

James M. Gannalo

Forensic Firearms Consultant & Instructor
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Profession

Retired NYPD Detective and practicing Forensic Firearms Consultant, Expert Witness, Forensic Instructor and Training Consultant related to the fields of firearms operability, microscopic analysis of ballistics evidence and shooting incident reconstruction. Providing professional assistance for case evaluation, courtroom preparation and trial presentation in both criminal prosecution and civil litigation to attorneys and law enforcement agencies since 1998.

Experience - Independent Forensic and Training Consultant - Sept. 1998 to Present

Forensic Firearm Consultation - Conducted independent examination and evaluation for a variety of Firearms and Toolmark related cases using recognized analytical techniques.

- Retained as a member of an advisory shooting reconstruction team which traveled to Abu Dhabi, UAE investigating gunshot injuries to United Arab Emirates military personnel assigned to Iraq.
- Retained as a forensic consultant in criminal and civil litigation pertaining to police involved shootings in Rochester, Albany and New York City, NY.
- Assisted both Defense Counsel and Prosecutors with trial preparation and presentation as an expert witness in the fields of ballistics, firearms operability and microscopic examination of shooting related evidence.
- Provided professional assistance for criminal defense, prosecutions and civil litigation involving cases of murder, assault and weapons possession in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Kansas and Florida.
- Retained as a forensic consultant by the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team which is internationally recognized by the United Nations and charged with the forensic investigation of discovered mass graves throughout the world.
- Examined and analyzed firearms, microscopic evidence, police documents, medical examiner reports and crime scene information.
- Retained to research scientific information, gather facts and prepare forensic reports relating to both civil and criminal investigations.
- Provided scientific experimentation, forensic examination and case preparation for litigation involving injuries by different paint ball markers.
- Conducted field testing and professional evaluation for product development of holsters.

Forensic Training – As a training consultant I have created training programs in firearms operability, moot courtroom instruction and microscopic analysis of ballistic evidence.

- Retained in 2007, by the City of Philadelphia Police Department as a Firearms Consultant/Training Coordinator responsible for creating two training courses in firearms operability, moot courtroom instruction and microscopic analysis.
- Retained from 2001 through 2005, by the New York City Police Department as a Firearms Consultant/Training Coordinator responsible for creating three ASCLD/LAB recognized training courses in firearms operability, moot courtroom instruction and microscopic analysis.
- Personally compiled an extensive forensic training manual, reviewed by ASCLD/LAB and adopted by the NYPD Laboratory Firearms Analysis Section in 2004. Created and administered both competency and proficiency tests to a number of NYPD firearm examiners according to ASCLD/LAB standards.
- Successfully trained thirty New York City Police Department Detectives, Police Officers and Criminalists in the fields of firearms operability and firearms identification. Served as a member of the Forensic Advisory Group to the Director of the NYPD Laboratory assisting the New York City Police Department Laboratory in attaining a professional level of standards in accordance with the ASCLD/LAB requirements for accreditation.
- Retained by the Rockland County District Attorney's Office as a Forensic Instructor, Firearms Consultant and Firearms Examiner/Microscopist effectively training eight members of the Rockland County Sheriff's Department in the fields of firearm operability, testing and identification.

Media and Instruction Accomplishments:

- Continue to lecture in Continuing Legal Education Seminars, Law Enforcement Forensic and Criminal Investigation Courses in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- Trained and lectured to members of a number of State and Municipal Police Agencies, Prosecutors Offices and Sheriffs Departments at training courses sponsored by both Montclair State University of New Jersey and the Perimeter College of Georgia.
- Appeared as a forensic firearm examiner on Court TV's Forensic Files Series and the Fox Five News Network. Provided professional assistance to journalists from the New York Times, New York Daily News and Time Magazine for articles related to firearms, shooting associated crimes and incidents.
- Provided technical advice relating to the preparation of scripts for the Law and Order television series and assisted a number of authors, writers and journalists in novels, screenplays and articles relating to firearms identification, assassinations and murders.

Scientific Presentations and University Lectures:

Moot Court Instruction Course at St. Johns University (Queens, NY) 11/97
NYSIAI Educational Conference (Rochester, NY) 3/00
NYS Firearms Examiner Scientific Working Group Seminar (Albany, NY) 11/02
Eastern Regional AFTE Training Seminar (Trenton, NJ) 11/04
New York Microscopical Symposium at John Jay College (New York City, NY) 4/05
Association of Toolmark & Firearms Examiners Training Seminar (Indianapolis, IN) 6/05
Introduction to Forensic Science Course at Hofstra University (Hempstead, NY) 7/05, 3/06
Homicide & Crime Scene Investigation Course (Atlantic City, NJ) 3/06
Shooting Reconstruction: Scientific Techniques & Methodology (Lancaster, PA) 5/06

Trained and/or lectured to members of various law enforcement agencies including:

United States Government

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- United States Park Police

New York State

- New York City Police Department
- New York State Police
- Rockland County Sheriff's Department
- Nassau County Police Department
- Westchester County Sheriff's Department
- Town of Carmel Police Department
- Schoharie County Sheriff's Department
- City of Poughkeepsie Police Department
- Riverhead Township Police Department
- East Hampton Township Police Department

New Jersey

- New Jersey State Police
- Hudson County Sheriff's Office
- Morris County Sheriff's Office
- Plymouth Township Police Department
- Fort Lee Police Department
- Jersey City Police Department
- Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- Englishtown New Jersey Police Department
- Ewing New Jersey Police Department
- Cherry Hill New Jersey Police Department
- Monroe Township New Jersey Police Department
- South Brunswick New Jersey Police Department

Pennsylvania

- City of Philadelphia Police Department
- Capital Region Forensic Unit
- Swatara Township Police Department
- West Shore Regional Police Department
- New Holland Police Department
- Manor Township Police Department
- Akron Borough Police Department
- Northwest Lancaster Regional Police Department
- East Lampeter Township Police Department
- East & West Hampfield Police Department
- Ephrata Police Department
- Warwick Township Police Department
- Susquehanna Regional Police Department
- Cumberland County District Attorneys Office

Experience - New York City Ballistics Squad - Oct. 1989 to Sept. 1998

- Assigned as a Detective to this unit, my duties included firearms operability and testing, microscopic examination of ballistics evidence and reconstruction of shooting incidents
- Completed over 12,000 cases for operability and microscopic examination of ballistics evidence. Testified and qualified as an Expert Witness in 550 trial cases in United States Federal Court, New York City Supreme, Criminal & Family Courts.
- Participated in the investigation and examination of cases with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Drug Enforcement Agency, New York State Police and a number of Police Departments and Detective Units in the region.

Specialized Training and Coursework:

Glock Firearms Armorer Course (Westchester, NY) 3/95
Crime Scene Reconstruction of Shooting Incidents - FBI Academy (Quantico, VA) 7/95
Heckler & Koch Model MP5, USP & Shotgun Armorer Course (Toms River, NJ) 3/97
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (Annapolis, MD) 7/97
NYPD Criminal Investigation Course (NYPD Police Academy) 11/97
Mossberg Shotgun Armorer Course (NYPD Police Academy) 8/97
NYPD Evidence Collection Team Training Course (NYPD Police Academy) 1/98
NYSIAI Regional Educational Conference (Williams Lake, NY) 11/98
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (Williamsburg, VA) 7/99
NYSIAI Regional Educational Conference (Rochester, NY) 3/00
NY/NJ/Connecticut Tri-State Training Conference (Atlantic City, NJ) 3/00
Shooting Incident Reconstruction Training Course (NYPD Lab) 5/00
Digital Imaging of Evidence Training Course (NYPD Lab) 4/02
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (San Antonio, TX) 5/02
Ricochet Analysis Training Workshop (San Antonio, TX) 5/02
Wound Ballistics Training Workshop (San Antonio, TX) 5/02
National Integrated Ballistic Information Network Training Course (Largo, FL) 6/02
Shooting Reconstruction & Firearms/Toolmark Examination Protocols (Albany, NY) 11/02
BATF Firearm Serial Number Restoration School (NYPD Lab) 1/03
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (Philadelphia, PA) 5/03
NYSIAI Regional Educational Conference (Williams Lake, NY) 12/03
New England Firearm Examiners Educational Conference (Meriden, CT) 9/04
Forensic Shooting Reconstruction Training Course (Prescott, AZ) 11/04
Eastern Regional AFTE Training Seminar (Hamilton, NJ) 11/04
New York Microscopical Symposium at John Jay College (New York City, NY) 4/05
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (Indianapolis, IN) 6/05
Wilson Arms Factory Familiarization Tour & Instruction (Branford, CT) 1/06
Expert Testimony & Evidentiary Law related to the Daubert Decision (Hamilton, NJ) 4/06
Association of Firearms & Toolmark Examiners Training Seminar (Springfield, MA) 6/06
F.B.I. Toolmark Examination & Evaluation Training Course (Springfield, MA) 6/06
Ruger Firearms, Model G100 Revolver Armorer Course (Springfield, MA) 6/06
Gunshot Residue Chemical Testing & Evaluation Course (Springfield, MA) 6/06
International Association of Identification (IAI) Training Conference (Boston, MA) 7/06
Sig Sauer Firearms, Model 220, 229 Pistol Armorer Course (Hamilton NJ) 8/06
BATF Daubert Seminar at the New Jersey State Police Laboratory (Hamilton NJ) 12/06

Professional Affiliations:

Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners (Regular Membership) (AFTE)
Association of Crime Scene Reconstruction (ACSR)
International Association of Identification (IAI)
International Association of Wound Ballistics (IAWB)
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (Associate member) (NACDL)
National Rifle Association (NRA)
New York State Identification Association (NYSIAI)
New Jersey State Identification Association (NJAIA)
New York Microscopical Society (NYMS)
NYS Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (Associate member) (NYSACDL)
Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS)