrative Manager, and Dean is the Governor of the Americas (North, Central and South America). Together we work to further the mission of W.A.D. and provide resources to clients needing assistance in these regions. The W.A.D. magazine,

The current issue of WAD's official newsletter - Beyond Global - is available online at [www.wad.net/newsletters-beyond-global](http://www.wad.net/newsletters-beyond-global) (<http://www.wad.net/newsletters-beyond-global>)

**Additional memberships include FALI, TALI and CALI state associations, as well as specialty specific national associations (see right sidebar).** *If your association has news, please send it to us for inclusion in our newsletter.*



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/contact-us.html>)

## News From Our Profession

**NCISS Executive Director, Carol Ward, resigning after over 15 years serving our professions**

Carol has been steadfast in her long-time dedication to the Council, and deserves to finally enjoy a rich retirement. She has made clear that she would be happy to still assist in

any manner necessary to help NCISS, but we hope that isn't necessary for her sake.

I want to thank Carol for her many years of excellent service. We are saddened that Carol is moving on, but excited about what the future holds for NCISS. I'm optimistic that we can find a suitable successor to help us thrive for many years to come.

Best regards,  
Brad Duffy, President - NCISS

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We have been very fortunate to have Carol these past 15+ years. She basically came to our rescue. I remember that phone call I made to her from Rockne Cooke's home in Baltimore after we ended up without an Executive Director after our Baltimore Board Meeting. I almost begged. Thank goodness she agreed. It is very unusual to have someone in that position for so long. 1996 to 2002 were some difficult years for our association, but Carol helped lift us back up and get us back on track. We grew and prospered like never before.

Thank you, Carol! Enjoy your retirement and don't be a stranger.

Best Regards,  
Bob Heales, Executive Director - World Association of Detectives  
Past President; WAD, NCISS, & PPIAC

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The history of NCISS is filled with many landmarks - from professional, such as legislative advocacy, to personal - and Carol has been the backbone of NCISS. Many have known her through phone calls and emails to get help with our membership, pay our dues, register for events, etc. Over the last nearly decade, she has been personally invaluable to me in my membership and various roles to NCISS and our profession. It cannot be overstated how much she has given to NCISS of her time, knowledge, and donations.

It is with mixed emotions reading of her resignation and letting her know how much all she has done is greatly appreciated - and she has long earned the time to enjoy retirement. She will always be part of our NCISS family, to many like our matriarch - and in working so close over the years, a personal friend like family.

Thanks Carol - we owe you much more, and wish you the very best of a healthy and fun filled retirement. As Bob said - don't be a stranger.

My best, Dean  
NCISS Board Member - Past President and Past Board Chairman

#### **Supreme Court Rules that Warrants Generally Are Required to Collect Cellphone Data**

The US Supreme Court ruled the government generally needs a warrant to collect troves of location data about the customers of cellphone companies. The 5-to-4 decision has implications for all kinds of personal information held by third parties, including email and text messages, internet searches, and bank and credit card records.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/22/us/politics/supreme-court-warrants-cell-phone-privacy.html>  
(<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/22/us/politics/supreme-court-warrants-cell-phone-privacy.html>)

#### **The Value of Cell Tower Data**

Cell Tower Data or commonly known as Call Detail Records ("CDRs") are a treasure trove of data (evidence) that many attorneys and investigators miss or are unaware of. CDRs show data such as tower locations, sectors, numbers called or texted as well as many other important facets in how and where the mobile phone device was used.

In fact, the CDRs can give you important evidence that the cell phone cannot provide. Many attorneys and investigators give up if the mobile phone is not available or if the content retrieved gives them little to no evidence.

-- continued at [www.cellularforensics.com/blog/the-value-of-cell-tower-data](http://www.cellularforensics.com/blog/the-value-of-cell-tower-data) (<https://www.cellularforensics.com/blog/the-value-of-cell-tower-data>)

#### **Philadelphia Archdiocese Investigator Must Turn Over Witness Interview Notes in Sex Abuse Case**

A unanimous three-judge Superior Court panel ruled that an investigator working for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia as part of its effort to defend against sexual abuse allegations must turn over notes and summaries of witness interviews. Notes an investigator took during witness interviews are not protected from discovery under the work-product doctrine, even if the investigator had been acting at the direction of an attorney, the Pennsylvania Superior Court has ruled. -- continued at [www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/2018/06/13/philadelphia-archdiocese-investigator-must-turn-over-witness-interview-notes-in-sex-abuse-case](http://www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/2018/06/13/philadelphia-archdiocese-investigator-must-turn-over-witness-interview-notes-in-sex-abuse-case)

(<http://www.law.com/thelegalintelligencer/2018/06/13/philadelphia-archdiocese-investigator-must-turn-over-witness-interview-notes-in-sex-abuse-case>)

