

Comprehensive Sexual Assault Investigations From Victim Interview to Prosecution: Never Again a “He-Said, She-Said”

February 12-13, Auburn Hills

April 1-2, Traverse City

August 5-6, Marquette

November 5-6, Marshall



Advanced Training for Law Enforcement

Hosted by: MI Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) funded by a joint project of MCOLES and the Division of Victim Services, MI Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

Goals: This two-day training has been developed and will be taught by a team of experienced law enforcement, prosecutor, and advocate instructors. The material and exercises are designed for officers who have already participated in the current MCOLES’ one-day sexual assault training or the previous two-day training on response to sexual assault. Participants will be expected to have a basic understanding of the neurobiology of trauma, victim response to that trauma, and implicit and cultural bias, before attending this training. The focus will be on non-stranger sexual assault investigations.

Through a combination of lecture, demonstration, and scenario-based exercises, participants will learn:

- the benefits of conducting trauma-informed interviews of victims and witness
- how to conduct a trauma-informed interview of a sexual assault victim
- how to develop and refine a plan for thorough investigation of non-stranger SA cases
- the concept of micro-corroboration and how it enhances successful prosecution
- how to conduct a pretext phone call or pretext electronic communication
- how to plan for and conduct an effective suspect interview and suspect interrogation
- how to write meaningful reports that enhance the likelihood of successful prosecution

Available in Four Locations in Michigan in 2020

	DATE: February 12-13	April 1-2	August 5-6	November 5-6
TIME:	8AM— 5PM	8AM— 5PM	8AM— 5PM	8AM— 5PM
LOCATION:	Auburn Hills Oakland Police Acdmy, Oakland Community College Campus, 2900 Featherstone Rd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326	Traverse City Traverse City Police Department, 851 Woodmere Ave., Traverse City, MI 49636	Marquette Northern Michigan University, Jacobetti Complex, 2296 Sugarloaf Ave., Marquette, MI 49855	Marshall Marshall Regional Law Enforcement Center, 714 US Hwy 27 N, Marshall, MI 49068
REGISTRATION:	www.surveymonkey.com /r/AdvancedSA5	www.surveymonkey.com /r/AdvancedSA6	www.surveymonkey.com /r/AdvancedSA7	www.surveymonkey.com /r/AdvancedSA8

QUESTIONS? Call Elizabeth McGuire Heller MCOLES STOP Grant Coordinator 734-972-6016 or hellere@michigan.gov



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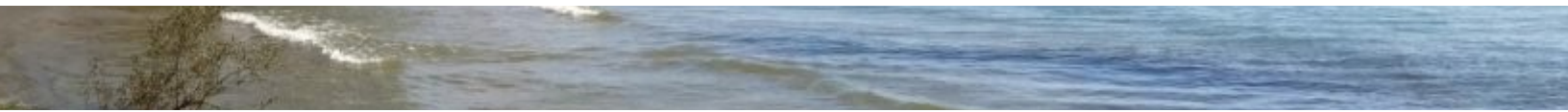
Faculty

Shari Murgittroyd is an instructor for the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. She has over 20 years’ experience working in crime victim services and is the co-founder of North Star Wellness Center in Lansing, Michigan. Ms. Murgittroyd also serves as adjunct faculty for Michigan State University and training faculty for the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Public Policy & Health and a Master’s Degree in Social Work, Program Administration & Evaluation. Ms. Murgittroyd is a licensed clinical social worker with expertise in mental health services, crisis intervention, medical and legal advocacy, suicide prevention, and trauma therapy for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Ms. Murgittroyd also conducts offender interviews and lethality assessments for and is qualified to deliver expert witness testimony for criminal and civil cases involving sexual or domestic violence. She is currently completing certification in Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviewing (FETI) and has specialized training in the neurobiology of trauma, victim response, and perpetrator tactics. Her education and overall career trajectory has grown from strong roots in violence prevention and public health.

Detective Lieutenant Timothy Pols has worked for the Wyoming Police Department since 1998 and has held several positions within the agency. As a detective, Tim investigated sex crimes as well as homicides and other violent crimes. He currently oversees the Investigative Division for the agency. Tim is a board member for the Michigan Association of Hostage Negotiators and has been a trainer for MCOLES since 2010 focusing on sexual assault investigations. He has a bachelor’s degree from Grand Valley State University and a master’s degree from Ferris State University.

Angela Povilaitis, JD is currently a Staff Policy Attorney for the Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board. Most recently, Ms. Povilaitis was an Assistant Attorney General in the Michigan Department of the Attorney General, Criminal Division and was the lead prosecutor on the state sexual assault cases brought against former USA gymnastics and Michigan State University doctor Larry Nassar. At the Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Povilaitis was tasked with prosecuting violence against women and intimate partner criminal cases throughout the State of Michigan. Ms. Povilaitis developed a Statewide Cold Case Sexual Assault Project where she provided technical assistance and case and trial consultation on matters of intimate partner violence to local prosecutor’s offices and police departments throughout the State of Michigan. She has trained state prosecutors annually on Sexual Assault Trial Advocacy. Prior to joining the Attorney General’s Office, Ms. Povilaitis served as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office for eleven years where she focused primarily on the prosecution of child sexual and physical abuse, sexual assault cases with DNA evidence, child homicide, domestic violence homicide, and other serious felony cases. Ms. Povilaitis has received numerous awards for her work, including being named the first recipient of the Michigan Outstanding Advocate for Victims of Crime Award in 2018, a Notable Woman Lawyer in Michigan by Crain’s Detroit Business, a 2018 Glamour Magazine Woman of the Year and a 2013 Top Gun Criminal Litigator of the Year by the Michigan Department of Attorney General. Throughout her career, Ms. Povilaitis has vertically prosecuted hundreds of adult and child sexual assault cases.

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Erica K. Smith, JD, is the Violence Against Women Training Attorney at the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan. She has a wide variety of experience in training, prosecution, advocacy, and criminal law. Prior to joining PAAM, Ms. Smith spent 11 years with the Oakland County Prosecutor’s Office in Pontiac, Michigan, and 5 ½ of those years were spent as a Special Prosecutor in the Special Victims Section. Ms. Smith prosecuted hundreds of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and vulnerable victim cases. During her career in Oakland County, she was also part of the Warrants division, District Court division, and General Circuit division. She made charging decisions and handled preliminary examinations, trials, and sentencings for these complex cases. She has had the privilege of training prosecutors, law enforcement, advocates, cadets, dispatchers, and DHHS employees. Ms. Smith is a graduate of the Michigan State College of Law and is a member of the State Bar of Michigan.

Christine Watson has been working with survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for more than 15 years. She started her human services work in England upon her graduation with a Master’s Degree in English Literature but since 2004 has lived and worked in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In her current position at SafeHouse Center, Christine oversees the 24 hour on-call program which offers assistance to survivors immediately following an assault as well as the legal advocacy program which supports survivors as they engage with the criminal and civil judicial processes. Over the years, she has worked extensively with judicial staff and law enforcement and serves on various multi-disciplinary community committees. Christine has also been prolific in her community outreach efforts providing education and trainings on the issues of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. She has been a trainer for the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) since 2015.

Jill Whitcomb began her law enforcement career in 1992 with the City of Wyoming, Kent County Mi. While working for Wyoming PD she held various positions such as patrol, school resource officer, Tactical Arrest and Confrontation Team (T.A.C.T.), bicycle patrol, dispatch, and investigations. She obtained certifications as a D.A.R.E. Instructor and as an International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) Bicycle Instructor. While assigned to the Detective Division, Jill investigated Sexual Assault cases as well as worked on a county-wide team that investigated cold case homicides. She retired after 24 years of service. Jill is continuing her investigative skills as she is currently employed by Hope College as their Title IX investigator. She has been with Hope College since 2017. Jill has been a trainer for MCOLES since 2013. She has presented curriculum in both Domestic Assault and Sexual Assault Investigations.

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