




Avery Thompson

Denali Defense Solutions

Principle Consultant

CONTACT

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 Knoxville, Tennessee

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA-FAIRBANKS

Business Administration

Currently Pursuing

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA-SOUTHEAST

Law Enforcement Certificate

2005

SKILLS

- Forensic Reporting
- Expert Testimony
- Reverse Criminal Investigations
- Evidence Review and Case Evaluation
- Instruction and Curriculum Development
- Cellular Survey and Analysis
- Investigative Interviewing
- Telecommunications Analysis
- Digital Communications Analysis

PROFILE

Experienced digital forensics consultant and former law enforcement supervisory detective with two decades of investigative expertise, specializing in complex digital evidence analysis, criminal investigations, and strategic case review.

Recognized by the Alaska Court System as an expert in digital forensics and drug distribution, with hands-on experience completing forensic extractions on more than 2,000 devices and supporting major felony cases including homicides, sexual assaults, kidnappings, white-collar, and large-scale narcotics investigations.

Brings a strong background in investigative interviewing, forensic reporting, and collaboration with attorneys, businesses, and multidisciplinary teams. An accomplished instructor who has trained police officers, first responders, educators, and government personnel in digital forensics, criminal investigations, constitutional law, and public safety topics.

Known for exceptional attention to detail, integrity-driven analysis, and the ability to translate complex technical findings into clear, actionable insights for legal and professional audiences.

Skilled in communicating intricate forensic concepts in accessible terms and providing informed guidance to attorneys, organizations, and stakeholders. Driven by precision, professionalism, and a commitment to justice, delivering objective, defensible, and high-quality work across all investigative and consulting engagements.

Licensed Private Investigator in Tennessee and Michigan, with full legal authority to conduct investigative work in Alaska (no PI license required under state law).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Denali Defense Solutions Knoxville, Tennessee Owner, Principle Consultant	2024-Present
University of Alaska Fairbanks Police Department Fairbanks, Alaska Captain, Investigator, Police Officer, Clery Coordinator, ICAC Task Force	2021-2026
Fairbanks Police Department Fairbanks, Alaska Detective Sergeant, Detective, Investigator, Police Officer, ICAC Task Force	2006 - 2021
Sitka Police Department Sitka, Alaska Police Officer	2005 - 2006

SELECT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

STATE OF ALASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY Alaska State Troopers basic law enforcement program attended by the majority of Alaska law enforcement officers.	2005
REID INTERVIEW AND INTERROGATION Training in interview and interrogation tactics.	2006
SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM (SART) Certification in sexual assault response, including investigative techniques, indicators, and victim support.	2007
CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT) Certification in managing individuals in crisis, with focus on de-escalation and family support.	2008
DEA INDOOR MARIJUANA CULTIVATION INVESTIGATIONS Training on indoor marijuana grow investigations, including investigative techniques, legal updates, and safety considerations.	2008
DEA BASIC DRUG INVESTIGATION Two-week DEA program covering drug trends, manufacturing methods, undercover operations, money laundering, surveillance, informant management, and investigative techniques.	2008
DEA METHAMPHETAMINE TRENDS AND INFORMATION Overview of methamphetamine trends and clandestine laboratory basics.	2008
DEA METHAMPHETAMINE CLANDESTINE LABORATORY Intensive one-week DEA course on methamphetamine manufacturing, distribution, and lab dismantling.	2009
FINANCIAL CRIME INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES Midwest Counter Drug Training Center course focused on drug organizations and money laundering investigations.	2009
CELLEBRITE UNIVERSAL FORENSIC EXTRACTION DEVICE (UFED) Advanced certification in mobile device forensic extraction hardware and software.	2012
CELL PHONE TECHNOLOGY AND FORENSIC DATA RECOVERY Training in cellular technology, tower mapping, and forensic data recovery methods.	2012
CELLULAR RECORDS REVIEW AND ANALYSIS (AT&T) Training in processing and analyzing AT&T call detail records.	2015
CHILD FORENSIC INTERVIEWING Training in conducting objective, forensically sound interviews of children.	2015
ACCESSDATA FORENSIC COMPUTER TRAINING (FTK) Computer forensics training including imaging, password recovery, and hexadecimal analysis.	2016
PENLINK BASIC ANALYSIS TRAINING (PLX 101) Foundational training with hands-on case scenario analysis.	2016

