

# **PSYCHIC CRIMINOLOGY**

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Second Edition

# PSYCHIC CRIMINOLOGY

## A Guide For Using Psychics In Investigations

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*For all those investigators and psychics who gave us  
their trust and shared their experiences.*

*and to*

*Ray Worring (1932–1998) without whose inspiration and research  
this book would not have been written.*



## PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

Much has happened in the field of psychic criminology since the publication of the first edition of this book twenty years ago, so a second edition is both timely and necessary. Each chapter has been extensively edited and rewritten with much new and significant material added. Sadly, my original co-author, Ray Worring, died in 1998. Without his contribution, it was necessary to bring a new co-author on board, one with considerable experience in the field. That person is Richard Brennan, who contributed by adding sections on *remote viewing* and case histories presented in a new chapter, **PSI CASE FILES**.

The primary purpose of the first edition was to promote the professional use of psychics as an investigative aid in criminal investigations, both criminal and civil. That purpose remains the same. The intent of this book is not to be a critical appraisal; that has been done comprehensively elsewhere, most notably in the highly recommended *The Blue Sense: Psychic Detectives and Crime*, which also is a careful and well-documented look at the many pitfalls of working with psychic sleuths. The first edition was criticized in some quarters for being overly sympathetic and uncritical about the role of psychics in criminal investigations. This criticism has been addressed in this edition by double-checking all our sources and anecdotes, omitting those that are suspect, and adding much new documented material. However, the book remains unapologetically supportive of the use of psychics as investigative aides, as long as they are used in a disciplined, efficient, and professional manner. Persuaded by the scientific evidence from parapsychology, as well as several decades of personal experience in the field, the authors remain convinced of the usefulness of psychic criminology.

Apollo astronaut and consciousness researcher Edgar Mitchell predicted in 1974 that “the production of psi will be understood and har-

nessed in the same way we presently use electricity and magnetism,” and that one future use will be “law enforcement agencies solving crimes and locating missing persons through psychic channels.” Although psi has yet to be understood and harnessed, Mitchell’s second prediction has come to pass, as we hope to demonstrate in this edition.

W.S.H.



## PREFACE

During the past five years the authors have worked intimately with literally dozens of psychics and law enforcement agencies in an effort to examine the feasibility of using psychics as an investigative adjunct. During this period the idea of writing a book on the subject never occurred to us. In fact, many psychics required as a prerequisite to our working with them that we not do so with the motive of publishing. For the most part they also demanded confidentiality. Similarly, all the law enforcement agencies also requested that it not be revealed that they were using psychics. We eventually came to the realization, however, that there was a tremendous need for a comprehensive guide on how to properly use psychics in investigations. We, therefore, have not included any names of psychics (except those already wellknown), law enforcement agencies, or investigators without permission.

All the stories included here are true and, unless otherwise specified, were experienced by us or investigators known to us personally. In a few instances, some minor details have been changed to protect the sources, but the essence remains the same. All the stories were reconstructed from notes or memory, so if there are any errors, the authors request the understanding of the parties directly involved.

For ease of reading and considering that this is not a scholarly text but a practical operations manual, there will be no literary citations. All facts, theories, and studies referred to, however, can be found in the sources listed in the bibliography. A glossary has been included for the reader unfamiliar with parapsychological terminology, and an index is provided for easy reference.

W.S.H.  
R.W.W.



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# **PSYCHIC CRIMINOLOGY**





## Chapter 1

# PSYCHIC CRIMINOLOGY: THE STATE OF THE ART

Faced with the ever-mounting problem of crime, law enforcement and criminal justice professionals are examining and using innovative investigative tools. These tools range from the development of sophisticated laboratory techniques in criminalistics, to the use of hypnosis with volunteer victims of and witnesses to crimes, to information obtained from psychics.<sup>1</sup>

In an examination of innovative crime control techniques and investigative procedures conducted from 1978 to 1980, involving thousands of miles of travel throughout the western United States and Canada, visiting dozens of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, the authors (WH & RW)<sup>2</sup> found that most agencies have used the services of psychics as an adjunct to traditional investigative procedures. More recently this experience has been confirmed by the new co-author, consulting criminologist Richard Brennan.

The initial contact with a psychic commonly takes the form of a psychic calling the local police department or sheriff's office with information on a current serious case. The well-intentioned psychic usually does not have a personal contact within the department and ends up talking to an unsympathetic detective. The resulting encounter often proves to be awkward for both. In the first place, it is not easy for a psychic to approach the authorities for fear of being thought a crackpot—or even a suspect—if the information proves accurate. After all, up to 1951, mediums in England were legally classed as

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<sup>1</sup>The reader is referred to Chapter 3 and the Glossary for definitions and explanations of unusual, new, or technical terms.

<sup>2</sup>Only where necessary for clarification will the specific authors be designated.

“rogues and vagabonds” and were subject to prosecution. On the other side, law enforcement officers—often skeptical by nature and suspicious by training—are similarly hesitant when approached by psychics, because they usually (a) do not know with whom they are dealing, (b) do not believe in psychic abilities, (c) believe that they do not need the help of psychics, or (d) won’t want to commit resources to follow up information that may not be substantive. Even if the investigator is predisposed to accepting psychically obtained information as worth a follow-up investigation, he or she may have difficulty justifying the necessary man-hours to superiors. Then, of course, there is always the fear of adverse publicity. According to Captain Charles Hensley (ret.) of the Billings, Montana, Police Department, many law enforcement agencies consult with psychics but “most do not admit it because if the public or press found out, they’d think we were nuts.”

Many law enforcement agencies first encounter the realm of the psychic when they have exhausted all leads and investigative techniques on a major case that has the public’s attention. As a last resort the department, usually through the suggestion of an interested detective, will take the initiative and approach a psychic, whether a famous one who is in the media or a local person known to someone in the department. This is exactly what happened to Capt. Keith Wolverton (ret.) twenty-seven years ago when he contacted Harold Sherman, a famous psychic and author, on a dead-end case. Wolverton was sufficiently impressed that “From that time on, I have contributed much of my time working with psychics, attempting to develop an understanding of how they work and how to utilize their information in my investigations” (Wolverton’s story is related in Chapter 6: PSI CASE FILES).

In other situations a law enforcement agency may be compelled to cooperate with a psychic. For example, the family of a crime victim or missing person may contact a well-known psychic and even pay for an on-site psychic reading or investigation. This is precisely what happened in the John Wayne Gacy serial murder case in Illinois. The family of one of the victims requested that the police department bring in nationally known psychic detective Dorothy Allison (now deceased) to work on the case at the family’s expense.

It is also not unknown for a psychic to march into a detective’s office to offer intimate and accurate details of some unsolved case, thus launching a long-term working relationship. This happened to

Det. Sgt. Richard Keaton of the Marin County Sheriff's Office. One day a total stranger visited him in his office, introduced herself as Annette Martin (profiled in Chapter 2 and Chapter 6), and proceeded to describe minute details of an unsolved crime that only Keaton was privy to. This began a several decades professional relationship of working on criminal cases.

Whatever form the contact with psychics first takes, it is too often a frustrating experience for both officer and psychic. This is because the officer generally does not know how to deal with the psychic because there is no departmental program or guidelines for their use. Similarly, the psychic does not generally know how to deal with law enforcement personnel and often is frustrated in the attempt. All too frequently, the initial encounter is the first and last between a skeptical officer and an untested psychic. If the information obtained proves incorrect, the officer may self-justifiably exclaim that he or she knew it wouldn't work anyway. Or, if the information proves correct, the officer may dismissively consider it a coincidence or a lucky guess.

There are yet law enforcement agencies whose exposure to the paranormal comes through one of their own sworn personnel. Most departments have one particular officer whose intuition, hunches, and gut feelings seem to be uncannily accurate, whether it's the patrol officer who always seems to be in the right place at the right time or the detective whose hunches prove consistently accurate. For example, one Montana policeman averages two burglaries in progress per year, whereas the national average is one per career per officer. One evening in Missoula, Montana, a detective on patrol casually remarked that he felt that the Super America on Orange Street was going to be hit that night—a risky prediction, considering the low incidence of robberies in this small western town. A half hour later it was robbed! Other officers occasionally have staked out buildings or followed vehicles on gut feelings to be proven correct by foiling criminal activity in progress.

In another incident in Montana, a police officer on night shift told his partner about a dream he had the night before in which he responded to a disturbance call involving weapons in a particular area of town. Once in the house (in the dream), the officer walked down the stairs to the basement, whereupon he woke up. Later that night the officer and his partner were dispatched to a disturbance involving weapons in the area of town indicated in the dream. The officer fol-

lowed his partner down the stairs to the basement when his partner's riot gun accidentally discharged, hitting the officer in the head and killing him instantly. It was discovered later that the dead officer's wife had urged him not to go on patrol that night, because she felt that something bad was going to happen. She also said that her husband had not wanted to go to work either and had kissed her goodbye as if for the last time. Another patrol officer on the same shift later said that he had had a strong gut feeling that same day, for no discernible reason, that it would be a bad night.

An investigator for a rural fire department was at the scene of a motorcycle accident in which the cyclist's neck was broken. The investigator was holding the victim's head steady until the ambulance arrived. As he was doing so, he felt a hand on his shoulder. He turned his head around to see who was there and to his surprise no one was there. He shrugged it off and went back to applying a steady tension on the victim's neck. He then felt a tapping on his shoulder. He turned, and again no one was there. Feeling uneasy, he looked up behind him and saw a misty shape, and it struck him that it was the victim's "spirit". The victim died shortly thereafter in the hospital.

The same investigator was applying CPR to an older woman. He definitely heard her say, even though she was DOA, "Please stop." He had the distinct impression that she was trying to tell him to stop because she wanted to die. He continued CPR only to again hear her say, "Please stop." This so startled him that he stopped.

An off-duty Great Falls, Montana, city police officer was sitting with a friend in a mobile home in a large trailer court. Suddenly he saw or sensed—he wasn't quite sure which—two "spirits" fly past him, although he had never experienced anything of this nature before. He dismissed the event until he learned the next day that there was a homicide-suicide at the same time of his experience at the far end of that trailer court.

Over an eight-year period (1975–1983) the authors (WH and RW) were involved intimately with law enforcement and criminal justice personnel in the capacity of developing and implementing special innovative crime control programs. During this period, we spent a great deal of our own time examining the feasibility and effectiveness of using psychics as an investigative aid. Considerable time and effort went into identifying and recruiting potential psychics, testing their abilities, developing techniques of psychic investigation, following up

leads obtained, and evaluating their effectiveness. We were sufficiently impressed with our experiences to encourage the further use and testing of psychics in investigation and to outline some general procedures for their use. It is the purpose of this book to serve as a basic guide to be used by any interested law enforcement or criminal justice agency or individual investigator who wishes to use psychics in investigations, whether criminal or civil. When recruited, tested, and used properly, psychics have proven to be of substantial value to investigators. The authors' experience supports the research of Dr. Richard Broughton, a prominent parapsychologist and research director of the Institute for Parapsychology in Durham, North Carolina:

There is already a collection of cases in which a psychic *has* definitely helped investigations. Psychics have led police to bodies or have described locations so accurately that police could find them. Psychics have saved precious time in locating lost children and uncovered vital clues in criminal investigations. In a few cases psychics were able to describe a suspect or lead police to him, whereupon traditional methods completed the investigation. For many of these cases sworn law officers have stated that the case *would not have been solved without the psychic's help.*

When psychics are used incorrectly, however, the results are usually disappointing. It is the authors' belief that properly tested psychics should be used as an ongoing volunteer resource and not only as a last resort (which is too often the case). It is the intent of this book to provide interested parties with the background understanding and procedures necessary to establish a viable and effective working relationship with reputable psychics. This book should be of value both to the reader who has had experience with psychics or has yet to work with one.

That the time is ripe for such a comprehensive guide for using psychics in criminal investigations is evidenced by:

1. The high level of interest encountered by the authors around the country.
2. The increasing use by law enforcement officers and victims' families of established psychic sleuths (like Annette Martin, Nancy Czetli, Bill Ward, and Philip Jordon), and use of groups of psychics, such as the U.S. PSI Squad.
3. The recent interest in *remote viewing*, which has been developed by the U.S. government.

4. The formation of nonprofit groups and organizations composed of former law enforcement personnel and psychics dedicated to promoting the use of psychics in investigation.
5. The appearance of numerous television specials and popular books on psychic crime detection.
6. The teaching of seminars to law enforcement personnel on how to develop their own ESP skills.
7. The conducting of several studies on the effectiveness of psychics in major crime investigations, including two by the Los Angeles Police Department.
8. The publication of several articles on the subject in professional law enforcement journals and criminal justice texts.
9. The founding of the Psychic Sleuths Project in 1980, whose purpose is to serve as an international clearinghouse for data on the use of psychics by police (which as of this writing has data on 350 psychics who have worked with law enforcement agencies and victims' families).<sup>3</sup>

In addition, the general public also seems to be more sympathetic toward the use of psychics by law enforcement agencies, although most agencies opt to keep their work in this area strictly confidential. According to Chief James Basil of the Buckland, Massachusetts Police Department, one of the few police officials to go public on this subject, "A lot of police departments may use psychics, but they will only admit it off the record." Similarly, Chief Anton Graff of the Yorkville, Illinois Police Department says that after he went public with his successful work with a psychic, he was receiving between forty and fifty inquires per year from law enforcement officers from all over the country. "Most were off the record, saying 'Hey Chief, ya know my department can't know that I'm calling, but. . . .'" In all likelihood, increasing public pressure eventually will force law enforcement personnel to use psychics more frequently. This is evidenced by the escalating number of requests for help that psychics receive from victims' families.

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<sup>3</sup> The authors highly encourage law enforcement officers and the psychics who work with them to contact the Psychic Sleuths Project to share their stories, both successes and failures, which will help build its data bank and sharing of information. Write Dr. Marcello Truzzi, Psychic Sleuths Project, Center for Scientific Anomalies Research, 5010 Willis Road, Grass Lake, MI 49240, or telephone at (517) 522-3551.

The current situation is summed up nicely by Karen Henrikson and Chief Kozenczak (ret.), chief investigator on the John Wayne Gacy case, in their article “Still Beyond Belief: The Use of Psychics in Homicide Investigations”: “The world of parapsychology has a great deal to offer. . . . Having once experienced the positive attributes a psychic can lend to a case, parapsychology seems to be a natural companion to the world of criminology.”

One of the purposes of this book is to foster that companionship.