

CHRISTINE E. VALDEZ, Ph.D., ABPP

Board Certified Clinical Psychologist
Forensic Evaluation of Psychological Injury, PTSD, and Trauma
1460 Maria Lane, Suite 300, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

- Evaluate the psychological impact of traumatic events on functioning, distress, and life outcomes
 - Independent Medical Evaluations (IMEs)
 - Psychological injury evaluations
 - PTSD and trauma-related psychological injury evaluation
 - Record review and expert rebuttal
 - Deposition and trial testimony
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Psychological injury in civil litigation
 - Trauma and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
 - Interpersonal violence (domestic violence, sexual assault)
 - Trauma-related cognitions and functional impairment
 - Differential diagnosis of trauma-related conditions
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LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Licensed Psychologist, California (PSY28590)
 - Board Certified in Clinical Psychology (ABPP Certification Number: 10409)
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB)

Professor of Clinical Psychology (2026-Present)

Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology (2021-2026)

Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology (2016-2021)

- Teach Psychopathology/Abnormal Psychology, Trauma, and Advanced Research Methods
- Conduct research on trauma, PTSD, and recovery

Forensic Examiner – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

(2023 - Present)

- Conduct Independent Medical Evaluations for mental disorders, including PTSD
- Completed **1,000+ forensic psychological evaluations and reports** involving diagnostic and nexus opinions
- Perform comprehensive record reviews and structured clinical interviews
- Assess psychiatric functioning, impairment, and causal relationships (nexus) between psychological conditions and identified events

Licensed Clinical Psychologist – Private Practice

(2016 - Present)

- Provide trauma-focused psychotherapy and psychological assessment, specializing in interpersonal trauma and PTSD

FORENSIC EXPERIENCE

- Extensive experience conducting forensic psychological evaluations and preparing medico-legal reports
- Skilled in
 - comprehensive record review and synthesis
 - structured diagnostic interviewing
 - formulation of causation and nexus opinions
- Experience working with legal and administrative standards for disability and psychological injury
- Experience translating clinical findings into opinions relevant to legal standards of causation and damage

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (TRAUMA AND PTSD)

(Selected from 25+ peer-reviewed publications)

Valdez, C. E., Stevens, T., Garnier-Villarreal, M., & Shumway, M. (2023). Trauma-related cognitions on the course of posttraumatic stress in non-specific trauma-focused therapy. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, 15, 88-99. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tra0001280>

Valdez, C. E., London, M. J., Gregorich, S., & Lilly, M. M. (2021). Development and validation of the Trauma-Related Cognitions Scale. *PLOS ONE*, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0250221>

Valdez, C. E. (2021). Posttraumatic distress and treatment barriers among former gang members: Implications for improving access to traumatic stress resources in marginalized populations. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. Online ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jts.22651>

Valdez, C. E., & Lilly, M. M. (2019). The effects of dissociation on posttraumatic symptomatology after trauma processing among women with varying histories of victimization. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 36(13-14), NP7596-NP7618. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260519829273>

Valdez, C. E., & Lilly, M. M. (2017). Posttraumatic rumination: Content, correlates, and processes. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 73, 707-721. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jclp.22371>

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Ph.D. Clinical Psychology (APA-Accredited)

Northern Illinois University

APA-Accredited Predoctoral Internship and Postdoctoral Fellowship

University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)

San Francisco General Hospital – Trauma Recovery Center