2024

September/October Fall Edition

## THE FALI Forum

Official publication of the Florida Association of Licensed Investigators



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#### Editorial Team: Amy O'Rourke Jim Leusner







FALI Post Office Box 1403 Dade City, FL 33526 (727) 373-8028

Visit us www.FALI.org

## **FALI Hurricane Relief Fund**

The last month brought two major hurricanes and historic flooding to Florida and beyond. Hurricanes Helene and Milton left paths of destruction and loss.

We know of several FALI members who have had severe damage to their homes and have lost most of their belongings.

As recovery efforts progress, the FALI Board has voted to establish the FALI Hurricane Relief Fund to assist members affected by the storm as they rebuild.

Your contribution, no matter the size will help alleviate some of the expenses related to evacuation, essential supplies, lost food, and housing displacement challenges due to storm damage.

Thank you for your support of our FALI family and for being an integral part of our collective effort.

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## **Member Benefits in Action**





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 University aka FALI-U and BootCamp in 2013. These programs are FREE for FALI members and represent just one of FALI's many outstanding benefits.

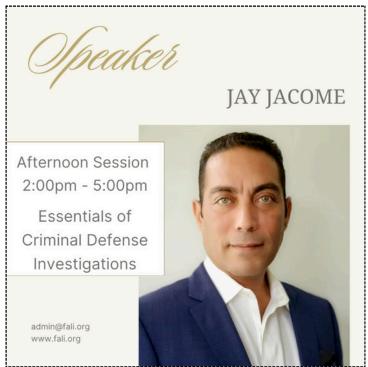
In addition to the two days of training the Tampa Area FALI group sponsored a Meet & Greet which allowed for socializing and networking.

\* \* \* \* \*

FALI-U provides advanced, targeted, learning designed for experienced disciplines. Each program is a full day including professional development, instruction, activities, and discussions. The content is designed to give participants the skills and knowledge needed to provide a new service to their clients, develop new business opportunities or put into practice new strategies.

FALI-U is FREE for FALI Members meeting the qualifications of 3+ years of experience. FALI-U 2024 was held in Tampa at the Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore Wednesday September 18th. Over 50 members participated in this FREE event. FBCIs received CEUs towards their two-year requirement. This year attendees had the opportunity to participate in two sessions.





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 PIs" 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 (9/30/24)

6,956 1,397 Private Investigator "C" PI Interns "CC" Pl Agencies "A"
Pl Agency Branch "AA"
Statewide Firearm "G"
Concealed Weapon "W" 2,430,061

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.

As President of the Florida Association of Licensed Investigators, I want to acknowledge the difficult weeks many of us have faced due to the impact of Hurricanes Helene and Milton. These storms have caused significant damage across Florida, affecting not only our businesses but also our families and communities.

I know that many of you have been directly impacted, whether through property loss, power outages, or the overall disruption these hurricanes brought. We know some of you have been unable to work during this time.

Please know that FALI stands with you during this challenging time. Now, more than ever, it is vital that we support one another as we recover from these storms.

FALI is committed to providing assistance to any member in need. If you or a fellow member require resources or help in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm sure it's overwhelming to even think about work but please remember you have a huge network of members that can assist so that you don't have to turn down cases. Together, we can navigate the path to recovery.

For those of you who would like to assist other members affected, we have set-up a Hurricane Relief Fund to which you can donate. The funds will go directly to those impacted so that is why it is important we know which members have experienced losses. We are already hearing from our friends in Texas and California, who have graciously contacted us to offer their support to our Florida community. It's a reminder that, in times like these, our network extends far beyond state lines.

Thank you all for your continued strength and solidarity.

Let's move forward together and rebuild stronger.

Sincerely,

Tim O'Rourke President



### Thank you to our FALI Conference 2024 Sponsors & Vendors



































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Welcome to our Association Partners.







