2024

July/August
Back to School Edition

# THE FALL Forum

Official publication of the Florida Association of Licensed Investigators



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Visit us www.FALI.org

# **Back to School Time for FALI Members**

Fill your "PI Toolbox"

As has become FALI tradition, shortly after FALI-U the kids go back to school, we offer learning members the chance to do the same thing, designed but only for a day or two.

Whether you are a seasoned pro, or new to the profession, there are always new things to be learned to fill your "PI Toolbox." This is particularly true in the digital age. The desire to keep learning is what sparked the creation of FALI BootCamp, and FALI-U in 2013.

These programs are FREE for FALI members and represent just one of FALI's many outstanding benefits. In addition, they offer yet another opportunity for FALI's Florida Board Certified Investigators (FBCI) an opportunity to work towards the required 24 CEUs that have to be submitted every 2 years.

FALI BootCamp is an introductory, best practices program that is part of FALI's ongoing professional development for new investigators and agency owners looking to begin their career with a solid foundation.

A new licensee is anyone who has obtained a PI license within the three years prior to the date that the BootCamp is offered. You do not have to be a member of FALI to attend however, the program is only FREE for members.

With the success of BootCamp the FALI Board decided they wanted to provide a similar type of training opportunity for those who didn't need the basics. That's when we introduced FALI University, aka FALI-U.

provides advanced, targeted, learning opportunities, specifically designed for experienced investigative disciplines. Each consists of a full day that includes professional development. instruction, activities and discussions. The content is designed so that you will have the skills and knowledge needed to provide a new service to your clients, develop new business opportunities, or put into practice new strategies for your organization.

FALI-U programs are led by industry experts who are recognized professionals, with a reputation necessary to provide experienced investigators with the knowledge they need to better serve their organization, or clientele. Invest in yourself, and your profession, by attending these professional development programs. Certificates will be awarded to those who successfully complete the program detailing the number of hours which may be used to satisfy continuing education requirements of other professional investigator organizations.

FALI-U attendees MUST be experienced investigators, or agency owners, who can prove, at least, three-years of experience as a private investigator, or in a related profession. Students are not eligible for this program. You do not have to be a member of FALI to attend FALI-U, however the program is only FREE for members.

Registration information on Page 3.
All must register to attend.

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# Join us in Tampa September 18th



9:30am-5:00pm Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore

2225 N Lois Ave Tampa, FL 33607

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**Click HERE to enroll** 

Non-members may attend for \$195 *This includes a one-year membership in FALI* 

**AGENDA** 

**Check-in:** 9:30AM-10:00AM

\* \* \* \* \*

Morning Session: 10:00AM-1:00PM "2024 PI's Cyber Tool Belt" Presented by: Brittany Campo



Presentation syllabus includes:
Database optimization combined with OSINT
Top Free OSINT sources
"Worth it" Paid OSINT sources
Widgets/bookmarks
Case Studies/interactive live driving
ChatGPT to increase productivity
Open questions
Geo if time permits

Lunch Break 1:00PM-2:00PM

\* \* \* \* \*

Afternoon Session: 2:00PM-5:00PM "Essentials of Criminal Defense Investigations"



Presentation syllabus includes:
Attorney/Investigator Relationship
Burden of Proof & Elements of the Crime
Discovery
Investigations
Experts
Crime Scene

FBCI CEUs = 6

Click <u>HERE</u> to enroll

**Post FALI-U** 

\* \* \* \* \*



5:00pm-7:00PM

Even if you can't attend during the day join us for a FALI Meet & Greet hosted by Tampa Area Members.

Pizza and a cash bar (credit cards not accepted)

Separate RSVP to <u>admin@fali.org</u> is a MUST to ensure we have enough food.

FALI Stats Members: 795 FBCIs: 40

# Remember to Report Unlicensed Activity

Anyone who tries to provide Pl services without a license is taking money out of all of our pockets. If you come across someone doing this, make sure to report this using the "Report Unlicensed Pls" tab, on the bottom right side of the FALI website.

FALI WEBSITE FAQ: Once you are logged in to your FALI Profile you can . . .

- Renew your membership and update your profile 24/7.
- Find business forms and samples, and other documents under the "Resources" tab.
- Find FALI Board meeting minutes, financials, and FALI Forums, also under the "Resources" tab. Some date back as far as 1994 when FALI began.

# LICENSE STATS (7/31/24)

Private Investigator "C" PI Interns "CC" Pl Agencies "A"
Pl Agency Branch "AA"
Statewide Firearm "G"
Concealed Weapon "W" 2,442,014

NEXT PIRSAC MEETING: November 7, 2024 9:00am-12:00pm

Hilton Orlando Altamonte Springs

For more information, visit the DOL website by clicking **HERE**.



