

Building the Inv. and Atty. Relationship

Inv. Charles Valdes

Atty. Eric Heywood



Different backgrounds



Backgrounds

Charles

Who?

Eric

Police officer

NRA life member

Mechanic

Victoria's Secret

Orchestra member

Backgrounds

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X

Don't go alone



The Government Team

- Law enforcement
- Prosecutors and staff
- Legislation and resources

Defense Team



Defense T.E.A.M.

- Thoughts
- Evidence
- Acquittals
- M...

Defense T.E.A.M.

- Thoughts
- Evidence
- Acquittals
- More!

Thoughts – Attorney



Attorney motivations

- Empath
- Warrior
- Reformer

Thoughts – Investigator



Investigator motivations

- Work in community
- Seek the truth
- Helping the underdog

Collaboration

- Humility
- Patience
- Respect



Attorney advice



- Be timely
- Be clear
- Be thankful

Investigator advice

- Ask questions
- Provide input
- Give updates



Thoughts – Brainstorm!

- Atty. explain what defense is
- Inv. can help build defense
- Teamwork strengthens defense

Theories of Defense - 6

- Did it happen?
- Was it client?
- Was it a crime?



Theories of Defense - 6

1. It never happened
2. It wasn't me
3. It wasn't a crime
4. It wasn't this crime
5. I'm not responsible
6. So what?

Evidence



- Interviews
- Records
- Physical

Evidence - Interview

- Not just “talk to this person”
- Think next question, person, step
- Report? (discovery)

Acquittal!

- Seek the truth
- Suppress evidence
- Sentencing mitigation

More...

- Client zealous representation
- Improve defense practice
- Educate prosecutors and judges
- Reform criminal justice system

Questions?