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#### Tim O'Rourke

President

T: (727) 463-3515

E: tor@thegraftongroup.org

#### **Mark Aubin**

Vice President T: (813) 455-9978

E: floridatopgun@gmail.com

#### Dan Riemer

Treasurer

T: (954) 557-6111

E: dan@southfloridapi.com

#### Lauren Harre

Secretary

T: (660) 619-8157

E: laurenhtgg@gmail.com

FALI Area Directors
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**

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Scholarship: Jerry Harre
Bylaws: Walt Zalisko
Ethics: Jennifer Cormack Publications: Amy O'Rourke Recruitment: Matt Aubin CDIN: K. McMillan

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

**Next FALI Quarterly Board Meeting: TBD** 

#### **FALI-U Morning Session:**

Brittany Campo is a second-generation private investigator, FALI member and now FALI presenter. Her dad Bruce Anderson is well known in FALI circles and has presented on many occasions at local meetings, FALI special events and FALI Conferences.

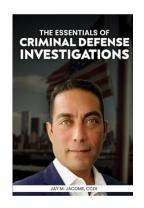
Brittany has over a decade of experience and a deep mastery of investigative tools and techniques. She has specialized in a broad range of cyber investigations, demonstrating a proven track record of success in complex and challenging cases. She attended her first FALI Conference this year and in talking with some of the members she was approached about sharing her knowledge at a future event. Having never done this before she was a little hesitant at first but decided to give it a shot, and we are so glad that she did.

Over the course of her three-hour presentation Brittany shared an amazing amount of information about OSINT including the top free OSINT sources as well as those that are worth it to pay to use. She presented case studies as well as how to use ChatGPT to increase productivity. The discussion on Geotracking blew minds for sure. With speakers like Brittany the future of FALI is in excellent hands.





"Essentials of Criminal Defense Investigations" Presented by: Jay Jacome





"2024 PI's Cyber Tool Belt" Presented by: Brittany Campo





#### **FALI-U Afternoon Session:**

Since the inception of FALI's Criminal Defense Investigator Network (CDIN) monthly lunchtime chat Zoom meetings, Jay Jacome has become an active participant. Whether information about becoming a JAC vendor or general criminal justice investigations he has become a valuable resource with a wealth of information.

Jay was one of the presenters at the 2024 Conference. He did a great job condensing his presentation into the time allocated which left attendees wanting more. FALI-U provided the perfect opportunity for him to share his vast amount of knowledge. Although the topic was focused on "criminal defense investigations," the information and strategies he shared can definitely be applied to all types of investigations.

Many attendees have contacted the FALI office to find out how they can purchase a copy of Jay's recently released book. Click on the photo of the cover to the right to get to the link on Amazon.

Following FALI-U members enjoyed a networking Pizza Party sponsored by the Tampa Area.

### 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, and 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.

Our August area meeting was excellent, and we ran a very productive discussion on cases, legislative efforts and assisting members with overcoming business and investigation challenges.

In September we hosted the FALI-U and FALI Boot Camp with an incredible turn out! Brittany Campo's OSINT training was truly eye opening and gave a complete perspective shift in conducting online investigations. Jay Jacome presented on Criminal defense investigation tactics and practices that wereuseful in nearly every type of investigation. This was followed by FALI Boot Camp where newer investigators or those new to awe industry got a crash course in being a Florida Investigator and/or transitioning to the private sector.

Our Next Meeting will be October 28 at 4 Green Fields. We're going to be featuring industry specialists to teach on select topics along with our local talent a lot with Round Table Discussions, Master Mind events, PI Skills workshops and a lot of group collaboration at our meetings. We also feature a FALI Member spotlight giving an active FALI Member the opportunity to introduce themselves and their Agency to the group.

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.



#### Southeast Florida: Hector Ventura, AD

The SE Area members are being supportive of the Broward and Dade County meetings. The engagement amongst members before the presentations has been observed and appears to be beneficial for the attendees. We had a successful meeting in September by having two Private Investigator speakers.

We would like to once again thank the previous SE Area Speakers. They were generous to have taken their time out of their schedules to share their niche during their presentations in efforts to better inform attendees.

A big THANK YOU! to the following for presenting this year: Jaime Katz/January, Wayne Black/March. Daniel Maya/April, Fernando Alvarez/June. Tim O'Rourke/July.

In addition, Zachery Paul drove to our meeting from Jacksonville, FL. Zachery and our 30-year FALI member Steve Sessler were both speakers at our September meeting

As previously stated, the SE Area's intention is to have two speakers per local meeting when possible. We have just experienced that having two speakers with completely

different topics promoted attendance, engagement, and value to our meetings.

