



D. STAFFORD
& ASSOCIATES

Title IX Investigator Interviewing Case Study and Simulations (Tier 3)

Presented by DSA Associates:

**Cathy Cocks
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Title IX Investigator
Tier 3 – Interviewing Case Study and Simulation

- Institutional Investigations
- Interviewing Basics
- The D. Stafford & Associates Interview Outline
- Case Study & Simulation



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Adrienne Meador Murray, Vice President, Equity Compliance and Civil Rights Services



In January 2014, Adrienne Meador Murray joined D. Stafford & Associates where she currently serves as the Vice President, Equity Compliance and Civil Rights Services after having been affiliated with D. Stafford & Associates as a part-time Associate since 2012 and the National Association of Clery Compliance Officers & Professionals (NACCOP) where she currently serves as Director of Training and Compliance Activities. Murray began her career in municipal law enforcement as a civilian employee with the City of Richmond Police Department (Virginia). She graduated from the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Training Academy and began her career as a sworn police officer for the University of Richmond (UR) Police Department (Virginia). At UR, Murray progressed through the ranks from a night shift patrol officer to Operations Lieutenant (overseeing criminal investigations, crime prevention and patrol) over the span of a decade before becoming the Chief of Police at Davidson

College in North Carolina. Most recently, Murray served as Chief of Police at Trinity Washington University (in Washington, D.C.).

As the Executive Director, Equity Compliance and Civil Rights Services for DSA, Murray builds on her 17-year career in law enforcement in which she became a nationally recognized expert in the field of best practice postsecondary institutional response to the sexual victimization of college women in the United States and in Canada. She is also a trained civil rights investigator and is well respected throughout the country for her ability to aid institutions in understating how to do best practice criminal and civil rights investigations concurrently. She is well known for her work in having provided support, advocacy and criminal investigative services for victims of sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence and is a sought-out speaker and investigator. She has expertise in the construction of best practice law enforcement standard operating procedures and training police officers to respond in best practice and trauma-informed ways to victims of sexual assault and intimate partner violence. In her current role, Murray coordinates curriculum development and instruction for national classes, including basic and advanced sexual misconduct investigation classes; an investigation of dating violence, domestic violence and stalking class; and a Title IX Coordinator/Investigator class offered through D. Stafford & Associates. To date, Murray has trained more than 3,500 criminal and civil rights investigators throughout the U.S.

Drawing on her experiences as a trained criminal and civil rights investigator, Murray also oversees independent investigations of complex sexual misconduct cases; conducts audits of Title IX/VAWA



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Compliance; drafts institutional sexual misconduct policies and procedures; and conducts campus-based trainings pertaining to the resolution of sexual misconduct offenses on college and university campuses. Murray frequently presents at regional and national conferences on topics such as the *Sexual Victimization of College Women*, *Understanding Consent and Incapacitation*, and *Responding to Sexual Assault on Campus: Clery Act and Title IX Implications*. Murray also conducts provincially specific sexual misconduct trainings throughout Canada.

Murray is a graduate of the University of Richmond, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Applied Studies in Human Resource Management and of New England College, where she received her Master's Degree in Campus Public Safety Administration. Murray is also a graduate of the 235th session of the prestigious FBI National Academy where she was awarded a graduate certificate in Criminal Justice from the University of Virginia. She has authored numerous journal articles.

Catherine Cocks, M.A.
Consultant, Student Affairs, Title IX, and
Equity Compliance Services



Ms. Cocks has been a higher education professional for over thirty years. Her work with D. Stafford & Associates focuses on Title IX investigations and training; assessment of student affairs policies, practices and services; and behavioral threat assessment. Cathy was the Director of Community Standards for the University of Connecticut for 14 years where she managed the student conduct process, which included managing all Title IX cases involving student respondents and chaired the University's student threat assessment team. Prior to that, she held several positions within Residential Life at the University of Connecticut and Roger Williams University.

She is a faculty member for the Association for Student Conduct Administration's (ASCA) Donald D. Gehring Academy teaching on subjects such as ethics, governance, threat assessment, media relations, and higher education trends. She was an affiliated faculty

member for many years in the University of Connecticut's Higher Education and Student Affairs Master's program teaching "The Law, Ethics, and Decision-Making in Student Affairs."

