



DANA R. ANDERSON, PSYD

CLINICAL + FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST

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EDUCATION

**DOCTORATE OF PSYCHOLOGY IN
CLINICAL & FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY** |
Alliant International University | 2016 |

**MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY IN CLINICAL
& FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY** | Alliant
International University | 2014 |

BACHELOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE |
National University | 2007 |

LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS

LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST | CALIFORNIA:
PSY33167 | **NEVADA:** PSY1101 | **OHIO:**
241103 | **PSYPACT:** 14010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

SACRAMENTO VALLEY PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION, FORENSICS DIVISION

FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF
CALIFORNIA

PROFILE

Dr. Anderson is a highly accomplished forensic psychologist with over a decade of experience conducting forensic psychological evaluations. As the founder and leader of a top tier forensic psychology firm, she specializes in psycho-legal evaluations, expert witness testimony, and forensic consulting services. Renowned for her contributions to high-stakes cases, Dr. Anderson frequently collaborates on documentaries and true crime television shows, providing expert psychological analysis on complex legal matters. She also serves as a consultant for projects focusing on forensic psychology, criminal behavior, and justice system reform.

EXPERIENCE

Clinical & Forensic Psychologist | CALIFORNIA FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY |
2022 – Present

Founder and Executive Director of California Forensic Psychology, a consulting firm, specializing in comprehensive psychological evaluations, expert witness testimony, and consulting services for complex legal cases. Areas of expertise include psychological autopsies, death investigations, cold case analysis, critical incident debriefings, violence risk assessments, mitigation and sentencing reports, trauma evaluations, malingering assessments, behavioral profiling, parental fitness and custody evaluations, forensic neuropsychological assessments, sexual abuse investigations, and workplace threat assessments.

Court-Appointed Expert Witness | SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA |
2022 – Present

Conducts court-ordered forensic psychological evaluations, including Competency to Stand Trial, Insanity, Mental Health Diversion, Sex Offender assessments, and risk assessments, offering expert opinions to guide critical legal decisions. Completes Acuity reviews in correctional settings to identify and mitigate risks, preventing inmate deaths and ensuring appropriate mental health care. Serves as an expert witness for multiple county agencies, including Siskiyou and Shasta County criminal courts, and holds annual contracts with Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, providing services for both Shasta and Tehama Counties.

Program Director, Jail-Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) Program |
2020 – 2021

Pioneered the first Department of State Hospital Jail-Based Competency Treatment program at Shasta County Jail. Managed program operations, supervised staff, and collaborated with key stakeholders, including the Sheriff's Department and Superior Court. Provided competency restoration services for inmates awaiting criminal trials through weekly psychoeducational classes and individualized assessments to prepare them for legal proceedings.

Post-Doctoral Psychology Intern / RESTPADD PSYCHIATRIC FACILITY | 2016 – 2021

- Facilitated 5150 crisis stabilization interventions for individuals experiencing severe mental health crises. Initiated 5250 psychiatric holds for those meeting criteria as a danger to self (DTS), danger to others (DTO), or gravely disabled (GD).
- Served as a court hearing representative for 5250/5270 psychiatric hearings, as well as REIS and WRIT medication and LPS Conservatorship court hearings providing expert witness testimony every week in over 800 cases.
- Provided group therapy, case management, and treatment planning to support stabilization and recovery.

Pre-Doctoral Psychology Intern | GOLDEN GATE CONREP CONDITIONAL RELEASE PROGRAM | 2015- 2016

- Executed court-ordered forensic evaluations for the Department of State Hospital's (DSH) statewide Conditional Release Program utilizing the HCR-20 Risk Assessment and prepared detailed quarterly and annual forensic psychological reports for Superior Courts in California.
- Rendered outpatient treatment, supervision, and therapy for individuals adjudicated as Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) or identified as Mentally Disordered Offenders (MDOs), facilitating their community reintegration.
- Assessed patients for readiness for release at various State Hospitals and jails with serious mental illness who committed violent felony crimes.