Please reach out if you are interested in being one of the FALI SE Area Speakers

Our October meeting was postponed due to the uncertainty of the path of Hurricane Milton. The next meeting is on Thursday November 14th, 2024. Paulo Bourelly will be the first speaker. His presentation topic is: "International Investigations." The second speaker is 30-year FALI Member Brian McGuiness, and his presentation topic is: "How to Differentiate Yourself from the Pack." Meeting Location: Courtyard Marriott Fort Lauderdale 400 Gulf Stream Way, Dania Beach, Time - 5:00PM.

I would like to ask the SE Area members to assist in emailing suggestions of potential different meeting locations suitable for our needs. This way we can together provide ourselves the opportunity to a different ambiance and dinner menu.

Suggestions can be emailed to me at: <a href="mailto:info@venturainvestigationsservices.com">info@venturainvestigationsservices.com</a> or via text (305)332-5522













#### Palm Beach: Aaron Johnson, AD

It is hard to believe that the holidays are upon us! I trust that your year has been full of accomplishments and success, and that you can enjoy these end-of-year festivities with your loved ones!

Our Palm Beach Area is doing well. Our presenter for August was Troy Fleming. He presented on the topic of "Locating People". His presentation was a mixture of resources and teaching and facilitated open conversation and dialogue from the group. This format was well received. Everyone was involved in sharing resources and techniques, and all left the room with a new tool to add to their toolbelt!

Our October meeting was postponed due to the aftermath of the two hurricanes that recently hit. Members are either dealing with the aftermath personally or helping with the clean-up so we will be rescheduling soon.

These in-person, networking, and educational meetings are one of the best and most effective tools available to our profession. Our area meetings are open to all - seasoned investigators, new investigators, people interested in the field, and spouses or friends of any of these - and we encourage you to come and join us!



## Panhandle/Tallahassee Jason Servo, AD Hello everyone,

We had a great meeting on Wednesday, October 9th at the 4C BBQ Family Restaurant in Defuniak Springs. The meeting had originally been scheduled for September 25th but that was right when Hurricane Helene was heading towards the Big Bend area of Florida and the path was very uncertain. We hope that everyone made it safely through that storm but please let us know of any members in need.

During the meeting we met new members and discussed what members feel is needed in the Panhandle for support and help in growing their business'. I know as an agency, we are always trying to streamline and enhance processes for our clients and investigators, it is always interesting to me to hear how others are doing that.

I am still rather new to Florida, so I really look forward to increasing my contacts, especially in the Panhandle area. I know things are done differently from state to state and region to region, I came from Oregon two years ago. As long as we continue to communicate as a FALI organization and in our specific area, we are able to take the best of ideas and processes from differing places and implement them here. FALI, in my opinion, does a great job of informing and educating its members.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or comments. I purposely chose the meeting location, based on a recommendation from a member. If you have questions about FALI, I can get in touch with the right people and provide an answer. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next week.





Please let me know if anyone has a meeting location in Osceola, Brevard, Lake, or Volusia. Also, if there is a specific training topic you all would like, please advise.

Orlando Area: Mark Lang, AD

Orlando is up and running with four successful meetings under our belt. Your positive feedback has been instrumental in our growth. Our last meeting was via Zoom on September 30th, and we were privileged to have members from other FALI areas attend. We had two presentations: Damon Hunt from IDI and D'Kota Cassady from Auto Data Direct. Your active participation has made these meetings a success.

Our next meeting will be in person on Monday, November 18th at the famous Denny's, 440 S. Semoran Blvd. Orlando. The topic for training will be workplace violence investigations. The training will provide an overview of workplace violence and its types, as well as recognition of indicators, interviews, de-escalation techniques, and threat assessments. See you there.

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.

At our last Jacksonville Area meeting, speaker Chris McDade gave us a fantastic presentation via zoom on the topic of "Part 2 of Artificial Intelligence Deepfakes". The attendance turnout was great with a lot of insightful information. During this meeting, Chris McDade went into depth in how to identify artificially made digital photos/videos and how to recognize subtle differences between fake and real human beings in digital media. Chris also explained the level Artificial Intelligence is reaching, how it's being used, and gave the attendees a vast amount of information. The responses to this meeting were highly positive and enthusiastic. Chris is a fantastic speaker, and we truly appreciated his time and wealth of knowledge.

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 the future meetings 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 everyone is safe from these storms and I look forward to seeing you all soon!



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



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## The NCISS Legislative Advisory Board (LAB) assists supporting FALI and other member state associations monitoring state legislative activity!

NCISS extends its appreciation to FALI and members. NCISS has a strong relationship with FALI through Board members supporting FALI with membership. In addition, NCISS welcomes all the members of FALI supporting NCISS through membership, including several from the FALI Board and general membership! Your nearest NCISS Director is: Alden Wheeler (Alden Wheeler Detective Agency - SC) (864) 437-8850 or <a href="mailto:alden.wheeler@gmail.com">alden.wheeler@gmail.com</a>

#### NCISS Annual Meeting and Elections hosted by TALI!

NCISS recently partnered with Texas Association of Licensed Investigators for our Annual Meeting and Elections on October 3, 2024. We have just elected a very talented group of volunteers from all around the country to serve you and our profession.

#### **NCISS 2024 Elections and Board**

#### **Officers**

Board Chair – Kelly Cory	President – Ed Ajaeb	Vice President – Adina Conroy
Secretary – Kelly Riddle (continuing)	Treasurer – Joseph Jones	

#### **Directors**

Michael Contratto (continuing)	Matthew Spaier (continuing)	Alden Wheeler (continuing)
Michael Depew (continuing)	Shawn Kane (continuing)	Cynthia Cavalie Gonzales (continuing)
Catherine Torrez (past Secretary)	Fernando Alvarez (welcome)	Kyle Corrigan (continuing)

#### Protecting the image of the profession helps us ALL





#### **Legislative Updates**

Lisa Turley, NCISS Legislative Advisory Board Chair

Last Minute Election Turmoil and Impacts with Legal Challenges on Recent Rulings

Election years are always interesting, full of twists and turns but this election year seems to be the most memorable on record in my lifetime. This fall will be interesting to see how all the developments play out. In the meantime, NCISS continues to advocate on behalf of Y-O-U and our profession. We continue to monitor several legal challenges filed related to Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Final Non-Compete Clause Rule and Department of Labor (DOL) Final Rule. As a profession we have a vested interest in the broad scope of the DOL language related to Independent Contractors (ICs) and the FTC statutory authority in the noncompete rule.

One more point of interest for many businesses operating prior to January 1, 2024 is the reporting requirements of Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI) to the U.S. Treasury - Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) prior to January 1, 2025. This is a new requirement under the Corporate Transparency Act which was passed in 2021 as an effort by the U.S. Government's to make it more difficult for shell companies and opaque ownership structures to hide or benefit from fraudulent gains. These significant requirements impact most of our businesses. Please visit <u>Your paragraph text</u> for more information, file your report early to avoid penalties.

As we now gear up for the elections around the country, and the recent changing roles of our NCISS officers and board members, we want to thank each one for their contributions, countless hours working on the behalf of our profession, many behind the scenes. Without our awesome volunteer board members, the impacts would be notable and our legislation advocacy would change the landscape of our access and ability to work cases and support our communities.

We would like to welcome Ed Ajaeb as NCISS Legislative Investigations Chair who graciously volunteered to step in during the still fresh passing of our beloved Jim Zimmer. Jim was appointed as Legislative Chair for 2023-24 year and tragically suffered a traumatic brain injury the week following our Spring 2024 Hit-The-Hill meeting. Jim has served our profession in too many NCISS and other association roles to mention, and we collectively take a service gratitude moment and thank him for his legacy and consistency.





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.

#### Opposition Research: A Deep Dive by The Grafton Group

Submitted by: Tim O'Rourke

**Note:** Any member, whether they were a speaker or not, is welcome to submit an article for consideration. Please email <u>admin@fali.org</u> subject line: FALI Forum Submission

Politics is a high-stakes game where knowing your opponent is as crucial as conveying your message. Opposition research (OPPO) is key for crafting informed and strategic campaigns. Here's how to approach OPPO research, with real-world examples and a crucial TSCM tip to safeguard your campaign.

## The Essentials of Opposition Research 1. Comprehensive Background Checks

Start with a thorough background check. Review criminal records, civil litigation, and public records to uncover potential legal issues or past controversies. Comprehensive background checks ensure a full picture of the opponent's history.