Cathy has co-authored the "Philosophy of Student Conduct" chapter in the 2nd edition of "Student Conduct Practice" (2020) and was a member of the writing team for CAS Standards' Cross-functional Framework for Identifying and Responding to Behavioral Concerns.

Cathy is a Past President of ASCA. She has also served as a Circuit representative, co-chair of the Public Policy and Legislative Issues Committee, and as a member of the ASCA Expectations of Members Task Force. Cathy has served in a variety of leadership roles in NASPA Region I.

She was the 2015 recipient of ASCA's Donald D. Gehring Award. She is a past recipient of the NASPA Region I Mid-Level Student Affairs Professional Award and the NASPA Region I Continuous Service Award.

She earned her Master's degree in Higher Education Administration from the University of Connecticut and Bachelor's degree in Communications/Media from Fitchburg State University.

INVESTIGATION CLASS ACRONYMS

- ASR:** Annual Security Report (often used as a reference to the Annual Security Report and/or the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report) that must be published by each institution of higher education.
- CSA:** Campus Security Authority—Individuals on each campus who have been identified by the Department of Education as persons who are required to report crimes that they become aware of to the Reporting Structure at each institution.
- DCL:** Dear Colleague Letter—this is a formal name of the method of communication from the Department of Education to college campuses. It is like naming their official “memo” to campuses.
- FERPA:** Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act—governs the confidentiality of student records.
- FNE:** Forensic Nurse Examiners
- GO:** General Order—some departments describe their operating procedures as general orders
- HEOA:** Higher Education Opportunity Act—the broader law that contains the Clery Act language and the fire safety and missing person language that is in the law but not contained within the “Clery Act” portion of the law.
- HIPAA:** Health Insurance and Privacy and Portability Act—governs privacy of medical records.
- MOU:** Memorandum of Understanding—an official agreement developed between agencies.
- NIBRS:** National Incident-Based Reporting System. 1 of 2 crime reporting systems developed by the FBI, but not the system that you are required to use for Clery Reporting—the only portion of this system that is used for Clery Act purposes are the 4 forcible and 2 non-forcible sex offense definitions.
- OCR:** Office of Civil Rights—the unit of the Department of Education that oversees Title IX Compliance.
- PD:** Police Department
- PS:** Public Safety
- PNG:** Persona-non-Grata—process used by some campuses not keep students from entering certain areas of the campus or the entire campus (administrative process) versus legal bar notice or trespass warning.
- SACC:** Sexual Assault Crisis Center, also known as Women’s Center.
- SANE:** Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner

SART: Sexual Assault Response Team

SOP: Standard Operating Procedures—some departments describe their operating procedures as Standard Operating Procedures. Some call them General Orders, etc...

SWA: Senior Women's Administrator (Athletics)

TWN: Timely Warning Notice

UCR: Uniformed Crime Report. This is 1 of 2 crime statistics reporting systems developed by the FBI. Institutions are required to use UCR Standards for counting and classifying crimes for reporting the Clery statistics.

VAWA: Violence Against Women Act



TITLE IX

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ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES FOR COMPLETION

To receive a certificate, attendees must attend the majority of the class and have paid class invoice in full. This applies to both in-person classes and virtual classes. We understand that attendees may need to miss class for a legitimate reason for longer periods of time or may need to leave the room during a class for a few minutes to take a phone call or attend to other business. If an attendee misses a significant amount of the class (depending on the length of the class) or they miss an attendance poll, they will not be issued a certificate of completion for the class.

Attendees should report each absence using the online form provided (each class has its own unique form that is sent to all attendees via email prior to class). Attendees should complete the form twice for each absence: once to record their departure, and again to record their return. Attendees should complete the form immediately before leaving class and as soon as practicable upon their return. If an attendee signs out but does not sign back in, they will be marked absent for the remainder of the day.

The criteria for receiving a certificate is determined based on missed class time and participation in the Attendance Polls that will be launched throughout each day of class. Attendance polls are left up for approximately 5 minutes and the instructor notifies the attendees that a poll is being launched to ensure that everyone who is present can respond to the poll. If an attendee is unable to respond to the attendance poll, the attendee would need to **immediately post "I am here"** in the chat feature within the Zoom platform. That way we can give the attendee credit for being in attendance for that specific poll. Notifying us after the attendance poll has been closed will not allow us to give the attendee credit for being in class during the poll.