#### **Forensic Testimonial Evidence Recovery - CDITC Training**

CDITC National Director Brandon Perron, CCDI, CFI-FTER, will return to South Bend IN for round two of training from October 26-27. Stay tuned for more details. This event is hosted by the Indiana Society of Professional Investigators (INspi -

[www.indianainvestigators.com](http://www.indianainvestigators.com) (<http://www.indianainvestigators.com/>))

#### **Private Investigator Brandon Perron - FALI Lifetime Membership Award**

Private Investigator Brandon Perron was presented with the Florida Association of Licensed Private Investigators Lifetime Membership Award by FALI regional director Dennis Root.

#### **'CSI' is Dead Wrong About Forensics**

(*Judy Melinek, MD, Forensic Pathologist*)

"Is your job just like 'CSI?'"

The "CSI" effect is a term lawyers use for the unrealistic expectations created by television crime shows on the public -- and, therefore, the jury pool. It's a real thing. As an expert witness in forensic pathology, I see the CSI effect when I'm faced with questions like, "Why can't you tell us the precise time of death down to the minute, like on TV?" Potential jurors are now being asked if they watch "NCIS," "CSI," "Bones," "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," and a plethora of other shows that depict forensic professionals doing our jobs. So how close are these shows to reality? I'm here to tell you. Here are five things fictional crime shows consistently get wrong...

-- continued at [www.medpagetoday.com/pathology/generalpathology/73499](http://www.medpagetoday.com/pathology/generalpathology/73499)  
(<https://www.medpagetoday.com/pathology/generalpathology/73499>)

#### **Poisons (David George, PhD – CRC Press 2018)**

As a forensic investigator, with most cases dealing with toxicology in some form - not necessarily causing the death, but contributing to factors of the death, this book now sits prominently on my reference shelf. As a fellow CRC author, I am glad to write a review and highly recommend this book for all investigators, attorneys and others working in the field of forensics, death, investigations, litigation and law enforcement. Beyond well written, it is informative and laid out for easy reference. With information for areas of drugs and toxicity, with many examples, this is both informative and puts toxicology into the investigative perspective.

- Dean A. Beers, CLI, CCDI, CFI-FTER / Associates in Forensic Investigations

#### **NALI Bestows Two with Certified Legal Investigator (CLI) Designation at Annual Conference**

It is my immense pleasure to inform you that two candidates successfully passed the Certified Legal Investigator examination at NALI's annual conference in West Chester, OH yesterday. They are Rachel Roberts, CLI and James Harden, CLI. Assisting as proctors in the testing process were: John Lajoie, Tom Williams, George Gergis, Don Johnson and Terry Cox. Thank you gentlemen for your contribution to the CLI Program. Should you have an interest in applying to the program, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Diane L. Cowan, CLI  
NALI CLI & CE Chairperson

From Ellis Armistead, CLI - Armistead Investigations:

Rachel Roberts, Certified Legal Investigator

Armistead Investigators is pleased to announce that Rachel Roberts, Senior Investigator, has earned the designation of Certified Legal Investigator® from the National Association of Legal Investigators at its annual conference in Cincinnati. This highly regarded credential is conferred upon those who meet professional requirements and who pass rigorous written and oral examinations. Rachel joins Ellis

Armistead and Jennifer Brown in becoming one of approximately 55 CLIs in the country. For more information on Rachel, go to our website, [www.armisteadinvestigators.com/investigators.com](http://www.armisteadinvestigators.com/investigators.com) (<http://www.armisteadinvestigators.com/investigators.com>).

*Dean earned his CLI designation in 2009, as part of the 'Nashville Five' group - Bill Elliott, Rod Baker, Mark Murnan, and Susan Carlson (now deceased). Dean has been a member of the CLI Committee since 2010. Rachel Roberts joins Ellis Armistead and Jennifer Brown (Armistead Investigations) and Dean as Colorado's only CLIs. There are less than 75 CLIs worldwide. To learn more about the CLI program qualifications and extensive examination process, please visit <http://nailonline.org/certified-legal-investigators-program> (<http://nailonline.org/certified-legal-investigators-program>)*

#### **California Supreme Court Broadens Definition of Employee in Independent Contractor Analysis**

In a landmark decision that will affect virtually every sector of the California economy the California Supreme Court has dramatically shifted the line distinguishing employees from independent contractors wage and hour disputes and other employer/employee benefits and protections previously not available to independent contractors.

Private Investigators, among many other professional service providers in California need to immediately understand that almost all sub-contractors may now have to be treated as employees, rather than independent contractors. As a matter of law, the determination of an independent contractor is based on the following, per the California Supreme Court:

- A) The worker is free from the control and direction of the hirer in connection with the performance of the work;
- B) The worker performs work that is outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business; and
- C) The worker is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, or business of the same nature as the work performed for the hiring entity.