#### 2. Financial Investigations

Scrutinize an opponent's financial history, including tax returns and business dealings, to reveal conflicts of interest, financial mismanagement, or unethical practices. Financial transparency is a key issue for many voters, and uncovering discrepancies can shape campaign strategies.

#### 3. Social Media Audits

Analyzing years of social media activity can uncover controversial posts, inappropriate comments, or damaging affiliations. In today's digital age, a single tweet can impact public perception. Social media audits help understand the opponent's public persona and identify potential red flags.

#### 4. Voting Records Analysis

Understanding an opponent's voting history provides insight into their political consistency and can highlight significant shifts or contradictions in their positions. This analysis can be useful in debates and public discussions, offering a clear narrative of the opponent's political journey.

#### 5. Personal Conduct Investigations

Examining personal behavior and relationships can expose scandals or unethical conduct that might sway public opinion. This includes everything from extramarital affairs to substance abuse issues. Personal conduct investigations help understand the character and integrity of the opponent.

### Advanced Techniques in Opposition Research 1. Public Records Search

Investigating public documents for legal issues, property records, and other pertinent data is fundamental. Public records can provide a wealth of information about the opponent's past actions and current standing. This includes court records, property deeds, and other government documents.

#### 2. Confidential Interviews

Speaking confidentially with individuals who were once close to the political figure being investigated can provide unique perspectives and insights. These interviews can reveal hidden aspects of the opponent's character and behavior not available through public records.

#### 3. Analyzing Spending Patterns

Examining a candidate's spending patterns through campaign and personal finance filings can reveal potential inconsistencies or hypocrisies compared to their public platform. Scrutinizing financial disclosures helps identify conflicts of interest, questionable financial transactions, or discrepancies between a candidate's stated positions and their financial behavior.

#### 4. Open Records Requests and Databases

Proactively searching creative avenues such as open records requests to local agencies and databases can uncover old documents, correspondence, or municipal issues associated with the candidate. These sources provide valuable insights into the candidate's past actions and positions on various issues.

#### **Real-World Case Studies**

Case Study: The Gary Hart Affair

In the 1988 presidential race, Gary Hart was a front runner for the Democratic nomination until a scandal involving an extramarital affair derailed his campaign. Media reports and photographs of Hart with a woman named Donna Rice on a yacht called "Monkey Business" surfaced, leading to intense scrutiny and public backlash. This incident highlighted the importance of personal conduct investigations in opposition research. The affair damaged Hart's reputation and raised questions about his judgment and integrity, ultimately forcing him to withdraw from the race.

#### Case Study: The Howard Dean Scream

In the 2004 Democratic primary, Howard Dean's campaign faced a significant setback after the infamous "Dean Scream" incident. After placing third in the lowa caucuses, Dean delivered an impassioned speech that ended with a loud, high-pitched scream. The media repeatedly played the scream, portraying Dean as overly emotional and unpresidential. This moment significantly damaged his campaign, demonstrating how a single event, when amplified by the media, can impact public perception and derail a candidate's chances.

#### Safeguarding Your Campaign: A TSCM Tip

While gathering information on opponents is crucial, protecting your own campaign's integrity is equally important. Implementing <u>Technical Surveillance Countermeasures (TSCM)</u> can safeguard against unauthorized surveillance.

Conduct regular sweeps of campaign offices and meeting locations to detect and neutralize hidden listening devices or cameras. This ensures that your strategies and discussions remain confidential and secure, preventing opponents from gaining an unfair advantage. Regular TSCM sweeps are a proactive measure that helps maintain the integrity and confidentiality of campaign operations. In Florida contact <u>TSD</u> or visit <u>FloridaTSCM.com</u>

#### Conclusion

Opposition research is more than just a tool; it's a strategic necessity. By employing thorough research methods and safeguarding your own campaign through TSCM practices, you can navigate the complex landscape of political campaigns with confidence and integrity.

Opposition research, when conducted ethically and comprehensively, provides invaluable insights that can shape the outcome of political campaigns. It's about understanding the full picture of your opponent and using that knowledge to build a stronger, more resilient campaign.

