

# **SWOPE RECONSTRUCTION**

Accident Reconstruction Services

DUI Consultants

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**RICK A. SWOPE**

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **EDUCATION:**

St. Thomas University - Miami, Florida

May 1989

Bachelor of Arts: Criminal Justice

University of Miami - Miami, Florida

December 1995

Master of Science

Master in Technology/Engineering

MOT Program: School of Business and Engineering

### **PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE:**

United States Army, Military Police - Honorable Discharge: Rank Sergeant

July 1974 - July 1977

United States Army, Army National Guard

September 20, 1977 - September 19, 1979

Police Officer, City of Monroe Police Department - Monroe, Michigan

January 2, 1979 - August 24, 1984

Assigned to Road Patrol Division

Handled and investigated traffic accidents and traffic fatalities

Deputy Sheriff, Broward County Sheriff's Office - Fort Lauderdale, Florida

August 27, 1984 - July 27, 1990

Assigned to traffic homicide and DUI unit - administrative coordinator

Accident reconstruction specialist: investigating, reviewing and reconstructing numerous collisions of all types

Additional assignments included working part-time with the Sheriff's Office Training Division, with over 1,000 employees attending the annual Defensive Driving Instruction

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Professional Traffic Accident Reconstructionist

Serving the legal profession in civil and criminal proceedings since 1986

Consultant to various municipalities

Investigating criminal collisions of a complex nature

Consultant to Broward County State Attorney's Office

Accident reconstruction

Consultant to various insurance companies

Providing opinions of a technical nature

Consultant to prosecution and defense attorneys

Criminal and civil cases for both plaintiffs and defendants

Consultant to training and design companies

Offering technical input to training programs developed for law enforcement officers

Consultant in drunk driving cases

Offering technical input as to standardized field sobriety tests, Intoxilyzer 5000 and 5000R, and other breath testing devices

**TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION:**

Northwestern Traffic Institute, Macomb County Community College - Warren, Michigan (January to March 1979)

Presented by Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council

Police Academy/Basic Training Requirements

Northwestern Traffic Institute, Macomb County Community College - Warren, Michigan (January to March 1979)

Presented by Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council

Basic accident investigation and reconstruction

Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan (March 12, 1981)

Search and Seizure

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**Fraternal Order of Police, State Lodge of Michigan Labor Council (May 19, 1981)  
Basic Grievance Training**

**Oakland Police Academy at Oakland Community College (May 5, 1983)  
Michigan Traffic Radar Operator's Training**

**Law Enforcement Officers' Defensive Training Certification (February 10, 1984)  
The Russ Hanke System (Phase I)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (October 1, 1984 to October 16, 1984)  
Criminal Law**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (October 18, 1984)  
Supplemental Training  
Comparative Compliance**

**Broward County Sheriff (April 19, 1985)  
Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
DUI Enforcement/Improved Sobriety Testing  
Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (National Highway Traffic Safety Approved Sobriety Testing and  
Training Course**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (April 29, 1985 to May 14, 1985)  
Case Preparation/Court Testimony**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (September 13, 1985)  
Radar Operator's Course**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (October 1985)  
Breathalyzer Operator/Maintenance**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (February 17-28, 1986)  
Stress Awareness**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (August 4-15, 1986)  
Interviews and Interrogations**

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**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (October 6-17, 1986)**

**Presented at Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**Basic Accident Investigation:**

**On scene accident investigation; traffic homicide investigation; basic physics and formulas in accident investigations; interpretation of roadway and vehicle physical evidence; measurements, diagramming and field sketches of the accident scene; accident investigator techniques; accident photography**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (November 3-7, 1986)**

**Presented at Miami, Florida**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Approved Sobriety Testing and Training Course**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (November 3-7, 1986)**

**Presented at Miami, Florida**

**DWI Instructor (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Approved Sobriety Testing and Training Course)**

**Sheriff of Broward County (November 21, 1986)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**The Integration of Operational Skills for Law Enforcement Officers**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (December 1-12, 1986)**

**Presented at Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**Technical accident investigation:**

**Advanced traffic homicide investigation; advanced formulas and physical evidence interpretation; bulb examination; scale diagramming; tire forensics; time/distance equations; photogrammetry in using perspective graphics; statement taking; diagramming crash information**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (February 2-13, 1987)**

**Presented at Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**Traffic accident reconstruction:**

**Derivation of speed equations; motorcycle speed estimates; tire forensics; conservation of linear momentum speed estimates; weight shift principals and problems; Newton's Law pertaining to collisions; scale drawings; accident photography; seat belts; occupant kinematics; time/distance equations; physical evaluation and interpretation**

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**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (April 13-17, 1987)**

