CRAIG L. WETTERER

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Distinguished forensic clinical psychologist and licensed attorney with over 30 years of combined experience spanning law enforcement, criminal and civil litigation, forensic psychiatric evaluation, and academic leadership. Formally trained in clinical psychopharmacology at the graduate level, with particular expertise in the neurobiological and pharmacological bases of behavior, subjects he teaches at the doctoral and graduate levels. Recognized expert witness and litigation consultant across federal and state jurisdictions in Nevada, California, New Mexico, and Florida. Gubernatorial appointee to the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners. Uniquely positioned at the intersection of behavioral science, medicine, and law, providing courts, counsel, and executive leadership with authoritative, evidence-based forensic opinions. Former sworn law enforcement officer with nearly three decades of patrol, investigative, and mental health crisis response experience. Accomplished academician with concurrent faculty appointments at multiple universities.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Clinical Psychology (APA Accredited) 2015
Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA
Dissertation: The Influence of Group Socialization on Authoritarianism and Social Dominance Orientation in Law Enforcement Culture

M.S., Clinical Psychopharmacology 2024
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ

J.D., Law 2005
William Howard Taft University School of Law, Santa Ana, CA

M.A., Psychology 2001
California State University, Sacramento, CA | Doctoral Preparation Track

B.A., Psychology 1996
California State University, Sacramento, CA | Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clinical Forensic Psychologist, Founder and Principal 2020 – Present
Carson Valley Psychological Services, LLC, Carson City, NV

- Operate a private forensic and neuropsychological assessment practice serving civil and criminal courts across Nevada, California, and New Mexico.
- Retained as expert witness in matters involving PTSD, emotional distress, malingering, workplace injury, medical negligence, personal injury, toxic tort, and civil rights.
- Conduct competency to stand trial, mental state at time of offense (MSO), violence risk, and psychological damages evaluations.
- Provide fitness-for-duty and pre-employment psychological screening services for law enforcement and public safety agencies.
- Deliver targeted therapeutic interventions for acute stress, complex PTSD, and forensic-related clinical syndromes.

Licensed Psychologist, Forensic Evaluator (Contract) Jan 2025 – Present
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Lake's Crossing Center, Sparks, NV
Maximum security forensic psychiatric hospital for mentally disordered offenders.

- Conduct court-ordered competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility (MSO), violence risk, and mental health evaluations for Nevada courts.
- Provide authoritative written and oral forensic opinions to judges and attorneys in complex criminal proceedings.

Associate Professor, Core Faculty, Psy.D. Program Aug 2018 – Present
California Northstate University, College of Psychology, Rancho Cordova, CA

- Core faculty in the doctoral clinical psychology program; courses include Personality Assessment, Psychometrics, Adult Psychopathology, and Psychopharmacology.
- Dissertation committee supervisor and academic advisor to doctoral candidates.
- Research consultant to medical students in the College of Medicine.
- Committee service: Curriculum, Safety and Security, and Professional and Academic Standards.
- Delivers AMA/APA-accredited continuing education on suicide risk, forensic psychiatry, and psychopharmacology.

Adjunct Professor, Psychopharmacology and Assessment 2024 – Present
William Jessup University, College of Counseling, Rocklin, CA

- Teaches Psychopharmacology and Assessment courses in the Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology program.
- Prepares graduate students for licensure and evidence-based clinical practice in mental health counseling.

Adjunct Professor, Neuroscience and Psychopharmacology Jul 2024 – Present
Kaiser Permanente School of Allied Health Sciences, Richmond, CA
Master of Science in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Program.

- Teaches graduate-level Neuroscience and Psychopharmacology to MFT candidates; integrates neurobiological foundations with clinical licensure preparation.
- Collaborates with the program director to align course content with California MFT licensure standards.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychology (Volunteer) Apr 2020 – Present
University of Nevada, Reno, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Reno, NV

- Teaches in the Advanced Forensic Psychiatry Series; topics include violence risk assessment and applied forensic psychiatric evaluation.

Adjunct Professor Jun 2019 – Jul 2021
Alliant International University, Sacramento, CA

- Taught in the MFT-Psy.D. program; courses included Psychopharmacology, Personality Theory, and Advanced Research Methods and Statistics.

