Kelly Couch

Portland, Oregon ~ 925-864-5423 ~ Kelly@Code3RiskConsulting.com

Expert Witness | Police Pursuits, Emergency Vehicle Operations & Police Procedures

Professional Summary. Law enforcement practitioner, instructor, investigator, and expert witness with experience dating to 1989. Specialized since 2016 in emergency vehicle operations, pursuit management and pursuit decision-making, Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT), traffic-stop tactics, patrol procedures, and scenario-based training. Providing consulting and expert testimony nationwide in matters involving pursuits, emergency response driving, PIT maneuvers, use of force, false arrest, traffic stops, investigations, and police training. Have testified in federal court regarding emergency vehicle operations, traffic-stop tactics, PIT maneuvers, and use of force.

Core Expertise

- Police pursuit tactics, pursuit policy, decision-making, and risk assessment
- Emergency vehicle operations and emergency response driving
- Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) and tire-deflation-device deployment
- Traffic-stop tactics, patrol procedures, and tactical officer safety
- Use-of-force evaluation and scenario-based performance assessment
- Police investigations, probable cause, report writing, and training practices

Expert Witness & Consulting Experience

- **Code 3 Risk Consulting LLC — Owner (2023–Present).** Providing expert analysis and consulting concerning police pursuits, emergency response driving, PIT maneuvers, traffic stops, use of force, investigations, police procedures, and training.
- **Titan National Consulting Group LLC — Contract Expert Witness (2023–Present).** Supports law firms and clients nationwide; has testified in federal court on emergency vehicle operations, traffic-stop tactics, PIT maneuvers, and use of force.

Relevant Professional Experience

- **Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) — Part-Time Tactical / Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor (2022–Present); Full-Time Tactical Instructor and Lead Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor (2016–2022).** Delivers classroom, skills, facilitated, and scenario-based training to recruits and in-service officers statewide. Helped develop and revise Oregon's emergency vehicle operations and pursuit-management curriculum; served as a scenario and use-of-force evaluator; trained thousands of officers in emergency driving and patrol tactics.
- **Oregon Department of Human Services, Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigations — Investigator 3 (2013–2016).** Investigated abuse and neglect allegations, interviewed involved parties, reviewed records and video, prepared reports, collaborated with counsel, and provided deposition testimony.

- **Licensed Private Investigator, Oregon PSID 060919 (2013–2015).** Managed criminal and civil investigative assignments, including a historical homicide matter, court-appointed work, witness interviews, background investigations, process service, and reporting.
- **City of Brentwood, California — Police Officer (2001–2012).** Served as patrol officer, field training officer (2002–2005), Major Crimes Unit detective (2005–2009), and department lead medical trainer (2002–2012). Investigated homicides, violent crimes, robberies, deaths, and other major offenses; prepared warrants and reports; coordinated with federal and local partners; testified regularly; and operated emergency vehicles during responses and pursuits.
- **Town of Moraga, California — Police Officer (1999–2001).** Conducted patrol, independent criminal investigations, arrests, evidence collection, report preparation, and court testimony.
- **Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department — Reserve Deputy Sheriff (1992–1994).** Performed two-person patrol, response, preliminary investigation, evidence handling, and arrests in the contract city of San Ramon.
- **Saint Mary's College of California — Public Safety Officer / Sergeant (1989–1999).** Conducted patrol and incident response; supervised officers; trained new personnel; reviewed reports; supported policy development and event operations.

Education & Certifications

- **Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, California (1985–1988):** Criminal Justice
- **California POST:** Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Certificates; PC 832 Reserve Officer Certificate
- **Oregon DPSST:** Oregon Law Enforcement Trainer; Emergency Vehicle Operator Instructor / SkidCar System Operator; Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) Instructor

Publications

- "The Danger of Tire Deflation Devices in Police Pursuits," *PORAC Law Enforcement News*, April 2024.
- "Navigating Danger—Intersection Risks and Siren Limitations in Emergency Response," *PORAC Law Enforcement News*, February 2026; reprinted in *American Police Beat*, March 2026.
- "Are We Teaching Officers to Drive Too Fast?," *Police One*, August 2026
- Featured guest speaker for NLEOMF/NHTSA national quarterly webinar, April 2026

Professional Affiliations

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

Selected Advanced Training

- ALERT International Member Conference (2025)
- AELE Expert Witness Training Symposium (2023)
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor / SkidCar Systems Instructor

- Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) Instructor — State of Oregon
- Use of Force Application and Evaluation — State of Oregon (2018)
- Background Investigations -Oregon Peace Officers Association - 2022
- Field Training and Evaluation — California POST
- Basic Collision Investigation — California POST
- Interview and Interrogation Techniques — California POST
- Advanced Shooting Reconstruction Workshop — Contra Costa Sheriff's Crime Lab
- Sexual Assault Investigation – California POST
- Brentwood Police Department Lead Medical Trainer 2003-2012