**Photography in traffic accident investigation**

**Camera and video use; collision scene photography; flash and lighting conditions; court admissibility of photographs**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (October 7-9, 1987)**

**Presented at Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

**Bicycle law enforcement seminar:**

**Bicycles in accidents; the bicycle rider; reconstructing the bicycle accident**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (November 16-17, 1987)**

**Presented at Palm Beach County, Florida**

**Investigation of seat belts and child restraint systems**

**Operation of seat belts; the child restraint system; reconstructing the seat belt accident**

**Sheriff of Broward County (December 8, 1987)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**1987/1988 Defensive Driving**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (January 25-29, 1988)**

**DWI Instructor**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Approved Instructor Training in Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus Sobriety Test Procedures**

**Sheriff of Broward County (March 17, 1988)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**1987/1988 Firearms and Tactical Training**

**Breathalyzer Operator/Maintenance - Intoxilyzer 5000 (April 1988)**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (April 28, 1988)**

**Presented at Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College**

**Breathalyzer Qualification 5000: Operation of the breath machine; Intoxilyzer 5000; extrapolation**

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**Sheriff of Broward County (May 5, 1988)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
1987/1988 Skills Development Phase II**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (May 13, 1988)**

**First Responder Instructor Workshop**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (May 23-27, 1988)**

**Advanced Traffic Accident Reconstruction with the use of microcomputers :  
Computer use in accident reconstruction analysis; SLAM, CARS, CRASH Programs; conservation of  
linear momentum; scale diagrams**

**Sheriff of Broward County (July 26-29, 1988)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
AAA Driver Improvement Program Instructor's Course**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (August 15-19, 1988)**

**Inspection of Commercial Vehicles in Accidents/Commercial Vehicle Accident Investigation:  
Weight shift problems and principles; commercial vehicle inspection; conservation of linear  
momentum; trucking laws and requirements**

**Peoples Gas System Fire School - Dade County, Florida (September 14, 1988)**

**Gas and fire emergency training  
Hazards of chemical accidents; symbols on vehicles**

**Sheriff of Broward County (January 6, 1989)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
1988/89 Phase II Firearms In-Service Training**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (February 13-17, 1989)**

**Police Traffic Radar Instructor:  
Use and operation of radar; radar in court and case law; speed estimates**

**Sheriff of Broward County (March 22, 1989)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
AAA Driver Improvement Program**

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**Sheriff of Broward County (June 2, 1989)**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College  
1988/89 Phase III Skills Development In-Service Training**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (June 23, 1989)**

**Chem Test Requal**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (June 26-28, 1989)**

**Symposium on Alcohol and Drug Enforcement - Assistant site coordinator  
Effects of alcohol; horizontal gaze nystagmus; extrapolation; the drunk driver; accident reconstruction principles involving intoxicated drivers**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (August 14-18, 1989)**

**Investigation of Pedestrian Accidents and Human factors:  
Cars vs. pedestrian accidents; throw distance formulas; inspection of vehicle; path and travel of pedestrian; photographing scene; reconstructing scene**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (September 22, 1989)**

**Driving Instructor Course**

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (February 5-7, 1990)**

**Presented at Cape Kennedy, Florida  
Retraining seminar for the traffic accident investigator:  
Conservation of linear momentum; vectoring; scale diagramming; advanced formulas; weight shift**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (October 10, 1990)**

**Intoxilyzer 5000  
Refresher Courses: August 29, 1991; August 13, 1992; August 18, 1993; July 27, 1994**

**SAE Conference - Detroit, Michigan (February 25-28, 1991)**

**Braking and anti-lock braking; computer reconstruction and simulation; vehicle dynamics; technology and animation**

**Engineering Dynamics, University of Miami - Miami, Florida (November 1991)**

**EDC Simulations**

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LARM Class - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (November 1993)

SAE Conference - Detroit, Michigan (February 1994 and March 1994)  
Accident reconstruction and vehicle dynamics

STAPP Car Crash Conference - Fort Lauderdale, Florida (October 31 - November 2, 1994)

SAE Seminar (1994)  
Planning and development of the Saturn automobile

Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (September 13, 1995)  
Human Diversity Concepts

Crash to Verdict Seminar - Atlanta, Georgia (March 21-22, 1996)  
Presented by Pro-Source Companies

1999 SAE Congress - Detroit, Michigan (March 1-3, 1999)  
Comparison testing of bumper isolators  
Derivation of mechanisms of co-efficient of restitution from crash testing  
Characteristics of vehicle deceleration for known hazards  
Crush energy and structural characterization  
Vehicle crash severity assessment in lateral pole impacts  
Computer generated trial exhibits  
An overview of the way EDSMAC4 calculates Delta-V  
Differences between EDVDS and Phase 4  
Side impact simulation  
Acceleration and speed of young pedestrian  
Seat belt survey: identification and assessment of non-collision markings  
Pedestrian models  
Tire disablements  
Rollover analysis  
Sport utility vehicles  
Barrier speed information

SAE Professional and Developmental Program - Troy, Michigan (November 18-19, 1999)  
Brakes: Design and Safety



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**2000 SAE Congress - Detroit, Michigan (March 6, 2000)**

Analysis of lighting parameters during adverse weather conditions

Weather conditions

Tire forces and combined braking and steering

The role of the tire in the steering system

Pedestrian head injuries in vehicle vs. pedestrian impact

An energy based analysis for neck forces in frontal impacts

**SAE Seminar - Troy, Michigan (September 10-11, 2001)**

Braking Performance of Heavy Commercial Vehicles

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

**Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College - Davie, Florida (1985-1995)**

DUI- Standardized Field Sobriety testing (lead instructor)

Accident Investigation

Report Writing

Defensive Driving

Parking Enforcement

Vehicle Dynamics; skid control and handling; pursuit driving; backing drills; mechanics of vehicle inspections; vehicle use

Vehicle crash testing

First Responder: CPR Instructor

Requirements of CPR by American Heart Association; First On Scene Treatment

Courses for Community Service Aides

Assigned to various other teaching settings, such as breath testing, first responder and police scenarios

**Criminal Justice Institute at Palm Beach Community College - Lake Worth, Florida**

Defensive Driving

**Broward County School Board - Fort Lauderdale, Florida (July 1, 1989 to June 30, 1994)**

Substitute teacher

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**Davis Training and Development - Ft. Lauderdale, Florida**

On scene accident investigation; traffic homicide investigation; advanced accident investigation; selective traffic enforcement; vehicle testing procedures; inspection of motor vehicles; traffic homicide reporting; accident photography; measuring and diagramming; hit and run investigation procedures; bulb examinations; advanced formulas; accident reconstruction

**Southern Police Institute - Louisville, Kentucky**

Instructor and site coordinator  
Death investigation

**Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida - Jacksonville, Florida (Instructor)**

DUI - Standardized field sobriety testing

**Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Institute of Continuing Legal Education - Atlanta, Georgia (July 29-30, 1994)**

**Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Institute of Continuing Legal Education - Atlanta, Georgia (December 15-17, 1994)**

**Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and Breathalyzer Testing - Atlanta, Georgia (August 18-20, 1995)**

**Field Sobriety Tests, Washington Foundation for Criminal Justice - Seattle, Washington (February 23-25, 1996)**

**DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing - Atlanta, Georgia (May 31-June 2, 1996)**

**Intoxilyzer Certification Course - Marietta, Georgia (April 9-10, 1997)**

**Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, The Cleveland Bar - Cleveland, Ohio (June 6-8, 1997)**

**Field Sobriety and the Intoxilyzer, Montana Attorneys' Organization - Butte, Montana (September 5-6, 1997)**

**SEMINARS CONDUCTED:**

**Anatomy of the Defense of a DUI Case - Miami, Florida (April 15, 1994)**

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**Scientific Evidence in DUI Cases - Miami, Florida (October 20-21, 27-28, 1994)**

**Formal Review Hearing and DUI Intoxilyzer 5000 - Naples, Florida (March 30, 1995)**

**DUI Trial Tactics - Biloxi, Mississippi (April 28-29, 1995)**

**Trial Tactics in DUI Cases - Atlanta, Georgia (June 2, 1995)**

**Accident Reconstruction and DUI - Harvard Law School (July 20-22, 1995)**

**DUI Trial Tactics - Miami, Florida (September 28, 1995)**

**Advanced Trial Tactics - "Defending the Drunk Driver"**

**Chicago, Illinois - November 3, 1995**

**San Francisco, California - November 10, 1995**

**Atlanta, Georgia - November 17, 1995**

**Orlando, Florida - December 1, 1995**

**Dallas, Texas - December 8, 1995**

**Mastering Scientific Evidence in DUI/DWI Cases - New Orleans, Louisiana (May 3-4, 1996)**

**Accident Reconstruction and Breathalyzer Testing, Hillsborough Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys - Tampa, Florida (May 14, 1996)**

**DUI Breath Testing and the Intoxilyzer 5000 - Miami, Florida (May 17, 1996)**

**Trial Tactics and Testimony, Public Defenders Seminar - Cannan Valley, West Virginia (May 26, 1996)**

**Drive to Stay Alive, Traffic Safety Council, Radio talk show co-speaker with Dr. Rudolph Limpert - Park City, Utah (February 1997)**

**Breath Testing, Hillsborough County Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys - Tampa, Florida (May 14, 1997)**

**Breath Testing and the Intoxilyzer 5000, Breath Test Results - Miami, Florida (October 31, 1997)**

**Breath Testing and the Intoxilyzer 5000, Palm Beach County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers - West Palm Beach, Florida (June 21, 1998)**

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1999 Masters of DUI, The Florida Bar - Miami, Florida (January 22, 1999)  
Intoxilyzer 5000 and its operation

The Art of Winning a DUI Case with Motion Practice - Miami Lakes, Florida (March 12, 1999)

Breath Testing (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Jacksonville, Florida (March 30, 1999)

Accident Reconstruction and the Intoxilyzer, Lorman Education - Jacksonville, Florida (March 30, 2000)

Accident Reconstruction and the Intoxilyzer, Lorman Education - Miami Lakes, Florida (March 31, 2000)

Accident Reconstruction and the Intoxilyzer, Lorman Education - Tampa, Florida (May 4, 2000)

DUI: The Defense of a Difficult Case: West Virginia University, College of Law - Morgantown, West Virginia (October 6, 2000)

Breath Testing/Field Sobriety Testing (Defense of Drinking Drivers), Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia - Atlanta, Georgia (December 7-8, 2000)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Orlando, Florida (July 21, 2000)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Jacksonville, Florida (March 29, 2001)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Tampa, Florida (May 11, 2000)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Orlando, Florida (July 20, 2001)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Jacksonville, Florida (March 14, 2002)

Breath Testing and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Tampa, Florida (May 3, 2002)

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The Intoxilyzer: Is It As Reliable As They Say (2002 Annual Meeting), Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers - Clearwater, Florida ( June 7, 2002)

Taking Apart the Intoxilyzer at Trial: The Technical and the Practical - Real-Life Demonstration with a 5000R (Blood, Breath & Tears IX), Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers - Orlando, Florida (September 20, 2002)

The Intoxilyzer 5000 (DUI: Litigate to Win), Essen, Essen, Susaneck, Canet & Goodis, P.A. - Dania, Florida (November 22, 2002)

The Intoxilyzer Series and Accident Reconstruction (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Jacksonville, Florida (March 13, 2003)

The Intoxilyzer 5000 (Blood, Breath & Tears X), Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers - Orlando, Florida (September 19, 2003)

The Intoxilyzer 5000 and Accident Reconstruction (Defending a DUI: AN Expert's Approach), Essen, Essen, Susaneck, Canet & Goodis, P.A. - Hollywood, Florida (November 7, 2003)

Field Sobriety Tests -Designed for Failure (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Miami, Florida (November 12, 2003)

Breath Testing: Is It All A House of Cards (Strategies in Handling DUI Cases in Florida), Lorman Education - Tampa, Florida (May 21, 2004)

Debunking the Field Sobriety "Test" (2005 Masters of DUI Seminar), The Florida Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee - Miami, Florida (January 21, 2005)

**PUBLICATIONS/TRAINING OUTLINES:**

SWOPE, R.A.: Field Sobriety Test, Part I, DWI Journal Laboratory and Science, June 1993, Volume 6.

SWOPE, R.A.: Field Sobriety Test, Part II, DWI Journal Laboratory and Science, August 1993, Volume 8.

SWOPE, R.A.: Training Course Outlines and Criminal Justice: Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol; At the scene accident investigation; Advanced traffic Homicide; Accident Reconstruction; Report Writing; Parking Enforcement: Criminal Justice Institute at Broward Community College (1985-1995).

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SWOPE, R.A.: Intoxilyzer 5000, DWI Journal Law and Science, September 1995.

REIFF, Robert: Drunk Driving and Related Offenses (First Edition); SWOPE, R.A.: Chapter entitled: Accident Investigation and Reconstruction, Michie (1997).

SWOPE, R.A.: It's Okay to Lie as Long as You're the State: Part I.. DWI Journal Law and Science, May 1998.

SWOPE, R.A.: It's Okay to Lie as Long as You're the State: Part II.. DWI Journal Law and Science, September 1998.

REIFF, Robert: Drunk Driving and Related Offenses (Second Edition); SWOPE, R.A.: Chapter entitled: Accident Investigation and Reconstruction, Matthew Bender & Co., Inc. (1999).

**MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS:**

Maryland Association of Traffic Accident Investigators, Inc.

National Association of Traffic Accident Reconstructionists

Society of Automotive Engineers

FAA Society of Automotive Engineers

Broward County Police Benevolent Association

Certified PADI - Open Water Diver

TIGHAR

International Association for Management of Technology (IAMOT)

Florida Sheriff's Association, Business Member