-- [www.natlawreview.com/article/california-abandons-30-year-old-test-determining-independent-contractor-status](http://www.natlawreview.com/article/california-abandons-30-year-old-test-determining-independent-contractor-status) (<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/california-abandons-30-year-old-test-determining-independent-contractor-status>)

#### **The Brady Rule – How a bumbling murder led to the landmark ruling**

Thanks to our friends at Pursuit Magazine for this reminder of the origins of the Brady decision - an important task to criminal defense investigators to uncover any violations.

"Every law student knows John Brady's name. But few know the story of the bumbling murder that ended in a landmark legal ruling."  
-- [www.themarshallproject.org/2018/06/24/an-odd-almost-senseless-series-of-events](http://www.themarshallproject.org/2018/06/24/an-odd-almost-senseless-series-of-events) (<http://www.themarshallproject.org/2018/06/24/an-odd-almost-senseless-series-of-events>)

#### **3 reasons why you need a private investigator when you're charged with a crime**

From our friends and colleagues at Complete Legal Investigations (FL) – Mark and Wendy Murnan ([www.CompleteLegalInv.com](http://www.CompleteLegalInv.com)) (<http://www.completelegalinv.com/>)

1. Witnesses. Somebody has to talk to the people who claim to have seen the incident
2. "Event" scene. It's not a "crime" scene until the state proves a crime has been committed. Until then it's a location where an event took place. That location has to be documented to ensure that the witnesses could have seen what they claim they saw.
3. Research. Is the "victim" credible? Are the witnesses credible? The police and the prosecutor aren't going to check out the people testifying against you. That's what your investigator does!

When you're charged with a crime, you need an aggressive lawyer. And to make sure your lawyer has all the information he needs to successfully defend you, you need a smart, experienced private investigator to provide the facts your lawyer needs to defend you.

#### **Importance of Accurate Background Checks**

*(from our friends at PI Now, by Stephanie Irvine)*

For many private investigators, background checks are a staple service offering. There are a variety of different types of background checks, but in each, a qualified private investigator is capable of retrieving and assessing the results. Accuracy is critical when it comes to background checks because the results, if inaccurate, can be devastating.

-- continued at [www.pinow.com/articles/2472/importance-of-accurate-background-checks](http://www.pinow.com/articles/2472/importance-of-accurate-background-checks) (<http://www.pinow.com/articles/2472/importance-of-accurate-background-checks>)

*Dean started our agency with providing Individual Locates, Background Checks, and Asset & Liabilities Checks. These are important to all manners of litigation, as well as employment, tenant, lending and other purposes. Each purpose has unique requirements, permissions, disclosures and resources – and it is important to know and follow each. Accuracy is key – and we guarantee accuracy in all of our Due Diligence assignments. Learn more at [www.DeathCaseReview.com/legal-investigations.html](http://www.DeathCaseReview.com/legal-investigations.html) (<http://www.deathcasereview.com/legal-investigations.html>)*

#### **US Supreme Court rules vehicle search on driveway is curtilage requiring a warrant**

*(shared from the Public Agency Training Council)*

The United States Supreme Court holds that a partially enclosed top portion of a driveway in which the Defendant's motorcycle was parked was curtilage for purposes of the Fourth Amendment and further holds that the automobile exception to the Fourth Amendment's warrant requirement for searches did not justify the police officer's invasion of curtilage of the Defendant's home.

-- [www.patc.com/articles/2018\\_collins\\_v\\_virginia\\_chapman.pdf](http://www.patc.com/articles/2018_collins_v_virginia_chapman.pdf) ([http://www.patc.com/articles/2018\\_collins\\_v\\_virginia\\_chapman.pdf](http://www.patc.com/articles/2018_collins_v_virginia_chapman.pdf))

#### **Practical Methods for Legal Investigations: Concepts and Protocols in Civil and Criminal Cases**

*(Dean A. Beers, CLI - CRC Press / February 2011 - [www.PracticalMethodsForLegalInvestigations.com](http://www.PracticalMethodsForLegalInvestigations.com))*

*(<http://practicalmethodsforlegalinvestigations.com/>)*

Customer Review 5.0 out of 5 stars by David J George, PhD 06/03/2018

A comprehensive and practical reference for both junior and experienced legal investigators.

