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# Arizona Homicide Investigators Association

A FORUM FOR **HOMICIDE INVESTIGATORS**  
& PROFESSIONALS

# AHIA

## Courtroom Preparation Training February 24, 2012

### A. Theme Based Prosecution

- Learn about “theme based prosecution” which is the cornerstone of the more advanced trial techniques for prosecutors.
- Learn how prosecutors ought to be centering their entire case theory around the theme of the case.

### B. Voir Dire

- Perhaps the most misunderstood part of a trial, but perhaps the most important. How our themes ought to be guiding our voir dire.

### C. Direct Examination: Three Pass Technique

- Three-pass technique is the most effective means to conduct direct exam. Here you will learn the how and why of three-pass technique.

### D. Counter-Punching on Re-Direct: “Officer, did you mean to say...”

- Re-direct is a powerful tool for taking the defense theory of the case, and shining the light of logic and common sense. This aspect of the course will focus on the techniques prosecutors will use in order to effectively counter punch (no matter what you accidentally said)!

### E. Cross Examination Techniques: Learning what and how they will cross exam you

- Some of the greatest anxiety comes from the idea that you will have to face cross-examination. Learn about the techniques that defense attorneys learn and some of the areas where you can prepare for cross exam.

*Hand out Officer Involved Shooting case for preparation and mock trial in the afternoon*

### Break For Lunch

Reconvene at 301 West Jefferson Street, Courtroom 614 - Judge Kreamer’s Court

### **Practice 3-pass method in direct examination**

- We will have prosecutors using the three-pass method discussed in the morning on the case that will be used as a baseline. This will help you get used to the flow and feel of the three pass method.

### **Cross Examination by defense attorney**

- Time for the final exam as far as the course is concerned. Practice the techniques that will be used against you in trial.



**Courtroom Preparation Training**  
11 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
8am – 5pm

### **How Prosecutor’s Approach Trial:**

The purpose of this class will be to familiarize the homicide detective with the same type of training that we give to our more experienced prosecutors and to simulate trial experiences so as to better prepare the detective with presenting the most important thing to the State’s case: the truth. Too often officers and detectives are left in the dark about the goals that the prosecutors have when approaching a trial, forcing the person who is going to be testifying to “fend for themselves”.

This seminar will shed light on the “tactical” side of trial, teaching the techniques that prosecutors ought to be employing on direct examination, as well as what defense attorneys are taught for cross examination techniques.

The seminar will be divided into two parts. First, we will run through how prosecutors are trained to approach a trial from a theoretical aspect to a practical aspect. The second part will focus on running participants through a real case scenario to put some of the techniques learned in the classroom to use while sitting on the stand. Students will receive the case file of an officer involved shooting, view some of the pictures of the scene, and will have lunch to go over the materials.