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# JOANNA L. COLLINS, M.F.S.

## EDUCATION

Master of Forensic Sciences – The George Washington University; Washington, DC, 2003

B.B.A., Management – Texas A&M University; College Station, TX, 1996

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Proven court qualified testifying expert and consulting expert with experience in federal, state, and military judicial proceedings. Forensic science and investigative professional with accomplished background of 24+ years of federal criminal investigations, and supervisory experience specializing in child/adult sexual assault investigations, medico-legal death investigations, and child abuse investigations, program management, policy development, crime scene management and processing, evidence handling, investigative consultation, and testimony in legal proceedings. Specializing in criminal investigative and forensics related training course development and instruction, concentrating in medico-legal death investigations, sexual assaults, child physical and sexual abuse, death investigations (adult and child), crime scene investigations, and child forensic interviewing. Active fellow in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Top Secret/SCI security clearance with current counterintelligence scope polygraph.  
Disabled Veteran

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Managing Partner and Founder/Lead Testifying Expert and Consulting Expert – LINUS Investigations and Consulting (C04138501) (formerly LINUS Consulting Group, LLC); San Antonio, TX; Jan 2009 – Present:** Professional forensic and investigative expert consultant with specialization in active and cold case consultation, expert testimony, and forensic training development and instruction. Specializing in medico-legal death investigations, sexual assault investigations, crime scene processing, child forensic interviews, and child physical/sexual abuse investigations. Retained and court appointed cases. In addition to 24+ years in federal law enforcement, served as a testifying expert and expert consultant in forensic aspects of investigations in the private sector for over ten years. Recognized by the courts as an expert witness and has testified in that capacity at federal and state levels. Serves as volunteer member of the Bexar County Cold Case Homicide Team, San Antonio, TX.

**Reserve Special Agent (Col/O-6) – Commander, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), 4<sup>th</sup> Field Investigations Region, Joint Base San Antonio- Randolph, TX; July 2020 – present:** Leads 17 subordinated OSI units in seven states. Sets strategic organizational direction and applies fiscal and personnel resources to achieve complex mission objectives. Oversees all major criminal, fraud, and counterintelligence investigations and operations to identify, exploit, and neutralize threats to the United States Air Force, United States Space Force and Department of Defense resources.

**Reserve Special Agent (Col/O-6) – Commander, Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), 8<sup>th</sup> Field Investigations Region, Peterson Air Force Base, CO; June 2018 – July 2020:** Oversees all counterintelligence, counterterrorism, force protection, and criminal investigations/operations at 2 Major

Commands, 3 Numbered Air Forces, Headquarters US Northern Command, and the United States Air Force Academy. Leads over 200 investigative and support personnel at 17 geographically separated CONUS locations, as well as leading and mentoring 15 Commanders and Special Agents in Charge. Responsible for protection of 121,000 personnel and \$2.1 billion worth of space and nuclear assets/resources across Air Force Space Command and Air Force Global Strike Command. Provides strategic vision and guidance for wing-level operations and manages/directs the execution of \$650,000.00 operation and maintenance (O&M) funds.

**Reserve Special Agent (LtCol/O-5) – Special Agent/Vice Commander, Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), 4<sup>th</sup> Field Investigations Region, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, TX; Oct 2014 – May 2018:** Led 14 subordinate OSI elements located in six states. Set strategic organizational direction and applied fiscal and personnel resources to achieve complex mission objectives. Led major criminal, fraud, and counterintelligence operations and investigations. Advisor to senior DoD commanders/leaders within the Air Education and Training Command and interface with civilian law enforcement agencies. Requested to serve as AFOSI lead on high profile joint AFOSI/FBI/Texas Rangers/SAPD cold case child homicide investigation.

**Reserve Special Agent (Lt Col/O-5) - Special Agent-in-Charge/Commander, Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), 11th Field Investigations Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio, TX; Dec 2012 – Sep 2014:** Led AFOSI's largest and busiest investigative squadron with the responsibility to identify, exploit, and neutralize criminal, terrorist, and foreign intelligence threats to the Department of Defense (DoD) and the US Air Force; provides strategic direction and implements processes and procedures for unit operations/investigations and personnel to optimize operational effectiveness. Special Agent in Charge of multi-jurisdictional task force responsible for the oversight and direction of US Air Force sexual assault investigations involving Military Training Instructors and recruiters; investigative consultant to the Judge Advocate General's office; AFOSI representative to Congressional Oversight Committee on military sexual assaults; representative to the Congressional Response Systems Panel on Sexual Assaults in the Military.

**Reserve Special Agent (Major/O-4) - Director of Operations, AFOSI, 11th Field Investigations Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio, TX; Jul 2011 – Nov 2012:** Results-driven oversight of AFOSI's largest investigative squadron with the responsibility to identify, exploit and neutralize criminal, terrorist, and foreign intelligence threats in a 79-county area of responsibility. Credited with "total-force leadership" over counterintelligence, criminal, and fraud investigations and operations to protect US Air Force and DoD personnel and resources in support of Joint Base San Antonio.

**Adjunct Professor - Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology; St. Mary's University; San Antonio, TX; Jan 2011 - May 2012:** Instructor in undergraduate-level forensic sciences courses specializing in crime scene investigations and forensic laboratory techniques.

**Reserve Special Agent (Major/O-4), Chief, Policy and Mission Assessments Division, Headquarters AFOSI, Quantico Marine Corps Base, VA; May 2009 - Jun 2011:** Identified as "go-to" reservist to lead HQ division of 19 personnel responsible for researching, developing, and publishing command policy and guidance. Formulated US Air Force and AFOSI procedural guidance for conduct and documentation of criminal and counterintelligence investigations and inquiries. Vast experience in all AFOSI counterintelligence and criminal mission areas. Praised for standardization of training for entire federal law enforcement community program. Managed and executed \$1.6 million budget.

**Reserve Special Agent (Major/O-4) – Forensic Sciences and Cold Case Program Manager; Headquarters AFOSI; Andrews AFB, MD; Oct 2007 – May 2009:** Reserve Forensic Program Manager overseeing all aspects of AFOSI's policy development and implementation, training, and resource management for the worldwide delivery of forensic science support to major criminal, fraud, and counterintelligence investigations. Oversaw compliance with DoD death investigations policies and served on the US Air Force Domestic Fatality Board. Tracked, analyzed, and briefed senior policy

makers on trends pertaining to violent crimes affecting DoD and US Air Force personnel and resources. Re-wrote entire crime scene manual and forensic program policy for use by 1,800+ agent force in major crime scene investigations. Based on extensive case review, case consultation expertise, and vast liaison contacts within forensics and investigation community at local, state, and federal level – was by-name requested to develop policy and employment strategy for AFOSI's first-ever cold case program.

**Adjunct Professor – Department of Forensic Sciences; The George Washington University; Washington, DC; Jan 2007 – Dec 2009:** Instructor in graduate-level courses specializing in medico-legal death investigations and child abuse investigations.

**Special Agent – Forensic Science Program Manager; HQ AFOSI, Andrews AFB, MD; Jul 2006 – Oct 2007:** Proven, results-driven management and forensics background – led agency forensics division during critical transformation. Recognized for innovative overhaul of entire forensics program and labeled as “cornerstone” of DoD forensics community. Formalized Child Forensic Interview training program; re-wrote key agency instructions bringing methodology in-line with current forensics technology; analyzed and revised AFOSI's evidence submission guidelines to the US Army Criminal Investigations Laboratory (USACIL), greatly enhancing case resolution timelines. Flawlessly managed \$1.4 million budget; 12 regional forensic science specialists covering Europe, Asia, and the United States; as well as 10 USACIL trace evidence and DNA analysts. Final reviewer of all adult and child death investigations for investigative sufficiency and served on the US Air Force Domestic Fatality Board. Led joint agency effort on forensics entomology, presenting findings to members of the American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS).

**Special Agent-in-Charge/Commander, AFOSI Expeditionary Detachment 2402, Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait; Nov 2004-Dec 2004:** Deployed commander of major AFOSI unit directly responsible for counterintelligence support to all troop movement into and out of theater. Extensive national-level and foreign liaison with counterintelligence partners to ensure the safety and security of personnel and resources in the area of responsibility. Oversaw the operation of defensive counterintelligence operations, investigations, awareness programs, and insider threat mitigation. Advised theater leadership on actions to decrease vulnerabilities.

**Special Agent – Regional Forensic Science Consultant, Far East Region; AFOSI, Yokota Air Base, Japan; Aug 2003 – Jul 2006:** Sole agent responsible for forensics crime scene response, consultation, program, and case management. Directly consulted for over 140 agents over three-year period; over 600 consults and crime scene responses for sexual assault, child abuse/child sex crimes, and death cases. Recognized by both US and Japanese law enforcement community as ‘first choice’ forensics expert – sole US representative on Japanese quadruple homicide; called to support several US/Japanese sexual assault, aggravated assault, and post-blast investigations. Devised and led first-ever entomology project establishing time of death determination through insect succession specific to Japan, setting baseline data for future Japanese law enforcement efforts. Recognized expert, orchestrating evidence analysis changing case law for first-ever conviction in military court for child erotica. Developed and conducted training for biohazard first responders, trained emergency room staff on proper sex case evidence collection processes, post-blast training for Japanese Self-Defense Force, created sexual assault training workshop for Pacific region DoD investigators, as well as joint forensics training in arson, rape, and sexual assaults. Hand selected by DoD to develop and deliver sexual assault investigations and crime scene training to Philippine National Police following high-profile rape investigation of US military member suspect botched by faulty investigation. Profiled for work on international, joint agency child porn case, and serial predator investigation. Recognized authority for Pacific Air Force Circuit Trial Counsel Conference on child abuse investigations and child forensic interviewing. Revalidated qualifications for Okinawan police crime lab for DoD use – expedited evidence processing for countless investigations. Consulted with combat theater investigators on post blast evidence identification and collection to include fingerprint evidence aiding in terrorism investigations.

**Special Agent/Student – The George Washington University; Washington DC; May 2002 – Jul 2003:** Selected for year-long scientific research project for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) related to forensic medicine with special emphasis on death investigations. Presented project “A Comparison of the Light-Emitting Diode with the Mini-Crime Scope When Recovering Biological Evidence” to AFOSI and AFIP resulting in purchase of new technology critical to evidence identification. Participated in over 100 autopsies at the Baltimore Medical Examiner’s Office and Dover AFB, port mortuary. Authored paper “Sudden Infant Death Syndrome vs. Overlay,” and presented project “Child Abuse Injuries, How to Recognize Them,” which were lauded as outstanding by university and used as a key tool to AFOSI field investigative use. Awarded a one-year fellowship from the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner and completed internship in forensic medicine and medico-legal death investigations at the Cook County Medical Examiner’s Office, Chicago, IL.

**Special Agent-in-Charge/Commander – AFOSI Det 306, Dover AFB, DE; May 2000 – May 2002:** Recognized leader responsible for driving 100% increase in investigative productivity within one year of assuming position. Hands-on management led to quick resolution of numerous high-profile investigations including child-death, joint agency narcotics, rape, murder, and a serial sexual predator and homicide investigation spanning a six-year period and crossing multiple states. Liaison and investigative skills proved invaluable in the resolution of a local murder investigation involving a US Air Force subject. Led joint fraud investigation recovering over \$500K and spearheaded three joint narcotics task force operations resulting in multiple arrests.

**Special Agent – Strategic Planning Division; HQ AFOSI, Andrews AFB, MD; May 1999 – May 2000:** Identified by agency commander/director as “natural leader who always has positive impact.” Developed expertise in strategic planning to align AFOSI efforts with larger Air Force efforts – ensured consistency and focus on larger US Air Force priorities. Implemented matrixed approach and reassigned command resources to better mission-focus. Spearheaded closed investigation review and identified trends to drive improvement in investigative techniques. Developed and implemented Unit metrics labeled as “best seen in four years of attempts” by commanding General.

**Special Agent/Compliance Inspector – HQ AFOSI, Andrews Air Force Base, MD; Aug 1998 – May 1999:** Selected for strong leadership skills to develop new Unit Compliance Inspection Process – reduced mission impact by inspection teams, developed improved training program for investigators, built desk audit process to capture morale and leadership issues, and created analytical capability to track trends. Drove process for analyzing trends and identifying lessons learned and benchmark practices.

**Special Agent – Criminal Investigator; AFOSI Det 307, McGuire AFB, NJ; Jun 1996 – Aug 1998:** Conducted multiple joint drug enforcement investigations and served in undercover role. Praised for expert crime scene processing and interviewing skills – personally resolving four death investigations receiving high-level attention from Air Force leadership as well as two death investigations of US Air Force members occurring off-base. Rebuilt training program for new criminal investigators. Go to person for multiple child sexual assault investigations.

## INSTRUCTION/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Crime Scene Investigations*, St. Mary’s University, Spring 2011 – Spring 2012  
*Medico-legal Death Investigations*, George Washington University, Spring 2007 – Fall 2009  
*Child Abuse Investigations*, George Washington University, Spring 2007  
*Child Forensic Interviewing*, Ford Island, Hawaii, 18 – 21 Sep 2006  
*Sexual Assault Investigations*, Philippine National Police, Clarke AB, Philippines, Jun 2006  
*Child Forensic Interviewing*, Yokota AB, Japan, Mar 2005  
*Sexual Assault Investigations Workshop*, Ford Island, Hawaii, 2 – 5 Aug 2004  
*Recognition of Physical and Sexual Child Abuse*, Kadena AB, Japan, 14 Nov 2003

*Sexual Assault Investigations*, Kadena AB, Japan, 14 Nov 2003  
*Arson Investigations*, Kadena AB, Japan, 14 Nov 2003

## PROFESSIONAL COURSES

Physical Abuse Investigations, Crimes Against Children Conference, 8 Mar 21  
The Analysis of Patters of Deception and Denial Among Sex Offenders, Crimes Against Children Conference, 11 Feb 21  
Child Molesters: Understanding the Grooming Behaviors of Adult Offenders and the Counter-Intuitive Behaviors of Child Victims, Crimes Against Children Conference, 10 Feb 21  
Investigating the Child Homicide, Crimes Against Children Conference, 14 Jan 21  
Interviewing the Child who is Recanting Sexual Abuse, APSAC-Dr. Thomas Lyon, 4 Nov 20  
Emerging Issues in the Field of Forensic Interviewing, Crimes Against Children Conference, 10 Aug 20  
Principles of Child and Adolescent Developments: An Overview for Prosecutors, National District Attorney's Association, 8 Jul 20  
31<sup>st</sup> Annual Crimes Against Children Conference, Dallas, TX, 12 – 15 Aug 19  
Human Trafficking & Certified Missing and Exploited Child Investigator (CMECI) Certification, NAMEC, San Antonio, TX, 16 Jul 19  
Trauma Informed Interviewing – Turning Understanding into Outcomes, EVAWI Webinar, 24 Oct 18  
A Dangerous Defense: “Blackout” in Alcohol Facilitated, Non-Stranger Sexual Assault Cases, EVAWI Webinar, 7 Nov 17  
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children – Child Forensic Interview Clinic, Norfolk, VA, 11 – 15 Sep 2017  
LSI SCAN Statement Analysis, San Antonio, TX, 24 Aug 2017  
Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association Sexual Assault Seminar, San Antonio, TX, 1 – 2 Dec 2016  
End Violence Against Women International, International Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Engaging Men & Boys, Washington, D.C., 22 – 24 Mar 2016  
NamUS: The Results of Forensic Collaboration, Orlando, FL, 16 Feb 2015  
Law Enforcement Background Investigations (3031-TMPA), San Antonio, TX, 14 – 15 Jan 2014  
Leadership Challenge Forum, FLETC, Glynco, GA, 16-26 Sep 2013  
Cold Case Analysis Training for Law Enforcement & Prosecutors, VCPI, San Antonio, TX, 22 – 23 May 2012  
Meeting the Consent Defense, Ft Sam Houston, Texas, 27 Apr 2012  
Advanced Child Abuse Investigation (53264-TMPA), San Antonio, TX, 7 – 9 Nov 2011  
Bexar Co. Medical Examiner's Office Medical Death Trng Program, San Antonio, TX, 3 – 4 Nov 2011  
Basic Police Instructor Course, Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy, San Antonio, TX, 17 – 21 Oct 2011  
Introduction to Expert Witness Testimony, Chicago, IL, 22 Feb 2011  
FBI Violent Crime Behavioral Analysis Seminar, San Antonio, TX, 16 – 18 Mar 2010  
Finding the Needle in the Haystack: Improving the Toxicological Investigation of Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assaults and Other Crimes, San Antonio, TX, 20 Feb 2007  
Shooting Reconstruction, New Orleans, LA, 22 Feb 2005  
Anatomical, Pathological, and Physiological Foundations of Toxicity, New Orleans, LA, 21 Feb 2005  
Advanced Deployment Operations Course, Ft Dix, NJ, 16 Aug – 24 Sep 2004  
Advanced Explosives Investigative Training, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Ft AP Hill, VA, 21 Jun – 2 Jul 2004  
Special Agent Laboratory Training Course, United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, Forest Park, GA, 7 – 11 Jun 2004  
Grisly Business: An Examination of the Modus Operandi and Signature Characteristics of Killers and Their Crime Scenes, Dallas, TX, 17 Feb 2004  
Forensic Science, Evidence Based Medicine, and the “Shaken Baby Syndrome,” Dallas, TX, 16 Feb 2004  
Forensic Entomology Workshop, Dallas, TX, 14 – 15 Feb 2004

Forensic Mapping, NJC & Associates, Inc, San Antonio, TX, 9 – 12 Feb 2004  
Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop, Metropolitan Police Institute, Miami, FL, 8 – 12 Dec 2003  
Interdisciplinary Assessment of Suspected Child Maltreatment, Armed Forces Center for Child Protection, Yokosuka NAS, Japan, 18 – 20 Nov 2003  
Murder and Mayhem Via the Home Computer, Chicago, IL, 20 Feb 2003  
Understanding the Patterns and Motives of Violent Sexual Offenders, Chicago, IL, 18 Feb 2003  
Child Forensic Interviews, Andrews AFB, MD, 14 – 17 Jan 2003  
Basic Pathology Course, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Rockville, MD, Nov 2002  
Counterintelligence Force Protection Operations Workshop, Andrews AFB, MD, 10 – 14 Jan 2000  
Detachment Commander's/Special Agent-in-Charge Workshop, Andrews AFB, MD, 21 – 29 Jul 1999  
Advanced Special Investigators' Course, Andrews AFB, MD, 1 – 12 Jun 1998  
Advanced Course on the Reid Technique of Interviewing & Interrogation, AAFB, MD, 10 – 11 Jun 1998  
Practical Homicide Investigation, Harrisburg, PA, 15 – 17 Sep 1997  
Top Gun, New Jersey Narcotics Task Force, Sea Girt, NJ, 22 – 29 Apr 1997  
Survey of the Forensic Sciences Training Workshop, Andrews AFB, MD, 21 – 25 Apr 1997  
The Reid Technique of Interviewing and Interrogation, Andrews AFB, MD, 28 – 30 Oct 1996

## MILITARY SCHOOLS

US Air Force Air War College (correspondence), completed 24 Feb 2016  
US Air Force Air Command and Staff College (correspondence), completed 29 Feb 2012  
US Air Force Squadron Officers School, Maxwell AFB, AL, 6 September – 13 Oct 2001  
Lieutenants' Professional Development Program, Andrews AFB, MD, 12 – 16 May 1997  
US Air Force Special Investigations Academy, Andrews AFB, MD, 23 September – 13 Dec 1996

## FELLOWSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS

Fellowship in Forensic Medicine, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, Rockville, MD, Aug 2002 – Jul 2003  
Internship, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, Chicago, IL, 6 – 18 Jul 2003  
Internship, Baltimore County Medical Examiner's Office, Baltimore, MD, Oct 2002 – Jun 2003

## PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Anatomy of a Child Sexual Assault Case, San Antonio, TX, 20 Jul 2019  
Wrongful Death Investigations, Lake Conroe, TX, 24 Aug 2018  
Crimes Against Children Investigations, Lake Conroe, TX, 24 Aug 2018  
Forensics in Sexual Assault Investigations, San Antonio, TX, 28 Aug 2015  
Forensic Sciences for the Private Investigator, Austin, TX, 4 Sep 2014  
Advances in the Investigation and Prosecution of Sexual Assault Allegations, Seattle, WA, 18 Feb 2014  
Insect Succession in Pig Carcasses in Two Regions of Japan Where US Military is Present, San Antonio, TX, 22 Feb 2007  
Child Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assaults: A Medico-legal Perspective, Fredericksburg, VA, 1 Sep 2006  
Child Abuse Investigations, Yokota AB, Japan, 16 Jan 2004  
Post Blast Investigations, Japanese Air Self Defense Force, Yokota AB, Japan, 6 Jan 2004  
Hair Collection for Drug Testing, Yokota AB, Japan, 5 Dec 2003  
Investigating Child Abuse & Conducting Child Interviews, Yokota AB, Japan, 5 Nov 2003  
First Responder Training for Crime Scenes, Pacific Region, 2003 – 2006  
Child Abuse Investigations and Injury Recognition for Medical Personnel, Pacific Region, 2003 – 2006  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Training, Pacific Region, 2004 – 2006

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), Member since 2001

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), Member since 2003

Awarded Fellow status February 2011

Elected to Board of Directors February 2020 – present

Elected to Executive Committee February 2020 – present

Director, General Section, February 2020-present

Forensic Science Foundation

Trustee 2013 – 2021

Vice Chair 2016 – 2020

Chair 2020 – 2021

Association of Former OSI Agents, Member since 2010

International Association for Identification, Member since 2011

Texas Association of Licensed Investigators, Member since 2014

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Member since 2015