# Tim O'Rourke FALI President

Dear FALI Members,

FALI has proudly served as the legislative voice for Florida's private investigators since 1994. Over the past three decades, FALI has successfully advocated for numerous laws that protect and empower the investigative community here in Florida.

I'm pleased to announce that a significant change has recently been implemented for Class G license holders. Investigators who carry more than one caliber can now requalify with two calibers in a single 4-hour session. This update streamlines the qualification process and offers greater convenience for our members.

Additionally, I'm excited to share that during the 2025 Florida Legislative Session, the Division of Licensing will be working to add Alabama to the list of states with which we have reciprocity. This achievement is the culmination of a process that began in 2016 when I worked with Jim Casteel of the Alabama Private Investigators Regulatory Board, who was then president of the Alabama Professional Investigators Association (APIA) to align Alabama's licensing language with Florida's standards. This change, once signed into law, will greatly facilitate cross-border investigations, benefiting investigators in both states.

Here are a few of FALI's significant legislative victories:

- Window Tint Bill (316.29545 f.s.s.): FALI successfully advocated for legislation allowing licensed Private Investigators to tint the windows of their work vehicles. This has been especially beneficial for those involved in surveillance, providing the discretion necessary for effective operations. We recommend that all investigators keep a printed copy of 316.29545 f.s.s. inside their vehicles.
- Repeal of Sales Tax on Private Investigator Services: We successfully repealed the sales tax on private investigator services, providing financial relief to both investigators and clients and helping to keep essential services affordable.
- **Expanded Caliber Options for Class G License Holders (493.6115 f.s.s.):** Thanks to FALI's advocacy, legislation was passed to expand the range of calibers that Class G license holders can use, offering more flexibility and effectiveness in the field.
- Increased Penalties for Unlicensed Activities (493.6120 f.s.s.): To protect the integrity of our profession, FALI championed increased penalties for unlicensed investigative activities, ensuring that only those properly trained and licensed can operate within the state.

For learn more about FALI's legislative accomplishments click **HERE**.

Since 1994, FALI has been at the forefront of legislative change, celebrating 30 years of protecting and advancing the Florida investigative community. We remain committed to continuing our work, vigilantly monitoring legislation not only in Florida but across the country.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Tim O'Rourke President



As FALI's current president, it was both a profound honor and a distinct privilege to present Al Stone with his 30-year milestone membership award. Al Stone, who was not only a pioneer in our profession but also FALI's very first president, embodies the dedication and commitment that our organization stands for. His three decades of unwavering service and leadership have laid a strong foundation for FALI's continued growth and success. Presenting this award to Al, who has been a guiding light and inspiration for so many of us, was a momentous occasion that celebrates his invaluable contributions to community.

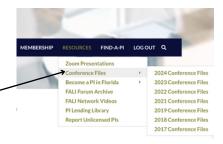
### -Tim O'Rourke -**FALI President**





Speaker File Access on the FALI website Many speakers will allow us to share their presentations with FALI members in a special "Members Only" section of the FALI website.

Once a member has logged into their FALI account there are folders on the FALI website under the "Resources" tab entitled "Zoom Presentations and "2024 Conference Files.



# **FALI Officers**

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Tampa Bay: Matt Aubin
Orlando: Mark Lang
Jacksonville: Courtney Doroski Panhandle/Tallahassee: Jason Servo Broward/Dade: Hector Ventura Palm Beach: Aaron Johnson Fort Myers/Southwest: OPEN

### FALI Committee Chairs

Advisory: Dan Riemer Conference: Amy O'Rourke FBCI: Mark Aubin

CST Task Force: Richard Hedges
Elections: Jack Belich
Legislative: Tim O'Rourke
Scholarship: Jerry Harre
Bylaws: Walt Ashir Ethics: Mark Aubin

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### Additional Support:

Administrative Director: Amy O'Rourke Bookkeeper: Heather Roberts Lobbyist: Cynergy Consulting Social Media: Molly Woodburn

**Next FALI** Quarterly Board Meeting: September 17, 2024

# Join us on September 19th



# 9:30am-4:00pm Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore

2225 N Lois Ave Tampa, FL 33607

FALI BootCamp covers the basic information that every new licensee, needs to begin his or her career. The FALI BootCamp provides an overview of the profession, the basics of starting and operating a business, and a detailed presentation on both federal, and Florida statutes, and administrative regulations that apply to investigators. Each attendee will leave with the knowledge and tools needed in order to operate as a successful private investigator or agency.

While priority is given to those new to the career some seasoned PIs attend BootCamp for a refresher. They are welcome as long as there is room.

