
Aquatic Death and Homicidal Drowning Investigations Training Course

Free Training

CHANGE OF ONEIDA COUNTY DATE

While water related deaths out number fire related deaths by a factor of eight to one and there are a vast number of training courses which focus on fire related death investigations, there is very little law enforcement training that focuses specifically on aquatic death. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Office of Public Safety is pleased to announce a series of two-day Aquatic Death and Homicidal Drowning Investigations Training courses.

The training will be offered:

Warren County - December 4-5, 2017

Dutchess County - January 31-February 2, 2018

Clinton County - February 27-28, 2018

Broome County - March 1-2, 2018

Oneida County - **March 27-28, 2018**

While drowning is the eighth leading cause of death among all homicides, its rank would likely be significantly higher if more drowning deaths were investigated as possible foul play. The typical first thought when you hear “drowning” is that it was an accident. This course is designed to identify the “red flags” of a drowning case which would lead an investigator to prove the event is a homicide and not accidental.

Course Topics:

- Approaching drowning fatalities and “near drowning” of a child with the same degree of suspicion as any other homicide or possible child abuse incident
 - Case history debriefings
 - Witness interviewing procedures
 - Investigation procedures on the scene
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- Profiling an open water investigation
 - Post mortem physiology forensics - what to look for on a body recovered from the water
 - Three types of incidents: homicide by drowning, victim's body dumped in water after homicide on land, and near-drowning as a result of child abuse or other foul play.
 - How to retrieve and handle evidence thrown in the water – how can a detective know if a dive team conducted a thorough search, or if the team just missed the item?
 - Investigation of vehicular water suicides and how to determine the difference between a vehicular suicide and attempted cover-up.
 - Where to look for a body in open water – what procedures to follow
 - How to know if a dive team is doing an effective search or not.
 - Protect individual and department liability when perpetrators attempt to escape police by way of water, and the perpetrator drowns

Who Can Attend:

- Any law enforcement personnel including prosecutors and related personnel
- Medical examiners and coroners
- LE dive team members

There is no course fee to attend. Enrollment for this training session is limited. Therefore, you must receive confirmation on attendance. Please complete the course application and have it sent no later than two weeks prior to the start of the course. The application can be found here:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3875877/Aquatic-Death-and-Homicidal-Drowning-Investigations> .

If you have any questions about the training, please contact Bert Bouchey by email at Bert.Bouchey@dcjs.ny.gov or by telephone at (518) 485-1411.

Directions to the training site and additional course information will be included in your confirmation notice, which will be sent approximately one to two weeks before the training.