Adjunct Professor (Longstanding Faculty) Nov 2001 – Present
UMass Global (formerly Brandman University, Chapman University System), Irvine, CA

- Teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, including Statistics, Research Design, Scientific Writing, Critical Thinking, Abnormal Psychology, Human Development, Biological Psychology, History and Systems of Psychology, Self, Systems, and Leadership, and Conflict and Negotiation.
- Mentors students on research, graduate training, and clinical career development.

Lecturer Apr 2019 – Jun 2019
University of California, Davis, Department of Psychology, Davis, CA

- Taught Introduction to Clinical Psychology in the undergraduate psychology program.

Licensed Psychologist I, Forensic Evaluator Jul 2019 – Aug 2021
Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Lake's Crossing Center, Sparks, NV
Maximum security forensic psychiatric hospital for mentally disordered offenders.

- Conducted competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, violence risk, and mental health evaluations for Nevada courts.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist (Correctional Contract) Aug 2018 – Jul 2019
Wellpath, El Dorado County Jail, Placerville, CA

- Provided diagnosis, treatment, and suicide risk/self-harm evaluations for incarcerated patients.
- Delivered CBT/DBT psychotherapy targeting PTSD, anxiety, depression, and co-morbid substance use disorders.
- Collaborated with nursing, psychiatry, and custody staff in interdisciplinary treatment planning.

Senior Psychologist, Clinical Director, Mental Health Crisis Bed Unit Jul 2017 – Jul 2018
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Represa, CA

- Served as clinical director for a licensed inpatient Mental Health Crisis Bed (MHCB) unit within a state correctional institution.
- Supervised a multidisciplinary team of clinical psychologists and social workers; led weekly interdisciplinary treatment conferences with psychiatry, nursing, and custody staff.
- Audited clinical documentation and provided regulatory compliance training and performance feedback.

Psychologist, Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU) and Crisis Triage Nov 2015 – Jul 2017
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Represa, CA

- Conducted crisis triage evaluations, suicide risk assessments, and level-of-care placement determinations.
- Facilitated patient returns from the Department of State Hospitals and completed inter-institutional intake evaluations.
- Postdoctoral fellowship and training, 2015 to 2016.

Pre-Doctoral Intern / Registered Psychological Assistant Mar 2015 – Sep 2015
Arden Psychological Services, Police and Forensic Clinical Services, Sacramento, CA

- Trained in forensic evaluations including mental competency, fitness-for-duty, workers' compensation, child custody, and disability evaluations.
- Developed expertise in trauma-informed psychotherapy (CPT) with first responders and trauma-exposed populations.

Pre-Doctoral Intern, CAPIC Internship Placement Aug 2014 – Jan 2015
Psychwest Clinical and Forensic Psychology, Yuba City, CA

- Comprehensive training in forensic evaluations: mental competency, MDO, fitness-for-duty, workers' compensation, child custody, and disability.
- Psychotherapeutic interventions with a diverse outpatient population using CBT approaches.

Police Officer, Mental Health Team (Mobile Crisis Response) Apr 1995 – Nov 2015
Sacramento Police Department, Field Services Division, Sacramento, CA

- Served 20 years with the Sacramento Police Department, culminating in a specialized assignment to the Mental Health Team providing crisis response to acute psychiatric emergencies prior to career transition to psychologist.
- Performed field mental health assessments and long-term case management for chronically mentally ill individuals in the community.
- Field Training Officer (FTO) for seven years; academy instructor in law of search and seizure.
- Additional assignments: acting patrol sergeant, hospital campus officer, and neighborhood police officer.
- Recipient of the Sacramento Police Department Lifesaving Award (2012).

Police Officer, Patrol Division Mar 1988 – Feb 1995
Lodi Police Department, Lodi, CA

- Field patrol officer: calls for service, criminal investigation, enforcement, and court testimony.
- Collateral assignment to the Major Accident Investigation Team (1992 to 1995); specialized training in vehicle collision investigations.

Designated Level I Reserve Deputy Sheriff Jan 1987 – Mar 1988
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, Correctional Services Division, Sacramento, CA

- Completed field patrol training, then assigned to the Correctional Services (Jail) Division.
- Performed custody and correctional duties within the county jail system.

Law Enforcement Academy Graduate, Class of 86-SBRA-1 Sep 1986
Sacramento County Sheriff's Academy, Sacramento, CA

- Completed original law enforcement academy training; graduated September 1986.

