



## **Thomas J. Tiderington - Chief of Police**

Law Enforcement Training / Practices & Procedures Expert

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Fort Lauderdale, Florida / Ann Arbor, Michigan

### **EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW:**

- Recently retired Chief of Police with over forty-four years of experience with four different law enforcement agencies. Responsible for personnel, budgeting, crime reduction, internal affairs, training, and overall department leadership.
- Police Training Instructor and Adjunct College Instructor-Criminal Justice Courses.
- Commissioner – Michigan’s Human Trafficking Commission 2015 – 2019.
- Graduate of the Southern Police Institute (SPI).
- Bachelor’s Degree in Police Administration.
- Police practices and procedures expert witness.
- Criminal Justice Consultant.

### **EXPERT WITNESS/CRIMINAL JUSTICE CONSULTANT:**

- Law Enforcement Training Specialist
- Police Use of Force
- Premises Liability / Security
- Human Trafficking
- Negligent Management Practices
- Police Misconduct

**Chief Thomas J. Tiderington** is an internationally recognized law enforcement instructor who is one of the foremost experts in the field of criminal investigations, use of force, undercover operations and drug-related police shootings. He developed and is the lead instructor in the UNDERCOVER SURVIVAL TRAINING/NARC RAIDS SCHOOLS & STRATEGIC VICE INVESTIGATIONS.

Over 10,000 police officers have attended his training classes. He retired from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department as Commander in Charge of the Special Investigations Division (SID). During his forty year law enforcement career he served eight years as an undercover

agent assigned to the department's Organized Crime Division where he was an undercover operative in hundreds of cases. As an undercover agent he infiltrated and investigated Colombia based, international cocaine smuggling cartels. One investigation resulted in the seizure of over 3000 kilograms of cocaine and the arrest and conviction of notorious drug smuggler George Jung. The long-term undercover investigation was the basis for the book and major motion picture **BLOW**. He is featured in the recently released true crime documentary **Boston George-Fame Without the Fortune** (2022).

For over five years he was assigned to the United States Drug Enforcement Administration as the Supervisor-in-Charge of the South Florida Regional Drug Task Force. Under his leadership the "Task Force" conducted one of the most sophisticated and successful international money laundering investigations (Operation Princess) to date. Seizing in excess of \$100 million dollars in cash (world-wide) and over 5 tons of cocaine. Chief Tiderington is featured in a second book, written by New York Times bestselling author Bruce Porter, detailing this global investigation and the kidnapping of his informant. The true story **SNATCHED** was released by St. Martin's Press - April of 2016.

From 2001-2022 he served as the Chief of Police in Plymouth Township, Michigan. Duties included the overall operation and management of the Plymouth Township Police Department and the joint Plymouth Communications Center (PCC).

<b>Training Locations and Topics Taught/Attended by Chief Tiderington.</b>
Undercover Survival/Raids/Informants-developed and presented training since 1987-over 10,000 state, local & federal officers have attended this training.
Instructor- DEA-State & Local Training Programs – (since 1987).
Lead Instructor – Nevada HIDTA Training – Undercover Operations/Informants/Raids.
Schoolcraft College – Criminal Justice / Adjunct Instructor (since 2005).
Key Note Speaker - Entrepreneurs' Organization – Detroit Chapter (2011)
United States Coast Guard – Criminal Investigators.
Young Presidents Organization (YPO), Barcelona, Spain - Speaker (2010)
Michigan State Police – Lead Instructor, Drug Unit Commanders School, Detroit, MI.
Michigan State Police – Undercover Survival Training – Houghton Lake, MI.
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (NASDEA), MACKINAW ISLAND- Lead Instructor .
Strategic Vice Investigations – Lead Instructor
Broward Intelligence Group, Money Laundering Investigations, Key West, Florida.
International Money Laundering Investigations Conference – Presenter on behalf of the Department of Justice - Rome, Italy.
Florida Department of Law Enforcement , Money Laundering Investigations.