# **Another FREE Benefit for FALI Members** Limited to the first 75 who register

# Click **HERE** to enroll

Non-members may attend for \$195 This includes a one-year membership in FALI

# Course Topics Include:

- Chapter 493
- C and CC investigators
- Starting and Operating a Successful PI Business
  - Operating within the Law in Florida
    - Ethics and Professionalism
  - Databases and Information Brokers
    - Data Storage

# \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* Presented by: Tim O'Rourke



Morning Session 9:30AM - 12:00PM

# Lunch Break 12:00PM - 1:30PM The hotel restaurant will be offering a buffet lunch. Payable at restaurant.

Afternoon Session 1:30PM-4:00PM

Click image to order



# Updates, and Messages, from the Area Directors (ADs)

FALI Area meetings offer members the opportunity to network with others and learn something new. ADs work hard to recruit knowledgeable speakers or conduct engaging networking sessions. Our ADs are hard at work looking for places to hold in-person meetings. The ideal place has a private meeting room offered free of charge, with the opportunity to order food and drinks. If you have an idea of a location, please contact your AD. Their contact information is on the back page of this edition.

Potential members are always welcome to attend as a guest. After that we ask that they join to continue taking part and show support for FALI. Meetings are announced via email and posted on the calendar section of the FALI website.

If you are not receiving notifications of meetings, please send an email to both your AD, and <a href="mailto:admin@fali.org">admin@fali.org</a> to make sure you are on the correct list.

### Tampa Bay: Matt Aubin, AD

My name is Matt Aubin, and I am the Tampa Area Director. I have served in multiple positions as an Officer and Director on the FALI Board since 2016 and am excited to continue to serve as the Tampa Area Director. I have been in the private investigation industry since 2009. I am currently the managing partner at Southern Recon Agency and our specialized technical division E3 Legacy Intel. I enjoy sharing my experience and expertise in Cyber Intelligence & AI, TSCM and Cyber Forensic Investigations.

Our Tampa meetings are dynamic and extremely unique. Our local members are highly skilled, experienced and decorated and create a productive atmosphere for investigators to grow their skillsets and businesses. The contributions from the diversity of the members and guests in our area keeps our members informed and entertained with legislative updates, current industry trends and relevant investigative and professional topics.

The Tampa area June and July meetings were incredible. June featured a round table meeting followed by a Q & A Session lead by Tim O'Rourke. In July we re-introduced the FALI "Member Spotlight" with Keith Ludwick doing the first presentation. The Spotlight gives a FALI Member the opportunity to

introduce themselves and their Agency to the group. This was followed by a panel of experts discussing and breaking down the events and actions from the recent assassination attempt on President Trump. We also had a guest appearance from FALI's first president Al Stone who was presented with his 30 Year Milestone Award by current president Tim O'Rourke. Our next Tampa meeting will be at Four Green Fields Channelside on August 19th.

In the months to come we will be featuring industry specialists to teach on select topics, Round Table Discussions, Master Mind events, PI Skills workshops and our 2nd Annual PI Business School. There is a lot of group collaboration at our meetings.

FALI has approximately 250 members in the Greater Tampa Area and. in my opinion, one of the greatest accumulations of professional investigators I have ever encountered. The in-person meetings are one of the best and most effective networking and educational tools available in this profession. The Tampa area meetings are open to ALL FALI members, and we encourage anyone within driving distance to come and join us for our events. If you have ideas or questions about our meetings or additional opportunities that we can provide in the Greater Tampa area, please feel free to reach out to me.



Orlando: Mark Lang, AD

Hello Orlando Area FALI members,

I want to start by expressing my gratitude for your support. With three successful meetings under our belt, including a fantastic training presentation from our President Tim O'Rourke, we're full steam ahead. The positive feedback we've received indicates we're on the right track, and I'm excited to see this momentum continue.

The group's next meeting is tentatively set for Zoom on 9-11-24 at 12:00 noon. Our guest speaker will be Damon Hunt from Idicore. Damon will go over the new monitoring and watchlist functions and answer any questions you may have.

We will meet in person in October. If anyone has a meeting location we can try, please let me know. I am also looking for input on a training/presentation topic, so shoot me an email with your suggestions.

Remember, this is our group; its success is up to all of us. See you all at FALI-U. Be safe!



Remember to visit
the FALI Calendar
on the website for
the latest events
happening in your
area and
throughout the
state.

Calendar
Calendar

8/14/2024
PIMEMERO OC CDIN Monthly
19/12/2024



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Southeast Florida: Hector Ventura, AD

I have placed focus and efforts in having two speakers in our monthly FALI SE Area meetings when possible. The objective is to provide our new members/new agency owners with firsthand information which may benefit them with their new agency. For the seasoned/veteran members, we are working with bringing on speakers who have specific niches which may result in new partnerships.

