



# The Carolina Investigator

## June 2015 Edition

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### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The NCAPI is an association of the members, by the members and for the members. Our goal is to promote the professionalism relating to the private investigative field. Together we can accomplish anything.

This year there are many changes taking place. Some of those changes are legal and legislative, some are procedural and others are in appearance. We, as an association, have the chance to influence each of those changes. By taking part in PPS meetings, attending training conferences in NC or other states, contacting our elected officials or just networking. Our every action says who we are and what we stand for.

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the SCALI conference. It was well attended and professionally run. It was nice to see other groups that take professionalism as seriously as we do. Their vision is the same as ours and working together, we can all benefit. It was my honor to be the guest speaker at lunch and share what the NCAPI is doing and how the two associations can continue to support each other.

Your 2015 NCAPI board of directors has been hard at work...recruiting new members, setting up area meetings, processing the tons of paperwork that comes in, updating the web site, dealing with legislative issues on a state and federal level, promoting relationships with other associations, planning the fall conference, working on amendments to our constitution and bylaws, web site changes, and on and on and on. The work of the elected-volunteers is never ending.

I ask for your support in helping the association move forward. How can you help? Send in any revisions to the constitution and bylaws. Attend PPSB meetings. Share articles for the newsletter. Volunteer to serve on a committee. There are many opportunities to serve your fellow investigators.

Soon, you will start seeing revisions to the constitution and bylaws sent to all members. These are for your review and we need your feedback. This is one of the ways that we stay with the times and continue to evolve. Please review them and send your comments and questions. Revisions will be voted on in November at the annual conference.

I am excited about the changes that are taking place and know that if we work together, the association can continue to grow and move forward with the times.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact any board member. We are here to help and there is nothing more important for this association than the members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming PPSB and NCAPI meetings June 25<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh.

Thank you and be safe.

Gary Pastor  
2015 NCAPI President



Submitted by Greg Hatten, NCAPI Past President.

{Permission granted to reprint article.}

## SAFETY WARNING! Worn Leather Holsters Can Cause Accidental Discharges!



“What the hell was that?!?” she said. It took me a half a second to realize that my gun had just gone off...on my hip...in its holster. My wife and I had just finished breakfast at our favorite cafe and got into the car.

Me being the passenger, I rotated my torso to the left to fasten my seatbelt like I always do. When I straightened again, my Glock 19 discharged, blowing a 9mm hole through my pants, underwear, the leather seat and bottom of the car's door frame.

The bullet nicked my hip, but the wound is nothing a bandage couldn't cover. So what went wrong? Guns never go “Bang” all by themselves.

After ensuring I wasn't hemorrhaging profusely and didn't have to make a dash for the hospital, I stayed seated in the car as my wife came around to my door and opened it. I undid my belt and slid the Galco JAK202 Slide Belt Holster, with the gun still in it, off my belt. Why it went off was immediately apparent.

### Accidental Discharge

The trusty, comfortable, leather holster I had been using for a year and two weeks had done what a baseball glove does after lots of use; it got soft. This particular holster carries the pistol outside the waistband, but inside the belt. The belt slides through slots in the outer side of the holster.

The problem stemmed from the leather on the inner side of the holster getting soft. A crease formed, which eventually was large enough to extend beyond the trigger. Manipulate the gun in just the wrong manner and this crease is no different than a finger on the trigger. Boom!

I can't say I didn't know the crease had been formed in the holster. I trained myself to be sure that when holstering, to make sure the gun was fully in the holster, with the trigger protected. On this day, did I forget to do that when I holstered up? Did the leather finally get so soft that a combination of body movements and interference by the cushy leather seat move the Glock enough to create a situation where the trigger was engaged by the holster?

I don't think we'll ever know for sure, but I'll humbly admit to the former as the likely culprit. However, if it was the latter, then those of you who use this type of holster need to be aware of its limitations and the possibility of experiencing what I did.

It might have been a very different story had the incident happened while we were dining. That bullet ricocheting off the concrete floor could have done untold damage and just as easily killed somebody. Fortunately nobody got hurt and damage to the car was minimal. It will be an interesting conversation with the insurance company to see if they'll cover the repairs.