NARC RAIDS – Developed and presented training since 1990-over 10,000 officers have attended.
Narcotics Instructor. Broward Criminal Justice Institute (since 1985).
International Narcotics Enforcement – Speaker – Madrid, Spain (1992).
Gwinnett Georgia – Undercover Survival & Police Raids
Narcotics Instructor, Investigators Drug School (since 1985)
Director and lead instructor, Drug Enforcement Seminars, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (since 1984)
Drug Interdiction Instructor, United States Coast Guard, Tactical Law Enforcement Team (smuggling investigations).
Indiana Drug Enforcement Association Annual Conference, (1998).
Minnesota State Association of Narcotics Investigators (M.S.A.N.I.) - Undercover Survival
Southeastern Public Safety Institute-St. Petersburg Junior College,
Tallahassee Police Department-In-Service Training- Informant Handling/ Raids
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)- Orlando, Florida - Use of Force.
National Intelligence Academy, Coral Springs, FL
Michigan State Police, Street Level Lieutenant’s Conference – Undercover Operations / Raids/Search Warrants/Informants/VICE.
Presenter Department of Defense (DOD), United States Navy, USS Theodore Roosevelt, Atlantic Ocean-while underway.
In-Service Police Training Instructor, Rio Rancho Department of Public Safety, New Mexico.
Charlotte-Mecklenberg Police Institute, Charlotte, NC (since 1997).
Lead Presenter – Human Trafficking Investigations- Ft. Lauderdale, FL (2014).
Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police – 2015 Winter Training Conference Police Policy and Practices – Presenter.
Undercover Survival & NARC Raid – Raleigh, NC .
National Summit on Human Trafficking and the State Courts- New York City (2015)-PARTICIPANT.
St. Louis County and Municipal Police Academy, St. Louis, MO- Police Raids/Undercover.
Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police – Human Trafficking & Prostitution Investigations 2017 Summer Conference- Presenter
Columbus Ohio Regional Police Academy – Undercover Survival & Narc Raids Training.
Young Presidents Organization (YPO) - International Drug Trafficking (2019).
Broward Crime Commission – Presenter (2020).
Certified Law Enforcement Instructor (MCOLES, FDLE).
2022 Polaris Training – Human Trafficking / Attendee
2022 Statewide Human Trafficking Summit / Attendee

**Areas of Instruction Provided by Thomas J. Tiderington:**

Police Policies & Procedures	VICE Investigations
Undercover Operations	Human Trafficking
Use and Management of Confidential Informants.	Prostitution Investigations-Hotel/Motel Investigations
Deadly Force	Internet Predator Investigations-Sting Operations
High Risk Warrant Service	“Sneak & Peek” Warrants”
Coercive Deception	Use of Hidden Cameras
Alternatives to Dynamic Entries.	International Cartels and Criminal Organizations
Search Warrants	Conspiracy Investigations
Dangers of using “boiler plate” affidavits	Money Laundering
Narcotics Investigations	High Risk Police Tactics
Wrong Door Raids	Developing Probable Cause
Controlled Drug Deliveries	Kidnapping Investigations
Drug Identification	SWAT- use and policies.
Drug Interdiction and Smuggling Operations	Medical Marijuana and the use of force
Task Force Operations	Risk and Threat Assessment
Use of Force Policy and Procedures	Police Ethics
Firearms Use and Policy	Vehicle Pursuit Procedures
Less than lethal options (CEW/TASER)	Mistaken Identity Shootings
Concepts of Evidence/rules of evidence	Traffic Stop and Procedures
Community Policing and Crime Statistics	Handcuffing policy and procedures
SWAT Operations	Internal Investigations

**Law Enforcement Experience**

**Plymouth Township Police Department (2001 – 2022)**

**Chief of Police**

- A “seasoned” executive experienced in all aspects of police operations, criminal investigations, use of force reviews, policy development/implementation, labor relations, internal affairs and community involvement.
- One of the longest serving police chiefs in the country.
- Effective leadership skills in personnel selections, training, and reorganizing staff into cohesive motivated teams.

- Introduced and managed community policing strategies to address strengthening police-community relations.

**Fort Lauderdale Police Department (1981 – 2001) :**

- Broward Police Academy (comparative compliance program).
- Patrol Division – highly diverse population of 250,000 residents and millions of visitors each year. Assigned to all areas of the city in every patrol assignment.
- Organized Crime Bureau (OCB) – Narcotics Detective charged with investigating international crime cartels.
- Group Supervisor in Charge of the South Florida Regional Task Force Initiative – HIDTA Task Force charged with the responsibility of identifying and dismantling international criminal cartels. Supervised and managed one of the most sophisticated and successful world-wide money laundering investigations (Operation Princess). Seizing in excess of \$100 million dollars in cash and over 5 tons of cocaine.
- Supervisor and Management Positions – Served in a variety of progressively responsible leadership executive positions.
- Administrative Services Captain – Budget, Purchasing, CALEA Manager. Accreditation Management, Grants and Planning, Training.
- Patrol Captain – In charge of crime prevention initiatives as well as the delivery of police uniformed patrol services.
- Captain / Special Investigations Division – Management and oversight of over fifty detectives charged with conducting specialized investigations targeting criminal organization. Units included: VICE/Human Trafficking, Narcotics, Task Force Operations, Technical Support, Nuisance Abatement Board, Street Crimes, Major Narcotics, K-9, Criminal Investigations.

