



**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Pamela Bishop, Commonwealth Litigation Support Services, Ashland, VA**

Pamela G. Bishop, recently retired from the FPD's office where she was employed since it opened in October, 2001. Soon thereafter she was assigned as the lead paralegal on U.S. v. Zacarias Moussaoui, working on that case full time until it concluded in May, 2006. While Moussaoui was going on, she also teamed on two other death penalty cases handled by the FPD office in Richmond.

Prior to her employment with the FPD, Pam was a paralegal specialist with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Richmond. During her 11 year tenure there, she supported attorneys, was the Press Officer, Victim Witness Coordinator, and the FOIA Coordinator. She specialized in multi-defendant drug and money laundering cases, financial/fraud cases, and numerous death penalty cases. She also taught paralegal skills, research skills, and FOIA classes at the National Advocacy Training Center for DOJ. She also was a Courtroom Deputy Clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge David G. Lowe (retired) in Richmond for nine years prior to her work with the USAO.

**Johnston Blakley, Investigative Training LLC, North Palm Beach, FL**

Johnston Blakley has over 18 years of private investigation experience in the insurance claims industry. He specializes in Investigative Videography, Behavior Documentation and locating individuals. His passion is training others as they enter into the profession and also finding innovative methods to improve the way cases are worked in the industry. Johnston does this through one-on-one training as well as his on-line school, Investigative Training LLC. Johnston and his wife, Dana Blakley own On Track Investigations located in North Palm Beach, Florida.

**Ron Blount, Senior Instructor, Physical Techniques Division, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynn County, GA**

**Paul Carroll, Paul Carroll Consulting and Training, Homosassa Springs, FL**

Sgt. Carroll is recently retired from the Chicago Police Department after serving 31 dedicated years. Sgt. Carroll was last assigned to the Office of the Chief of Detectives as the Commanding Officer of the Crime Analysis Unit; other assignments included Watch Commander and Unit Commander for Detective Division Violent Crime Units supervising Homicide, Death, Sex Crimes and Robbery investigations.

Sgt. Carroll has extensive experience investigating and supervising investigations of Homicides, Sex Crimes, Robberies, Suspicious Deaths, Suicides, Kidnapping, Domestic Violence, Burglary and other related cases. Sgt. Carroll has held the position as Training Coordinator of Investigative Services for the Chicago Police Department, as well as being the liaison with the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, the Cook County State Attorney's Office and the Illinois State Police Forensic Science Center.

Sgt. Carroll has designed, developed, implemented and instructed a four-week training program for newly promoted Detectives, In-Service Investigative Training Programs, Investigative



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Training Program for Youth Officers, Investigative Technique Seminars for Sex Crime Detectives and for the International Association of Chiefs of Police and other various investigative training programs.

Sgt. Carroll has also authored and co-authored numerous articles in the field of criminal investigations. Most notably are the "Eyewitness Evidence: A Guide for Law Enforcement" and "Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for Law Enforcement", both published by the U. S. Department of Justice. Sgt. Carroll was a U.S. Department of Justice planning panel member for the Eyewitness Evidence Technical Working Group and the Crime Scene Investigation Technical Working Group.

Sgt. Carroll is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy's 171st class. He is a recipient of many awards and commendations over his illustrious 31 year career with the Chicago Police Department. Sgt. Carroll has also received a number of citations and awards from other state police agencies for appreciation for his outstanding contributions to law enforcement. Sgt. Carroll has been a guest lecturer and consultant on various criminal investigative issues across the country and the Republic of South Africa over the past several years.

### **Josepha A. Cheong, Professor, Psychiatry, University of Florida College of Medicine and Associate Chief of Staff, Education, MR VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL**

Dr. Cheong is Board-Certified in both General Psychiatry and Geriatric Psychiatry. She is a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Florida's College of Medicine. She is also Associate Chief of Staff, Education, MR VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL.

Dr. Cheong's primary area of clinical interest is geriatric psychiatry, in particular, affective disorders and neurocognitive impairment. Within the scope of this topic, her interests are in behavioral management of agitation, memory disorders and co-morbid psychiatric illness, caregiver burden, long-term institutional care, ethnic minority elderly and mental illness, neuropharmacology, and education. Within general psychiatry, acute stabilization and crisis management, emergency psychopharmacology, and mental illness in the medically ill patient are other interests and areas of clinical and educational expertise for Dr. Cheong.

### **Thomas Cougill, Investigator, Mitigation Specialist, Fifth Judicial Circuit, Marion County, FL**

### **Donna Lee Elm, Federal Defender, Middle District of Florida**

Donna Lee Elm received her JD in 1988 from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU in Tempe, Arizona where she was given the school's distinguished service award. During law school, she was a student law clerk to the Honorable Robert Broomfield in the U.S. District in Phoenix. Upon graduation, Donna was the last law clerk to Justice William Holohan of the Arizona Supreme Court. After a brief stint in private practice, she left to start her career at the Maricopa County Public Defender's Office. Working in the trial division, she eventually rose to be supervisor of a trial group and then Chief Trial Deputy of an office of over 200 lawyers. In the process, she defended a number of capital cases, including one trial; she has been qualified to serve as first chair counsel on capital cases in Arizona. In



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2002, she left that office to start work as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Phoenix Federal Defender’s Office, where she did trials and appeals. From 2006 to 2008, Donna taught trial advocacy courses at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law as Adjunct Faculty. She has also taught at numerous seminars on such topics as ethics and professionalism, trial advocacy, criminal evidence and procedure, and mental health in criminal defense. She is a founding faculty member of the annual trial college for state public defenders in Arizona. She has also published widely in these areas and others related to the practice. In 2008, the American Bar Association published a book she authored on Vouching. In 2008, she was selected as the Federal Defender for the Middle District of Florida.

**Nicole Hardin, Assistant Public Defender, Fifth Judicial Circuit, Marion County, FL**

Nicole Valdes Hardin is an Assistant Public Defender for the Fifth Judicial Circuit in Marion County, Florida and has worked for the Public Defender’s Office since 2006. She currently handles felony cases and is qualified as co-counsel for death penalty cases. Ms. Hardin has been a part of the homicide defense team on seven murder cases in addition to her regular caseload. It was while working on a case for a defendant charged with first degree murder that Nicole first encountered stacks of cell phone “tracking” records, allegedly tying her client to the crime scene area. The State Attorney’s Office was seeking the death penalty with their main evidence an eye witness with credibility problems and cell phone records. She struggled to understand the technology behind the tracking capabilities of cell phone towers, determined to identify their weaknesses. Additionally, she sought to suppress the evidence using federal and state law. Eventually, through research and working with experts, she was able to understand enough about the technology of cell phone towers to attack the process of tracking during cross examination. The tireless work of the defense team resulted in a hung jury. The State sought a new trial, but dropped the death penalty. On the second trial, lead counsel Tricia Jenkins and Nicole were able to secure an outright acquittal for the defendant. Wanting to share her new found information, Ms. Hardin contributed to articles attacking the science of cell phone tracking in criminal cases in two publications. She additionally has met with and helped to pass on expertise and materials to other defense attorneys facing the same circumstances. Nicole has also worked to develop felony sentencing training seminars for incoming felony attorneys at her office. The success of those presentations earned Ms. Hardin an invitation to co-present at a statewide defense conference on effective mitigation in sentencing. She attended the City University of New York at Queens College School of Law and is a proud alumnus of their Defender’s Clinic. She is a member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys.

**Darren Johnson, Federal Public Defender, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

Darren Johnson is an Assistant Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Florida. Prior to relocating to Florida, he was with the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Virginia. He is a graduate of Manhattan College and received his law degree from the Albany Law School. Darren has also served in the United States Air Force as a Judge Advocate.



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**Janet E. Johnson, PA, Criminal Defense Attorney, Jacksonville, FL**

Originally from Stamford, Connecticut, Janet Johnson graduated from Connecticut College and the University of Oregon's School of Law. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1994 and the Colorado Bar in 1996. Ms. Johnson is also licensed to practice in federal court. She focuses on criminal law services, including white collar crime, drug offenses, sex offenses, major felonies, robbery, burglary and juvenile cases. She is considered a leading source of legal information and has been interviewed by the media in print, on radio and television. She has been interviewed as a legal expert on television for CNN, HLN, First Coast News Jacksonville and NPR radio, commenting on a variety of cases and famous individuals including Jennifer Hudson, Trayvon Martin, Amanda Knox, Casey Anthony Trial, Conrad Murray Trial and the Troy Davis Execution Case.

