21st Century Search Warrants

Course Description: Creating thorough, legally sound search warrants is an essential skill for the modern-day investigator. Traditional search warrants have focused on the recovery of physical evidence such as guns and drugs. While these searches are still relevant, vast amounts of evidence and intelligence are available from social media companies, applications, and online service providers. Most commonly, both physical and digital evidence can only be recovered with a properly crafted search warrant. This hands-on class is intended both for those who have search warrant writing experience and those who have not written them before, including non-sworn personnel. Attendees will work on creating customized documents and templates and will be provided resources and tools to use when creating their own search warrants and affidavits. The class will cover:

- Basic legal principles of search warrants
- The statement of probable cause and supporting the items to be seized
- Jurisdictional issues, including out of state locations and providers
- Creating an appropriate ‘hero sheet’
- Determining and properly describing the places to be searched and the items to be seized
- Special procedures including sealing, nighttime service, ‘no-knock’, informant protection, drone use, FLIR, and other considerations
- The California Electronic Communications Privacy Act (Cal ECPA)

Instructor: Aaron Edens is an Intelligence Analyst with the San Mateo County Gang Intelligence Unit. Prior to that he was a Police Officer with the City of Hayward. Mr. Edens began writing search warrants early in his law enforcement career and has written hundreds of warrants, court orders, and other legal demands. He is the author of 14 books including 150 Search Warrants, Court Orders, and Affidavits, 350 Search Warrants, Court Orders, and Affidavits, Search Warrant Templates: Social Media and Applications, and Cell Phone Investigations: Search Warrants, Cell Sites and Evidence Recovery

There is no cost for this training

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