



Session 12 | What Went Wrong: Deficiencies in the Investigation of an Officer Involved Shooting

August 10, 2020

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. EDT

This interactive, multimedia workshop discusses the investigation of a fatal police shooting by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in 2015. The death was the subject of a 2017 judicial Commission of Inquiry (CoI) that received national attention. It was a case of police investigating police in a police shooting incident.

The workshop uses materials sourced directly from the investigation, including videos of investigative interviews. It will cover what went wrong - and right - with the investigation, step by step, from beginning to end. It will focus on whether the investigation met fundamental investigative principles, whether there a sufficient degree of independence, the thoroughness of the evidence gathering process, the quality of investigative interviews, and objectivity throughout the investigative process.

The workshop highlights issues that are directly relevant to anyone involved in any aspect of an investigative process that involves police conduct, including those responsible for reviewing it. It illustrates lessons learned that can be used by any oversight agency.

Speaker:

- Gareth Jones, Trainer, Investigations Trainings, Toronto, ON

Speaker Biography

Gareth Jones | Gareth Jones is a former Director of the Special Ombudsman Response Team at the Office of the Ombudsman of the Department of National Defense and Canadian Forces (DND/CF). He was responsible for setting up the team and directing all major investigations conducted by the Office. Many had a systemic component, including investigations into how the Canadian Forces dealt with service personnel with PTSD, the administration of military Boards of Inquiry, the investigation of deaths and serious injuries and how DND/CF treated the families of killed and injured military members.

Prior to that, he became an investigator with the Attorney General of the Province of Ontario, Special Investigations Unit (SIU) when it began operations in January 1991. SIU has a mandate to investigate deaths and serious injuries involving police officers. Gareth conducted about 500 criminal investigations into incidents where police were involved in a death or a serious injury, including approximately 100 officer-involved shootings, 150 police pursuits and 50 custody deaths. He also investigated a number of allegations of sexual assault against police officers. He was the lead investigator in a very significant number of these investigations.

He is the co-creator of an investigative training program that he has delivered to fact-finding agencies across the world, including UN bodies, as well as to organizations that conduct regulatory, security, human resources, workplace, human rights, anti-corruption and internal affairs investigations.



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He is author of Conducting Administrative, Oversight and Ombudsman Investigations, published by Canada Law Book in 2009. The book forms the basis for training he has delivered to a wide range of public and private sector organizations across the world, including customized training programmes for individual agencies. He is also the author of “The Top Ten Things Not To Do When Setting Up A Police Oversight Agency” and “Workplace Investigations: Getting Beyond He Said, She Said” and the co-author of Measuring Ombudsman Performance: Setting Performance Standards and Indicators.

Gareth was commissioned by the Asia Pacific Forum to write an investigation training manual for front line human rights investigators. The APF represents 19 National Human Rights Institutions in the region. The manual, entitled Undertaking Effective Investigations: A Guide for National Human Rights Institutions was published in August 2013.

Gareth is a former police sergeant with the Metropolitan Police in London, UK. He immigrated to Canada in 1988. He has a BA Honours degree in History from the University of Manchester, UK.

Gareth has been retained by counsel in the United States, Canada and the Cayman Islands to provide expert evidence in police shooting and pursuit cases.



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