By integrating these practices into your campaign strategy, you can ensure a well-rounded approach that focuses on understanding the opposition and protecting your own campaign from potential threats. For more information on these strategies and how to implement them effectively, consider consulting with professionals who specialize in opposition research and TSCM practices.

## Welcome 1/



## lembers



#### Ft. Myers Area:

Erin McMillan

#### Jacksonville Area:

Jennifer Baukus Scott Nanns Lori Ward

#### Orlando Area:

Kelsey Bill-Triplett Jon Brumer Kareece St. George (Welcome Back!)

#### Panhandle Area:

Wesley Harrod

#### SE Florida: Broward/Dade:

Cindy Barreras Ernesto Garcia Donald Reynolds **Edwin Tapanes** Kim Tobin (Welcome Back!)

#### Tampa Bay Area:

John Beuth James Beyer Tucker Bonnevie Julian Batista

**Dominick Crasa** Chip DeBlock (Welcome Back!) Ralph Fine Daryl Flowers (Welcome Back!) Tim Harris Tiffany Lee

#### Big 3

Karen Wagner (Welcome Back!)

Francis Hall - CALI Todd Orlando - CALL Mike Thompson - TALI

#### **Out-of-State**

Keith Clark - Alabama

#### **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.

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- 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. Click HERE for CALI Information TALI's Associate member rate is \$175 Their Big 3 rate is \$87.50. Click <u>HERE</u> for TALI Information

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



PI Magazine is offering a reduced priced magazine subscription to FALI MEMBERS ONLY! \$25.00 – One Year Subscription (6 issues)



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Resources for Investigative Professionals

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FALI BootCamp, which was on Thursday September 19th, is designed specifically for new private investigator licensees, and agency owners, looking to begin their career with a solid foundation. FALI BootCamp provides an overview of the profession and the basics of starting and operating a business. Each attendee leaves with enhanced knowledge, and tools necessary to operate as a successful private investigator and/or effectively, and efficiently, manage an investigative agency.

The program was presented by FALI President Tim O'Rourke, who first developed the program back in 2013. This year's presentation was new and improved with updated information on important topics.

The morning session started with Tim going around the room and having everyone introduce themselves to the rest of the group and share their niche. One of the greatest benefits of FALI membership is the networking opportunities. By truly listening to one another, and developing a rapport, when members need the assistance of someone with a specialty they do not possess, they will remember who to contact.

Once the program presentation started topics vital to a successful PI career were discussed. These included: ethics, privacy laws, testifying, information resources and the governing statute of Florida PIs, Florida State Statute 493. Various aspects of 493 were discussed but in particular common mistakes that PIs make that get them into trouble with the State.



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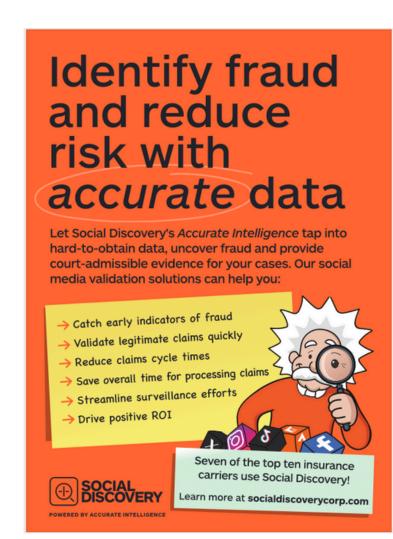


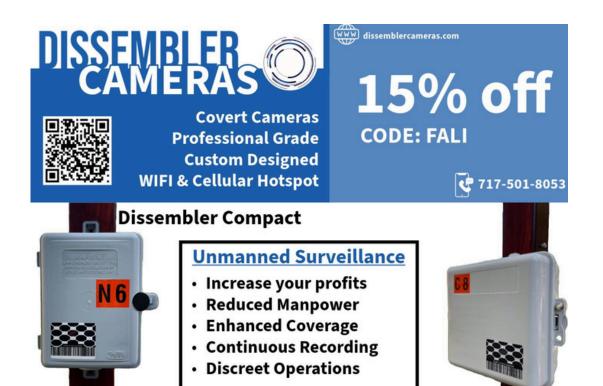
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#### FALI Criminal Defense Investigator Network (FALI-CDIN) Monthly Lunchtime Chat Via Zoom - 2nd Wednesday of the month 12:30pm-1:30pm

K. McMillan, Chair

CDIN is now in its 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.

