

National Resource & Training Services
Private Investigation Seminars

Divorce and Custody

Presented by

John W. Cook, CPT

National Resource & Training Services

P.O. Box 1003, Cleveland, TN 37364

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1-423-559-1541

Fax toll free: 1-866-401-6140

www.nrts.org

Why Hire An Investigator?

- Expertise
- Interviewing Skills
- Court Skills
- Danger Factor
- Legal Issues



Why Hire An Investigator?

- Technology
- The Law
- Recognition
- Evidence Gathering
- Amount of Time Required



The Contract

- Be Specific
- What Is The Job?
- Educate Your Client
- Get all details before accepting case
- Who is the client's attorney?
- Has another Investigator been used?



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The Contract

- Explain Costs
- Is there a conflict?
- Get a proper Retainer
- You need enough time (retainer) to have better chance of success



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Child Custody

What can an Investigator do?

- Protect child from danger or abuse
- Report on living environment
- Report on improper conduct
- Look for signs of alcohol and/or drug abuse



Child Custody

What can an Investigator do?

- Document amount of time spent with the child
- Document any reckless behavior
- Check Criminal Records
- Check Civil records



Child Custody

What can an Investigator do?

- Interview Witnesses
- Provide peace of mind
- Help provide documentation of compliance by the Client



Child Custody

Tips for your Client

- Have Child's best interest at heart
- Keep a Journal (including their compliance)
- DO NOT attempt to adversely affect the Child's relationship with other parent or guardian

Child Custody

Tips for your Client

- DO NOT degrade other parent or connected persons in front of the Child
- Do not violate terms of temporary custody or visitations
- Do not expose the child to un-safe conditions

Child Custody

Tips for your Client

- Do not be involved in another improper relationship
- Spend time with your children
- Keep all appointed meetings and schedules
- Do not discuss or involve child with divorce details
- Want custody for the right reasons

Divorce

What can Investigators do?

- Document improper marital conduct
- Document drug or alcohol abuse
- Document criminal activity
- Document spousal abuse
- Interview Witnesses
- Testify in court



Divorce

Signs of a cheating spouse

- Change in hygiene
- Change in appearance
- Change in the relationship
- Noticeable increase or lack of affection
- Withdrawn , avoid eye contact when first arriving home

Divorce

Signs of a cheating spouse

- Texting or on cell phone more than usual
- Spending increased time away from home, with friends or co-workers
- Bills, especially cellular are no longer arriving to home or business address
- Unusual amount of time on the computer and internet



Divorce

Signs of a cheating spouse

- Has stopped receiving email at home, may indicate a new email address
- Suddenly purchased a new cell phone, or pre-paid cellular
- Texts and calls are regularly being deleted from cell phone



Surveillance

Three steps for better surveillance

- Planning
 - What is purpose of surveillance?
 - Gather all information
 - Check equipment
 - Disguises and pre-texts
 - Surveillance Schedules

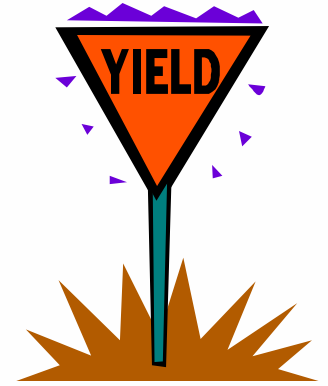
Basics for all surveillance

- ✓ **Record the times and make entries often**
- ✓ **Maintain a Log system**
 1. **Notebook and pencil**
 2. **Tape recorder**
- ✓ **Record all activity. May be important later.**
- ✓ **Do not park your car facing the object of your surveillance**
- ✓ **Do not smoke or attempt not to smoke**
- ✓ **Do not leave engine running**



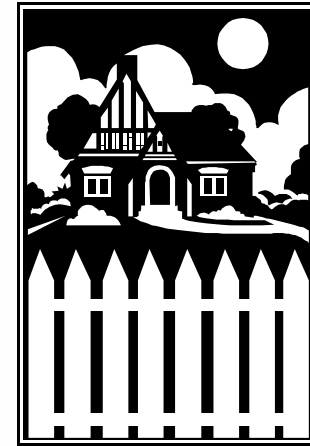
Following Cars

- **The hardest and most dangerous activities as a P.I.**
- **Never follow too closely: do not tail gate**
- **Use a buffer vehicle between you**
- **Your car should not be a Hummer or a red sports car**
- **You can not break the traffic laws**
- **When using two follow vehicles, switch out the lead vehicles**
- **On multi-lane road, drive in an opposite lane**
- **For night time surveillance: study the tail light formation**



Watching a Person at a House

- **Look for all signs of activities**
- **Listen for sounds**
- **Make sure they are at home**
- **Look for changing light patterns**
- **Plain view is okay – super strong lens could be invasion of privacy**
- **Your license does not give you the permission to trespass**
- **Today's society is concerned with security**
- **Use your props and gimmicks**



Watching a person in a public place

- **Once again, beware of public awareness**
- **Certain places might be offensive to video or photograph**
- **Use covert camera equipment – but camcorders are accepted part of society**
- **Try to blend – do not act suspicious**
- **Avoid parking in dark alleys or away from other cars**
- **Have your pretext ready**
- **Do you notify police or security?**
- **Don't forget to continue to log your activities**

Documenting The Case

- Keep detailed log
- Video and Photos
- Document improper conduct
- Identify all relationships
- Record and log all persons of interest
- Record and log all suspicious vehicles
- Get tag numbers



Resources

- Sim Card Readers
- SD Card Readers
- Video and Photo Software
- Spoof Cards
- Key-Stroke Loggers
- Reverse Cell Number Searches

Resources

- Social Networking sites
 - FaceBook
 - MySpace
 - MyLife
 - Bebo
- Spokeo (www.spokeo.com)
- Google

Ethics

- Use good judgment in taking case
- Is it a legitimate case?
- Keep client's / Child's best interest at heart
- Do not falsify reports
- Do not exaggerate a situation



Divorce and Custody

- You can be a great comfort to your Client by providing a professional and honest service.

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