Lead Homicide Investigator
40-Hour, Law & Order

October 24-28, 2022
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Decatur Police Department
707 W. South Side
Decatur, IL 62521

This course is pending ILETSB approval and certification for the following mandates:
Lead Homicide Investigator Certification, Civil Rights, Constitutional & Proper Use Authority, Human Rights, Legal Updates, Officer Wellness/Mental Health and Procedural Justice

Course Description: This certification training program features interactive lectures and discussions of actual case histories, videos, and laws specific to homicide investigations. This comprehensive seminar provides instruction in conducting investigations and prosecuting death cases from the start of the investigation, through evidence collection, suspect interviews, press conferences, trial testimony and ultimately conviction. The class uses a combination of actual homicide case studies, so participants work through a case from the beginning, through case closure. The training provides participants the techniques and structure to lead a professional and lawful investigation.
Each participant will receive an outline book and handouts supporting teaching points for the five-day program.

Instructors: Lou Tessmann, CFI and Jeff Pavletic;
Lou Tessmann, CFI retired from the Waukegan (Illinois) Police Department after 23 years of service in a wide variety of assignments, including patrol, investigations, training, and ultimately Deputy Chief of Police. Lou is a 26-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a CWO-4. In addition to his service in Vietnam he was activated for Desert Storm and Desert Shield and has received numerous military awards including the Naval Commendation Medal. Lou began his career as a police officer with the City of Waukegan assigned to the patrol division.
He was later assigned to the detective bureau for nine years and as a juvenile officer for one year. Lou also served as the Commander of the elite Lake County Major Crime Task Force. The task force works on major criminal investigations relating to homicides, kidnappings, and police-involved shootings. During his career, he has conducted thousands of interviews and interrogations. Most noteworthy, Lou has obtained over 80 homicide confessions during his career with only three instances where he was unable to obtain a confession from the homicide suspect.

Lou has delivered seminars to police and private security organizations throughout the country, as well as internationally in locations such as Tokyo, Japan. He has been a guest speaker on programs such as the Discovery Channel, Real Detective and America’s Most Wanted. Lou’s work was featured in a Dateline NBC story about convicted child molester Arthur Ream and the unsolved 22-year-old murder case of a 13-year-old girl in Eastpointe, Michigan. Lou assisted local law enforcement with an interrogation of this suspect. His efforts resulted in a first-degree murder conviction, a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole, and the subsequent recovery of the victim’s body. To-date, Lou continues to assist agencies throughout the country with homicides investigations.

Lou graduated from Northeastern Illinois University with a B.A. degree in English and Physical Education and is a member of numerous professional and training organizations, including the International Homicide Investigators Association and the International Narcotics Officers Association.

Jeffrey J. Pavletic, is a subject matter expert and an award-winning trial attorney who has built a reputation of integrity and exceptional skill in the courtroom. As a prosecutor over the past three decades, he has tried countless cases to victory (including approximately 175 jury trials with a concentration in homicide and violent crime). In addition to trying some of the highest profile and complex cases that have occurred in the history of Northern Illinois, Jeff was Chief of the Felony Review Division, and was the First Assistant State’s Attorney for the Lake County (Illinois) State’s Attorney’s Office.

Jeff served as Special Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee in the impeachment of President Clinton. His duties included all aspects of independent counsel review, the impeachment inquiry, presentation of articles of impeachment to the U.S. House of Representatives, all witness interviews and depositions of trial witnesses, and the actual impeachment trial before the United States Senate.

Jeff not only has developed a reputation for excellence in the courtroom, but he is also a published author and a well-respected instructor of law. He currently holds undergraduate and graduate faculty positions and has received accolades as a nationally renowned lecturer training thousands of police, lawyers, prosecutors, and judges.

He has received numerous federal, state, and local awards. These include the Illinois State Crime Commission’s State’s Attorney of the Year, Felony Trial Attorney of the Year, The Fred L. Foreman Criminal Justice Award, The Ruth Rosengarden Victim Service Provider Award, and special U.S. House of Representatives Award presented by Congressman Henry Hyde. Jeff has been featured on 20/20, The Today Show, Good Morning America, Court TV, and The Discovery Channel.
Non-Member Tuition: $495.00. Non-Member tuition shall apply to civilians, officers from State/Federal agencies, and officers from Local Law Enforcement agencies which are not a member of any MTU. Tuition will be invoiced to departments upon course completion. If a pre-registered student from a Non-Member agency fails to attend training, and the agency fails to provide advance notice within 7 days of the start date of that class, the agency will be invoiced the entire amount of the student’s tuition.

To Register: Email registration to register@letac.org. You may also fill out and submit our online registration form through the website at www.letac.org or call 217-726-7014 to register by phone (be sure to include all pertinent information). MTU#10 Law Enforcement members who are under the mandate requirements will be given priority on state mandated courses and then MTU#10 local members. If it is not a mandated course, all MTU# 10 local members will be given registration preference until seven days prior to the date of class. After that date, registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of MTU status. We cannot accept registrations from individual officers. All registrations must go through your Chief, Sheriff, or department training office, even if you are attending class on your own time.

Cancellation: If a class must be canceled for any reason, every effort will be made to do so at least 2 weeks before the class is scheduled to begin. However, there are circumstances where last minute cancellation is out of our control. All officers who have been registered for training will be contacted at the email address given at registration, so please be sure to provide an email address which is checked often. Cancellations will also be posted to our mailing list and our Facebook and Twitter accounts.