**Rob Mason, Director of the Juvenile Division, Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender Office, Florida**

Rob Mason is the Director of the Juvenile Division for the Public Defender's Office in the Fourth Judicial Circuit and has been an Assistant Public Defender since 1990. He is Chair of the Florida Public Defender Juvenile Justice Committee and a past Chair of the Florida Juvenile Rules Committee and the Legal Needs of Children Committee. As Chair of the Juvenile Court Rules Committee he helped implement a court rule mandating that juveniles have a right to confer with counsel before making a decision whether to waive counsel. He has also successfully argued twice before the Florida Supreme Court for the adoption of a court rule prohibiting indiscriminate shackling of juveniles for court appearances and a court rule mandating a court pronouncement to children as to possible immigration consequences before the court can accept a plea. Mr. Mason has authored the chapter "Disposition in Delinquency Cases" in *Florida Juvenile Law and Practice*. He has testified on juvenile issues before committees of the Florida Senate and Florida House and has lectured nationally on various juvenile issues. Mr. Mason was the trial attorney in the case of *J.R. v. State*, a case of first impression in Florida allowing a parent to remain in the courtroom during trial even when they are a defense witness and the rule of sequestration has been invoked. The MacArthur foundation honored him as a 2010 Models for Change "Champion for Change".

**Seth Miller, Esq., Executive Director, Florida Innocence Project**

Seth Miller, Esq., litigates post-conviction DNA cases, supervises the IPF's internship program, and regularly lectures to students, lawyers, and community groups on issues related to wrongful convictions. He also teaches Post-conviction Remedies and Wrongful Convictions as an adjunct professor at the Florida State University College of Law. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Innocence Network, a consortium of more than 60 innocence projects from the United States and abroad. Before joining IPF in 2006, Mr. Miller served as a project attorney with the American Bar Association Death Penalty Moratorium Implementation Project in Washington, D.C., and as a staff attorney with the First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee,



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Florida. He graduated from Florida State University College of Law and received his undergraduate degree from Penn State University.

**Randy Morrell, Federal Public Defender, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

**Shaun Mulholland, CFE, President, Mulholland Investigation and Computer Forensics**

Mr. Mulholland is President of Mulholland Investigation and Computer Forensics. He spent several years as a Sergeant with the New York Police Department, New York City, where he received several citations for meritorious and excellent police duty. During his tenure with the NYPD, Mr. Mulholland worked with the Tactical Patrol Force; Street Crime Unit and was a Confidential Investigator to the First Deputy Police Commissioner.

Mr. Mulholland is a certified legal investigator, fraud examiner and protection professional. He is also an adjunct professor at several local universities and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Brunswick, GA. He founded Mulholland Investigation and Forensics in 1997.

**Frank Murphy, Investigator, Frank A. Murphy Investigations, LLC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL**

Frank A. Murphy Investigations is a licensed and insured private investigator agency, specializing in county, state and federal cases. Frank has over forty years of state and federal training and experience. Frank has worked on a number of high profile cases, including working on the federal defense team for Eric Rudolph who had been indicted for capital murder in Georgia for bombing of the Olympic Park Village and in Alabama for the bombing of an abortion clinic and death of an off duty police officer.

The firm also does civil, family and personal injury investigations.

**Bradley Perron, CCDI, CPS, Academic Director, CDITC, Investigative Support Specialist, Inc., Stuart, FL**

Bradley Perron, CCDI, CPS, is a Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator and Licensed Private Investigator in Stuart Florida. Mr. Perron earned his Bachelor's Degree from Roger Williams University in Biological Science. He is also a member of Mensa and is an Expert in Bloodstain Detection and Interpretation at the crime scene. His background includes investigative and forensic science consulting.

**Anthony Pullano, Criminal Defense Investigator, Fairfield Investigation, Stuart, FL**

Anthony Pullano is a Licensed Professional Investigator, Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator, Forensic Instructor, Certified Computer Forensic Examiner, Certified Hacking Forensic Investigator, and an MCI Network Engineer. He completed intern investigator



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program for the 19th Judicial Circuit of Florida and named investigator of the year for 2006. During internship earned the Distinction of Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator.

Mr. Pullano successfully assist financial institutions, law firms and law enforcement agencies in computer forensics, witness locates, witness interviews, recorded statements, crime scene reconstruction, and investigations regarding the theft of intellectual properties.

Mr. Pullano currently co-chairs the Department of Homeland Security Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Business Partners Against Terrorism (B-PAT) and Computer forensic Examiner for Palm Beach County, Anti-Stalking Task Force.

**Matt Shirk, Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender, Jacksonville, FL**

Matt Shirk began his second term as the Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender in January of 2013. Since taking office in January of 2009, Matt Shirk carries many accomplishments related to his mission of providing the Fourth Judicial Circuit with an efficient administration, effective legal representation and engagement in the communities he serves. Notably, Mr. Shirk formed one of Florida's first Veteran Treatment Courts, returned \$1 million in taxpayer dollars to the State of Florida, implemented cost and time saving new technologies including paperless filing systems, and launched a Resource Recovery Program to collect nominal, mandated fees from clients. In 2010, Matt Shirk and the Public Defender's office established the Vision for Excellence summer camp, providing young people with educational resources, interaction with positive role models, and community building opportunities. Going on a fourth consecutive summer, Vision for Excellence has truly made a difference in the young people's lives and our neighborhoods.

Matt Shirk is committed to providing quality and professional legal service to those who qualify for a public defender. His office strictly follows Florida statutes which govern the Office of Public Defender. He pledges to continue to uphold the Constitution and aggressively seek justice in legal proceedings.

Prior to becoming Public Defender, Shirk spent time as a sole practitioner, as an associate with a local Jacksonville law firm, as well as five years as an Assistant Public Defender under the late Lou Frost. Matt worked in the State Attorney's office as a law student.

Matt Shirk earned his J.D. from Florida Coastal School of Law in 1999. As a law student, he received various awards and accolades for his academic accomplishments as well as his extra-curricular involvement. Matt holds two Bachelor's Degrees from Western Illinois University; Law Enforcement Administration and Political Science.

Today, Shirk resides in Jacksonville with his wife Michelle and their son Pierce. He is on the Board of Directors for the Clara White Mission and the Northeast Florida Safety Council, serves as an Advisory Board Member for the Salvation Army and is a member of the Southside Business Men's Club and First Baptist Church downtown.



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**Mitchell Stone, Attorney, Stone Lockett, Jacksonville, FL**

Mitch Stone is a graduate of the University of Florida College Of Law, and partner of Stone Lockett, P.L., a Jacksonville-based law firm specializing in State and Federal criminal defense in North Florida.

Mr. Stone is Board Certified in Criminal Trial Law and is AV rated. He has been recognized for his work in the areas of criminal, DUI and white collar criminal defense when he was named in Super Lawyers Publication, Florida Trend's Legal Elite, Jacksonville Magazine's Leading Lawyers and in the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Pre-eminent Lawyers.

He is a former Assistant State Attorney and has specialized in criminal defense since 1992. He has conducted over 150 criminal jury trials to verdict in both Federal and State court. Mr. Stone is a past board member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, past president of the Northeast Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and is currently Chairman of the Criminal Law Section of the Jacksonville Bar Association. He is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and the Florida Bar Criminal Law Section.

Mr. Stone is admitted to practice in Florida, Washington DC, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the Middle and Northern Federal District Courts of Florida. He has been on the faculty of the Gerald T. Bennett Prosecutor/Public Defender Advanced Trial Practice Seminar, The Florida Bar's Masters of DUI seminar, the FACDL Blood Breath and Tears DUI seminar, the Lorman DUI seminar and the FACDL Showcase on Sentencing. He has also lectured on criminal defense topics at the Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office and at the Middle District of Florida's Federal Defender Conference.

Recently, Mr. Stone has been selected to chair the Blood Breath & Tears DUI seminar and he authors the DUI Notes column for Defender Magazine.