### Lessons Learned

Holstering your gun can be just as important as drawing it. Make sure you pay attention when doing so. If your leather is getting soft and worn, be sure that it won't interfere with your trigger or just replace it.

The back of the slide and/or grip was being pushed downward into the leather holster...or the holster was being pushed upward with some force. My guess is the firearm was being pushed and the fold in the holster acted as a finger and depressed the Glock trigger safety.

This truly brings home the importance of taking care of your equipment and ensuring it's in proper working order. Hopefully you can learn from my situation and prevent an accident like this from happening to you.



## Legal & Legislative Update

April and May have been an active time in the NC General Assembly. The 2015 legislative long session has introduced several bills which would have impact on our industry. I have attended several committee meetings, met with bill sponsors, and generally been available for briefings and questions regarding what the Private Investigator's position is on bills which affect our day to day activities.

### **Senate Bill 630**

#### **Private Investigator access to the Administrative Office of the Courts.**

This bill was presented to allow all licensed private investigators in NC a onetime subscription access the AOC criminal/civil records. The bill was last in Judicial II committee for final review and discussion, prior to the crossover date, when the AOC representative, Mr. Tom Murray, objected to the bill and stated the position of the AOC was to not allow our access. The AOC's position was based on finance and cost of allowing PI's access to the AOC. The bill was held in committee and has not proceeded to the floor.

### **House Bill 187**

#### **Senate Bill 238**

#### **Stalking by GPS/Criminal Offense.**

This bill was introduced to prohibit certain persons from the use and attachment of a GPS device without the permission of a third party/owner of a vehicle. The NCAPI contacted and briefed the bill sponsors, both in the House and Senate. The House version of the bill was changed to exempt private investigators in the performance of their duties. The Senate version of the bill, upon crossover, also included a similar exemption for private investigators. It appears that this bill as currently written will allow for exemption of private investigators.

Other bills that potentially impact our industry, introduced in the current session, have not proceeded out of committee. Updates will be made to keep members informed. GPS legislation, Drones, Data Broker Accountability, and Restricted use of Communication Devices are becoming national issues, not just in NC.

### **The National Council of Investigations and Security Services: (NCISS)**

The NCAPI Board of Directors attended the 2015 NCISS Mid Term Conference and "Hit the Hill" in April, 2015. (11) NCAPI members attended the conference. The conference and "Hit the Hill" was a success with all of our North Carolina Representatives or Senators meeting with our delegation to be briefed on legislative concerns and issues which potentially affect our industry.

The Board of Directors of the NCISS elected NCAPI member William "Bill" Fletcher as the Treasurer of the organization. Congratulations to Bill for representing the NCAPI and being elected as Treasurer. Bill was a previously an At Large Board Member of the NCISS.

The Executive Committee of the NCISS voted to appoint NCAPI Vice President Jerry D. Pitman to fill the position vacated by Mr. Fletcher. Jerry D. Pitman was unanimously elected to the position of At Large Director of the NCISS.

The NCAPI is well represented on the NCISS Board of Directors. Mr. Larry Flannery, Past President of the NCAPI, is the Region 3 Director of the NCISS.

NCAPI member Audra Coleman is also an At Large Director of the NCISS.

The NCAPI continues to support the efforts of the NCISS and remind you that the organization works for all of us in Washington to lobby for our industry in legislative and political issues which impact the investigations and security industry. If you are not currently a member, I encourage you to join today.

### **Political Action Committee:**

As Chairman of the NCAPI Political Action Committee, I along with NCAPI President Gary Pastor, and Past NCAPI President Larry Flannery attended the NC Board of Education class on Campaign Finance in Raleigh in April. We now have certification to allow the NCAPI to continue to operate a Political Action Committee to raise funds for political campaigns and candidates in NC. The PAC as of May 1, 2015, has funds totaling \$142.30. We need your support and donations. Please make a personal contribution to assist the NCAPI.

The NCAPI Board of Directors met in April to begin discussion and debate regarding revisions and updates to the NCAPI Constitution and By-Laws. In the coming months, several additions and proposed changes will be forthcoming. All members are encouraged to contact the NCAPI Board of Directors to submit your requests and recommendations for a revised and updated Constitution and By-Laws. Please take time to review the NCAPI Constitution and By-Laws. These documents are for your benefit. They provide guidance and direction and procedures to all members.

