



# DANA R. ANDERSON, PSYD

CLINICAL + FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST

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Dr. Anderson is an accomplished forensic psychologist with more than a decade of experience conducting forensic psychological evaluations for courts. As the founder of a premier forensic psychology firm, she specializes in psycho-legal evaluations, expert witness testimony, and consulting services for attorneys, law firms, agencies and courts nationwide.

## 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: PSY 33167 | NEVADA: PY 1101 | PSYPACT: 14010**

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

SACRAMENTO VALLEY PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, FORENSICS DIVISION

FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TRIAL CONSULTANTS

## VOLUNTEER WORK

LEADERSHIP REDDING, CLASS OF 2017 & STEERINGSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER

ONE SAFE PLACE, PAST PRESIDENT VOICES AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE

## EXPERIENCE

**Forensic Psychologist | CALIFORNIA FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY** | 2022 – Present

As owner of California Forensic Psychology Dr. Anderson works with multiple vendors and is contracted with agencies including ComPsych to provide critical incidents debriefings (CID) and sort term disability (STD) evaluations. Contracted with Pecgna to provide immigration evaluations and supervision. Appointed by the Nevada Board of Psychology to serve as a disciplinary supervisee. Serves as a supervisor for both post-doctoral interns and practicum students at various placements.

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

Serves as a court-appointed expert witness for multiple counties, including Shasta, Siskiyou, Trinity, Tuolumne, Del Norte, Mendocino and Glenn. Provides forensic evaluations such as Competency to Stand Trial, Insanity, Mental Health Diversion, Sex Offender assessments, sentencing and risk assessments. Completes Acuity Review Reports in correctional settings to preventing inmate deaths. Holds annual contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services Agency (DHHS), 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 (DV/SA) Certification  
Danger Assessment Certification (DA)  
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

*Killer Psychologist Podcast* | Podcast Host | 70+ episodes | January 2024 – Current  
*Court TV*, live episodes | Expert commentator | multiple episodes - 2025  
*Fox Nation*, "Deny, Defend, Delay: The Murder of A CEO | December 2024  
*Fox Nation*, *Savage Instincts: The Mind of Bryan Kohlberger* | March 2024  
*Crime Stories with Nancy Grace* | 8+ episodes 2023 - 2024  
Investigative Discovery "*Mean Girl Murders*" Season 1: Episodes 3 & 11  
*Crime Door Television*, Tubi TV, Forensic Psychologist commentator | 2022 - 2023

## PUBLISHING & PRINT

*Forbes Magazine* | quoted in "Communication Lessons for Business Leaders from the Presidential Debate" | June 2024  
*Communication Intelligence Magazine* "Whistleblower Learns from Reactions" | 2024  
How To Become A Forensic Psychologist e-book | 2022  
Library of Congress | Understanding the Physical and Psychological Experiences' of Intimate Partner Strangulation Survivors | Dissertation | 2015

## COURT TESTIMONY:

*Leavitt v. Leavitt* – Family Law, Santa Clara County; testified on psychological risk in a child custody case with a domestic violence restraining order; judge renewed DVRO. (September 2025).  
*People v. Scribner* – Criminal Court, Shasta County; retained by defense, testified on mitigating factors in involuntary manslaughter case; judge imposed 6-year sentence. (August 2025).  
*People v. Lance* – Criminal Court, Shasta County; court-appointed expert on borderline personality disorder, memory, and recall as it relates to the validity of one's claim; jury returned not guilty verdict. (April 2025)  
*State of Ohio vs Alexander Hostetler*– Competency Hearing, In the Court of Common Pleas, Guernsey County Ohio; subpoenaed by the district attorney, testified regarding competency; court adopted report. (April 2025).  
*McDonald v. McDonald* – Family Law, Oregon Superior Court (case transferred from Nevada court); retained by respondent's attorney to testify in child custody, testified regarding psychological state and risk to children; court adopted treatment recommendations. Case D-15-518905-D (July 2024).  
*T.K v. LAUSD* – Civil Court, Los Angeles County; retained by Herman Law Firm; deposed twice for a total of 14 hours; testified on childhood sexual abuse and PTSD. Case(s) settled for \$4 billion. (October 2024).  
*T.K v. LAUSD* – Civil Court, Los Angeles County; retained by plaintiff's attorney Herman Law Firm; testified on malingering, invalid protocols and severe psychopathology. Case 21STCV46199 (March 2024).  
*Sage-Espinosa and Lee*- Tehama County Department of Social Services; retained by the court, testified on parental psychological capacity, and child welfare risks; court adopted recommendations. Cases 23JU000057, 23JU000058 (March 2024).  
Juvenile Court, Shasta County; retained by public defender, testified on severe mental illness, homicide and psychiatric stabilization; judge adopted findings to retain juvenile status. Case SCRDJDSQ: 213208301002 (March 2023)  
Hearing Officer, Restpadd Psychiatric Facility – Shasta County; testified weekly in ~800 psychiatric hearings (WIC 5250/5270/REIS/WRIT); courts routinely adopted testimony on danger to self/others and grave disability. (2016–2020)

## REFERENCES:

### **Craig Wetterer, Ph.D., J.D.**

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

### **Kent Caruso, Ph.D.**

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

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