Psychology Intern | PSYCHOLOGY ASSESSMENT RECOURSE CENTER (PARC) | 2014- 2015

- Performed civil and forensic psychological evaluations for courts and attorneys, addressing criminal responsibility, risk assessments, malingering, and cases involving NGRI, GBMI, CST, and PC 290 Sex Offender evaluations.
- Evaluated defendants in Sacramento County Jail and Stockton Juvenile Detention Facility, providing placement recommendations and treatment plans to support parole and probation decisions.
- Administered psychological tests, developed diagnostic conclusions, and prepared comprehensive forensic reports for legal proceedings, including evaluations of Miranda rights waivers and confession validity.

Psychology Intern | PSYCHWEST CLINICAL & FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY | 2014 – 2015

- Delivered clinical psychological assessments for Social Security Disability Income evaluations, ADHD, and specific learning disabilities in adolescents, utilizing standardized tools such as WAIS-IV, WISC-IV, Vineland-II, WRAT-4, Bayley-III, Bender Gestalt-II, and Trails A & B to provide diagnostic formulations and treatment recommendations.
- Prepared comprehensive psychological reports based on assessment findings and participated in individual and group supervision to evaluate and refine treatment plans and outcomes.

Psychology Intern- Parole Outpatient | CONSORTIUM FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES (CCS) | 2013 – 2014

- Collaborated with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and Integrated Services for Mentally Ill Parolees (ISMIP) to deliver mental health assessments, group therapy, and crisis interventions, facilitating the successful reintegration of parolees into the community.
- Carried out crisis intervention, psychiatric stabilization, and risk assessments for high-risk offenders, including the most dangerous and violent individuals immediately released from prison.
- Designed, facilitated, and led a "Women's Empowerment" group therapy program to address the criminogenic needs of female mentally ill registered sex offenders (PC 290) on parole.

Psychology Intern | YUBA CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT | 2012 – 2013

- Administered comprehensive intellectual and psychological assessments for adolescents using tools such as WISC-IV, KABC-II, BASC, CONNERS, and CTOPP, including nonverbal testing for bilingual and non-English-speaking Hispanic children to accurately identify learning disabilities and psychological impairments.
- Worked with schools and probation agencies, actively participating in Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) meetings to develop tailored support strategies for at-risk youth.
- Conducted evaluations and developed treatment plans for emotionally disturbed and neglected children with ADHD, learning disabilities, and intellectual deficiencies.

CERTIFICATIONS

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Certification
Danger Assessment Certification
Advanced Strangulation Prevention Training Certificate

AWARDS & HONORS

Doctoral Fellowship Award, Soroptimist International- Sierra Nevada Region, 2016
RUBY Award, Soroptimist International" For Outstanding Work to Improve the Lives of Women & Girls, 2016
Be a HERO to Your Children Recognition Award, One Safe Place, 2015
20 Under 40 Emerging Leader Award, Redding Searchlight, 2014
HERO Award, from the Shasta Family Justice Center & Shasta Women's Refuge, 2012
Women's Opportunity Award from Soroptimist International in Redding, 2013
California Family Justice Initiative Learning Exchange Scholarship Award, San Diego, 2012
VOICES Scholarship Award, "Changing the World," International Family Justice Center, 2011

MEDIA & TELEVISION

Host of the Killer Psychologist Podcast | January 2024 - Current
Fox Nation, Savage Instincts: The Mind of Bryan Kohlberger | March 2024
Crime Stories with Nancy Grace | 8 episodes 2023 - 2024
Investigative Discoveries "Mean Girl Murders" Season 1: Episodes 3 & 11
Crime Door Television, Forensic Psychologist commentator | 2022 - 2023

PUBLISHING & PRINT

Understanding the Lived Experiences of Intimate Partner Strangulation Survivors| Dissertation| Library of Congress | 2015
"Communication Lessons for Business Leaders from the Presidential Debate" | Forbes Magazine | June 2024
"Whistleblower Learns from Reactions" | Communication Intelligence Magazine | 2024

REFERENCES:

Craig Wetterer, Ph.D., J.D.

Clinical & Forensic Psychologist + Licensed Attorney | Craig@carsonpsychological.com | (775) 530-7415

Kent Caruso, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist + Court-Appointed Expert Witness | Kent.caruso@gmail.com | (530) 945-3288

For a comprehensive profile + endorsements please visit Dr. Dana Anderson on LinkedIn.