Practical Methods For Legal Investigators...A comprehensive step by step approach to investigations starting with the acceptance of an assignment and ending with authoring a final report. Covers most familiar investigative areas, including death. This book can be the basis or starting point for new investigators, and serve as reference for occasional consultation by those well along in practice. It is designed so that information in specific topics can be easily accessed without sorting through material that may not be relevant to the situation at hand. The thoroughness of the discussions makes for easy use as check lists, and will also likely improve both the quality and content of investigative reports. I particularly like the robust treatment of death investigations, and the practical insight relative to collecting photographic evidence. This book should be one of the small number of core references in each investigator's personal library. It will be especially valuable for those in practices unaffiliated with law enforcement agencies (who usually have established procedures and policies).

#### **Legislative News You Can Use... from NCISS**



Its been very quiet for the investigation and security professions in Congress and regulatory agencies. That's a good thing - for now. We must always be prepared. One way we do that is to personally visit our Senators and Representatives every year - and stay in contact with them throughout the year. We also stay in touch with our members.



(<http://www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news>)

PS - be sure and catch the latest NCISS

Digital Your Advocate at <http://nciss.org/your-advocate-february-2018> (<http://nciss.org/your-advocate-february-2018>)

To stay current, please visit [www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news](http://www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news) (<http://www.nciss.org/important-nciss-news>)

#### **NCISS Welcomes Two New Regional Directors**

**Jon Tipton - Region 4 - AL-AR-MO-LA-MS-NM-OK-TN-TX**

I am proud to be appointed as your new Region 4 Director!

First, I would like to thank Mark Gillespie for his belief in my abilities as a Professional Investigator and as a leader within our industry which led to his nomination of me for this position. Thanks Mark!

Secondly, I want to thank the Board for their subsequent approval of my appointment. I promise to work tirelessly to promote the values, morals, ethics, and principles of NCISS and to represent the same in all that I do in and for our industry.

While in terms of a career as a Professional Investigator I am on the younger end of the spectrum what I make up for with a short steep learning curve, a very strong filter for extraneous bologna, a very direct and deliberate approach to solving challenges, culminating with a strong work ethic. I possess an intense desire to see our profession re-branded from the stereotypical "private dick" or "gumshoe" to that of a Professional Investigator that is sought after and respected by society as a whole because we as Professional Investigators hold ourselves accountable under the highest standards of care, diligence, professionalism, and integrity.

Again, thank you all for your belief in me. I am looking forward to serving our Members as an ambassador for our profession.

**Tina Thomas - Region 5 - AZ-CO-IA-KS-MN-ND-NE-SD-UT-WI-WY**

I am honored to have been appointed by the Board as the new Region 5 Director for NCISS. It is exciting to serve the Board, Region 5, and all of my fellow investigators as I go forward into this position. For many years I have reaped the benefits of the hard-working members of this association, and now is my chance to give back to the group and our industry. It is important we continue to grow, learn and add to the membership of NCISS.

Taking part in my state organization (Arizona Association of Licensed Private Investigators) as well as NCISS has been critical to my continued education and growing my network of trusted colleagues. YOU NEED BOTH HALVES FOR THE BEST LEGISLATIVE PROTECTION! For those of you I have not personally met or worked with in the many years I have been an investigator, I look forward to meeting you at the NCISS Mid-Term in New York on November 8th. Please introduce yourself and let me know how I can help make this organization even better than it is.

#### **NCISS Welcomes Two New Sponsors / Member Benefits**

**Security and Investigators Insurance Solutions** - Liability coverage for professional investigators, security guard operations, and personal firearms liability.

**One Digital Health and Benefits** - These benefits are available for both you and your family. Please take the time to research your choices and make the best selections for you and your family.



(<http://www.deathcasereview.com/contact-us.html>)

#### **The Quint-Essential Qualities of a Professional Investigator**

##### **Skills Appropriate for the Assignment**

Law firms and medical offices specialize - Professional Investigators also specialize. Their casework and continuing education should also be in your specialized areas.

##### **Experience and Knowledge**

Professional Investigators strive to maintain and further these. All professions have requirements of continuing education. The CLI and CCDI programs both require extensive compliance with continuing education.

#### **Responsible and Ethical Conduct**

Every component of the investigation has evidentiary considerations. Professional Investigators hold themselves to a higher standard and leaves no question as to the admissibility of their evidence. Information without ethics is not evidence.

#### **Effective Communication**

Professional Investigators maintain communication with the attorney, client, witnesses, and other key persons in the investigation. Moreover, reports are the product of an organized investigation and should reflect the work product you expect.

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With appreciation,  
Dean A. Beers, CLI CCDI CFI-FTER\* and Karen S. Beers, BSW CCDI CFI-FTER\*  
Associates in Forensic Investigations, LLC - [Associates@DeathCaseReview.com](mailto:Associates@DeathCaseReview.com)

Colorado (970) 480-7793 - Dean x1 and Karen x2 - Voice / TXT

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