

Author: Private Inv.
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Defense Investigation Check List

Description	Yes / No	Date	Comments
		Reviewed	
IDS Authorization			
Discovery Received Numerical Numbered			
Discovery Converted to PDF			
PDF Converted to Searchable File			
Neighborhood Canvass			
Client Statement to L.E. Recorded			
Co defendant statement(s) to L.E.			
Search Incident to Arrest Issues			
Car Search (case law) US v Wurie			
Miranda Rights			
Recorded			
Freely & Voluntarily			
Signed Form or Oral			
Client Incompetent or ID			
Messiah Rights			
Interrogation			
Does Client request an Attorney			
Right to Silence during any part of questions			
Is client coerced; Threatened;			
# of Officers in Interview Room			
Conduct of Officers in Interview (leading questions, coercion etc)			

Search Warrants			
Items to Be Seized			
Crime Listed			
Description of Place to be Searched			
Probable Cause			
Properly Signed			
Executed within Time Limits			
SW Executed Properly			
Items of Seized Property Form Attached			
Seized item Form given to Client, left at Residence or given to Person in Control			
SW and Seized Item Form Returned within Time Frame			
Crime Scene Review			
Search Warrant or Consent			
Photographs taken			
Items Seized Properly Documented			
Crime Scene Log			
Items not Seized Important to Defense			
Evidence			
Chain of Custody Issues			
Evidence Log Developed (P.I.)			
SBI Lab Log Developed (P.I.)			
Items not sent to Lab that should have that would benefit Defense			
Do We Need Independent Testing of SBI Tested Items or Items Not Submitted			
Contamination of Evidence Issues			
GSR Time Period for Collection (> 4 hrs)			
Lab Analysis			

Lab Items #'s Correct Compared to Evidence #			
Underlying Data for Each Discipline			
Check for Negative Results in DNA area in worksheets (underlying data)			
GSR Swabs			
GSR Sticky Tabs			
SBI Lab Issues			
Inconclusive DNA Mixture (State v Phillips)			
Consent Search			
Signed Form or Oral			
Seized Item Form Filled Out and Submitted			
Was Client Present During Search			
Does Client Have Expectation of Privacy			
Self Defense			
Witnesses			
Past Police reports on Aggressor			
Toxicology on victim (Alcohol)			
Toxicology of victim (Drugs) - Court Order			
Pending or Resolved Cases on Victim			
Diminished Capacity			
Voluntary Intoxication			
Do we need Phone Tolls/Text Messages			
<i>Do we need records ??</i>			
Experts			
Forensic Psychologist			
Forensic Psychiatrist			
DNA Expert			
Use of Force Expert			
Mental Health Expert			
Pathologist			

GSR			
Firearms			
Fingerprint			
Polygraph			
Other			
Mitigation Specialist			
Bullets of LE Audio/Video Interviews			
Comparison of Multiple Interviews			
Gang Involved			
List of All Witnesses			
List of All Officers Involved			
Character Witnesses			
Interview Def's Family(?) and Friends			
Background on Deceased			
Criminal Record Check on Witnesses			
Check Letters Def is Receiving While In Jail			
School Records			
Medical Records			
Criminal Record Check on Deceased			
Criminal Record Check on Witnesses			
Civil Records Check on Deceased			
Civil Records Check on Witnesses			
Facebook			
My Space			
Twitter			
E-Mails / Text Messages			
Photographs on Cell Phone / Computer			
Instagram			
ETC...			
Did LE look in computer or cell phone prior to consent w/o a search warrant?			

US v Wurie / US v Riley			
Officers			
Officers Notes			
SWAT Team Reports and notes			
After Action Report			

Also! School Records
Medical Records
Psych Records

Get Releases