Some of our classes may qualify for credit toward a Master's Degree at New England College (and regardless if you decide to seek credit or not, accreditation requirements mandate that we follow the same standards for all class attendees), so we have strict attendance standards that we follow for issuance of a certificate. For DSA & NACCOP, issuance of a Certificate of Completion is verification of attendance.



INTERVIEWING SIMULATION



COURSE AGENDA

- Institutional Investigations
- Interviewing Basics
- The D. Stafford & Associates Interview Outline
- Case Study & Simulation

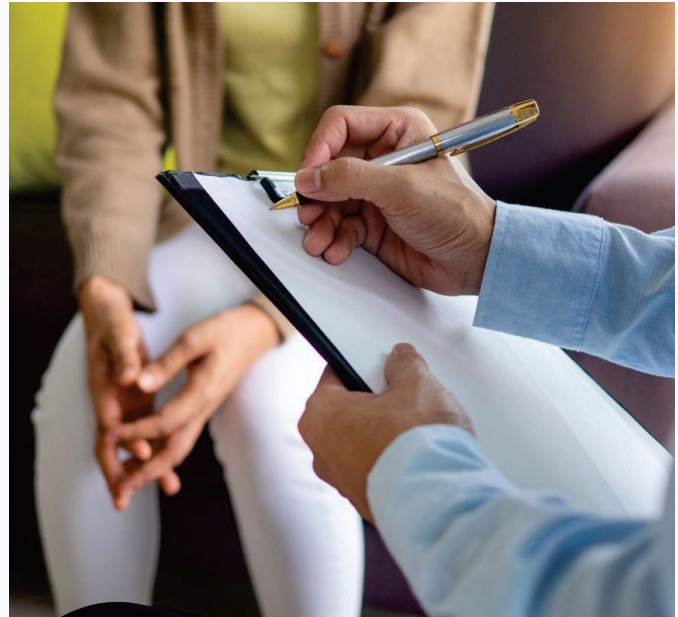
Hopes and Fears

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INSTITUTIONAL INVESTIGATIONS



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ADEQUATE, RELIABLE, & IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION

- Burden is on the institution to conduct the investigation
- Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present fact witnesses and relevant evidence
- Identify what evidence is relevant to the allegations and not otherwise impermissible
- Provide each party with an equal opportunity to access the evidence that is relevant to the allegations and not other impermissible

INVESTIGATION ROAD MAP



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TYPES OF EVIDENCE



Real evidence



Demonstrative



Documentary



Testimonial

INTERVIEWING BASICS



INTERVIEWS



Testimonial Evidence



Conversation



Structured

THE INTERVIEWEES

Complainant

Respondent

Witness

KEYS TO A GREAT INTERVIEW

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PREPARATION

Logistics	Procedures (communication, scheduling)
	Notice documents
	Case file
Research	Policy review
	Preliminary evidence
	Topics of inquiry
Pre-drafted questions	Background
	Narrative
	Case specific

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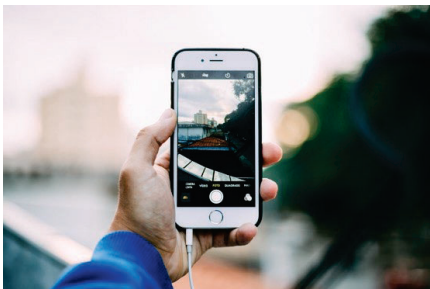
COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT

- The space
- Investigative tools
- Coping items
- Safety measures

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GIVE HELPFUL PROMPTS

Recreate the Scene



Physical Space



Sensory



AVOID SUGGESTIVE LANGUAGE



Don't say: "Which duck did you leave the bar with?"

Say: "The duck you left with may or may not be in this picture, and if you don't think they were present, you should say so."

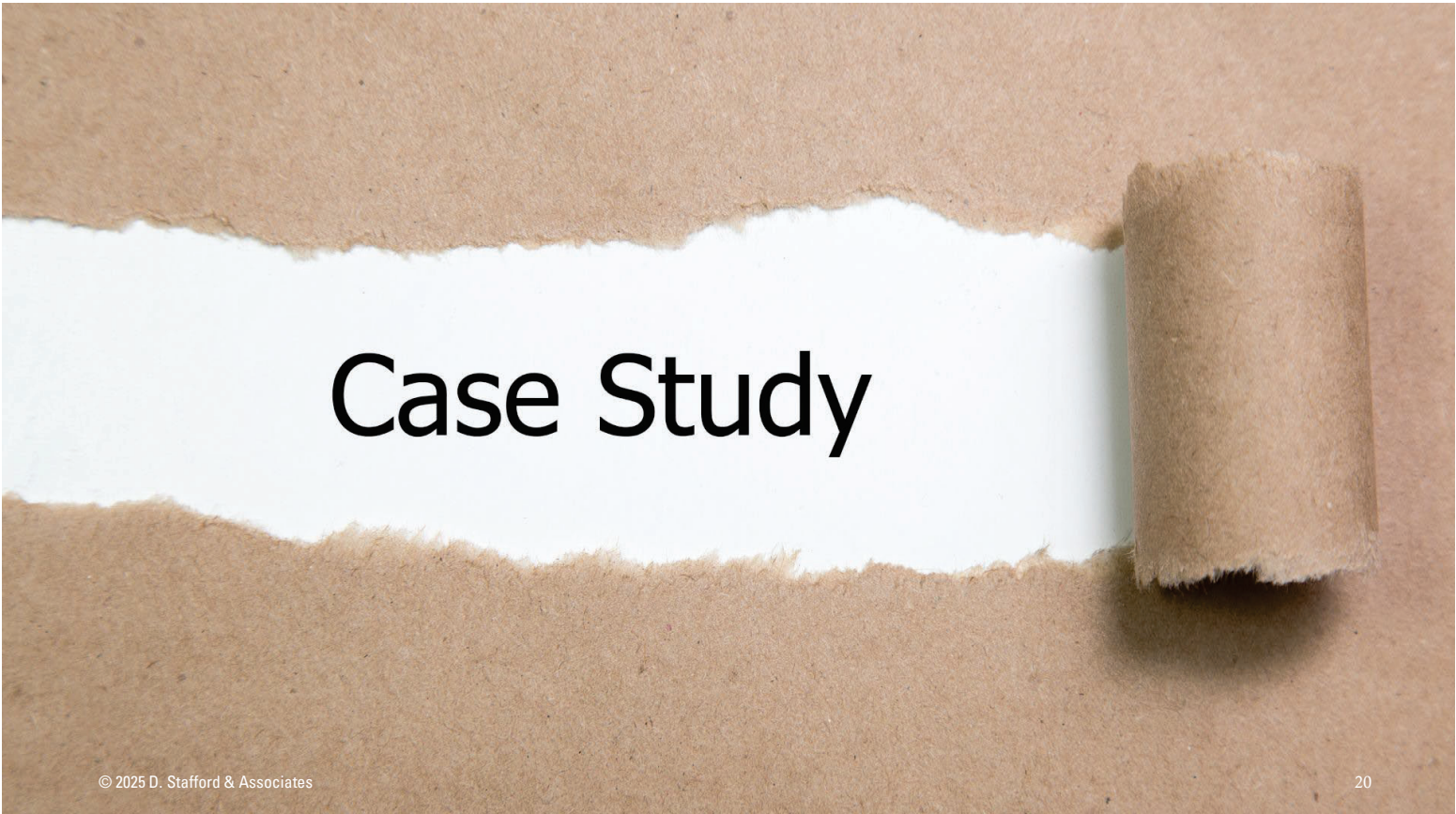


AVOID BAD HABITS

- Interrupting
- Asking two questions at once
- Not listening for the answer
- Avoiding the hard questions
- Not focusing on the elements

BE FULLY PRESENT

- Treat the interviewee ethically and with dignity
- Be non-judgmental and non-adversarial
- Be objective - you are not “making a case” or pushing a theory
- Adjust and adapt



Case Study

THE D. STAFFORD & ASSOCIATES INTERVIEW OUTLINE



THE D. STAFFORD INTERVIEW OUTLINE



Preliminaries

Background

Narrative

Clarification

Case Questions

Closing

Self Evaluation

PRELIMINARIES: You do the talking

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BACKGROUND: Build the rapport

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NARRATIVE: The big question

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CLARIFICATIONS: Filling in the holes

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CASE QUESTIONS: The pre-drafted must asks

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CLOSING: Loose ends

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SELF EVALUATION: How did it go?

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Case Study

OTHER D. STAFFORD TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Title IX Coordinator Track

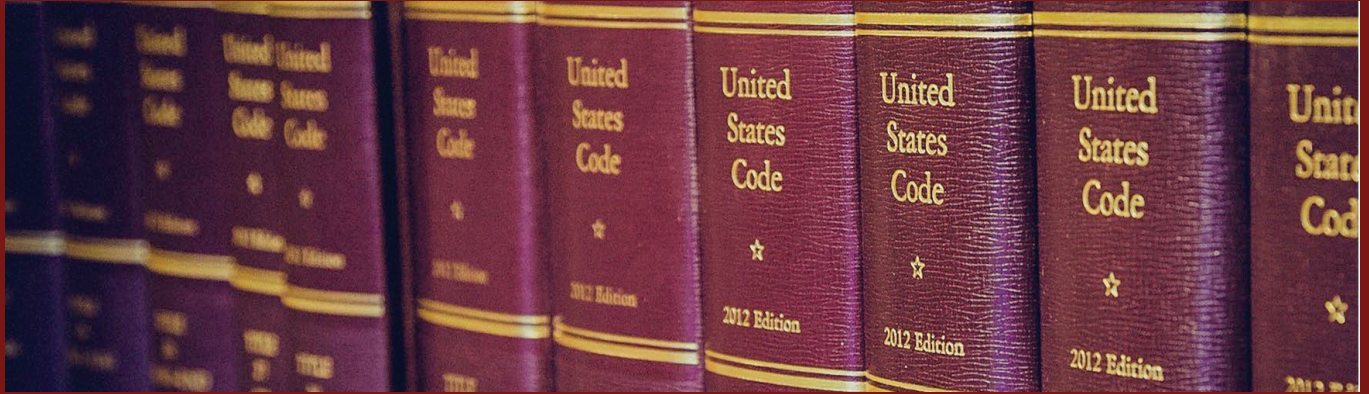
- ☐ Tier 0: Introduction for NEW Title IX Coordinators
- ☐ Tier 1: Law and Policy
- ☐ Tier 2: Sex Discrimination Response
- ☐ Tier 3: Safety & Risk Analyses for Sex-Based Harassment Emergency Removals
- ☐ Tier 4: Title IX for Human Resources Professional
- ☐ Tier 5: Pregnancy or Related Conditions

Investigator Track

- ☐ Tier 1: Sex-Based Harassment Investigations
- ☐ Tier 2: Dating/Domestic Violence and Stalking (DVDVS) Investigations
- ☒ Tier 3: Case Study and Simulation (Interviewing)
- ☐ Tier 4: Statement Analysis
- ☐ Tier 5: Report Writing
- ☐ Tier 6: Technology & Investigations
- ☐ Tier 7: Violence Against Men

Related Offerings

- ☐ Institutional trainings
- ☐ Threat Assessment Teams
- ☐ Clery Compliance
- ☐ Procedural Justice
- ☐ Decisionmakers (www.naccop.org)
- ☐ Appellate Officer (www.naccop.org)
- ☐ Constructing Resolution Processes (www.naccop.org)
- ☐ Title IX Webinars (www.naccop.org)



THANK YOU





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The Alliance is a dedicated affinity group through which Title IX and Equity Professionals, and the practitioners who support and/or supervise them, can benefit from NACCOP's expertise in complying with the Clery Act, Title IX, and other civil rights laws that affect their work.

BENEFITS OF JOINING THE ALLIANCE

- **Access to NACCOP's annual 9 on IX webinar series at no additional cost (a \$710 value)**
 - These 60-minute succinct webinars will offer legal insight and practical guidance on Title IX topics from experts who have served or are currently serving as active practitioners on college and university campuses.
- **Alliance-Exclusive Professional Development Opportunities such as the Title IX & Equity Open House Discussion Series**
 - An Alliance-exclusive virtual open house will be held bi-monthly (every other month, 6 sessions annually) to engage with experts from NACCOP's partner organization, D. Stafford & Associates, as well as other invited guests, to discuss current trends and issues. Each open house will focus on a specific topic for discussion and participants will be encouraged to engage in the conversation.
- **Access to Alliance-Exclusive Whitepapers regarding Title VI, VII, and IX**
- **Connect and collaborate with other Title IX and Equity Professionals via an Alliance-restricted Listserv**
- **Discounted Professional Development Opportunities**
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