

# KATHERINE M. MAYER, M.A., CLI, CCDI

608 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, TX 78701 • [Katherine@kmayerconsulting.com](mailto:Katherine@kmayerconsulting.com) • (512) 829-1857

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## CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

**Mayer Consulting Solutions, LLC**  
*Founder & Principal Consultant*

**Austin, TX**  
*January 2012 – present*

Lead and direct a criminal defense consulting firm that collaborates with defense teams on more than 200 state and federal cases annually, providing fact investigation, mitigation development, jury research, and trial consultation in capital and other serious felony matters.

## PUBLICATIONS

Mayer, K. (2025). The Hidden Weakness in Criminal Defense: Why Expert Witness Vetting Can Make or Break Your Case. *The Voice*, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, November 2025, pp. 26–27.

Mayer, K. (2025). Handlebys: A Tool to Strengthen Your Criminal Defense Case. *The Legal Investigator*, National Association of Legal Investigators, Fall 2025, pp. 26–27.

Executive Committee Contributor. *Code of Ethics and Professional Standards*. National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists, 2025.

Executive Committee Contributor. *Recommended Minimum Requirements for Practicing Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists*. National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists, 2025.

Mayer, K. (2025). The Case for Handlebys: How Extraneous Police Reports Uncovered a Key Pattern in our Defense. *The Voice*, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, vol. 54, no. 5, June 2025, pp. 23–24.

Burke, C.S., Priest, H., Salas, E., Sims, D., & Mayer, K. (2008). Stress and teams: How stress affects decision making at the team level. In P.A. Hancock & J. Szalma (Eds.), *Performance Under Stress* (pp. 181–208). Burlington, VT: Ashgate.

Mayer, K. (2008). Violent Crime Case Review Project. Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, DC.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

CAPDS Mitigation Advancement Program, Panel Interview, 2026, *Virtual*

TCDLA How to Use an Investigator Pretrial, 2026, *Dallas, TX*

ACDLA, Investigating Sex Assault of Children, 2026, *Virtual*

NASAMS Mitigation Certificate Program, 2025, *Virtual*

TCDLA, How to Use Mitigation for Parole Hearings, 2025, *Houston, TX*

WILBY Betty, Women in Leadership, New Orleans, 2025, *New Orleans, LA*

NAPD, Investigating Child Sex Assault Cases, 2025, *Virtual*

TCDLA Capital Defense Seminar, 2025, *Austin, TX*

SACLA Monthly CLE, 2025, *San Antonio, TX*

ACDLA Austin Criminal Lawyer Retreat, 2024, *Kerrville, TX*

ACDLA Weekly CLE: Presentation about Jury Research & Focus Groups, 2024, *Virtual*

NASAMS Holistic Defense & Leadership Conference, 2024, *Minneapolis, MN*

NLADA Life in the Balance, 2024, *Biloxi, MS*

NLADA/NASAMS COD/BDPA Conference, 2023, *Baltimore, MD*  
ACDLA/Austin Bar Association's Criminal Law Retreat, 2023, *Kerrville, TX*  
NLADA/NASAMS Fundamentals of Mitigation Certificate Program, 2022, 2011, *Virtual*  
CAPDS New Panel Criminal Defense Attorney Training, 2022, *Austin, TX*  
Capital Murder Symposium, 2021, *Austin, TX*  
Creator & Instructor of the Criminal Defense Investigator Bootcamp, 2021, *Virtual*  
CAPDS New Panel Criminal Defense Attorney Training, 2019, *Austin, TX*  
Capital Defense Symposium, 2018, *Austin, TX*

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

Certified Legal Investigator (CLI)  
Board Certification in Criminal Defense Investigation (CCDI)  
Certificate in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)  
Notary of Texas  
Certificate in Process Serving, *Texas*  
Certificate in Behavioral Forensics, *University of Central Florida*  
Certificate in Crisis Intervention Training, *Seminole County Sheriff's Office*

## **LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

The American Society of Trial Consultants (ASTC), Pro Bono Committee  
NLADA Defender Council Member, 2024-current  
Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) Committee Member – 2025-current  
• Capital Assistance • New Lawyers • Women's Caucus • Sexual Assault Defense  
National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists (NASAMS) – Co-Chair – 2023-current  
National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates & Mitigation Specialists (NASAMS) - Secretary - 2019-2023

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

The American Society of Trial Consultants (ASTC)  
Professional Private Investigators Association of Colorado (PPIAC)  
National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA)  
Texas Association of Licensed Investigators (TALI)  
National Association of Licensed Investigators (NALI)  
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL)  
Criminal Defense Investigation Training Council (CDITC)  
Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (ACDLA)  
Florida Association of Licensed Investigators (FALI)  
National Association of Public Defenders (NAPD)  
San Antonio Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (SACDLA)

## **HONORS**

ACLU, 2011 C. Clyde Atkins Civil Liberties Award  
Psi Chi, *the National Honor Society in Psychology*  
Florida Bright Future Scholarship  
Dean's List, *University of Central Florida*

## **EDUCATION**

**Marymount University**  
*Master of Forensic Psychology*

**Arlington, VA**  
*July 2007 – December 2008*

Coursework included: Psychology and the Law, Psychopathology, Criminal Behaviors, and Forensic Assessment.

Research topics included: Mental Health in the Criminal Justice System.

**University of Central Florida**

*Bachelor of Arts: Psychology, Certificate of Behavioral Forensics*

**Orlando, FL**

*June 2001 – April 2005*

**CONTINUED EDUCATION**

American Society of Trial Consultants, Annual Conference, 2026, *San Diego, CA*

TCDLA The Art of Mitigation: Crafting Persuasive Narratives, 2026, *Dallas, TX*

TCDLA Sex Crimes, 2025, *Austin, TX*

TCDLA Capital Voir Dire Theory and Intense Practice, 2025, *Austin, TX*

PPIAC Rocky Mountain Investigators Annual Conference, 2025, *Westminster, CO*

TCDLA Rusty Duncan, 2025, *San Antonio, TX*

NALI Annual Conference, 2025, *Denver, CO*

National Child Abuse Defense & Resource Center, False Allegations, 2024, *Las Vegas, NV*

NASAMS Holistic Defense & Leadership Conference, 2024, *Minneapolis, MN*

American Society of Trial Consultants, Annual Conference, 2024, *Washington, DC*

NLADA Life in the Balance, 2024, *Biloxi, MS*

FAPL Annual Litigation and Investigators Conference, 2024, *Altamonte Springs, FL*

TCDLA Defending Sex Crimes Against Adults & Children, 2023, *Round Rock, TX*

TALI Annual Conference, 2023, *San Antonio, TX*

NALI Annual Conference, 2023, *Charlotte, NC*

**PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Law Offices of Public Defender Carlos J. Martinez**

*Death Penalty Mitigation Specialist*

**Miami, FL**

*June 2010 – November 2011*

**Community Connections**

*Forensic Case Manager*

**Washington, DC**

*April 2009 - June 2010*

**Office of the Capital Defender**

*Mitigation Specialist Graduate Intern*

**Manassas, VA**

*August 2008 - December 2008*

**Seminole Community Mental Health Center**

*Forensic Care Manager/State Hospital Liaison*

**Sanford, FL**

*September 2006 - June 2007*