



Tennessee Professional Investigators Association

P.O. Box 225, Knoxville, Tennessee 37901

Newsletter – October - November - December 2013

Meet Your TPIA 2013 Officers

Elizabeth Sherrod, CFE, LPI, LAPPS, AHFI-retired

Secretary

Elizabeth Sherrod earned her BS and MS - degrees at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. After graduation, she remained in Knoxville and in 1990 she was employed by the Office of Inspector General. She has recently retired after 22 ½ years as a Special Agent (SSA) with that agency. Although she worked many different types of investigations, her areas of specialization were health care fraud and prescription drug diversion. She has worked in these areas of fraud since 1994. Elizabeth held certification as an Accredited HealthCare Fraud Investigator by the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association until her retirement. In addition, Elizabeth is recognized as a Certified Fraud Examiner by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Elizabeth also participated in investigations involving contract fraud, workers' compensation fraud, theft of government property, credit card fraud and other white collar crimes.

Elizabeth served as the Regional Coordinator for the Upper East Tennessee Drug Diversion Working Group from 2009 until 2012, and the State Coordinator for the Tennessee Drug Diversion Working Group, a working group comprised of local, state & federal law enforcement officers, healthcare professionals and regulatory professionals until 2012. During 2012, Elizabeth worked with Tommy Farmer and the Executive Board for the TN Methamphetamine Task Force to merge the two organizations to become the Tennessee Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Task Force. As the State Coordinator, Elizabeth organized and helped to lead several state wide training events and is often asked to speak to various organizations on prescription drug diversion. In addition, Elizabeth developed strong working relationships with numerous federal, state and local law enforcement officers through her work with the TN Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Task Force.

In addition to her responsibilities as Coordinator for the Upper East Tennessee Diversion Working Group, Elizabeth has spoken on behalf of the Tennessee Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Task Force to a variety of audiences. Elizabeth has spoken to several groups on a variety of investigative topics including interviewing.

Elizabeth also serves as the President/Chairman of the Knoxville ACFE Chapter. In this capacity, Elizabeth has worked to bring quality speakers to the monthly meetings to assist local CFEs in obtaining the necessary training to maintain their CFE certification. She has also worked to organize joint multi-day training opportunities covering such topics as interviewing, contract fraud and detecting deception.

Her training in the area of interviewing includes 22 ½ years of experience in the investigative field and the following courses:

John E, Reid & Associates, Inc. - Interviewing & Interrogation

Laboratory for Scientific Interrogation, Inc. (LSI) - Scientific Content Analysis (SCAN) by Avinoam Sapir

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center - Advanced Interviewing School

On a personal note, Elizabeth and her husband Dan Sherrod recently celebrated their 21 year wedding anniversary. Dan and Elizabeth are both very active in their church, Sevier Heights Baptist, and in their spare time, enjoy boating, vacationing in Florida with family and keeping up with 5 very active grand kids.





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TPIA 2013 Officers

Chairman: Jack Lakin - tnpci@aol.com (865) 688-4000
Vice Chairman: Dan Sherrod, CFE – dsherrod@dseassoc.com (865) 254-1663
Secretary: Elizabeth L. Sherrod, CFE – elsherrod@sherrodinvestigativegroup.com (865) 680-2682
Treasurer: Adonia Phillips - proactiveinvestigativesearches@gmail.com (865) 428-3837

TPIA 2013 Board Members

Leslea Williams - l.williams@pi-tn.com
William Clifton - wlc@esipi.net
Garrye Marlitt - marlittpi@pvti.net
Robert “Eddie” McCarter - robertemccarter@aol.com
John Sturgeon - jhnsturge@yahoo.com

TPIA 2013 Membership Meeting Schedule

Our remaining membership meeting will be at Calhoun’s on the River
400 Neyland Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee

November 12, 2013

Tennessee Private Investigation and Polygraph Commission *Address and Meeting Information*

500 James Robertson Pkwy
Nashville, TN 37243-1167
Phone: 615-741-4827 ~ Toll Free: 1-888-251-3997 ~ Fax: 615-532-2965

12/13/2013 9:30 AM Davy Crockett Tower
Conference Room **1-A** Commission Meeting

TPIA Members who attend any Commission meeting through its entirety will be credited three hours of the required continuing education.





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Legal Language, Tidbits and Notes

In our April – May – June 2013 Newsletter we included an article discussing the “Do’s” of being an effective witness. Well, just to be fair, I wanted to include a list of “Don’ts”. I trust you will find these hints helpful should you find yourself on the witness stand.

DON'Ts:

1. Don't plan to fly by the seat of your pants - complete preparation is necessary.
2. Don't dress or act casually. To convince the court that you are qualified, you must dress and act the part.
3. Don't interrupt an attorney's question - let the attorney complete the question before you answer it.
4. Don't guess. If you don't know or don't remember, say so.
5. Don't ramble or volunteer information, simply answer what is asked.
6. Don't argue with the attorney questioning you or give "smart" answers.
7. Don't mumble - speak clearly.
8. Don't use technical terminology except when absolutely necessary, and be ready to define the terms when you do. Neither the judge nor jury is likely to understand technical testimony.
9. Don't use acronyms.
10. Avoid such phrases as "I think," "I believe," and "probably." Do not give your conclusions and opinions until specifically asked to do so.
11. Don't look at the floor when answering questions. Maintain eye contact with the attorney asking the questions and the judge or jury.
12. On cross-examination, don't look at your attorney before answering. That gives the impression that you are trying to hide something or need help.
13. Don't bring any documents with you that you would not want to share with the court.
14. Do not argue with counsel. Remain polite and natural. Do not act angry or hostile.
15. Do not ask questions when giving an answer unless you are asking for clarification.
16. Don't discuss the case in the courthouse with anyone except your attorney.

If you have suggestions/articles for this section, please email me at elsherrod@dseassoc.com.



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MEMBERS

This year we have made changes to our contact information for TPIA. If you wish to contact TPIA you may do so by:

Email: contact@tpia.com

Mail: TPIA
P.O. Box 225
Knoxville, TN 37901

We also encourage you to review your information on the TPIA website directory (www.tpia.com). If you have any changes/corrections, you can use the website application form and email it to us. Additionally, you can also use the last page of the newsletter (application page). The application page can also be used for new members and/or renewal applications. Just print it out, complete it, and mail it back to us. Be sure to include your member name and PI license number on your checks.

TPIA 2014 Membership Meeting Schedule

**Our 2014 Membership Meetings will be at Calhoun's on the River
400 Neyland Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee. All meetings begin promptly at 6 PM. Below is the
schedule of our 2014 meetings:**

January 14, 2014

March 8, 2014 (Following the Annual CPE Seminar)

May 13, 2014

July 8, 2014

September 9, 2014

November 11, 2014

Don't Forget to Mark Your Calendars for the *TPIA Annual CPE Seminar*

March 8, 2014

Calhoun's on the River

On-line registration will begin after the first of the year.





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Tennessee Professional Investigators Association Application

New Member Member Information Update Member Renewal

Type of membership: \$50.00 Active/ Licensed PI \$25.00 Associate/Non-Lic. Individual

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____
Last First Middle (Year optional)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Office Phone # _____ Cell _____ Fax _____ 800 _____

E-mail Address: _____

Web Address: _____

TENNESSEE LICENSURE INFORMATION

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR LICENSE NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

COMPANY NAME: _____ OFFICE HELD: _____

COMPANY LICENSE NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____

POST INFORMATION ON WEB SITE? YES NO

All information submitted by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Please check the appropriate box, fill out and mail to us at:

TPIA

P.O. Box 225

Knoxville, Tennessee 37901

