

**Search Warrant and Major Case Investigation**

**Seminar**

**Course Objectives**

**Search Warrant forms and examples (Handouts and Emailed Forms for Attendees)**

* Search Warrant Checklist
* Items to Seized During a Search Warrant
* Knowledge and Training
* Grand Jury Subpoena Request Form
* Search Warrant Order to Seal Form
* Search Warrant
* Search Warrant Affidavit

**Eliminating stress when writing Search Warrants**

Writing a search warrant can be extremely stressful for officers and can create errors which could cause a case to be dismissed. This class will teach officers how to begin preparing search warrants in the early stages of an investigation. This preparation will help eliminate stress and allow officers to draft quick and detailed search warrants.

**Writing Search Warrants as a Uniformed Officer**

Officers will learn that they can draft and execute search warrants in uniform allowing them to develop their resume for advancement.

**Steps to writing Search Warrants**

Steps to writing search warrants will be discussed in detail. This will decrease errors and make sure all proper paperwork is completed to prevent dismissals in court.

**Increasing safety and decreasing liability when writing Search Warrants**

Officers will be taught safety tips for writing and executing search warrants. This will help decrease officer injuries and fatalities. Instructors will also discuss the most common issues that cause departments liability when executing search warrants.

**Successful seizures when executing Search Warrants**

Mistakes are often made that cause officers to seize little or no evidence. Officers will learn techniques to be used to increase the seizure of narcotics and narcotic trafficking proceeds.

**NCIC Criminal Histories**

Officers will learn the importance of NCIC criminal histories when executing search warrants. This is extremely important and can help decrease the number of officers injured or killed in the

line of duty.

**Risk Matrix**

The risk matrix is extremely important informing officers when to use SWAT to execute search warrants. When properly completed it gives officers information that will assist SWAT with a safe and successful search warrant execution.

**Operation Plan**

An operation plan gives officers important information which provides them with details regarding the suspect(s) and/or location(s). It also provides information regarding the officers involved and their responsibilities during the execution of the search warrant.

**Deconfliction**

Instructors will discuss how deconfliction programs can inform officers of other agency’s investigations. This will allow the combined efforts of officers from different agencies to work together for the ultimate goal of apprehending and assisting in the prosecution of criminals and the seizure of evidence.

**Chronological Investigative Timelines**

Officers will know how to create investigative timelines which will assist them in organizing their case files, drafting search warrants and preparing for prosecution.

**Items to be seized**

One of the most difficult areas of writing search warrants is listing the items to be seized. Not listing specific items to be seized can often lead to evidence being suppressed. Officers will receive handouts and emailed information so they will have the knowledge to list all items needed

for a successful prosecution.

**Training and experience**

Officers often fail to list their training and experience when writing search warrants. Their training and experience will allow them to seize items listed in the search warrant. Officers will receive a handout and emailed information with areas of training and learn how to use this information when writing search warrants.

**Grand Jury Subpoenas**

This is a great technique when conducting investigations and writing search warrants. Officers will understand the importance of using grand jury subpoenas as a means of obtaining information to further their investigation and assist in writing search warrants.

**Investigative Techniques**

Officers will learn different investigative techniques which will further their investigation and

assist in writing search warrants.

**Use of confidential informants in Search Warrants**

A majority of search warrants use confidential informants as a means of obtaining information and probable cause. Informants can be a liability for police departments, but can also be the greatest tool an officer has to investigate crimes. This seminar will discuss the use of informants and how to safely and properly use them.

**Tracker Search Warrants**

Officers will know how to write GPS tracker search warrants.

**Pole Camera Court Orders**

Officers will know how to write pole camera court orders.

**Trap and Trace Court Orders**

Officers will know how to write trap and trace court orders.

**Mail Covers**

Officers will receive the mail cover procedures that are required by the US postal inspectors. They will know how to request mail covers and what is required after they receive the information from the mail cover.

**No Knock Search Warrants**

Officers will understand the importance of officer safety regarding no knock search warrants. They will also know how to write the request for a no knock search warrant.

**Sealing Search Warrants**

Officer will know the importance of sealing search warrants to protect the identity of informants and their ongoing investigations.

**Securing a Residence**

Officers will know when to secure a residence when writing a search warrant.

**Proper Searching**

Officers will know how to properly search when executing a search warrant. This will prevent evidence from being lost and not recorded properly. Good searching techniques will assist in the prosecution of the cases and prevent evidence from being suppressed.

**Collection of Evidence**

Officers will know how to collect, photograph, package and record evidence properly.

**Franks Hearing**

Officers will know that making false statements in a search warrant affidavit can lead to a Franks Hearing which may void the search warrant.

**Case Review**

The instructor will review major case investigations on powerpoint showing officers how the above objectives can lead to successful investigations and prosecutions.

**Practicals**

Officers will receive practicals and will have to write a search warrants using what they have learned in class. The practicals will then be discussed and corrected in class so that each officer can learn from their mistakes.