



National Criminal Justice Training Center
of Fox Valley Technical College



Classroom

Suspicious Death Investigations: Finding the Right, Eliminating the Wrong, and Avoiding the Undetermined

📅 November 3-4, 2025 | 📍 Napa, CA

Examine suspicious death case studies based on the experiences of a homicide detective and forensic pathologist. Identify key scene findings, review actual cases and correlate these findings to the autopsy results. This course will discuss improving case outcomes through strong relationships between investigating agencies and the medical examiner's office. Students will gain appreciation of how unique case features can affect the direction of the investigation. The ultimate resolution of each case examined will be considered and applied lessons learned are shared during the course.

\$325.00

About

Registration Deadline is September 29, 2025

Training Schedule:

November 3 | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (PST)

November 4 | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (PST)

For information concerning continuing education units, please view our [policies](#) page.

Past participants had this to say...

"The instructors were very knowledgeable. I learned so much from the actual case studies and the instructors' great field experience."

"The training taught me to collaborate more with the medical examiner during investigations—ask more questions!"

"I highly recommend this training to responding officers who arrive first to a death scene. They need to know what to look for."

"The instructors inspired me to be more thorough and more efficient at death scenes—I wish I had this knowledge sooner!"

What's In It For You

Upon completion of this training, you will be able to:

- Leverage actual case studies to identify key scene findings and correlate or refute those findings with the autopsy results
- Identify how additional information complements or contradicts the scene and autopsy results
- Improve communication between the investigating agencies and the medical examiner's office for better outcomes

- Consider the nature of death scenes to determine the investigative protocol beyond a proclamation of death by emergency personnel
- Understand how the medical examiner determines the cause and manner of death and how the investigation may affect cause and manner of death determination

Is This Training For You?

- Law Enforcement
- Prosecutors
- Tribes/Tribal Partners

About the Venue

Napa Valley College

2277 Napa-Vallejo Hwy
Napa, CA 94558

Training will be held in the Community Room.

Lodging Options

Hampton Inn & Suites | Napa

945 Hartle Ct
Napa, CA 94559

Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham Napa Valley

314 Soscol Avenue
Napa, CA 94559

Meritage Resort and Spa

875 Bordeaux Way
Napa, CA 94558

The Knoll Hotel Napa Valley, Tapestry by Hilton

320 Soscol Avenue
Napa, CA 94559

The registration fee includes 16 hours of training, program materials, and instructional costs. Participants are responsible for costs and arrangements related to meals, travel, and lodging.

Instructors

David C. Winston Forensic Pathologist, MD, PhD

David Winston is currently a forensic pathologist at the Pima County Office of the Medical Investigator in Tucson, AZ. He earned a BS in Biology at Saint Louis University and continued his education at the Medical University of South Carolina where he earned PhD and MD degrees. At the University of Virginia, he completed the Anatomic and Clinical Pathology training program and followed by a Forensic Pathology fellowship at the Office of the Medical Investigator in Albuquerque, NM. He is board certified by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic, Clinical and Forensic Pathology. He is a Fellow of the National Association of Medical Examiners and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and has mentored students who have presented their research at the annual meetings of both organizations. The majority of these presentations have been published in the peer-reviewed journals. He is a member of the Arizona State Child Fatality team.

William "Bill" Hanson Detective, Tucson Police Department (retired) Tucson, AZ

Detective Hanson retired from the Tucson Police Department in November of 2016. He left with over twenty-six years of experience in law enforcement. Bill started his career as a Patrol Deputy in Mohave County, AZ, District 2/Bullhead Sector. While with the Sheriff's office, Bill was an FTO, SWAT Operator and SWAT Team Leader. Bill transferred to Tucson Police Department in 1993 and was promoted to Detective in 1998. As a detective he worked in the Burglary, Aggravated Assault, and Homicide Units. While in the Aggravated Assault Unit, Bill started amassing his own homicide cases and was brought in to assist the Homicide Unit beginning in 2000. Bill began a full-time commitment to Homicide in 2005 and continued working his Cold Case Homicide cases until his retirement. This highly decorated Cop

and veteran was the Officer of the Year in 2008. Bill also committed to over Twenty-two years in the U.S. Air Force and Arizona Air National Guard and retired as a First Sgt in 2002.

Contact Information

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