



Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention



CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS

Time	Event
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Monday

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Welcome
Announcements
Introduction of Participants

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Physical Abuse and Neglect of Children

This module will focus on the non-accidental injuries that are sustained by children and will emphasize the state-of-the-art techniques that can be used by the investigator in the assessment, investigation, and reconstruction of soft tissue injuries in situations such as bruises, lacerations, dry burns, and wet burns. The various weapons, which can be utilized by the offender in child abuse situations, will be identified and demonstrated. This module will also address the circumstances and the evaluation of deprived, neglected and emotionally abused children. Lastly, this module offers case illustrations and discusses non-threatening questioning techniques that can be employed by the investigator with the caretaker.

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (on own)

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Continuation of Physical Abuse and Neglect of Children

Time	Event
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Tuesday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Sexual Abuse Investigations

This module will focus on conducting a professional investigation into allegations centering on sex crimes against children when the suspect is a parent, family member or exerts authoritative or custodial care over the child victim. Specific strategies and investigative techniques will be presented that are useful in structuring an investigative and protective approach to these crimes that can become problematic because of the relationship factor between the predator and the child.

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (on own)

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Conducting the Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse Investigation

This module will address the need for the implementation of the multi-disciplinary team (MDT) approach to the assessment, identification, investigation and prosecution of: physical child abuse, child neglect, interfamilial child sexual abuse and child death investigations that have occurred within the family by examining actual child abuse case illustrations. The module will also identify the roles and the responsibilities of the various MDT members, stress the importance of information sharing and the strategic planning that is required in order to conduct a step-by-step and comprehensive investigation of the circumstances of the “suspected abuse” of the victim, the role of the caretaker(s) and the roles of the other members of the family unit. Lastly the objective of the module is the identification of witnesses, the joint collection of essential facts and the recognition and recovery of different types of evidence that may help to narrow the focus of the investigation to a specific suspect or suspects.

Time	Event
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Wednesday

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Interviewing Children in Child Abuse Cases

In this module, participants will learn the goals of the interview and how these goals relate to the art and science of interviewing children. This includes comparing and contrasting the skills of interrogation with interviewing children as well as the environment of the interview and documentation. Participants will also understand the impact of question type, language, memory and suggestibility, and the effects of abuse on the quantity and quality of a child’s narrative. The instructor will have the participants practice multiple hypotheses and discuss its relevance in objective interviewing. Participants will be able to defend techniques of escalating an interview by applying the knowledge gained in this module and will understand that there is no perfect interview and that disclosure is not the goal of an interview with a child. Participants will also understand the value of balancing protection with prosecution in the context of a child abuse investigation.

12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (on own)

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Continuation of Interviewing Children in Child Abuse Cases

Thursday

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Interview/Interrogation of Child Abuse Suspect: Critical Steps for Success

This module is designed to build on the participants prior interviewing/interrogation training and experience with techniques designed to move the suspect from denial and deception, to acceptance and acknowledgement of the truth resulting in a complete voluntary confession. Through lecture, class discussion and practical role-playing, this module will provide participants with the necessary tools/skills needed to develop an interrogation strategy through an in-depth understanding of the case information, interrogation process, critical process hurdles, stages of the suspect confession, anatomy of a lie, and common identified hurdles for both the interviewer and interviewee within the interview and interrogation process. Through proper theme development and delivery, participants will learn how to move the suspect past their lies/deception enabling the participant to obtain, and the suspect to give, a complete and full confession. Participants will also learn how to insure statements made by offenders are legally admissible in court, and how they can anticipate and overcome legal challenges by defense attorneys.

Time	Event
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Thursday (continued)

12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch (on own)**

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Investigative Resources**

This module will provide the participants with the resources available through Fox Valley Technical College and other training programs to obtain additional training in the area of child protection. The participants will work through practical exercises as groups to resolve the issues presented.

Friday

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Legal Issues and Considerations in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases**

This module will discuss key issues in preparing and presenting a winning case in child abuse and neglect proceedings or criminal prosecutions of child abusers. The topics addressed include ideas for successfully confronting common defenses, ways to prepare witnesses, including children, to testify effectively and minimize the trauma they experience in court, and dealing with the arising issues of “Taint” and the impact of the “Crawford Decision” on child hearsay exceptions in the Courtroom.

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon **Closing
Evaluations
Certificates**

In order to receive the attendance certificate, participants are expected to participate in all sections. The Fox Valley Technical College representative on site must approve any exceptions to this policy.

**Fox Valley Technical College
800-648-4966**