Thanks,

Jerry Pitman

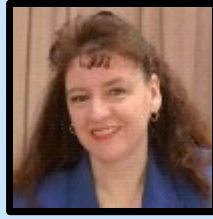


# Domestic Violence Cases & Rights of Gun Owners

Amy A. Edwards

Attorney at Amy Edwards Family Law in Greenville, North Carolina

May 20, 2015



## Domestic Violence Protective Orders

Gun owners have a constitutional right to bear arms. The Second Amendment says: A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. This Constitutional right is not absolute, especially when it intersects with the rights of those who are protected by domestic violence orders.

If someone shares certain relationships with you, such as a spouse or former spouse, current or former household member, or as a parent of your child, he or she may ask the court to enter a domestic violence protective Order (DVPO). Grounds for a DVPO include intentionally causing or attempting to cause bodily injury, placing someone (or their family members or household) in fear of imminent serious bodily injury or continued harassment that rises to such a level as to inflict substantial emotional distress, and various types of sexual assault. The DVPO may order someone to refrain from threatening, abusing, following or harassing the other person by telephone, visiting the home or workplace, or other means. The DVPO may prohibit someone from purchasing a firearm for a certain time period, even if the DVPO is entered on a temporary emergency basis without notice to the defendant until he or she is served with a copy of the emergency order.

## Federal Law -- Are You Allowed to Request the Return of Your Guns?

A federal statute, 18 U.S.C. §922(g)(1-9), prohibits the following people from possessing, shipping, transporting, or receiving any firearm or ammunition: (1) a person convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment exceeding one year; (2) a person who is a fugitive from justice; (3) a person who is an unlawful user of, or who is addicted to, a controlled substance; (4) a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been admitted to a mental institution; (5) an alien who is unlawfully in the U.S. or who has been admitted to the U.S. under a nonimmigrant visa; (6) a person who has been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions; (7) a person who, having been a citizen of the U.S., renounces his citizenship; and particularly for our purposes:

(8) (Note: this next category is referring to a DVPO) a person subject to a court order that . . . restrains the person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or partner's child, and which order includes a finding that the person is a credible threat to such partner or partner's child, or by its terms prohibits the use, attempted use or threatened use of such force against such partner or partner's child; or

(9) a person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. (Note: In NC, a DVPO is entered in a civil case, unless and until a DVPO is violated. In that event, the violation of it is a crime).

## NC State Law -- How Do You Get Your Guns Back?

Emergency temporary DVPOs require law enforcement to immediately seize guns and ammunition before the actual trial takes place. At the (non-emergency) trial, the judge may dismiss the request for the DVPO, or the judge may require the emergency temporary DVPO to remain in place for a specific time period, usually for one year. The federal restrictions on possessing, shipping, transporting, or receiving any firearm or ammunition apply to the state as well. It is the state law that spells out the method by which guns may be returned to the owner when the DVPO expires, assuming he or she is eligible under federal law. There are certain exceptions for defendants who are members of the armed forces and certain law enforcement officers.

Within 90 days of the date the DVPO expires (or 90 days after the order denying the other person's request for a one year DVPO), a gun owner has the right to file a Motion For Return of Weapons Surrendered Under Domestic Violence Protective Order, and must attach documents that prove the DVPO has expired (or that it was denied in the first place). The court will hold a hearing to decide whether the guns should be returned to the owner. If not, the court may order the guns to be kept by the Sheriff's Department for official use (or sold by the Sheriff's Department), or destroyed if there is no unique identification number or the gun is unsafe for use because of wear, damage, age, or modification. The judge may also order the guns be provided to the NC State Crime Laboratory's weapons reference library for official use by that agency, or to the NC Justice Academy for official use by that agency.

NC Gen. Stat. 14-269.1

NC Gen. Stat. 50B-3.1

Amy A. Edwards is a family law attorney in Greenville, NC, certified by the NC State Bar Board of Legal Specialization as a Family Law Specialist, and is licensed only in NC. Laws change. This article is current as of May 2015.

www.AmyEdwardsFamilyLaw.com © 2015.

# Homemade Portable A/C Unit

By: Greg Hatten, NCAPI Past President, Asheville, North Carolina

With summer upon us, surveillances can be downright miserable due to the heat. On any given day temperatures inside a vehicle can exceed 118 degrees or higher in a very short period of time. Even when the outdoor temperature is in the mid to high 80's which can creep up on an investigator well before he or she is aware of what is happening. Most time running a vehicle's A/C system is not an option due to not wanting to draw attention to one's surveillance position in the area. On the rare occasions when it is possible to use the vehicle's a/c system doing so wastes a lot of fuel and can cause vehicles to overheat due to the extended idling.

## Materials needed:

Plastic or foam cooler { Plastic coolers tend to cost a little more but work better overall for this project } Small fan motor, 12 volt DC { A good source of these fans is from old computer systems, most of these fans work on D/C voltages ranging from 8 volt to 12 D/C }. Vent cover. {Just about any home improvement store will carry these in the heating section and they are fairly cheap, be sure to get on that can be open and closed}.

Step 1... Cut and fit the fan motor into the side of the cooler's lid. Install the fan so that the air it produces is being blown into the cooler. Wiring can just be brought through the hinged area at the back of the cooler. Wiring maybe extended as needed so that it clears the inside of the cooler. At this point there are several choices on how to power the fan motor. The wires can be set up so that they plug into a vehicle's cigarette lighter, or into a rechargeable jump start pack available at most department stores in the automotive section. Jump packs are great to use if you would like to have a unit that is separate from the vehicle power source.



Step 2... Cut and fit the floor register into the other end of the cooler's lid. The finished cooler should resemble the picture below: The cooler can be filled with your choice of ice or frozen water bottles. Soft drinks can also be frozen if they are in plastic bottles. Frozen blocks of ice tend to last longer on extended surveillances. Cold drinks can also share the cooler so that something cold to drink is always available on your surveillances.



Keeping the floor vent closed and a piece of cardboard taped over the fan motor will help keep the ice from melting until you are ready to use the portable A/C unit.

Tip... To aim the cool air from the cooler, consider adding a snap on plastic deflector to the floor vent. These are also sold and located with the floor vents in most home improvement stores.

## Barry Echols Leads North Carolina Private Protective Services

RALEIGH – North Carolina's Private Protective Services has a new director, Barry Echols, former vice president of a nation-wide security services company and former director of corporate security for a global pharmaceutical company.

Echols, named by Secretary Frank Perry, began working for the Department of Public Safety April 1 in the North Carolina agency that licenses armed and unarmed security services, alarm system companies, armored car security, private investigators, polygraph operators and dog trainers. Private Protective Services, which includes Alarm Systems Services, has 21 employees.

"Mr. Echols brings a security professional's perspective to the director of Private Protective Services Board position," said DPS Law Enforcement Commissioner Gregory K. Baker. "Coupled with his outstanding law enforcement experience, Mr. Echols is perfectly positioned to further the department's goal of create meaningful relationships between the Department of Public Safety and private industry. We are fortunate to have a person with Mr. Echols' experience on our team."

Echols was Guardsmark's vice president of sales and operations of security services in North Carolina from Feb. 2011 to March 2015. In that capacity, he managed more than 250 security officers, supervisors and managers in 25 North Carolina client locations. He also was the national account manager for 32 sites across 20 states for a national hardware company.

From July 2010 to Feb. 2011, Echols' owned and operated his own company, CIA, Inc., which conducted compliance, investigations and audits for large pharmaceutical companies across the United States. From 1989 to 2010, Echols served as the director of corporate security and director of corporate ethics and compliance for GSK Pharmaceuticals, Research Triangle Park, for all of North America. He handled investigative matters internal and external to the corporation, as well as physical security, information security, executive protection and other security-related matters. During 11 of his years with GSK, Echols was responsible for all compliance-related investigations potentially reportable to the Office of Inspector General.

For five years, Echols worked in Raleigh as a special agent for the FBI, Charlotte division, on white-collar crimes, foreign counter-intelligence and other federal investigations. He also worked with the United States Marshall's Service and was a police officer in the Alabama cities of Montgomery, Auburn and Mountain Brook.

Echols holds a master's degree in human resources administration from Central Michigan University, 1998, and a bachelor of arts in accounting from Birmingham Southern College.



