



**MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF
PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS**

Up-Close

January 2026

MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS: 37637 FIVE MILE ROAD, #236, LIVONIA, MI 48154
www.mcpihome.com

MCPI MISSION STATEMENT: The Michigan Council of Professional Investigators (MCPI) is an organizational network of investigators from across the State of Michigan founded on integrity, professionalism, and high industry standards. Our organization will strive to provide investigators with education, legislative support, business opportunities, and synergistic forums to gather and exchange ideas. The MCPI members maintain the highest standard of this and confi-

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MCPI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - January 2026

by Wayne Bisard

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the new President of the Michigan Council of Professional Investigators. I am grateful for the trust placed in me by the membership and deeply respectful of the leadership and dedication shown by our past president, whose shoes I will work hard to fill. MCPI has a strong foundation, and I am proud to build upon the work that has already been accomplished.

Over the next two years, my primary goals include updating our by-laws, developing a stronger and more modern code of ethics, working toward the creation of a legal shield-type program for our members, and establishing a board-certified credentialing process for MCPI members. These goals are ambitious, but I am confident that by working together as an Association, we can achieve them and continue to strengthen the professionalism and reputation of our organization.

I remain fully committed to transparency and accountability within the Board. MCPI does not belong to the Board—it belongs to the members. I encourage every member to reach out to me at any time with questions, concerns, or ideas on how we can continue to improve our Association. Together, we will move MCPI forward in a positive and meaningful way.

-Wayne Bisard, MCPI President

FEATURED SLEUTH: Brian Peebles

by Russ Rheume



Brian Peebles is our current featured Sleuth. Brian was born in Muskegon and graduated from Ravenna Jr./Sr. High School and then from Grand Valley State University in 2006, with a BA in International Relations & Middle Eastern Studies. He furthered his education by studying Arabic at the University of Jordan in Amman, Jordan in 2007.

In 2010, Brian started his law enforcement career with the U.S. Border Patrol. His first duty station was in the El Paso, Texas Sector, but he served most of his 11 years at the Marysville Station in Port Huron, Michigan. He also became a Border Patrol chaplain in 2014. During his Border Patrol career, he served for 2.5 years on a Michigan State Police drug task force. He also served for 2 years on Border Patrol's surveillance and criminal apprehension unit.

In 2021, Brian's law enforcement career ended when he chose to join an international non-profit organization combating slavery and human trafficking. Brian, along with his wife and two children, served with the International Justice Mission in Bucharest, Romania for one year as a security manager and investigator.

Russia invaded Ukraine while Brian was in Romania and his work shifted to the refugee crisis along the border of Ukraine and Romania. Brian worked with numerous Non-Governmental Organizations in various capacities during that time.

Upon returning to Michigan in 2022, Brian obtained his PI license and launched Vantage Point Investigations in St. Clair and Macomb Counties. Brian has worked

FEATURED SLEUTH, Brian Peebles

by Russ Rheume

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on a variety of family law cases for private clients but has developed a passion and specialty in criminal defense investigations.

Brian joined MCPI at the same time he obtained his license. Networking and relationships that he has built through MCPI have been instrumental in the success that Vantage Point has experienced. Brian chose to give back to MCPI and serve the investigative industry by becoming an MCPI board member in 2024.

Brian is a board-certified Criminal Defense Investigator (CDITC) and FTER Certified Forensic Interviewer (CDITC). He is a member of NALI, CDAM, NLADA, and NAPPS, as well as a member of the Blue Water Chamber of Commerce.

Brian resides in Columbus, Michigan with his wife and two kids; where they stay busy with camping, traveling, hunting, fishing, karate, church, and Trail Life USA.

Brian is definitely an asset to the MCPI. Please reach out to him if you need any guidance in this area of expertise, or if you need any assistance with files in St. Clair and Macomb County.

In Memory of Russ Rheume:

Russ Rheume was a long time MCPI Member, Board Member, contributor, friend, and mentor to many of us at MCPI. We are sad to report his passing in late 2025. For many years after his retirement, Russ remained dedicated to MCPI by authoring the Featured Sleuth articles for our Newsletter. His article above featuring Brain Peebles was his last. His commitment and contributions to MCPI will be missed. His Legacy at MCPI will live on, as Zachary Pena will take over as the author for upcoming Featured Sleuth Articles.

2026 MCPI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Wayne Bisard
Wayne Bisard Investigations
517-917-0718
Wbisard@Wbipi.org

TREASURER

Sue Hardesty
Hardesty Private Investigations
248-379-5741
Sue@Hardestypi.com

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Zachary Pena
Ridgeback Investigations
313-335-1439
Zpena@ridgebackinvestigations.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Brian Peebles
Vantage Point Investigations
586-207-7774
brian@vpinvestigations.com

SECRETARY

Jim Kelly
Subrosa Investigations
734-777-1288
jkelly@subrosapi.com

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

Susan Luthy
Kakamazoo Defender
269-250-5035
sluthy@kalamazoodefender.org

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

Tyler Adams
Adams Risk Management Group
269-231-3911
armgroupmi@gmail.com

WELCOME to our newest Members:

Dan Frattura, Ronal Beggs,
Harry Kirk, Michael Ciesliga,
Bridget Smith, Robert Beyerlein,
William McCurdy,
and Joseph Monticello

Please reach out and welcome them to MCPI !!

2026 MCPI LISTSERV RULES & GUIDELINES:

One of the great benefits for MCPI Members has been our listserv. Every month we see outstanding communication, networking, shared ideas, help with locating experts, and referrals to cases around the State. This service provides us with an opportunity to meet and work with other PI's who we may not have previously known, to support each other, and to share our knowledge and experiences. As we continue to interact and support each other through the listserv, please also remember the importance of our listserv Rules and Guidelines:

This listserv is owned by MCPI and is a privilege to its members. Posts are not moderated and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or endorsement of MCPI. Please follow these rules:

- The listserv shall only be utilized by current MCPI members, in good standing.
 - The listserv may only be used as a means for discussion, networking, Q&A, and/or to otherwise further professional development within the professional investigation industry.
 - No reposting of other member's messages without their approval.
 - No flaming, profanity, obscenity, blatant advertising or libelous comments will be tolerated.
 - No personal attacks of any kind are allowed.
 - An identifying email signature is required on all posts.
 - Posts to this listserv are to concern areas of interest to MCPI and/or the field of professional investigators (PIs). This list is professional and business oriented.
 - No use of this listserv to address disputes with a member, non-member, or the MCPI.
 - No disseminating of messages from, or on behalf of, those that have been removed from the listserv or those that are not current MCPI members.
- **Any violation of these rules could result in a suspension or removal from the listserv and/or MCPI. Disciplinary Action for offenders will be acted upon at the discretion of the MCPI Board of Directors.**

Thank you for your support of MCPI!

Save the Dates:

Thursday, February 12, 2026—5:00 to 8:00 PM

MPCI Dinner and Networking

Speaker: Gary Latham, Kalamazoo Public Safety (retired)

Topic: “Connecting the Dots” - Understanding and use of shooting scene evidence to unlock your investigations.

Location: **Louie’s Trophy House, 629 Walbridge, Kalamazoo**

Thursday, May 14, 2026—5:00 to 8:00 PM

MCPI Dinner and Networking

Speaker: Ken Hartman, Lucid Truth Technologies

Topic: “A.I. Powered Investigations and Case Analysis: Practical Techniques for Modern Investigators”

Location: **Traverse City, Michigan**

Thursday, August 14, 2026—5:00 to 8:00 PM

MPCI Dinner and Networking

Speaker: TBD

Topic: TBD

Location: **Troy, Michigan**

Thursday-Friday, September 10 and 11, 2026

MCPI Fall Conference

September 10, 2026 **FULL DAY** 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

September 11, 2026 **HALF DAY** 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Location: **TBD**

Save the Dates (page 2):

Thursday, November 5, 2026—5:00 to 8:00 PM

MPCI Dinner and Networking

Speaker: TBD

Topic: TBD

Location: Frankenmuth, Michigan

Register at www.MCPIHOME.com

THANK YOU to our Sponsors:

