

**Sharon S. Smith, Ph.D.**  
*Threat Assessment / Behavioral and Deception Assessment*

**Forensic Psycholinguistics, LLC and Threat Triage, LLC**  
**dr.sharonsmith@gmail.com**  
**540-226-2131**

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Psychology, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, with specialized training in Psycholinguistics.

Master's Degree in Education, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Bachelor's Degree in Education, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

**PRESENT POSITION 2007 - Present**

Consultant to intelligence and security related governmental agencies; law enforcement agencies; security directors for high profile/high net-worth individuals, corporations and physical structures; and attorneys. Provides criminal behavior analysis, including language used, in conducting threat assessment—analysis of risk for potential for harm. Also provides behavioral assessment of deception in business and criminal matters, criminal and corporate psychopathy, school and workplace violence, and interviewing techniques for criminal and violent offenders.

**CORPORATE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

1/04-12/04 Senior Expert and Instructor, Business Intelligence Advisors,  
Boston, Massachusetts

- Worked closely with many of BIA's largest investment and most prestigious law enforcement clients in the instruction and application of detection of deception.
- Worked closely with security directors of high profile/high net-worth individuals, corporations, and physical structures to assess threats and the potential risk of violence.

**FBI PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE 1978 - 2003**

4/95 – 12/03 Behavioral Science Unit, FBI Academy

- Analyzed cases involving threats, deception, rapes, child molestations, homicides, and psychopathic behavior.
- Instructor for Managing Investigations of Death and Sexual Offenses Using Investigative Psychology
- Instructor for Investigative Psychology Course
- Instructor for Interpersonal Violence Course
- BSU Coordinator for National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime
- Gave presentations across the country to federal, state and local law enforcement groups.

Dr. Sharon S. Smith

1/95 - 4/95 FBIHQ Congressional Affairs Office

- Worked with the Intelligence Division on briefing U.S. Congressional Representatives, Senators, and their staffs on intelligence and counterterrorism matters
- Coordinated testimony of the FBI Director and high-level FBI officials before U.S. Congress on counterterrorism legislation needed by law enforcement.

4/94 - 1/95 Washington, DC FBI Field Office, International Drug Trafficking Squad

- Worked with multiple local and federal agencies in planning and implementing investigative and prosecutive strategies against heroin dealers.
- Participated in numerous arrests, multiple searches, and wiretaps.
- Part of the prosecutive team for a four-year international and multi-divisional undercover investigation of drug traffickers who imported and distributed significant quantities of pure Southeast Asian heroin into the Washington, DC area. Investigated and participated in the arrest of one of the defendants, who conspired with a correctional officer to escape from the custody of the DC Jail. Received an award from the Washington, DC U.S. Attorney's Office for my work on this case.

1/91 - 4/94 FBI Headquarters National Press Office

- Received a letter of commendation and a cash incentive award from the FBI Director for my efforts while in this assignment.
- Spokesperson for the FBI during several major events including the Gulf War, the Randy Weaver siege in Idaho, and the Branch Davidian standoff in Waco, Texas.
- Was interviewed by and provided information for television and print reporters on a daily basis.
- Arranged interviews of and wrote news releases for the Director and FBI executives on a weekly basis.
- Wrote position papers for the Director.
- Coached FBI executives for TV interviews.
- Organized major news conferences.
- In 1993 planned and implemented a major media in-service for FBI executives, which featured media personalities Mike Wallace of "60 minutes" and Ted Koppel of "Nightline."
- In 1993 personally contacted and persuaded Connie Chung of "Eye to Eye" to do a show on the UNABOM case.
- In 1991 coordinated all press coverage of President Bush's Crime Bill speech at the FBI Academy. This involved approximately a month of daily negotiation with the White House, major television and print media, FBIHQ and the FBI Academy.
- As the senior supervisor agent in the unit, exercised organizational and administrative responsibilities by supervising and disciplining personnel, writing performance appraisals, and assisting in making policy decisions.

- 2/83 - 12/90      Education and Communication Arts Unit, FBI Academy
- Taught FBI agent trainees interviewing and interrogation skills.
  - Taught instructional techniques, speech, and media relations to National Academy, DEA, Executive Development Institute (EDI), and Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (mid-level police executives).
  - Gave presentations across the country to federal, state, and local law enforcement groups.
  - As program manager for FBI Field Police Instructors, designed curriculum for, authorized certification of, and supervised instruction by police coordinators in all FBI field offices.
- 7/82 - 2/83      Newark Field Office
- Planned, and, with squad members, executed the only arrests made by my squad during my tenure in Newark.
  - Represented FBI with Special Agent in Charge on radio talk show.
- 12/78 - 7/82      Charlotte Field Office
- Investigated copyright violations resulting in arrest and convictions of six subjects. Charlotte subjects were involved in investigations connected with New York and Jacksonville, Florida undercover operations.
  - Worked undercover for 1 1/2 years part-time investigating vote buying, interstate transportation of stolen cars and other property, and political corruption. Case resulted in indictments and arrests of over 40 subjects, including state representative, state judge, lieutenant governor, and major narcotics dealers. Additionally, initiated and worked a stolen automobile case (based on informant information) that became an integral part of this operation and resulted in recovery of 3/4 million dollars in cars.

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

Received the following training during career with FBI:

Forensic Linguistic Analysis, 2003  
Statement Analysis and Detection of Deception, 2002  
Homicide Investigation, 2002  
Risk Assessment for Violence, 2001  
American Psychology Association Annual Conference, 2002  
Statement Analysis, 2000  
Risk Assessment for Violence, 2000  
Extremist Groups/Cults, 1999  
Characteristics of Psychopathy, 1999  
Authorship Identification, 1999  
Neuro-linguistic Programming and its Application to Interview and Interrogation, 1999  
School Violence Symposium, 1999  
School Shootings: A Threat Assessment Perspective, 1999  
Hare Psychopathy Checklist Administration, 1999  
Investigative Psychology Conference, Liverpool, England, 1998  
International Society of Political Psychologists Conference, 1998

FBI Profiling Coordinators In-service, 1998  
 Behavior Assessment and Elicitation Interviewing School, 1998  
 Internet Safety Forum: Cyber Crimes Seminar, 1998  
 Sexual Offenders, 1997  
 Violence and Criminality, 1996  
 Twelfth National Symposium on Child Sexual Abuse, sponsored by the  
 National Children's Advocacy Center, 1996  
 Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Conference, 1995  
 Advanced Death Investigation, 1995  
 Scientific Content Analysis of Statements, 1995  
 Street Survival, 1994  
 Polygraph In-Service, 1993  
 Media Representatives In-service, 1993  
 Death Investigation, 1990  
 Executive Leadership, 1989  
 Advanced Police Instructors, 1988  
 Advanced Interrogation In-Service, 1987  
 Profile Coordinator In-Service, 1985  
 Mentally Disordered Offenders, 1985  
 Rape Intervention/Rape Research Symposium, 1985  
 World Conference on Police Psychology, 1985  
 Interpersonal Violence, 1983  
 Investigative Techniques for Financial Crimes for Non-Accountants, 1981  
 General Police Instructor, 1979

## **FBI SPECIALTIES**

Police instructor for the following courses:

Managing Investigations of Death and Sexual Offenses Using Investigative  
 Psychology  
 Investigative Psychology  
 Interpersonal Violence related to Sex Crimes  
 Advanced General Police Instruction  
 Field Office Administration and Communication  
 General Police Instruction  
 Instructor Development  
 Interviewing and Interrogation  
 Management of the Training Process  
 Media Relations  
 Speech

## **PRE-FBI EXPERIENCE**

1976 - 1978 Graduate Assistant, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia. Taught courses in  
 education/communication.

1974 - 1976 College Instructor, Education Department, Austin College, Sherman, Texas.  
 Supervised student teachers. Designed and taught seven courses.

1969 - 1974 Instructor, public school systems in Maine and Texas. As a team leader and instructor in Texas public schools, initiated and developed educational program that became model for state of Texas.

## **PUBLICATION/EDITORIAL WORK**

Smith, S. S., Woyach, R. B., & O'Toole, M. E. (in press). Threat Triage: How to Recognize the Needle in the Stack of Disturbing and Threatening Communications. *International Handbook for Threat Assessment*. New York: Oxford University Press.

O'Toole, M. E. & Smith, S. S. (in press). Fundamentals of Threat Assessment for Beginners. *International Handbook for Threat Assessment*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Smith, S.S., O'Toole, M.E., & Hare, R.D. (2012). The Predator: When the Stalker is a Psychopath. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 81 (7), 9-13.

O'Toole, M.E., Logan, M., & Smith, S. (2012). Looking behind the mask: Implications for interviewing psychopaths. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 81 (7), 14-19.

Woodworth, M., Hancock, J., Porter, S., Hare, R., Logan, M., O'Toole, M. E., & Smith, S. (2012). The language of psychopaths: New findings and implications for law enforcement. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 81 (7), 28-32.

Babiak, P., Folino, J., Hancock, J., Hare, R. D., Logan, M., Mayer, E.L., Meloy, J. R., Hakkanen-Nyholm, H., O'Toole, M. E., Pinizzotto, A., Porter, S., Smith, S., & Woodworth, M. (2012). Psychopathy: An important forensic concept for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 81 (7), 3-7.

Smith, S. S. (2008). Risk assessment of threatening communications from FBI case files using Gottschalk-Gleser content analysis scales. In L. Gottschalk & R. Bechtel (Eds.), *Computerized content analysis of speech and verbal texts and its many applications* (pp. 111-121). New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

O'Toole, M.E., Smith, S.S., & Hare, R.D. (2008). Psychopathy and Predatory Stalking of Public Figures. In J.R. Meloy, L. Sheridan, & J. Hoffmann (Eds.), *Stalking, threatening, and attacking public figures* (pp. 215-243). New York: Oxford University Press.

Smith, S.S. (2008). From Violent Words to Violent Deeds: Assessing Risk From FBI Threatening Communication Cases. In J.R. Meloy, L. Sheridan, & J. Hoffmann (Eds.), *Stalking, threatening, and attacking public figures* (pp. 435-455). New York: Oxford University Press.

Smith, S.S. (2007). From violent words to violent deeds? Assessing risk from threatening communications. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 68 (03), 1945B. (UMI No. 3256532).

Smith, S. S. & Shuy, R.W. (2002). Forensic psycholinguistics: Using language analysis for identifying and assessing offenders. *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, 4, 16-21.

Farwell, L.A. & Smith, S.S. (2001). Using brain MERMER testing to detect knowledge despite efforts to conceal. *Journal for Forensic Sciences*, 46 (1), 135-143.

## **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS/CONSULTATIONS**

[Examples of types of audiences and topics, not intended to be comprehensive.]

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Auditing firm, Chicago, IL, June 24, 2013.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Auditing firm, Chicago, IL, June 10, 2013.

“Early Warning System: Assessing Disturbing and Threatening Communications for Violence Risk,” Alaska Peace Officers Association Annual Conference, Soldotna, Alaska, May 23, 2013.

“Sexual Sadists and Their Victims,” Alaska Peace Officers Association Annual Conference, Soldotna, Alaska, May 23, 2013.

“The Psychopathic Offender” Alaska Peace Officers Association Annual Conference, Soldotna, Alaska, May 22, 2013.

“Criminal Investigative Analysis-How to Analyze a Homicide Crime Scene,” Alaska Peace Officers Association Annual Conference, Soldotna, Alaska, May 22, 2013.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” Retail Industry Leaders Association Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida, May 1, 2013.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” Texas A & N University Threat Assessment Team, College Station, TX, February 12, 2013.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Auditing firm, Edison, New Jersey, December 5, 2012.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Miami, Florida, November 14, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Orlando, Florida, October 21, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Orlando, Florida, August 17, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Orlando, Florida, August 13, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Chicago, Illinois, June 29, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Chicago, Illinois, June 22, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Chandler, Arizona, June 8, 2012.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” Infraguard, Columbus, Ohio, May 23, 2012.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” ASIS Ohio Regional Conference, Columbus, Ohio, May 17, 2012.

“Threat Triage: Assessing Threatening and Disturbing Communications,” Central Ohio Trauma System, Columbus, Ohio, May 2, 2012.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Dallas, Texas, October 24, 2011.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Atlanta, Georgia, September 19, 2011.

“Analyzing Threats in a Violent World: What Do Words Really Reveal?” Association of Threat Assessment Professionals, May 3, 2010, Chicago, Illinois

“Behavioral Analysis of Violent Offenders, Bolivia, South America Police, La Paz, Bolivia, December 7-16, 2009 (training for and consultation with homicide investigators on violent crimes against adults and children).

“Analyzing Threats: Moving from Violent Words to Violent Deeds,” National Research Council as part of commission by the United States Secret Service, Washington, DC, September 22-23, 2009.

“Analyzing Threats in a Violent World: What Do Words Really Reveal?” Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC, January 8, 2009.

“Analyzing Threats in a Violent World,” Office of Personnel Management, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, March 27, 2008.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” Los Angeles Chapter, Association of Threat Assessment Professionals, Los Angeles, California, March 20, 2008.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” Defense Intelligence Agency, Fairfax, Virginia, December 10, 2007.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” Virginia Police and Private Security Association, Fairfax, Virginia, October 14, 2007.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” Seminar hosted by Ontario Provincial Police, September 12, 2007.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” Association of Threat Assessment Professionals, Anaheim, California, August 17, 2007.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds? Assessing Risk from Threatening Communications,” International Association of Forensic Linguists, Seattle, Washington, July 14, 2007.

“Detection of Deception and Strategic Interviewing Techniques,” Major auditing firm, Boca Raton, Florida, December 13-14, 2006.

“From Violent Words to Violent Deeds,” Behavioral Analysis Units and Behavioral Science Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Quantico, Virginia, July 2006.

“Strategic Information Collection,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC, August 18, 2004.

“Verbal and Nonverbal Detection of Deception,” Los Angeles Police Department, June 21-22, 2004.

“Forensic Psycholinguistic Analysis of Threatening Communications,” Smithsonian Institute, Washington DC, November 17, 2003.

“Behavior Analysis of the Deviant Sexual Offender,” Regional Law Enforcement Training hosted by New Orleans, Louisiana FBI, October 15-16, 2002.

“Homicide Investigations and Detecting Deception,” Regional Law Enforcement Training hosted by New Orleans, Louisiana FBI, August 15-16, 2001.

“Forensic Psycholinguistics,” Regional Law Enforcement Training hosted by Lee County Sheriff’s Office, Ft. Myers, Florida, February 23-24, 2000.

“Compliant Victims of Sexual Sadists,” National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, Aquia, Virginia, October 27, 1999.

“Rape Typologies and Profiling Serial Rapists and Child Molesters,” Regional Law Enforcement Training hosted by Lee County Sheriff’s Office, Ft. Myers, Florida, February 24-25, 1999.

“Child Molester Typologies,” Pennsylvania Juvenile Officers Association and Philadelphia Division of FBI, Montgomery, Pennsylvania, February 3-4, 1999.

“Inside the FBI: Criminal Investigative Analysis,” Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC, January 28, 1999.

“Child Molester Typologies,” Maglocen Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network, Mays Landing, New Jersey, October 28, 1998.

“Criminal Investigative Analysis,” Minister of Justice, Zurich, Switzerland, September 10, 1998.

“Instructor Development,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York, New York, August 14-18, 1989.

“Advanced Instructor Development,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, Quantico, Virginia, November 9-13, 1987.

## **MOVIE/TELEVISION CONSULTATIONS**

Consultant to Director Brett Rattner and actors Edward Norton and Harvey Keitel for the movie “Red Dragon.”

Consultant to Joe Pantaloni for the television series “The Handler.”



Consultant to screenwriter for the television series “The Mentalist.”

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Psychological Association  
ASIS International  
Association of Threat Assessment Professionals  
International Association of Forensic Linguistics  
International Criminal Investigative Analysis Fellowship  
International Society of Political Psychologists  
PADI Diving Society  
Society for Former Special Agents of the FBI  
Society for the Scientific Study of Psychopathy

## **COURT CASES**

2008 PricewaterhouseCoopers (Barbados) vs. Nelson Barbados Group Ltd.

- Allegation that one of the defendants threatened prosecuting attorney
- Consulted by defense
- Linguistic issue: whether statements made in two tape recorded conversations constituted a threat to harm
- Judge accepted the findings in my report and rejected reports of two prosecution experts, resulting in a judgment in favor of the defendant.

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Church group leader for justice missions class

Past President of Property Owners Association

Volunteer to justice oriented organizations

- Provided assistance to a local refugee family from Tanzania
- In July 2009 traveled on mission trip sponsored by the International Justice Mission to Philippines and Cambodia to assess sexual trafficking of underaged children.
- In December 2009 spend two weeks in Bolivia teaching National Police investigative, interview and behavioral analysis techniques for offenders responsible for sexual assault and homicide.