

# Kelly Couch

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## **Expertise in Emergency Vehicle Operations, Pursuit Management, Traffic Stops, Criminal Investigations, Law Enforcement Training and Police Patrol Procedures**

With over 30 years in law enforcement, I specialize in pursuit management, emergency driving, and patrol tactics. My career includes four years as a Major Crimes Detective and six years training recruits in patrol tactics and emergency vehicle operations. I played a key role in developing the state-wide curriculum for emergency driving and pursuit management, delivering training at a state-wide training facility. Known for effective communication, I am frequently consulted for my expertise in law enforcement driving operations. Currently, I work part-time as a law enforcement trainer in Oregon in addition to my work as an expert witness. Consistently praised for diligence, sound judgment, and professionalism, I am recognized as a mentor and leader by peers and clients alike.

### **Professional Experience Summary:**

- 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
  - 2001-2003: Patrol Officer
  - 2003-2005: Field Training Officer
  - 2005-2009: Major Crimes Unit Detective
  - 2009-2012: Patrol Officer
  - 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***