PRE-DOCTORAL CLINICAL TRAINING

Clinical Rotation, Neuropsychological Assessment Nov 2011 – Sep 2013
Valley Neuropsychological Services, Sacramento, CA | Supervisor: Stephen Rapaski, PhD

- Trained in comprehensive neuropsychological assessment using gold-standard batteries, including the Wechsler Memory Scale (WMS), Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS), Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery, RCFT, Bender-Gestalt, and others, with application to traumatic brain injury (TBI), neurocognitive decline, and medico-legal referrals.
- Conducted evaluations for TBI sequelae, neurological conditions, and legal referrals requiring expert neuropsychological opinion; developed proficiency in symptom validity and performance validity assessment.
- Carried an active caseload of patients engaged in neurocognitive rehabilitation; implemented best-evidence interventions including compensatory strategy training, cognitive remediation, and goal management frameworks consistent with established neurorehabilitation standards of care.

Clinical Rotation, Forensic and Police/Public Safety Psychology Nov 2013 – Jun 2015
Arden Psychological Services, Sacramento, CA

- Performed comprehensive disability examinations, including neuropsychological batteries (WAIS, WMS), mental status examinations, and workers' compensation injury evaluations across a range of occupational and physical injury claims.
- Conducted police and public safety psychological evaluations, including pre-employment psychological screening and fitness-for-duty assessments for law enforcement agencies.
- Trained in trauma-informed treatment modalities, including Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), with clinical application to first responders and trauma-exposed populations.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & CREDENTIALING

- Psychologist, California Board of Psychology | PSY29037 | 2017 – Present
- Psychologist, Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners | PY0899 | 2019 – Present
- Psychologist, New Mexico Psychologist Examiners Board | 2025-0020 | 2025 – Present
- Attorney, State Bar of California | SBN 249313 | 2007 – Present
- Real Estate Broker, CA Department of Real Estate | DRE 0132407 | 2005 – Present
- National Register of Health Service Psychologists | Registration #77154
- PSYPACT Certified Interjurisdictional Mobility License | #6822

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Psychological Association (APA)
- American Bar Association (ABA)
- American College of Forensic Psychology (ACFP)
- Society for Police and Criminal Psychology (SPCP)
- National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN)
- Nevada Psychological Association (NPA)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- **Eileen Gupton Award for Best Professional Research Presentation.** Society for Police and Criminal Psychology, Austin, Texas, 2016.
- **Lifesaving Award.** Sacramento Police Department, 2012.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Hill, T., Weber, T., Roberts, M., Garzon, H., Fraga, A., Wetterer, C., & Puglisi, J. (2021). Retrospective cross-sectional analysis of demographic disparities in outcomes of CPR performed by EMS providers in the United States. *JRSM Cardiovascular Disease, 10,* 1–12.
- Wetterer, C., & Jacquin, K. (2019). The influence of group socialization on authoritarianism and social dominance orientation in law enforcement culture. *American Journal of Forensic Psychology, 37,* 41–64.
- Shackleford, K., Green, M., Sharrer, E., Wetterer, C., & Shackleford, L. (2015). Setting the stage for social change: Using live theatre to dispel myths about intimate partner violence. *Journal of Health Communication, 20,* 969–976.

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

- Lee, P., & Wetterer, C. (2026). Feigning incompetence to stand trial: A case study of selective legal deficits and symptom exaggeration [Abstract]. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, 41*(Suppl. 2), ii130. https://doi.org/10.1093/arclin/acag065.393

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Lee, P., & Wetterer, C. (2026). Feigning incompetence to stand trial: A case study of selective legal deficits and symptom exaggeration. Poster presented at the National Academy of Neuropsychology Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Zrelak, P.A., & Wetterer, C. (2026). Law enforcement-perpetrated domestic violence: A scoping review of the literature. Paper presented at the Western Institute of Nursing (WIN) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.
- Wetterer, C. (2026). From technical interruption to clinical innovation: Rethinking suicide prevention in the AI era. Invited CE presentation (AMA/APA accredited), California Northstate University.
- Wetterer, C. (2024). Breaking the silence: Unveiling suicide in 2024, trends, neurobiology, and cutting-edge treatments. Professional CE presentation, California Northstate University.
- Wetterer, C. (2023). Risk assessment of justice-involved individuals with autism spectrum disorder. American College of Forensic Psychology 38th Annual Symposium, San Diego, CA.
- Wetterer, C. (2022). Suicide risk assessment in forensic psychiatric and correctional settings. American College of Forensic Psychology 37th Annual Symposium.
- Wetterer, C. (2022). Assessing the risk of violence: The mental health clinician's role in evidence-based risk reduction. CE Series, California Northstate University.

- Wetterer, C., & Kroenlein, M. (2017). Suicide risk and self-harm assessments in correctional settings. Society for Police and Criminal Psychology Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Wetterer, C., & Jacquin, K. (2016). The influence of group socialization on authoritarianism and social dominance orientation in law enforcement culture. SPCP Conference, Austin, TX. [Eileen Gupton Award, Best Professional Research Presentation]
- Wetterer, C., & Bohon, L. (2001). Hypermasculinity and sexual harassment in law enforcement culture. American Psychological Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION & COMMUNITY

Board of Directors, Gubernatorial Appointee · Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners
Appointed by the Governor of the State of Nevada to the state board governing licensure, examination, practice standards, and discipline of psychologists · Jul 2026 – Jun 2030

Peer Reviewer · *The Permanente Journal*
Behavioral Medicine scope · 2021 – Present

Board of Directors · National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Sacramento Chapter
Grassroots mental health advocacy; clinical consultation to leadership · 2021 – 2022

Director, Board of Directors · Volunteer Center of Sacramento
Alternative sentencing program; legal guidance on regulatory and contractual issues · 2012 – 2013

Director, Board of Directors · Mental Health Association of Sacramento
Liaison and consultant on mental health issues in law enforcement · 2001 – 2004

EXPERT WITNESS & LITIGATION CONSULTING

Active expert witness retained in federal and multi-state jurisdictions. Qualified to opine on forensic psychological damages, police practices and use-of-force, eyewitness identification and investigative procedures, competency, criminal responsibility, civil rights, ADA-related psychological impact, and standard of care in healthcare contexts. Deposition and trial testimony experience in death penalty, civil rights, personal injury, and professional negligence matters.

- ***State of Nevada v. Stephan H. Hall (2026 – Present).*** 8th Judicial District Court, Clark County, NV, Case No. C-20-352509 (Dept. 12). Eyewitness identification, memory, and police investigative and identification procedures in a double homicide and attempted murder prosecution. Death penalty case. [Defense]
- ***Cavalaro v. LVMPD et al. (2025 – 2026).*** U.S. District Court, District of Nevada, Case No. 2:25-cv-02234-APG-MDC. Police practices, crowd control and dispersal, use of force, and First Amendment protections in protest dispersal and arrest; deposition testimony rendered November 2026. [Plaintiff]
- ***Ontiveros v. LVMPD (2025 – Present).*** 8th Judicial District Court, Clark County, NV. Police practices, First Amendment protections, and use-of-force standards. [Plaintiff]
- ***Sadora v. Moreggi et al. (2025).*** U.S. District Court, District of Nevada. Forensic psychological impact on graduate student with disability; ADA federal litigation. [Plaintiff]
- ***Leblanc v. Suarez et al. (2025).*** 9th Judicial Circuit Court, Orange County, FL. Standard of care consultation in a professional/medical negligence matter. [Defense]
- ***Knox v. D Winne Hotel, LLC et al. (2024).*** 2nd Judicial District Court, Washoe County, NV. Psychological evaluation; civil emotional damages claim. [Plaintiff]
- ***Giles v. Giles (2024).*** 5th Judicial District Court, Lea County, NM. Psychological evaluation; intentional infliction of emotional distress. [Plaintiff]

- ***Lopez v. SMI-ABQ Assets, LLC et al. (2024).*** 2nd Judicial District Court, Bernalillo County, NM. Psychological testimony; IIED, multiple plaintiffs and defendants. [Plaintiff]
- ***Patterson v. City of Las Vegas (2023).*** U.S. District Court, District of Nevada. Police culture and tactics; deposition testimony rendered October 2023. [Plaintiff]
- ***People v. Salvador Vasquez-Olivia (2023).*** Sacramento County Superior Court. Jury trial testimony on PTSD and brain function. Death penalty case. [Defense]