Attention Private Investigators actively engaged in criminal defense work! Have you ever felt alone digging deep into numerous rabbit holes wishing you could walk down to the water cooler to bounce ideas off your coworkers?

Well, grab your lunch and connect via Zoom on the 2nd Wednesday of the month for an impactful hour of connecting and learning. Members are able to ask each other questions, share tips, exchange ideas, and discuss topics specific to the Criminal Defense Investigators' job.

The FALI CDIN peer-to-peer group provides a community of collaborative support to fellow FALI members on the nuances of legalese, sharing of referrals, resources, strategies and more! Each session we will discuss a particular topic relating to criminal defense investigative work, providing opportunity for professional growth. Seasoned pros are encouraged to join to give back to the next gen of defense investigators, and maybe even learn a few new tricks yourself! Together we will become even better investigators.

#### Who:

**Criminal Defense Private Investigators** 

#### Where:

Zoom

Advanced registration is required EVERY month!!!

Why:

Benefit of FALI membership!
Provides support and professional growth sessions for Criminal Defense Investigators.

Join us to:

Learn from Colleagues/Industry Leaders Network/Connect/Share Resources Discuss Problems/Find Solutions Exchange ideas

**FAQ for Participation:** 

- FALI Members ONLY
-RSVP each month to attend
-Participants must remain positive- NO COMPLAINERS
-Camera in on position is preferred for better interaction
-The meeting will NOT be recorded

Advanced registration is required!!!
Link will be provided upon registering by clicking HERE



## 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 Update to the FBCI Program

Over the last few months FBCI committee members were hard at work revamping the testing for the designation in order to make it even more relevant to the Private Investigative profession. The updated criteria for testing is as follows:

**FBCI Testing** 

The FBCI exam consists of 50 questions taken from standard private investigation case experiences, ethics, public records and common-sense matters. The following publications are helpful study tools:

#### \* Florida Statute 493

Everything you need to know about Florida's private investigator and private security law can be found **HERE** 

\* The Florida Private Investigator Handbook

All PIs should have a copy but the 36-page online summary can be found by clicking **HERE** 

\* Florida Citizen's Public Records Request Letter

Online at the University of Florida's Brechner Center for Freedom of Information by clicking **HERE** 

\* Florida Attorney General's Public Records/Open Government FAQ Page Most questions about public records and open government can be found online by clicking **HERE** 

\* 2024 Florida Sunshine Manual

Although not mandatory reading, for PIs requesting many public records and navigating statutory exemptions, the current Florida Sunshine Manual by the Florida AG's office is a useful tool found **HERE** 

It is also suggested that investigators have a basic understanding of government laws including:

Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA); \* Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA)

\* Driver Privacy Protection Act (DPPA).

**Important Reminder for Current 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:** 

- CDIN Lunchtime Chat 2nd Wednesday of the month on Zoom
- Area Meetings
- Click **HERE** for the FALI Calendar to learn more about upcoming meetings and events

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



#### **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 **HERE**. 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.



#### **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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- Assault and Battery
- Fire Legal Liability
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#### TAX WHISTLEBLOWER REWARD PROGRAM SOUTH KOREA

South Korean Tax Authority, The National Tax Service (NTS), has two whistleblower reward programs to crack down on tax fraud. One program, Tax Evasion Informant Reward Program, enacted in 1951, provides the highest award percentage of all NTS reward programs. The other program, Foreign Financial Account Informant Reward Program, established in 2012, covering foreign accounts. Whistleblowers have been awarded over the total of 67 billion KRW (about USD 54 million) in the last 5 years in South Korea, with the number of cases filed by whistleblowers increasing each year.

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



#### FLORIDA ASSOCIATION LICENSED INVESTIGATORS

MAY 1-3, 2025 ORLANDO, FLORIDA

The Southeast's Largest Annual Private Investigators Professional Development Conference

#### 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 registrationOne night paid in the conference hotel

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

Friday, November 15, 2024

Please submit to admin@fali.org 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.

#### **FALI Board of Directors 2024-2025**

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### Just some of FALI'S membership benefits . .

