

James L Trainum

Employment

Criminal Case Review and Consulting

2010-present

Private Consultant

- Review of open and closed criminal cases at the request of law enforcement, attorneys and organizations.
- Identification of solvability factors in open cases for the purpose of making investigative recommendations.
- Review of alleged wrongful conviction cases – specializing in alleged false confessions.
- Review of law enforcement agencies' policy and procedures in the area of cold case investigations and interview and interrogation procedures.
- Provides expert testimony on police and interrogation procedures in criminal cases and before legislative bodies.
- Provides instruction to law enforcement agencies, attorneys and universities on law enforcement investigative procedures, cold case investigation, interview and interrogation and the prevention of false confessions and wrongful convictions.
- Currently working with the Department of Justice on a review of the interrogation policies and procedures of the New Orleans Police Department.

Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C.

1983-2010

Violent Crime Case Review Project Project Director – Detective

2000-2010

- Created the Project in response to a need to better select old unsolved homicides (cold cases) for re-assignment and additional investigation.
- Responsible for the comprehensive review of all homicide cases over three years old.
- Developed policy and procedures pertaining to case reviews, case tracking, file tracking, case reassignment and investigation.
- Acted as liaison with Forensic Psychology, Forensic Science and Psychology Departments at local universities in order to obtain student interns to work in the project.
- Created a selection process and training program for student interns in the Project.

**Repeat Offender Project
Detective - Investigator**

1986-1992

- Participated in and directed investigations targeting persons who committed 5 or more felonies per week – but specializing in persons trafficking in stolen property.
- Performed numerous long and short term undercover operations.
- Worked with numerous task forces and regional working groups, involving local and federal law enforcement agencies.

**Third Police District Patrol and Support Operations
Officer**

1983-1986

- Performed uniformed patrol functions.
- Detailed to specialized units such as narcotics, prostitution, auto theft, surveillance and tactical work.

Arlington County, Virginia Fire Department

1977-1983

Firefighter – Paramedic

- Proficient in basic firefighting duties involving fire suppression, search and rescue, engine company and truck company functions.
- Nationally Board Certified Paramedic – assigned to a Medic Unit. Responsible for administering emergency medical and advanced life support care.

Specialized Training and Experience

- Extensive experience in working multi-jurisdictional cases and on local and federal law enforcement task forces.
- Experience in obtaining appropriate court orders for and the utilization of electronic surveillance and monitoring equipment, including wire-taps, Dialed Number Recorders and pole-cameras.
- Training through the FBI in financial investigations.
- Specialized training through the FBI, local law enforcement agencies and organizations in homicide investigation, arson investigation, child exploitation, crime scene examination and processing, advanced forensic DNA applications and interview and interrogation.
- Adult education instruction training through the National Institute of Justice's National Instructor Development Academy.

Accomplishments

- Developed policy and procedures for MPD cold case and evidence reviews following a study of other cold case homicide review processes across the country.
- Started a departmental intern program that has since been adopted by many other DC MPD units.
- Created training programs for interns and detectives on homicide investigation, case reviews, evidence, forensic database and the FBI ViCAP database.
- Obtained grant funding for DNA backlog reduction.
- Created the MPD ViCAP Program.
- Recipient of the Marymount University Forensic Psychology Program Award in Ethics in Law Enforcement (2005)
- Recipient of the 2009 Innocence Network's Champion of Justice Award.
- Testified before the Ohio and Maryland Legislatures on the benefits of videotaping interrogations.

Committees, Advisory Boards and Professional Organizations

- The Vidocq Society (May 2008-present).
- FBI ViCAP National Advisory Board (2003-2008)
- DC Homicide Coalition – a cooperative effort of multiple agencies tasked with improving and coordinating the response of government and private agencies to the needs of co-victims/survivors of homicide (2005-present).
- Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP) (2004-present)
- Mid Atlantic Cold Case Homicide Investigators Association Board of Directors (2004-present)

Lectures – Presentations

- Basic Crime Analysis Techniques presented to DC MPD detectives, American University Criminal Justice Department
- Intuition and Police Work- Marymount University Department of Forensic Psychology
- " The Starbucks Triple Murder / Cooperation Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies" presented to Marymount University; American University; the DC MPD Police Academy, LeadAmerica
- "The Freeway Phantom Serial Murder Investigation- A Case Study" presented at the ATAP DC Annual Conference (2006); The Mid-Atlantic Cold Case Homicide Investigators Association Conference (2006)
- Interrogation and False Confessions- Georgetown University; American University Law School; Marymount University, D. C. Public Defender Service, U. S Attorney Office for the District of Columbia.
- Identifying and Avoiding Criminal Investigation Pit Falls- MPD personnel.

- The MPD ViCAP Program-DC MPD personnel, DC Metropolitan Regional Sex Offense Detectives conference
- Basic Homicide Investigation-DC MPD
- Forensic and Computer Databases-DC MPD

Publications – Research

- Trainum, James and Diana Havlin (2008). A False Confession to Murder in Washington, D.C. In Criminal Investigative Failures by D. Kim Rossmo.
- Authored article for the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin (6/2001) on Fencing Operations
- Authored study of post-release arrests of suspects in dismissed homicide cases (2003).
- Primary author of the Metropolitan Police Department's Major Case/Cold Case Unit's Standard Operating Procedure.