

Robert C. Zinn
Forensic Trainer and Consultant
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BIOGRAPHY

****EDUCATION**

B.S. degree from Bluefield College, graduate coursework at NC State University

****EXPERIENCE**

30 years law enforcement experience:

Conducted Crime Scene Investigations since 1981, Bloodstain Analysis since 1986

Extensive experience in all phases of crime scene search, scene and evidence documentation (photography, notes, sketching), evidence handling and preservation, evidence evaluation for laboratory submission, and preparation of analytical reports.

Extensive major case experience (200+ homicide cases, to include 12 capital murder cases)

Worked several high profile cases, leading to appearances on television shows on Discovery Channel and A&E network

Conducted technical work and consulted on cases for other agencies, to include FBI, DEA, NCIS, & BATF

List of Training Received available on request

Retired from the Prince William County VA Police Department in 2005 at the rank of Senior First Sergeant; was the Supervisor-in-Charge of the Forensic Services Bureau at time of retirement. 2005-2006 served as the civilian Manager of PWC PD Forensic Services Bureau.

Joined the Virginia Department of Forensic Science (VA DFS) as a Forensic Trainer in 2006; also conduct administrative and technical reviews on the examinations completed by the lab's Bloodstain Section

****EXPERT TESTIMONY AND COURT EXPERIENCE**

Recognized (qualified) as an expert witness in the fields of Crime Scene Investigation, Crime Scene Reconstruction and Bloodstain Analysis in various courts throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States District Court.

****TRAINING EXPERIENCE / PRESENTATIONS**

Prince William County Police Department - Field Training Officer

VA Department of Criminal Justice Services Instructor Development Program

Prince William County Criminal Justice Academy - Instructor: Crime Scene Investigation, Crime Scene Documentation and Bloodstain Analysis

VA DFS - Forensic Science Academy Adjunct Faculty, 1986-1990

Adjunct Instructor to DFS for statewide Bloodstain short courses, 1987 - 1990

Assistant DFS Instructor on Bloodstain training, 2006 - present

Forensic Trainer for VA DFS, 2006 - present

Outside Lectures/Presentations:

Bloodstain Analysis - various Criminal Justice Academies throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, the VA Homicide Investigators Association, the VA Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, US Armed Forces Combined Staff Judge Advocates, "Murder One" Homicide Investigation School, Richmond City Homicide School, VA Commonwealth University Forensic Science Education Conference

Crime Scene Investigation - various Criminal Justice Academies throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, the VA Homicide Investigators Association, VA Forensic Science Academy, Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine, Northern Virginia Community College system, VA Commonwealth University Forensic Science Education Conference

Cold Case Resulution from the Forensic Perspective – VA Homicide Investigators Association, Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine, and the Virginia Forensic Science Academy

Sexaul Assault Evidence & Documentation - Potomac Hospital Group ER and SANE Nurses

Wound and Pattern Injury Documentation - Prince William Criminal Justice Academy Crime Scene Technician School, VA Forensic Science Academy

**** RESEARCH / PUBLICATIONS**

Authored law enforcement agency policies concerning: crime scene investigation, crime scene documentation, evidence handling, handling explosive or hazardous materials, arrest processing & livescan systems, fingerprint matters & AFIS, evidence protocols for outside examination by court authorized experts, collection protocols for “touch” DNA evidence, and guidelines for the use of digital cameras for law enforcement.

Prepared instructional materials for the VA Department of Forensic Science concerning crime scene investigation, crime scene photography, crime scene sketching & field note taking, evidence handling, and field guidelines for bloodstain documentation. Authored select sections of the Virginia Department of Forensic Science *Evidence Handling and Laboratories Capabilites Guide*.

**** ACCOMPLISHMENTS / HONORS**

Pennsylvania State Police Municipal Police Officers Academy, 1976 (2nd in class)

Director's Award for Academic Excellent - Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy, 1980

Benson Award (for Academic Honors) - VA DFS / Forensic Science Academy, 1986

Alpha Phi Sigma (Scholastic Honors Society) -2000

Lambda Alpha Epsilon (American Criminal Justice Association) - 1997

Over 30 commendations from the Prince William County Police Department, to include the Police Service Award and the Distinguished Police Service Award, 1981- 2005

Commendations from other Virginia law enforcement agencies

Commendation from the Virginia State Senate, 2004

Commendation from the Prince William County Board of County Supervisors, 2005

****PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS / ORGANIZATIONS**

International Association for Identification - Chesapeake Bay Division (IAI-CBD)

International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA) - Full Member

International Crime Scene Investigators Association (ICSIA)

Virginia Homicide Investigators Association (VHIA) - Charter Member

International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA)

Virginia Forensic Science Academy Alumni Assocaition (VFSAAA)

VFSAAA Board of Directors 1987-1989;

Benson Chairman 1990- 1992

Developed and currently Moderate the VFSAAA web-based discussion group