### NCAPI Spotlight

If you are interested in having yourself spotlighted please send a brief biography of yourself, career, etc. to Casey Melvin, NCAPI Newsletter Editor at [ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com).

### Reminder: Using NCAPI Logos

Members who wish to use the NCAPI Logos on their websites and other forms of media should only use logos that conform to the NCAPI Constitution requirements for the uses of the logos.

The Emblem of the ASSOCIATION shall be used on all official documents of the ASSOCIATION, as determined by the Board of Directors. The Emblem may not be used by any member in any form of advertising, promotion, or identification without first inserting the proper words: "CHARTER MEMBER", "ASSOCIATE MEMBER", OR "MEMBER" on the Emblem inside the innermost circle, above the NC / VA state line.

The Emblem shown to the left has been adopted as the official Emblem of the ASSOCIATION and may be reproduced only in colors or color combinations approved by the Board of Directors.

Logos are available for download on the NCAPI Yahoo group in the "Files" section.

## **From the desk of the Membership and Public Relations Committee Chairman:**

As we move into the NCAPI 2015 conference mode and looking ahead into the next few months, with over 70% of the membership has renewed for another year; however, there still some former members who have not renewed. I ask current members, if you know someone that has not renewed their membership in the NCAPI for 2015 to please encourage them to do so. Remember there is strength in unity and numbers. The association new memberships have been on the increase since the last newsletter. I welcome all renewing members and new members. As your vice president, I am looking forward to personally meeting each of you.

As many of you already know, it has been a very busy few weeks for all of the board members with the trip to Washington, D.C. and "hit the hill" campaign, with both the NCAPI board and the PPSB meetings which were held in Raleigh last month and last but not least with the constant struggle with the ever ending legislative bills which could have a direct impact on our profession.

I am happy to say, I presented a very long list of "suggestions and proposed changes" to the board for their review at the Wednesday night working meeting which was held before the regularly scheduled NCAPI meeting last month. These were issues that I feel very strongly about and as I see it, can only make this association better. In a closing note in that department, many of them came from you. So please keep sending me ideas and suggestions on what you believe will improve the association. Please keep in mind, it is your association and only you can make it better.

I am also happy to announce, the regional meeting are coming closer to becoming a reality. Over the last few weeks I have been in contact with members in different parts of the state soliciting their help in setting up the meeting in their areas. I have met with very enthusiast responses from each of them about the meetings and what they could do to help get it started. Thanks to all of you who have stepped forward on this project. As it stands now, I hope to have at least two of the regions up and running by mid-June and the others by mid- July. Gary pastor will send out an all members email outlining the details soon. As a side note, I am still looking for any volunteers to work on a committee who may be interested in helping with the local area meetings and any help on this idea would be appreciated.

### **I would like to draw attention to one of our own association members:**

Hunter Glass, a private investigator and professional consultant, is also a nationally known expert on gangs and gang violence. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Glass was invited by the Halifax County Gang Taskforce and the Halifax County Sheriff's Department to deliver the key –note address at the 2015 Gang Summit held in Roanoke Rapids, NC. This event which was open to the general public and local enforcement agencies was well attended. Mr. Glass gave an excellence speech on the subject of gangs. This was not a NCAPI sponsored event but served to strengthen the bonds between law enforcement and the professional private investigator. Mr. Glass was introduced as a private investigator and most of the law enforcement members attending knew that he was an active member of our association. Fellow members, if you are involved in things like this, please let me know. I would like to bring it to our membership's attention.

In closing, I feel there is a lot more work to be done in the areas of membership, recruitment and public relations. As time goes by, I intend to address issues as they come up in these areas and do my best to resolve them for you. Remember this is our association; we make it what it is.

Until next time,  
Best regards,  
Bob Dunn  
Vice President- Membership &Public Relations Committee Chairman

## **We want to know!**

**The NCAPI Newsletter is by our membership and for our membership. The newsletter staff would like your opinions on what you would like to see in our upcoming issues. Ideas can be serious or silly, it's all about what YOU want and what is interesting to YOU!**

**Please submit ideas  
to Casey at [ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com)**



## Advertise in the NCAPI Newsletter

*The Carolina Investigator* is the bi-monthly electronic newsletter of the NCAPI. Along with being posted to our website, *The Carolina Investigator* is sent to a multitude of individuals that include members, non-members, regulatory agencies, legislators, law enforcement professionals and other associations. The Newsletter staff asks that any articles for the newsletter be emailed to [ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com)

*The Carolina Investigator* is published in February, April, June, August, October and December with a Special Edition published in January for the Annual Conference.

Advertising Fees are:

- Full Color Page: \$125.00
- Half Color Page: \$100.00
- Quarter Color Page: \$ 50.00
- Business Card: \$ 25.00

Advertising Fees are on a per edition basis with the advertiser providing the advertisement in PDF format. All Membership Types in NCAPI enjoy a reduced advertising price of 50% in *The Carolina Investigator*.

Contact a member of the Newsletter Committee or any Board Member for more information or to reserve your space in *The Carolina Investigator* today.

The NCAPI Newsletter is your newsletter and your newsworthy, educational and informative contributions are needed each month. Your contributions should be sent via e-mail to

newsletter editor,

Casey Melvin, at [Ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Ncapi.newsletter@gmail.com) or facsimile to 336-777-1151.

### Disclaimer:

NCAPI does not endorse any continuing education advertiser, instructor or class included in this publication. Any member who desires to participate in classes advertised in this publication should verify those classes are approved for continuing education credit by comparing the class and instructor to the NC PPSB list of approved instructors and classes at [www.ncdps.gov/Index2.cfm?a=000003,003034,003054](http://www.ncdps.gov/Index2.cfm?a=000003,003034,003054) prior to attending.



Programs & Education  
Mark Your Calendar Now  
2015 NCAPI Training Conference

Our annual training conference is coming up fast. Again this year, it is **FREE** to members. We are working toward a full 12 hour program so that you can get all of your required training in one place at no cost.

Mark your calendars for November 5 & 6 and make your reservations soon. The DoubleTree by Hilton in New Bern, NC is an amazing location. Not only can you get your mandatory training, but you're able to explore historic areas that are less than a block away. The birthplace of Pepsi has a lot to offer. Restaurants, shops, and dining are only a short walk away. Tryon Palace is literally just around the corner. The hotel is riverfront on the marina. Make sure you book early if you want to get a waterfront room with a gorgeous view of the river and the marina.

Room rates are only \$99 +tax per night and the hotel has guaranteed two nights prior and two nights post conference. So, if you want to take your family and stay the weekend you can do so at the same room rate. What a deal!

Make sure you use the conference code of C-API when you call in for your reservation.

Our line-up of speakers is growing. Perhaps by the next newsletter we will have all of that prepared and ready to do the big reveal. So stay tuned.

This conference will also host the election of officers so you sure don't want to miss the opportunity to cast your vote for your preferred candidate. Most likely, the elections will be held on the second afternoon of the conference. This gives candidates plenty of time to share their platform and meet you. This is the first time elections are going to be held during the annual training conference, so please let's make it a huge success.

Sandy Russell  
VP/Programs & Education

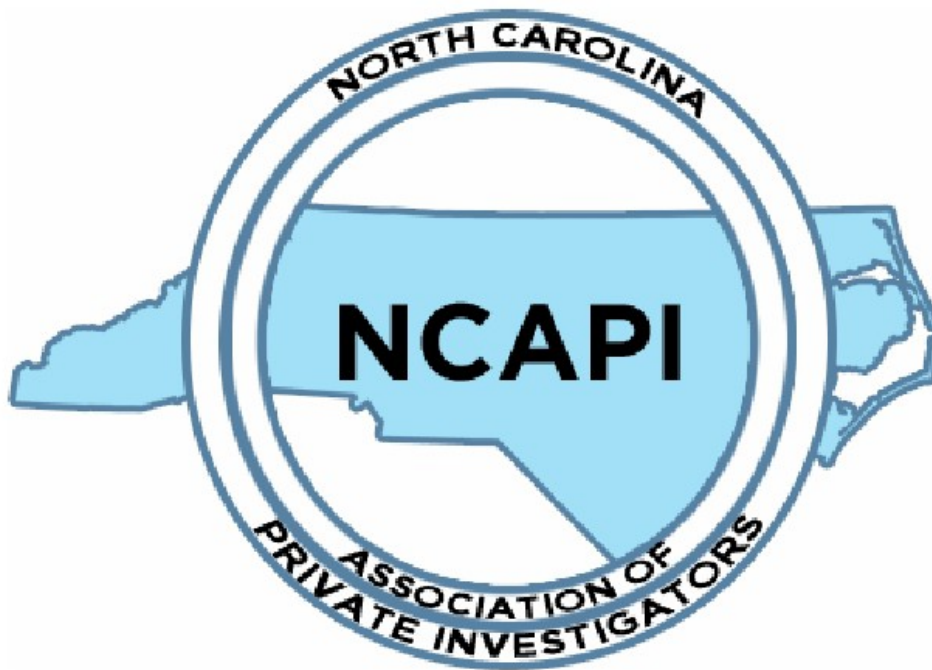
## **NCAPI & PPSB** **2015 UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*\*\*The NCAPI *always* meets after PPSB Board Meetings\*\*\***

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 25, 2015	8:00am	PPSB/NCAPI Meeting	Holiday Inn North 2805 Highwoods Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604
August 27, 2015	8:00am	PPSB/NCAPI Meeting	Holiday Inn North 2805 Highwoods Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604
October 22, 2015	9:00am	(3 day meeting) PPSB/NCAPI Meeting, see PPSB link @ Department of Public Safety website for complete days/times	Holiday Inn North 2805 Highwoods Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604
November 5 & 6, 2015		NCAPI 2015 Annual Conference	New Bern, NC
December 17, 2015	8:00am	PPSB/NCAPI Meeting	Holiday Inn North 2805 Highwoods Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604

**PPSB/NCAPI Meeting: PPSB Training & Education meets @ 8:00a, PPSB Training from 1-5p, can acquire up to 4 CEU's**





## CODE OF ETHICS

### **North Carolina Association of Private Investigators**

#### Preface

A private investigator is dedicated to a search for truth and the furtherance of his client's interest consistent therewith. This search for truth makes possible the establishment of the American ideals of fairness and justice for the benefit of the client in every case that the investigator works on. It should be the intention of every investigator to deal honestly, justly, and courteously with all persons and to practice his profession according to this Code of Ethics.

#### Professional Relations

The Private Investigator will extend the effectiveness of his profession by cooperating with other investigators and related professions, and by the exchange of information and experience as long as the interests of his clients or employers are not violated. He will not advertise his work, skill, or merit in an unprofessional manner or in dramatic, misleading, or exaggerated fashion, and he will avoid all conduct or practice likely to discredit or do injury to the dignity and honor of his profession.

#### Relations with the Public

The Private Investigator will, when the appropriate opportunity presents itself, explain to the public, the role of his profession in the furtherance of the administration of justice. He will not knowingly violate any right or privilege of any individual citizen which may be guaranteed or provided by the United States Constitution, any State constitution, or the laws of the State and Federal governments or any subdivision thereof. He will make all his reporting based upon truth and fact. He will not disclose or relate or betray in any fashion that trust of confidence placed in him by client, employer, or associate, without that person's consent. He will not suggest, condone, or participate in any fashion or degree, for any purpose whatsoever, in entrapment. He shall refrain from accepting an assignment or employment if a personal conflict of interest lies therein. He will deal fairly and equitably with his client or employer, and will clearly explain his duties and the basis for his charges in each case. He will guard against employing those techniques or utilizing such equipment or devices that may threaten the life or safety of another. He will not allow personal feelings or prejudices to interfere with factual and truthful disclosures on the assignments in which he has been employed or consulted.

#### Relations with Investigators

He will endeavor to provide the opportunity, education, and skill for the professional development and advancement of investigators in the profession. He will not directly or indirectly injure the professional reputation, prospects, or practice of another investigator. If he considers that an investigator is guilty of unethical, illegal, or unfair practice or designs; he will present the information to the proper authority for action.

He will uphold, and never abuse, the principle of appropriate and adequate compensation for those engaged in investigative work. He will not criticize another investigator's work except in the proper forum for technical discussion and criticism. He will not compete illegally with other investigators in the solicitation of work and not engage in the unauthorized practice of law