Kelly Couch



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Expertise in Emergency Vehicle Operations, Pursuit Management, Criminal and Abuse Investigations and Police Patrol Procedures

Pursuit management, emergency driving, patrol tactics and patrol operations expert with over 30 years of practical experience in law enforcement operations, complex criminal and administrative investigations and law enforcement training. After a successful career in law enforcement including four years as a Major Crimes Detective I spent several years training law enforcement recruits in the areas of patrol tactics, emergency vehicle operations, pursuit management, vehicle stop tactics, use of force and other skills. I was instrumental in the development and amending of the state-wide emergency driving and pursuit management curriculum and delivering training in law enforcement emergency response and pursuit tactics at a state-wide law enforcement training facility. I was regularly praised for highly effective communication and often sought out for my expertise in law enforcement driving operations and generally accepted practices. I have been consistently praised for diligence, sound judgment, effective communication, and the quality of my work product. I am recognized by peers as a trusted leader and mentor. I have been praised by clients for my professional and composed demeanor and demonstrated expertise during civil depositions.

Professional Experience:

- Recognized by constituents as an expert in the area of emergency vehicle operations, emergency responses, and pursuit management tactics including pursuit intervention strategies.
- Conducted video and case reviews of numerous police pursuits utilizing current case-law and generally accepted police practices to determine the legitimacy of the pursuit and if the pursuits were within current accepted guidelines and legally sound.
- Regularly facilitated discussions of current pursuit case law discussions and evaluated video of emergency driving and pursuit situations.
- Expertise in scenario-based police recruit training including the development of reality-based scenarios and the delivery of effective feedback to recruits.
- Four years as a Major Crimes Unit Detective tasked with conducting complex criminal investigations into a variety of crimes including sex crimes, assaults, homicides, unattended deaths, and others while managing a high caseload.

- Two and a half years working as a state Investigator assisting in complex investigations into the abuse and neglect of mental health patients in state run facilities.
- Investigated thousands of crimes, civil matters, administrative and non-criminal matters in various capacities as a Police Officer, Detective, Public Safety Officer, Private Investigator and State Abuse Investigator.
- Licensed as a Private Investigator in the State of Oregon for two years and a member of OALI during that time.
- Trained and mentored numerous peers and police recruits as a Police Officer, Field Training Officer, and State of Oregon Law Enforcement Instructor.

Professional Career Synopsis

- 2022-Present: Managing owner of Couch Consulting LLC providing law enforcement consulting services and expert witness testimony
- 2022- Present: Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Part-time Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor & Tactical Instructor
- 2016-2022: Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training full-time Tactical Instructor and Emergency Vehicle Operations Lead Instructor
- 2013-2016: State of Oregon Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigation: Investigator 3
- 2013-2015: Licensed Private Investigator Self Employed Private Investigator
- 2001-2012: City of Brentwood California Police Officer
 - o 2001-2003: Patrol Officer
 - o 2003-2005: Field Training Officer
 - o 2005-2009: Major Crimes Unit Detective
 - o 2009-2012: Patrol Officer
 - o 2002-2012: Department Lead Medical Trainer
- 1999-2001: Town of Moraga California: Police Officer
- 1992-1994: Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department: Reserve Deputy Sheriff
- 1989-1999: Saint Mary's College of California: Public Safety Officer and Sergeant
- 1986-1988: Loss Prevention Agent: K-Mart Corporation, PayLess Drugs

Education Certifications & Training

Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA 1985-1988 - Criminal Justice Focus

California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Certifications:

• Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Certifications

Publications:

"The Danger of Tire Deflation Devices in Police Pursuits" – Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) Law Enforcement News magazine – April 2024 edition

Educational Groups and Forums

- Member of ALERT International (Association of Law Enforcement Response Trainers)
- Member of Police Driving and EVOC Group; Law Officer Tactics, Technology and Training; Law Enforcement Network (LinkedIn educational groups)
- PORAC (Peace Officers Research Association of California) Retired Associate
- OPOA (Oregon Peace Officers Association) Member

Sample of Training Received:

- Americans for Effective Law Enforcement Expert Witness Symposium 2023
- Emergency Vehicle Operator Instructor/ SkidCar System Operator
- Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) Instructor
- ALERT International member conference 2019
- Field Training and Evaluation (CA POST approved)
- Interview and Interrogation Techniques (CA POST approved)
- Sexual Assault Investigation (CA POST approved)
- Digital Crimes Investigation Techniques (Northern California Computer Crimes T.F.)
- Identity Theft Investigations Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force
- Computer Crimes and On-Line Child Exploitation (CA POST approved)
- Shooting Reconstruction workshop (Contra Costa CA Sheriff's Department)
- Examination of Drug Users/Drug Abuse Recognition Evaluator (POST approved)
- Brentwood Police Department's lead First-Aid, CPR, and AED Instructor (2003-2012)
- State of Oregon Law Enforcement Trainer
- Trained Law Enforcement Background Investigator (OPOA)

*Abbreviated CV & overview of my experience - Please contact me for my full CV