In September, our meeting will be held in Broward County. Zachery Paul who is coming down from Jacksonville, Florida will speak on The Dark Web & OSINT. Steve Sessler, a 30-year FALI member from Miami, Florida, will speak on: How to efficiently run an investigative agency.

The speakers scheduled for October in our Miami-Dade County FALI SE Area meeting are: Paulo Bourelly and Brian McGuinness. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

# Palm Beach: Aaron Johnson, AD

I trust your summer was great, and that you were able to take time for rest, relaxation, some adventures, and even some work too!

Everything in the Palm Beach area is going well. In June we started the new format for our monthly meetings. Our first speaker for this new format was Viktoria Fedorenko with Lawrensics Investigations. She, along with her colleague, shared about digital forensics, crypto, and blockchain investigations.

In July, the Palm Beach area joined with the Southeast Florida area to host a joint meeting. FALI President, Tim O'Rourke, gave a presentation on the origins and evolution of spying. These meetings have been well attended, with our regulars, and new faces, present. Our next meeting is August 19. Troy Fleming will be our presenter, sharing on how to locate people.

As our kids get back into school, and we start getting back into our routines, take advantage of all that FALI has to offer, and make attending your area's monthly meetings part of your new routine! I am looking forward to connecting with you and serving this next year as your Area Director!

Jacksonville Area: Courtney Doroski, AD

My name is Courtney Doroski, and I am the Area Director of Jacksonville and the CEO of Red Hawk Investigation & Intelligence. I specialize in interview and interrogations, sex crimes, cybercrimes, undercover tactics and social media investigations. I am also the lead Instructor of training for National Investigative Training Academy for Security Class D officers.

It's always a pleasure to have new faces, new ideas, and new questions. Please check it out, and please feel free to join us for our Jacksonville region meeting! RSVP if you'd like to attend and I look forward to seeing everyone there while we shake things up by adding some educational skill sets to take away from it.

I hope to see you all at the FALI-U and Bootcamp in Tampa in September. Until then, be safe out there!

# SE FLORIDA & PALM BEACH COMBINED AREA FALI MEETING



Panhandle/Tallahassee Jason Servo, AD

I hope everyone is doing well. I am trying to put together an area meeting for sometime in September. Still looking for trainers that may like to opportunity to talk. We may try to have the meeting in Defuniak Springs so it is more centralized to the entire area, let me know your thoughts. As always, I am here for you, don't hesitate to call or reach out by text (503) 926-3700 or email at jservo@distinctivepi.com



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# **National Legislative Update**

# NCISS continues to track and monitor national legislation and regulations affecting the professional investigation industry.

Most notably, NCISS has been tracking the **Federal Trade Commission's recent new rule banning nearly all non-compete clauses**, including within agreements with independent contractors. Several lawsuits have been filed against the FTC to delay or revoke this rule. In conjunction with our D.C. lobbyists, NCISS will be signing on to an amicus brief filed in one of the appeals, expressing our opposition to this rule and how it could severely damage of profession, trade secrets, and businesses.

NCISS is also continuing to track and monitor the "PRO" Act which would expand various labor protections, the **Department of Labor rule on independent contractors**, and various other bills related to data privacy, drone use and aviation, GPS monitoring and device usage, labor and independent contracting, electronic surveillance, public records and transparency, "clean slate" and criminal justice reform, and other relevant legislation and regulations.

In May, NCISS members met in Washington, D.C. for our annual "Hit-the-Hill" Advocacy Day, lobbying for Congress to consider our profession when introducing legislation. NCISS met with several Congressional staff members to discuss critical legislation affecting our industry, including labor laws, privacy legislation, consumer protection, and other bills.



# **Member Benefits**

- Legislative Updates & Advocacy
- Free Training & Professional Development
- National Recognition
- Annual Hit-the-Hill Event in Washington, D.C.
- Nationwide Members-Only Listserv
- Partnerships & Discounts
- Newsletters & Legislative Alerts
- and more!

Learn more about NCISS and Join Today at NCISS.org



The Speaker Spotlight column presents articles written by past FALI event, training and meeting speakers. We appreciate the willingness of these experts to continue sharing with the FALI membership.

# Medicolegal Death Investigation - The Nexus of Crime Scene Investigation & the Autopsy How Expert Medicolegal Death Investigators Bridge the Evidence

Submitted by:

Dean A. Beers, CLI, CCDI, CFDI-Expert and Karen S. Beers, BSW, CCDI, CFDI-SME Associates in Forensic Investigations

Criminal defense investigators and attorneys play a crucial role in upholding the principles of justice, ensuring that every accused defendant receives a fair trial. To achieve this, it is important to explore and understand the unique relationship between crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence (and medical records for non-fatal events; used interchangeably here). Let's look at the importance of establishing this nexus between the crime scene investigation and autopsy, as well as the defense investigation with the medicolegal expert consultation.

