



# Nick J. Morrow

Court Qualified Expert Witness  
CA Licensed Private Investigator, Consultant

## Curriculum Vitae

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### DRUG USE AND INFLUENCE DETECTION - DRUG POSSESSION - TRAFFICKING & SALES FIELD SOBRIETY TESTING - DUI - MEDICAL MARIJUANA & MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

#### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

I was employed by **Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)** in November of 1984 and remained there until a service connected disability forced my retirement in April of 1995. During that time, I worked a variety of assignments including Custody, Patrol, Detective, Narcotics, Traffic, and Training.

While working as an LASD Patrol Deputy, Detective, and Narcotics Investigator, I conducted hundreds of investigations from street drug use, to complex drug trafficking and sales cases, which often involved numerous suspects, witnesses, vehicles, aircraft, and vessels. I have testified as an Officer/Expert numerous times in these fields.

I have made numerous arrests, authored search warrants and raid plans, and have participated in investigations with local, State, and Federal agencies. I have conducted numerous surveillances. I have participated in undercover and controlled purchases of drugs. I have used and managed informants. I have conducted hundreds of under the influence and DUI investigations and evaluations of persons under the influence of a wide variety of substances.

In addition to my initial training at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy, I have attended in excess of **500 hours** of classroom and practical instruction in the areas of Drug & Alcohol Use and Influence, Drug Trafficking, Possession and Possession for Sales, Narcotics Enforcement, and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) enforcement. I have received numerous additional hours of in-service and "on the job" training from experienced officers and recognized experts in the above fields. During this time I was certified as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and DRE instructor.

As a Law Enforcement trainer, I have authored numerous training bulletins and instructed numerous Law Enforcement Officers in subjects relating to Drug & Alcohol Use, & Influence Detection, Field Sobriety Testing, Drug Sales, Possession, and Trafficking of various illegal substances in both classroom and in-service formats.

I have conducted thousands of face to face interviews with persons accused of various crimes both as a law enforcement officer, expert witness, and defense investigator. I have gained valuable information on drug use and sales culture and enhanced my expertise as a result.

Since leaving LASD in 1995 due to a service connected back injury, I became licensed as a California Private Investigator (2002) and have conducted in excess of **600** investigations for defendants accused of a variety of narcotics and criminal law violations since that time.

I have provided support to defense counsel in the capacity of investigation and case consultation related to my areas of expertise. As a result of those investigations, my expertise was further enhanced regarding current trends of drug use, drug influence detection, and Field Sobriety Testing.

I have provided training for the Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego County Public Defenders Offices along with private attorney and citizen groups on topics related to my areas of expertise.

As an expert witness, I have reviewed and provided opinion in excess of **500** individual cases in my areas of expertise. I have qualified and testified over **100** times as an expert in Superior Courts in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Kern, Monterey Counties and elsewhere in the State of California.

In 2012, I was appointed to the Los Angeles County Superior Court Panel of Qualified Experts in the areas of Drug Usage, Drug Influence, Driver Under the Influence, Field Sobriety Testing, Drug Sales and Trafficking, and Medical Marijuana.

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During the span of my careers as a Law Enforcement Officer, Investigator, and Expert Witness, I have gained an expertise in the following areas. I am able to provide expert testimony and opinion relating to various drugs and drug categories including Alcohol, Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Heroin, PCP, Marijuana, Depressants, Hallucinogens, Inhalants, Prescription, and other substances.

## **Areas of Expertise:**

- Drug use symptomology.
- Drug use trends as they relate to method of use, possession and commonly used drug dosages.
- Drug influence: Detection, evaluation, trends and common practices.
- Drug addicted users and user profiles related to various substances.
- Drug packaging: Common packaging methods relating to various controlled substances.
- Possession for Sales vs. Possession for Personal Use. Amounts, trends and common practices.
- Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO's). Individual dealers, Gangs, and Large or International Organizations.
- Specific expertise related to medical cannabis use, distribution, cultivation, trends and regulation.
- Field Sobriety Testing and DUI detection and evaluation.

## **Certifications:**

California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Advanced Certificate.

Drug Recognition Expert / Technician (DRE) IACP - NHTSA Certification (DRT#001549) (expired)

Drug Recognition Expert Instructor IACP / US Department of Transportation Certification (expired)

Drug and Alcohol Influence Recognition Training Instructor (DART) LA County Sheriff's Dept. (LASD)

Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor IACP / NHTSA Certifications

Advanced Narcotic Investigators Course / LASD

CNOA 24 hr. Drug Abuse Recognition (DAR) Training (2011)

NHTSA / IACP DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Student and Instructor Course (2018)

NHTSA Advanced Roadside Impairment Detection and Enforcement (ARIDE) Student and Instructor Course (2018)

## **Additional Expertise and Ongoing Education:**

In my capacity as an expert witness and defense investigator, I have frequent contact with persons accused of drug law, DUI, and other law violations. During those numerous interviews, I receive up to the minute information on drug use, possession, transportation, trafficking and medical marijuana not generally available to law enforcement. I routinely consult with working narcotics investigators, recognized experts, and forensic scientists and law enforcement officers on current trends and concerns in addition to audits of sworn testimony by the above persons.

My Law Enforcement experiences in addition to my those in my current role as a criminal defense investigator have been diverse. As a result I am provided with a unique perspective in rendering balanced opinions in legal cases related to my areas of expertise.

I am constantly building upon my law enforcement and investigative expertise with research, interviews and case load centered research in my capacities as an expert witness, investigator, and educator.

## **Community Involvement:**

2014 - Community Advisory Board, Cannabis Health and Young Adults Study. NIH/NIDA research project. L.A. CA

2015 - Community Advisory Board, Long Beach Medical Marijuana Task Force, Long Beach CA.

## **Sources of Information Regularly Consulted:**

Review of Police Reports related to my current case load for current law enforcement best practices.

Review of Scientific Studies and periodicals related to my areas of expertise and current case load.

Review of relevant case law related to my case load.

Frequent Review of relevant open source information sites.

Frequent review of CNOA, DEA, FBI and other Law Enforcement publications and web sites.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports, research and information.

Frequent review of DRE / DEC protocols and standards.

National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) training materials and bulletins.