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- BASIC MOBILE DEVICE INVESTIGATIONS (U.S. SECRET SERVICE)** 2016
Introductory course covering fundamentals of mobile device forensics.
- UNDERSTANDING INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR MODERN TELECOMMUNICATIONS** 2017
Training in packet data communication, cellular systems, and lawful data collection and interpretation.
- THE HIDDEN CRIMINAL INTERNET: TOR, DARK WEB, AND BITCOIN** 2017
Overview of dark web operations, access methods, cryptocurrency usage, and forensic artifacts.
- 911 HOMICIDE CALLS: IS THE CALLER THE KILLER?** 2018
Analytical methods for evaluating 911 homicide calls to develop leads and assess credibility.
- HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION (SOUTHERN POLICE INSTITUTE)** 2019
Comprehensive training in death investigations, including differentiation between accidental, suicidal, and homicidal deaths. Included case reviews, scenario-based exercises, and peer collaboration. Invited to instruct a segment on digital forensics.
- NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ON CHILD EXPLOITATION** 2020
Conference covering investigative techniques, offender behavior, and open-source intelligence. Conducted virtually.
- LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNICAL FORUM (LETF) – NDCAC** 2017–2023
Participation in a national forum of law enforcement professionals specializing in technical communications and lawful electronic surveillance. Contributed to collaborative expertise development across agencies.
- MAGNET VIRTUAL SUMMIT** 2026
Magnet Virtual Summit 2026 focused on how investigators are navigating the realities of AI-generated content, expanding cloud data sources, and increasingly complex digital investigation. 24 sessions were attended during the three day summit.
- CELLEBRITE CERTIFIED OPERATOR** 2026
Cellebrite Certified Operator for Inseyets (CCO Inseyets) is a two day certification course that introduces mobile device unlocking, decrypting, and extraction techniques using Inseyets powered by UFED. The course guides participants through pre-extraction considerations that allow examiners to maximize their extraction efforts and protect the potential evidentiary data stored on mobile devices.
- CELLEBRITE CERTIFIED PHYSICAL ANALYST (IN-PROGRESS)** 2026
Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst for Inseyets (CCPA Inseyets) is a three day advanced-level certification course focused on the analysis of forensically acquired digital evidence and advanced search techniques using Inseyets powered by Physical Analyzer (Inseyets PA).

2012

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS & CERTIFICATIONS

Medal of Valor-Sitka Police Department	2006
American Red Cross of Alaska Law Enforcement Award	2008
Commendation for Honorable Service-Alaska State Troopers	2009
Police Medal-Fairbanks Police Department	2011
Meritorious Service Medal-Fairbanks Police Department	2012
Cellebrite Certified operator	2012
Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst	2012
United States Attorney General Award	2014
Alaska Police Officer Association Investigator of the Year	2015
Community First Responder Award	2016
Unit Valor Award	2017
Community First Responder Award	2018
Meritorious Service Medal	2018
Alaska Police Standards Council Advanced Police Certificate	2019

SELECTED INSTRUCTION PROVIDED

Tanana Valley Campus Law Enforcement Academy Primary Instructor for search, seizure and analysis of mobile devices. Basics of warrant applications for seized devices.	2014-2018
Tanana Valley Campus Law Enforcement Academy Primary Instructor for Alaska statutes regarding illegal drugs and general law enforcement awareness of street drugs.	2008-2018
University of Alaska Primary Instructor. Instructed police officers on constitutional law, digital forensics, de-escalation techniques, patrol tactics, use of force, duty to intervene, and other topics.	2022-2023
University of Alaska Primary Instructor. Department of Education Clery Act instruction to law enforcement, staff, and students to ensure compliance with the Clery Act.	2021-2023

CONTACT

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