Medicolegal death investigation (MLDI) is a field founded in the medical examiner / coroner systems, and is where medicine, forensic science, investigation, and the legal system meet. It is the unique process of unraveling the circumstances surrounding the decedent's death, determining the Cause of Death (COD) and Manner of Death (MOD), and assisting in the accused's defense. Central to these complex investigations is the important nexus between crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence. Let's explore the importance of this connection and how it serves as the foundation for criminal defense investigation and litigation.

The Law Enforcement Crime Scene Investigation and Criminal Defense Investigator

Crime scene investigation is the foundation upon which many criminal cases are built. It involves collecting physical evidence, documenting the scene, and preserving any potential clues that may later become crucial in the courtroom. This meticulous process can make or break a case, as the evidence gathered at the crime scene often serves as the starting point for the entire legal journey. The criminal defense investigation will review the official investigation from the prosecution discovery and retrace the steps and process to find any new evidence, from trace and physical to witnesses, and their own investigative findings reported to the defense attorney.

<u>The Medicolegal Death Investigation and Expert Consultation</u>

Medicolegal death investigators, often working in conjunction with forensic pathologists, have a dual responsibility: to meticulously examine the scene where a death occurred and to report these findings to the forensic pathologist in the performance of the autopsy. This process provides a comprehensive view of the circumstances of the death. The medicolegal expert consultation will review and analyze the official investigations of law enforcement and medical examiner offices from the prosecution discover and follow the process and evidence to form their findings and opinion reported to the defense attorney.

This independent review and analysis of both official investigation records, reports, and photographs (including any video and audio recordings), will have one of four summaries of findings:

1. The official investigation was competent, with the official findings consistent with the facts and evidence;

2. The official investigation was not competent, with the official findings consistent with the facts and evidence;

3. The official investigation was competent, with the official findings not consistent with the facts and evidence; or 4. The official investigation was not competent, with the official

4.The official investigation was not competent, with the official findings not consistent with the facts and evidence.

**The Crime Scene Investigation** 

1.Collection of Evidence: Crime scene investigators (CSI) are tasked with collecting physical evidence, documenting the scene, and preserving any potential clues. This evidence can range from bloodstains and weapons to the position of the body and signs of a struggle.

the body and signs of a struggle.

2. Witness Interviews: They also interview witnesses, first responders, and individuals who may have interacted with the deceased shortly before their death. These interviews help reconstruct the events leading up to the fatality.

help reconstruct the events leading up to the fatality.
3. Preserving the Chain of Custody: Maintaining a secure chain of custody for all collected evidence is vital to ensure its admissibility in court.

The criminal defense investigator will review each of these, as well as conduct their own scene investigation, interviews, and the collection and preservation of evidence for protocols and chain of custody, as well as the impact on the defense strategy.

The Value of Autopsy Evidence

The medical examiner investigation, including autopsy evidence, may include scene investigation and evidence independent of and concurrent with the law enforcement investigation. These are independent agencies and purposes – the former being to determine if a crime occurred for prosecution; and the latter public health and safety agency to determine the decedent's Cause and Manner of Death, as well as identification and Time of Death (TOD) and any evidence of these. The first is a legal conclusion, and the second a medical conclusion – medicolegal.

Most deaths are not homicide, and deaths other than homicide may have criminal charges (and/or civil liability). The medical examiner investigation is not a criminal investigation. It is an investigation to determine if the death was due to Natural causes, an Accident, Suicide, or Homicide – and less often, undetermined (MODs). Autopsy reports are an important tool for criminal defense investigators and attorneys, offering a medical findings and conclusion which may be founded or challenge the prosecution's claims. Contact us for Dean's CLI whitepaper – Reviewing and Comprehending Autopsy Reports for Investigators.

1. Cause and Manner of Death: The autopsy is an external and internal medical examination, including toxicology, to determine the Cause and Manner of death. The external examination includes assessing for lividity and rigor mortis (assists with body positions and Time of Death), and any indications or absence of injuries – both incident related and historical to the decedent. The internal examination is a surgical procedure to examine of the body's organs, tissues, and fluids in their anatomical position – including any injuries, then examination of each organ – including microscopically.

2. Medical Expertise: Forensic pathologists are specially trained medical experts beyond clinical and/or anatomical pathology. Their additional medical training looks for details and evidence not usually apparent at the crime scene or routine medical examination. These examinations will identify injuries, diseases, or toxic substances which may have contributed to the Cause and Manner of death

3. Expert Testimony: The findings from the medical examiner investigation, including autopsy, are important to both the prosecution and defense in criminal cases. As an independent and neutral agency and expert, their findings

and testimony will clarify the medical issues for the court and jury and help establish the connection between the decedent's injuries and the reported crime.

