



**MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF  
PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS**

# Up-Close

*APRIL, 2025*

MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS: 37637 FIVE MILE ROAD, #236, LIVONIA, MI 48154

[www.mcpihome.com](http://www.mcpihome.com)

*MCPI MISSION STATEMENT: The Michigan Council of Professional Investigators (MCPI) is an organizational network of investigators from across the State of Michigan founded on integrity, professionalism, and high industry standards. Our organization will strive to provide investigators with education, legislative support, business opportunities, and synergistic forums to gather and exchange ideas. The MCPI members maintain the highest standard of this and confi-*

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## MCPI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - April, 2025 *by Jerry Hardesty*

MCPI Members and Colleagues,

As we move further into 2025, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for your ongoing commitment to the Michigan Council of Professional Investigators and to our profession. Our organization continues to thrive, thanks to your engagement and dedication and support.

### **Training with Brandon Perron**

A special thank you to Brandon Perron for delivering two outstanding training sessions: The Component Method of Criminal Defense Investigation and Forensic Interviewing. Congratulations to all who attended and successfully completed the certification and testing. Many of you are still completing testing. Your dedication to professional development strengthens our entire community. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are proud to see so many members earning their CDITC designations as Criminal Defense Specialists and Certified Forensic Interviewers.

### **Membership Growth and Event Participation**

I am pleased to report that we have seen a significant increase in new membership this year. This growth has been reflected in the strong attendance at our recent events, and it is encouraging to see so many new faces contributing to our vibrant network. Your participation helps us maintain MCPI's reputation as Michigan's premier investigative association.

### **Upcoming Events**

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our May 8 Dinner Meeting in Kalamazoo. These gatherings are invaluable opportunities to connect, share insights, and continue building our professional networking community.

Looking ahead, our Fall Conference on September 11 at the James B. Henry Center in Lansing is shaping up to be another exceptional event. We are assembling a full day of resources, training, and expert presentations to help you stay at the forefront of our industry. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details.

### **Upcoming Election-This is an election year for our MCPI Board of Directors.**

I know of 3 open positions where we will need to find replacement members to fill open positions. Please consider a MCPI Board member position over the next few months.

Thank you again for your commitment to excellence and for making MCPI a leader in our field. I am excited for what we will accomplish together as we continue to advance our profession.

Sincerely,

Jerry Hardesty

President, Michigan Council of Professional Investigators

## 2023 - 2024 MCPI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **PRESIDENT**

Jerry Hardesty  
Hardesty Private Investigations  
800-595-0830  
Hardesty@hardestypi.com

### **TREASURER**

Sue Hardesty  
Hardesty Private Investigations  
248-379-5741  
Sue@Hardestypi.com

### **SERGEANT AT ARMS**

Brian Peebles  
Vantage Point Investigations  
586-569-9538  
brian@vpinvestigations.com

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Cheri Gelnak  
CG Miller Investigations, LLC  
734-812-9055  
cgelnak5@gmail.com

### **SECRETARY**

Jim Kelly  
Subrosa Investigations  
734-777-1288  
jkelly@subrosapi.com

### **BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE**

Eugene Butler  
Eugene Butler Investigations  
810-531-1579  
Eugenebutlerpi@Eugenebutler.com

### **BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE**

Wayne Bisard  
Wayne Bisard Investigations  
517-917-0718  
Wbisard@Wbipi.org

## ***Save the Dates:***

**May 8, 2025 — 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**Dinner Meeting, Guest Speaker: Nate Gross**

**Topic: How the Medical Examiner's Office Can Help in your Death Investigations**

**Location: Latitude 42 Brewing Company, 6101 W. Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009**

**August 14, 2025—5:00 to 8:00 PM**

**3rd Quarter Dinner Meeting: Stay tuned for details!**

**September 11, 2025 — 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

**Annual Fall Conference and Board of Directors Elections**

**Location: Henry Center, 3535 Forest Road, Lansing, MI 48910**



**MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF  
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# DINNER MEETING

**How the Medical Examiner's Office Works:**  
*How They Can Help in your Death  
Investigation*

Come and join the meeting to enhance your skills  
and network with other professional investigators.

Cost: \$45 per person. Registration is required.  
Cash Bar.



**THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025**  
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM



**LATITUDE 42 BREWING COMPANY – OSHTEMO**  
6101 W Main St, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

[WWW.MCPIHOME.COM](http://WWW.MCPIHOME.COM)



**Dinner: Taco Bar**

Includes Corn & Flour Tortillas, Fajita Veggies, Chipotle Chicken, Blackened Shrimp, Rice, Beans, Soft Drinks

Cash Bar.

**Cost:** \$ 45 per person

**Register Online:** Registration is required. Cutoff is May 5<sup>th</sup>

**Presentation :** **How the Medical Examiner's Office Works:** *How They Can Help in your Death Investigation*

**Guest Speaker: Nathan "Nat" Gross**

Nathan Gross is a licensed private investigator in Michigan and member of MCPI. He is the CEO of Golden Eagle Investigations.

Nathan retired from Jackson Police Department after 25 years of service. He also retired from the Jackson Prosecutors Office where he was a Cold Case Investigator and member of the Cold Case Review Panel for the State of Michigan.

Since 2012, Nathan has been working as a Field Investigator for the Jackson County Medical Examiner's Office.

## 2024 MCPI LISTSERV RULES & GUIDELINES:

One of the great benefits for MCPI Members has been our listserv. Every month we see outstanding communication, networking, shared ideas, help with locating experts, and referrals to cases around the State. This service provides us with an opportunity to meet and work with other PI's who we may not have previously known, to support each other, and to share our knowledge and experiences. As we continue to interact and support each other through the listserv, please also remember the importance of our listserv Rules and Guidelines:

This listserv is owned by MCPI and is a privilege to its members. Posts are not moderated and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or endorsement of MCPI. Please follow these rules:

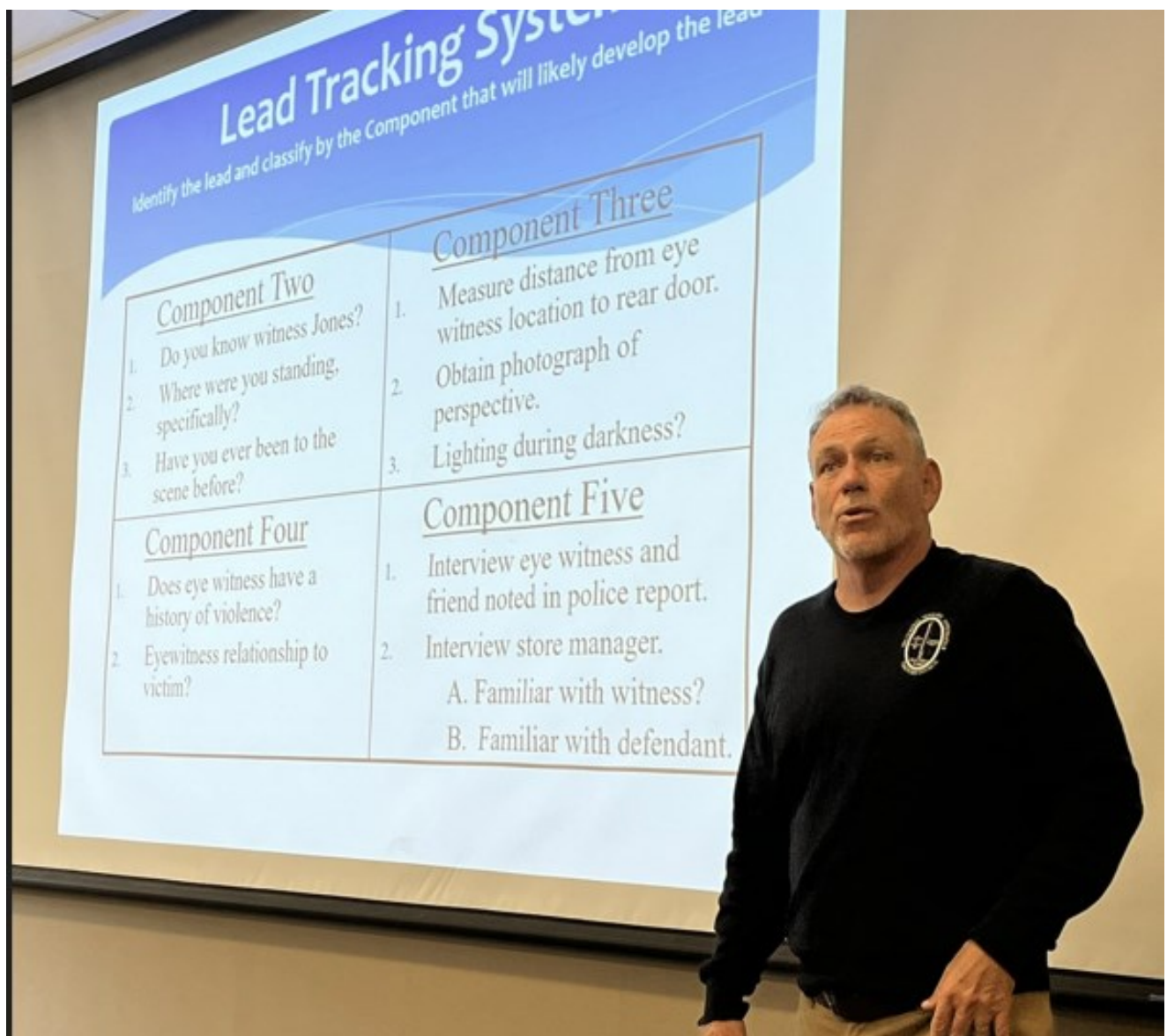
- The listserv shall only be utilized by current MCPI members, in good standing.
  - The listserv may only be used as a means for discussion, networking, Q&A, and/or to otherwise further professional development within the professional investigation industry.
  - No reposting of other member's messages without their approval.
  - No flaming, profanity, obscenity, blatant advertising or libelous comments will be tolerated.
  - No personal attacks of any kind are allowed.
  - An identifying email signature is required on all posts.
  - Posts to this listserv are to concern areas of interest to MCPI and/or the field of professional investigators (PIs). This list is professional and business oriented.
  - No use of this listserv to address disputes with a member, non-member, or the MCPI.
  - No disseminating of messages from, or on behalf of, those that have been removed from the listserv or those that are not current MCPI members.
- \*\*Any violation of these rules could result in a suspension or removal from the listserv and/or MCPI. Disciplinary Action for offenders will be acted upon at the discretion of the MCPI Board of Directors.**

Thank you for your support of MCPI!

## THANK YOU to Brandon A. Perron

for providing 2-days of Training for our Members in Lansing this month. Brandon's courses on Criminal Defense Investigations and Forensic Interviewing were both fantastic and both days were very well attended!!





# The Cone of Influence

The Eye-Witness Forms a conclusion based upon a flawed interpretation.

Experience

Prejudice

Bias

Cone of Influence

Cross contamination between the witness and police interviewer.

Police Report

Police report documents the interviewer's interpretation of the event as reported by the witness.



## **Congratulations Graduates**

MCPI is honored to extend congratulations to all MCPI members who attended the training with Brandon A. Perron and successfully passed the certification tests. Here's a list of MCPI members who have achieved *Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council (CDITC)* certifications to date:

### ***Board Certified Criminal Defense Investigator***

*Steve Crane*

*George Gergis*

*Tim Gilbert*

*Jerry Hardesty*

*Brandy Lord*

*Susan Luthy*

*Paul Postal*

*Gonzalo Vinales*

### ***CDITC Criminal Defense Specialist***

*Rick Rafferty*

### ***CDITC Forensic Interviewer - FTER***

*George Gergis*

*Jerry Hardesty*

*Brandy Lord*

*Yada Phillips*

## WELCOME to our newest Members:

Joe Borkowski, James Ludema, Michelle Haidl,  
Kelsey Campbell, Scott Fluegge, Patrick Young,  
David Zielsdorf, Rachel Ferguson, Nathan Tafelsky,  
and Arthur McClenney

## Legislative Update:

A special thanks goes out to the MCPI Legislative Committee for keeping a close watch on the State and National Legislation impacting our Private Investigative industry. There have not been any recent Bills or Legislation impacting our industry in early 2025 on either the State or Federal levels. The Committee will continue daily monitoring and will provide updates on the listserv with any new announcements.

## THANK YOU to our Sponsors:



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