

Paranormal "U"**Responsibilities and Ethics of Paranormal Investigating**

by Carl Crooks, TnT Paranormal Investigators_{LLC} - IL Chapter

When considering what your responsibilities are when doing a paranormal investigation; and what are the ethics involved in this type of endeavor, it is easy to break all of this down into three categories: Yourself and your Team, your Client, and the Field of paranormal investigating.

Your Team: First off, is the team you are on or will be joining a good fit for you? This is an important thing for you to understand. Are the team goals and expectations the same as yours? Will the policies and procedures your team will follow the type that works for you?

Your Team:

- Always have permission from the owner to be on the property that you are investigating.
- Show respect to the property that you are investigating; do not remove any items from the property and always clean up after yourself.
- Honor the commitments you have made to your team members
- Be responsible for your behavior and be sure your team members do the same
- Only provide services you are equipped to provide
- Dress appropriately for the investigation
- Only use trigger objects and never use any type of provoking behavior
- No drugs or drinking before or during the investigation
- Follow the laws of the community that you are working in
- Do not smoke around the investigation site; you would not want to contaminate the environment and get false positives
- Always work in teams of twos or threes
- If you become freaked out by something, leave the area calmly; never run
- Stay up on your training and always understand how your equipment works
- And maybe the most important thing for your team and consequently your client; All members should receive a criminal background check

Your Client:

- The most important thing between your team and the client is for you to know what the expectations of your client are
- Never charge for an investigation; simply put, how can you accept money for something that you did that you cannot prove you did
- We recommend having an agreement on confidentiality with the client
- Never give out the name of the client or location or the address
- Use a generic case number to help keep the client information secret
- Be sure to follow-up with the client after the investigation
- Get back to the client in a timely manner
- Never fake evidence or what we call, data
- If in doubt, throw it out; your team's reputation is always on the line so be sure you can confidently say that something is paranormal

Bumps in the Night!!!!

January 2016 - Issue No. 64

Paranormal "U"

Responsibilities and Ethics of Paranormal Investigating

- Honor your commitments to the client, and only commit to things you are trained to do
- Be careful what you say to your client; clients may over exaggerate what you tell them so be very clear and avoid sharing any findings until you are prepared to give them
- Be sure the client is okay after you leave

The Field:

- And as stated above, Never fake data and when in doubt, throw it out
- Use the most scientific and logically based investigation approach that you can
- Make conclusions and statements that are based on facts and not assumptions
- Always have permission to investigate a property and be sure it is safe; there are many stories in the news about trespassing, fires being set, drinking and drugging and these news items get a lot of attention and discredit the field

Property of
TnT Paranormal Investigators LLC
Do not copy or reproduce without permission