The Nexus and Importance

The nexus between crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence is where the pieces of the puzzle come together. It is at this intersection the medicolegal expert, and criminal defense investigation, will:

- Corroborate or Challenge Evidence: Autopsy findings can either support the evidence collected at the crime scene, reinforcing the prosecution's charges, case and evidence, or reveal inconsistencies favorable to the defendant.
- Find Important evidence: The autopsy can uncover important evidence which may have been missed or misinterpreted from the initial crime scene investigation and any evidence analysis. These inconsistencies and evidence may support the defense strategy - from a plea to trial, and including any sentencing mitigation.
- Assist in Identifying Suspects: By understanding the nature and extent of injuries with evidence from the crime scene investigation, medicolegal experts can offer insights into the possible identity and characteristics of other and/or additional suspects.
- Ensure Justice: Ultimately, the nexus between crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence is important to ensuring justice is served. It aids in determining whether a death was the result of a crime, accident, suicide, or natural causes, which has profound implications for both victims and suspects.

Criminal defense attorneys and investigators must recognize the importance of this nexus when developing their defense strategy.

- Challenging the Prosecution's Narrative: The prosecution relies on the evidence collected at the crime scene to find probable cause for charges, developing a narrative implicating the defendant. Using this nexus to closely examine their evidence and comparing it the defense investigation and medicolegal expert findings, the defense attorney can identify inconsistencies to further the defense, including bringing to question the prosecution's evidence and narrative.
- *Uncovering Alternative Explanations:* This nexus of medical expert consultation and evidence can reveal alternative explanations for the victim's injuries, Cause of Death, and other elements to the charges - from alibis to charges not supported by the evidence. This can be important raising questions about the prosecution's evidence and the defendant's guilt.

- Medicolegal Expert: Engaging a medicolegal expert as a consultant, and testimony, about the importance of this nexus – the crime scene investigation and autopsy findings, also develops an empirical context critical to the defense strategy. Medicolegal experts can help the jury understand the complexities of both, and their implications.
- Emphasizing Reasonable Doubt: By highlighting discrepancies between the crime scene evidence and autopsy Doubt: highlighting findings, medicolegal experts can assist and advise defense attorneys in developing reasonable doubt in their defense strategy. This doubt may result in a favorable plea, jury acquittal, or sentencing mitigation.

In criminal defense investigations and litigation, establishing the nexus between crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence is important to a strong defense strategy – and is comprehensively developed by the medicolegal expert. By closely examining these through this expert consultation and testimony, defense attorneys can uncover inconsistencies, challenge the prosecution's narrative, and ensure that their clients receive a fair judicial process. This further upholds the principles of justice and protect the Constitutional rights of the defendant.

Medicolegal death investigation is a dynamic field and nexus to crime scene investigation and autopsy evidence. This unique relationship enables investigators to uncover the truth behind questioned deaths and foul play, provide answers to grieving families, and uphold the principles of justice and Constitutional rights. This nexus is the foundation of a thorough and effective death investigation, ensuring that the right questions are asked, the right evidence is gathered, and justice is served for the defendant and decedent.

Dean and Karen Beers are the owners of Associates in Forensic Investigations. Dean founded their agency in 1987. From their experience as deputy coroners investigators and autopsy assistants, they have specialized in death and serious bodily injury legal investigations and medicolegal expert consultations since

Dean is a Certified Legal Investigator (CLI), and they are both certified Medicolegal Death Investigators specializing in all personal injury, negligence and death investigations for civil and criminal litigation. Dean has testified as an expert and they consult nationwide in criminal defense homicide and civil equivocal death investigations. Karen's training in victim advocacy and counseling are valuable assets in working with families and victims of traumatič events.

### Attention FALI Members:

InvestigativeCourses.com was developed by Dean A. Beers, CLI, CFDI-Expert and Karen S. Beers, BSW,CFDI-SME of Associates in Forensic Investigations and has offered distance learning webinars since 2012.

Now they are offering FALI members a special 25% discount and will also donate an equal amount back to FALI. The only manner of assuring this automatic member discount and FL-FALI donation is by clicking on the exclusive link in the graphic and emailing admin@fali.org for the discount code.

Note: If the discount code is not used at check-out no refunds will be issued.

# Working Together for FALI – Discounts for Members!

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# Welcome New



# Members



Brandy Holmes
Dane Lee
Bill Macauley
Ronny Wade

### Palm Beach Area:

Eric Rice Chris Sprenkel

### SE Florida: Broward/Dade:

Yosvani Alfonso (Welcome back)
Alfredo Diaz (Welcome Back)
Caroline Legrande
David Tate (Welcome back)

# Tampa Bay Area:

Emerson Arena Shelby Beasley Deneuve Brutus Eric Chartier
Anthony Cusumano
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# What will this partnership enable you to do, besides save money?

- Increase Your Network: Size matters when it comes to increasing your potential business or employment opportunities. You can network among a few or you can cast a wide net to gain valuable exposure to thousands.
- Obtain New Clients: Many of us have clients that need services in California and/or Texas from time to time. Now you have more resources to assist those clients locally who are FALI Members.
- **Provide New Services:** Expanding your network can also mean expanding your services and exploring additional revenue streams.
- Expand Your Footprint: By cultivating relationships/partnerships with local investigators in these states, you can focus on growing your business opportunities.

# How to Join the Big 3

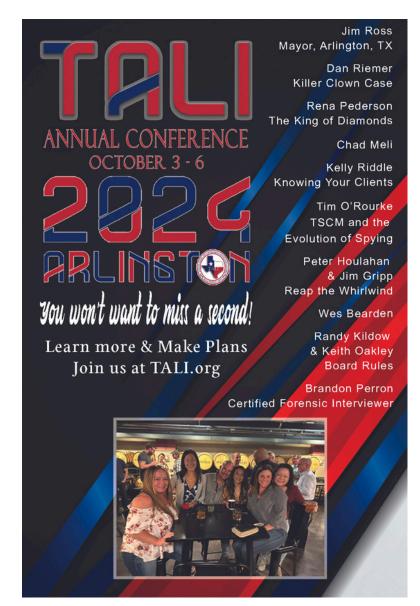
The Big 3 membership requires that an applicant be a fully paid member in good standing of one of the three associations. They can then apply to the other two states at the Big 3 rate which is half of that state's regular out-of-state member price.

CALI's Associate Member rate is \$229. Their Big 3 rate is \$114.50.

TALI's Associate member rate is \$175 Their Big 3 rate is \$87.50.

Not a member of the Big 3? Click <u>HERE</u> for more information. Please note that you do have to join each association separately using their normal procedures. Make sure to use **TheBig3** promo code to get the discount.

Click <u>HERE</u> for CALI Information Click <u>HERE</u> for TALI Information





### Learn and Expand Your Professional Network at CALI's Conference!

Conference Registration is Now Open! Join us in Palm Springs from October 17-19 and be part of the premier event that brings together licensed private investigators from around the world to learn, network, exchange ideas, and enhance your investigative career. This year's conference features engaging educational sessions led by industry experts and influential keynotes with recreational activities, including CALI's annual golf tournament, our second annual pickleball tournament, and after-hours mixers. We have something for everyone!

Register Now & Save! Scan the QR Code or visit www.cali-pi.org/conference for details.

# **FALI Bylaw Revision**

Motions were made at the last FALI Board meeting to change the FALI Bylaws. Per the FALI Constitution **Article VII. Amendments:** The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors with a ten (10) day written notice, to the membership, of each proposed amendment.

These motions would result in the following updates to the bylaws with items to be removed lined through and **bolded** and words to be added <u>underlined</u> and **bolded**.

# The motions are as follows and were each approved unanimously:

- Allowing D licenses to join FALI under an associate membership with restrictions.
- Increasing the 3-year membership fee from \$360 to \$425 to go into effect prior to FALI-U on September 18, 2024. (Note: when one-year Active level dues were increased to \$175 back in 2018 the Board inadvertently omitted an increase in the corresponding three-year option.)
- Decreasing the Lifetime membership fee from \$2,000 to \$1,500 to go into effect prior to FALI-U on September 18, 2024. Anyone that paid \$2,000 from May 1, 2023 to present would be eligible for a free admission to the 2025 conference to offset price difference.

- 3. Membership.
- 3.2. Associate member granted to natural persons who hold a valid Class "CC" Intern, or Class "M" Manager or Class "D" license as defined in Florida Statutes, Chapter 493.

# 3.9 Membership dues

Life Member \$2,000.00 \$1,500 (one time) \* \*

- \* Active three-year membership: \$ 360.00 \$425
- \* \* The Life Member \$2,000.00 \$1,500 payment may be made in installments according to a plan designated by the Board.



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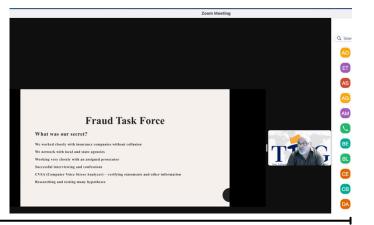






## FALI Criminal Defense Investigator Network (FALI-CDIN) Monthly Lunchtime Chat Via Zoom - 2nd Wednesday of the month 12:30pm-1:30pm

K. McMillan, Chair



CDIN is now in it's second year and going strong. Thank you to Robert Wyman for presenting at our July meeting and Edwin Tapanes in August. If you specialize in a certain CDI genre, please contact K. McMillan to get on the schedule to present your knowledge during an upcoming meeting. For more info, or to register, please visit the calendar on the FALI website.

