



Course Title: Interviews for Force Investigations

Certifying Entity: Association of Force Investigators (AFI)

Instructor(s): Paul Taylor, Ph.D.

Course Description:

One of the most important and controversial aspects of any use of force investigation is the interview with the involved officer(s). This course examines some of the more contested issues involved – including when to interview and whether officers should watch video before participating in an interview. It provides a basic framework and proven tools for collecting the best evidence possible during these interviews. The first day will examine the who, what, where, when, why, and how involved in the way interviews for force investigations should be conducted. The second day will provide practical experience in conducting and analyzing inductive interviews.

The course is taught by Dr. Paul Taylor, who is a former law enforcement officer; the founder of the Association of Force Investigators; and an Assistant Professor at the University of Colorado Denver. He is a published researcher who has conducted extensive research on the topics he teaches. This gives participants direct access to a researcher who has conducted many of the studies being discussed in the class. Dr. Taylor's law enforcement experience allows him to make these complex topics practical and accessible to law enforcement practitioners.

Course Length: 2 Days

Course Dates: TBD

Course Location: TBD

Number of Students: Limited only by venue capacity

Course Cost: Please email contact@forceinvestigators.com for more information

Technology Needed: The instructor will need the host agency to supply a projector and screen that is compatible with an Apple MacBook Pro and KeyNote presentation software. The instructor will bring his own laptop and will have adapters for most cable connections. Depending on the size of the venue, the host agency may need to provide a lapel mic that facilitates instructor movement and interaction.

Course Schedule and Topics

Day 1:

0800 – 0830: Introduction

0830 – 0850: Accountability and the Ability to Give Account.

0850 – 0900: Break

0900 – 0950: The Why: Why do we conduct interviews for use of force investigation?

0950 – 1000: Break

1000 – 1050: The Who: Who is involved in the interview process?

1050 – 1100: Break

1100 – 1200: The What: Memory

1200 – 1300: Lunch

1300 – 1350: The When and Where: When and where should interviews be conducted

1350 – 1400: Break

1400 – 1450: The How: The Cognitive Interview

1450 – 1500: Break

1500 – 1550: The How: The Cognitive Interview

1550 – 1600: Break

1600 – 1645: The How: The Cognitive Interview

1645 – 1700: Conclusion and Class Questions

Day 2:

0800 – 0850: Review and Introduction to Practical Exercises

0850 – 0900: Break

0900 – 0950: Practical Exercises

0950 – 1000: Break

1000 – 1050: Practical Exercises

1050 – 1100: Break

1100 – 1200: Practical Exercises

1200 – 1300: Lunch

1300 – 1350: Practical Exercises

1350 – 1400: Break

1400 – 1450: Practical Exercises

1450 – 1500: Break

1500 – 1550: Final Exam

1550 – 1600: Break

1600 – 1700: Conclusion and Class Questions