

## **Winning Courtroom Confrontations**

Jackson Federal Building

915 Second Avenue, Fourth Floor North Auditorium, Seattle, Washington

January 31, 2006, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### **Instructor Methodology**

Emphasizing scenario-based training, this course puts participants “on the stand” in realistic courtroom situations while also engaging them as “jurors” or “judges” in evaluating how fellow participants testify.

### **Course Objectives**

Using instructor’s demonstrations, audio-visual aids, courtroom scenario-based training, interactive discussion and training manual, participants will master techniques of effective courtroom testimony while being challenged, inspired and entertained.

#### **Mastery skill areas include:**

- .. The impact of attitude and beliefs on courtroom testimony;
- .. Guidelines for judging witness credibility;
- .. Writing a report that anticipates winning courtroom testimony;
- .. How to prepare the government’s attorney;
- .. Winning direct examination techniques;
- .. Taking the opposing counsel by storm;
- .. Winning at cross examination;
- .. Rules of evidence that govern witness testimony.

Upon course completion, participants will be prepared to win their courtroom confrontations. Participants will retain training materials for their continued use.

#### **Registration**

[www.trainex.org](http://www.trainex.org)

#### **Contact**

Diane Ruthruff (206) 553-5139 or [ruthruff.diane@epa.gov](mailto:ruthruff.diane@epa.gov)

#### **Facility Map**

<http://lostinseattle.com/LIS/-imagemaps/c-detail18-15.shtml>

## **Instructor Vitae**

### **VALERIE VAN BROCKLIN**

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### **OBJECTIVES**

Provide challenging, supportive, interactive training to law enforcement, attorney, victim advocate, child protective services, community, corporate and student groups on criminal justice, investigation, prosecution, ethics, leadership and motivational topics.

### **QUALIFIED BY**

An undergraduate degree in education and an adult education teaching career.  
A doctorate in law and over 10 years as a state and federal prosecutor.  
A proven mastery of effective legal and educational writing styles.  
A proven dynamic teaching style that commands involvement, learning, growth and fun.  
A proven ability to communicate effectively across diverse cultural, socio-economic, professional, gender, and age groups.

### **EXPERIENCE**

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR, Alaska (1997 – present)  
Hired, based on past exemplary evaluations, to instruct law enforcement recruits at Department of Public Safety Academy in spring and fall academies. Subjects include: Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Laws of Probable Cause and Arrest,, Criminal Code, Criminal Complaints, Evidence, Courtroom Testimony, and Role of the Prosecutor and Defense Attorney.

ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY, Alaska (1994-1996)  
Actively recruited by U.S. Attorney for achievements in complex prosecutions and training reputation. Provided prosecution support to federal criminal investigations. Screened, indicted and successfully tried felony cases. Received FBI commendation for trial work. Researched, wrote and argued legal motions and briefs. Trained and developed widely disseminated instructional materials for federal, state, and municipal law enforcement. Presenter to other professional and community groups.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, Alaska (1989-1994)  
Actively recruited by Chief of state Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals where mastered advanced research, writing and oral argument skills before higher courts. Appointed Special Prosecutor with statewide responsibility for cases requiring special joint investigative and prosecution efforts. Trained and developed widely disseminated instructional materials for state, municipal and federal law enforcement. Frequent presenter to other groups. Worked with Eskimo and Indian populations.

## **EXPERIENCE Continued**

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, Alaska (1985-1989)  
Recruited by District Attorney. Prosecution trial practice with emphasis in adult and child sexual assault prosecutions. Began training and developing instructional materials for law enforcement in this specialty. Began presenting to community and professional groups on an expanded range of requested topics. Worked with Eskimo and Indian populations.

JUDICIAL LAW CLERK, New Hampshire (1984-1985)  
Trial support to judges; researched and wrote legal memoranda and draft judicial opinions.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (Rehabilitation Facility), New Mexico (1978-1981)  
Developed educational, vocational and life-skills training curricula for adults with disabilities. Trained, supervised and evaluated instructional staff. Wrote successful government grants and ensured grant compliance. Wrote model service delivery program for State Developmental Disabilities Bureau. Majority of client population was Hispanic and Native American for whom English was a second language.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM MANAGER, Virginia (1976-1978)  
Mastered and applied Adult Learning Theories as manager of community residential training program for disabled adults. Developed and implemented educational and life-skills training curricula. Supervised staff, volunteers and student interns. Coordinated other community support services as part of multi-disciplinary team.

## **EDUCATION**

Juris Doctorate, University of Virginia (1981-1984)  
Cocurriculars: University prelaw advisor; women's intramural soccer; Legal Aid Society intern representing indigent clients.

Bachelor of Science in Education, University of Virginia (1972-1976)  
GPA in Education major 4.0; cumulative GPA 3.86, Dean's List all semesters.  
Cocurriculars: Volunteer laborer for non-profit organization renovating low-income housing; volunteer at Association for Retarded Citizens Adult Education Center.

## **PRESENTATIONS/TRAININGS**

### Winning Courtroom Confrontations -- How to Be an Effective Witness

- ◆ Alaska Dep't. of Public Safety Training Academy, AK.
- ◆ Oregon State Marine Board, OR.
- ◆ Sioux City Regional Training Center, IA, SD, NE.
- ◆ Children's Justice Center, UT.
- ◆ Alaska Scientific Crime Laboratory, AK..
- ◆ Dep't. of Corrections, AK.
- ◆ Alaska Peace Officer's Association, AK.
- ◆ Oregon Child Abuse Summit, OR.
- ◆ Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, GA.
- ◆ Environmental Protection Agency, WA.
- ◆ Sexual Assault Response Team Conference, AK.
- ◆ FBI Laboratory Examiners, Washington, D.C.

- ◆ Stand Together Against Rape Conference, AK.
- ◆ Alaska Arson Investigators Association, AK.
- ◆ Oregon Dep't. of Public Safety & Standards, Pendleton & Medford, OR.
- ◆ Illinois Law & Justice Commission, IL.
- ◆ Deputies Association of Michigan, MI.
- ◆ Oregon Police Corps, OR.
- ◆ Oregon State Police & DOJ Fraud Conference, OR.
- ◆ Harrison County Child Abuse Task Force, TX.
- ◆ International Association of Arson Investigators, OR.
- ◆ Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, WI.
- ◆ Las Vegas Metro Police Dept., NV.
- ◆ Oregon DUII Conference, OR.
- ◆ Oregon Narcotics Enforcement Officers, OR.
- ◆ American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers, AK, NY.
- ◆ Oregon State Police, OR.
- ◆ Alaska Police Standards Council, AK.
- ◆ Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College, MN.
- ◆ SCAR/Mt. Jasper Child Abuse Convention, OR.
- ◆ Illinois Women in Law Enforcement, IL.
- ◆ Oregon Bureau of Public Safety and Standards Training, OR.
- ◆ East Central Illinois Police Training Project, IL.
- ◆ Law Enforcement Television Network (LETN), TX.
- ◆ AK Dept. of Corrections Training Academies, AK.
- ◆ Juneau Police, Fire & Probation Depts. & Women's Shelter, AK.
- ◆ AK Dept. Public Safety, Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, AK.
- ◆ Ketchikan Police, Fire & Probation Depts. & Women's Shelter, AK.
- ◆ U.S. Atty's & District Atty's, FBI, Anchorage PD, AK Troopers, AK.
- ◆ Advanced Criminal Investigation Training, AK Peace Officers Assoc., AK.

How to Get Your Criminal Case Prosecuted, National Marine Fisheries Service, OR.

Investigating & Prosecuting White Collar Crime, FBI Academy Seminar, AK.

How to Win with the Evidence You've Got; Demonstrative Evidence & Audio-Visual Aids in the Courtroom, Alaska Bar Assoc. CLE, AK.

## **CERTIFICATES/LICENSES**

Alaska Police Standards Council Certified Instructor  
Private Pilot License – Single Engine Land & Seaplane ratings

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

Alaska Bar Association  
American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers  
Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association