# 

# FALI Child Sex Trafficking Task Force (CST Task Force) Richard Hedges, Chair

Thanks to all of you that have volunteered. Our goal is to have investigators with varying expertise throughout the state that can be called upon when needed. If you are interested in volunteering your time for this noble cause, please complete an application. If your services are requested, you can decline if your workload does not permit it. Additional information about the CST can be found on our webpage by clicking <u>HERE</u>

We encourage all our volunteers to sign up for the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking 2024 Virtual Human Trafficking Summit. Click the logo to the right for details.





# Florida Board Certified Investigator (FBCI) Mark Aubin. Chair

In seeking and maintaining the FBCI designation, the investigator is making a commitment to being among the best in the profession. In continuing their education, FBCIs are making a statement to the public and their clients that they are committed to maintaining high standards for themselves - and the profession.

**Important reminder for existing FBCIs:** 

Each FBCI is required to submit a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education training every two (2) years. Many of the current CEUs are in the two-year period ending December 31, 2024. Now is the time to see how many CEUs you currently have and how many more you may need.

To see the breakdown of your individual CEUs please follow these steps:

- Login to your FALI profile
- Go to Manage Profile> Professional Development
- Journal Entries will show the history of every CEU awarded

### **Upcoming CEU opportunities:**

- FALI-Ŭ September 18th
- CDIN Lunchtime Chat 2nd Wednesday of the month on Zoom
- Area Meetings

Click <u>HERE</u> for the FALI Calendar to learn more about upcoming meetings and events

Interested in learning more about becoming a FBCI? Click **HERE** for complete details.

## **FALI Code of Ethics**

Since 1994, FALI has served as the leading advocate for professional investigators and licensed agencies throughout the State of Florida. Our commitment to professional conduct, ethics and education is the foundation for our organization.

# The objective of the Florida Association of Licensed Investigators is:

- To unite Florida's licensed private investigators and agency owners.
- To promote the highest professional ethics.
- Encourage greater cooperation and communication of effectual skills, heighten consumer trust and understanding of professional investigative work product.
- Explore, cultivate, and introduce those arts and sciences that improve abilities and build professionalism.
- Offer quality continuing education paths.
- Uphold the honor and dignity of our livelihood.
- Fight to preserve opportunities.
- Acquire a strong proactive voice for prudent public policy and contest oppressive legislation or regulation.

To assist FALI in upholding the highest professional ethics and standards, the FALI Code of Ethics was drafted by FALI Legal Counsel Mark Aubin.

After input from the Board, the final version was approved, and adopted during the May 12, 2016, Quarterly Meeting. The Code was presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting on Friday, May 13th.

The Code of Ethics is available for both FALI members, and the public, to review on the FALI website under the tab:

# About FALI> Governing Document





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Contact information for the Korean National Tax Service Whistleblower Program: taxkorea@protonmail.com



# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF LICENSED INVESTIGATORS

# 31ST ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

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# Wanted:

# Presenters for FALI's 31st Anniversary Conference

Do you have a topic that would be of interest to other FALI members? Do you have enough material to put into a 1-2 hour presentation?

And maybe most important. . .

Can you keep the attention of an audience, and be informative, in a captivating way, no matter how dry the subject?

We are looking for presenters for FALI Conference 2025 Submit an RFP to be considered.

The FALI membership consists of individuals with many backgrounds and specialties. We tap into this expertise by calling upon our membership to submit proposals to be chosen as speakers.

### RFPs should include:

- Topic description
- Speaker bio
- Format of presentation (i.e. power point, videos, equipment demos
- Length of presentation
- Past experience in giving this presentation (*If possible, please include a video clip*)

# **Compensation:**

- Complimentary conference registration
- One night paid in the conference hotel

### **Deadline to submit RFP:**

Friday, November 15, 2024 Please submit to <u>admin@fali.org</u> Past Conference speakers are welcome to apply.

Finalists may be asked to give a shortened version of their presentation at an Area meeting to help gauge presentation skills, as well as attendee interest in the topic. Some speakers may be considered for a FALI-U, or FALI-U Lite presentation.

# Thank you to our FALI Conference 2024 Sponsors & Vendors



































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Welcome to our Association Partners.





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**Secretary Lauren Harre** T: (660) 619-8157 laurenh.tgg@gmail.com

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