**Detroit Police Department (1978 -1980) :**

- Detroit Police Academy.
- Patrol Experience
- Community Policing – Detroit Police Sub-Station Program.
- Motorcycle Training
- Pistol Team

*1980 – One of 1500 police officer laid-off due to budget reductions.*

**Education:**

- Mercy College of Detroit – Criminal Justice / Associates Degree
- Florida Atlantic University – Police Administration / Bachelor’s Degree
- University of Louisville/Southern Police Institute – Command Officers Development Course (CODC)
- Detroit Police Academy
- In-Service Police Training - over 2000 hours of advanced police training and leadership classes.

**Expert Witness and Consulting Experience:**

Provide consulting and expert witness services on a wide range of law enforcement issues including Human Trafficking, search warrants, informant management, undercover operations, misconduct, corruption, use of force, workplace harassment, pursuits, police administration, training, police operations, criminal and administrative investigations, interviews and interrogations, civil rights violations, police procedures, and investigations.

- Police Use of Force.
- Standard operating procedures, policies, and rules and regulations of police agencies.
- Internal Investigations.
- Police Arbitration Cases.
- Police recognition of and reaction to emotionally disturbed persons.
- Immigration Issues.
- Accidental Police Shootings.
- Negligent selection, retention, supervision, discipline and training of law enforcement officers.
- Handcuffing Techniques.
- Pursuits by undercover officers.
- Narcotics Raids and Policies.
- Raid Planning and Execution.
- “Wrong Door” Raids & Search Warrants.
- Controlled delivery Investigations (UPS, Fed-Ex., US Mail).
- Narcotic Investigations - Field Testing.
- Use of Confidential Informants.
- 911 and dispatch operations.
- Crime Prevention.
- Drug values & street pricing.
- Domestic and International Narcotics Trafficking and Enforcement.
- Human Trafficking/ Prostitution/Adult Entertainment Establishments
- Police Shootings
- Search Warrants

- Informant Management
- Controlled Buys
- Use of Hidden Cameras
- School Safety and SRO Operations
- Extradition issues
- Prostitution cases
- TASER Use
- Police K-9
- Premises Liability

*Chief Tiderington is a renowned law enforcement trainer and nationally recognized expert in police practices and procedures. His primary focus is on matters relating to the Use of Force, Police Misconduct, Human Trafficking, VICE & Narcotics Investigations; including the use of confidential informants, police use of force, police shootings, raids, and sting operations.*

**Recent Professional Activities:**

**Human Trafficking Commissioner (2015 – 2019)  
Appointed by Michigan Governor Rick Snyder.**

The mission of the Commission:

- 1) Designed to identify sources for grants that will assist in examining and countering human trafficking.
- 2) Fund research programs to determine the extent and nature of human trafficking in the state of Michigan, provide information and training to police officers, prosecutors, court personnel, social services personnel, and other individuals.
- 3) Collect and analyze information regarding human trafficking in this state, identify state and local agencies within this state and other states, as well as, within the federal government, that are involved with issues relating to human trafficking.
- 4) Coordinate the dissemination of information regarding human trafficking in the state of Michigan to those agencies, review the existing services available to assist victims of human trafficking, including crime victim assistance, health care, and legal assistance, and establish a program to make those victims better aware of the services that are available to them.
- 5) Establish a program to improve public awareness of human trafficking, and review existing state laws and administrative rules relating to human trafficking and make recommendations to the legislature to improve those laws and rules to address human trafficking violations in this state.

## **Western Wayne Criminal Investigations: Board of Director / Chairman**

A Multi-Agency Task Force consortium (Federal, State & Local Agencies) designed to provide the benefit of regional criminal investigative teams.

## **Western Wayne Special Operations Team (SWAT):**

Former Board of Director / Chairman

## **Professional Affiliations:**

Wayne County Chiefs Association

Western Wayne Chiefs Association

Southeast Michigan Chiefs of Police Association

Fraternal Order of Police/Florida

Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association

State Certified Law Enforcement Instructor (Florida)

Southern Police Institute-Alumnus

International Association of Chiefs of Police-Life Time Member

National Drug Enforcement Officers Association

Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

Western Wayne Special Operation Team – Board of Director

National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA)

National Fraternal Order of Police – Active Member

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)

American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS)