

SO, YOU WANT TO BE A P.I.?



When you think about private investigators, do you think about Magnum, PI, Moonlighting, or Charlie's Angels? These were sitcom television shows that were popular in the 1980's.

These shows were indeed fun to watch, but they are very different than the real life investigations that are conducted on a daily basis at Interstate Reporting Co., Inc.



Acting like a television detective during surveillance can land you in jail; in fact, almost everything that is 'cool' in television is illegal to do.

The job of an investigator requires patience, tenacity, attention to detail, and the ability to blend in at any type of situation.

On one day, an investigator could be freezing in his / her vehicle watching a subject's house for eight to ten hours with absolutely no activity from the subject. The next day an investigator could be walking around the Summerfest grounds, trailing closely, and using hidden camera devices.

No two days and no two cases are the same.

SO, DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

INVESTIGATOR DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

VALID STATE OF WISCONSIN PRIVATE DETECTIVE LICENSE.

VALID STATE OF WISCONSIN DRIVER'S LICENSE.

VALID SURVEILLANCE APPROVED VEHICLE WITH LIMO TINT (NON-NEGOTIABLE):

- ✓ Minivan or van, sport utility vehicle, or truck with extended cab (full-size or mini okay).
- ✓ Neutral color and body style. No custom paint schemes allowed.
- ✓ Keep and maintain vehicle insurance.

CAMCORDER AND DIGITAL RECORDER EQUIPMENT.

Other equipment as needed; assistance available from Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. - see checklist attached.

TRAVEL REQUIRED:

Approximately 30% overnight/hotel stays.

- ✓ Must be willing to travel throughout the state of Wisconsin.
- ✓ One day you may be in Stevens Point, and the next day in Milwaukee.
- ✓ All cases either start or end from office or hotel.

THIS POSITION DOES NOT HAVE SET HOURS:

We cannot determine the kinds of cases that we will get into our office.

- ✓ Most of our investigations are conducted between 7:00 am – 5:00 pm. This is an average.
- ✓ Most of our cases start by 6:00 am – 7:00 am. This can be anywhere in the state, and doesn't take into account travel time. So for example, we may have a case that needs to be started in Madison by 7:00 am. The investigator may have to leave their house by 5:00 am to allow enough time to stop into our office, review the case, and then arrive at the case by 7:00 am.
- ✓ We conduct surveillance 24/7 365 days a year. All investigators must work weekends. Overtime will be required throughout the year.
- ✓ Keep in mind that an investigator may receive an assignment that we believe should end at 3:00 pm, but if the subject is active (or has been active in the last hour, or we believe may become active again soon) the investigator may have to work until 7:00 pm at the last minute.

THIS POSITION MUST WORK WELL INDEPENDENTLY:

Investigators spend many hours a day alone in a vehicle.

- ✓ Investigators must always remain alert and ready to react to a situation at a moment's notice.
- ✓ We do conduct multi-person investigations, which require investigators to work as a team.
- ✓ The investigator must be able to make quick independent decisions about following the subject, filming in all weather conditions, etc.
- ✓ All Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. paperwork must be completed accurately, correctly, and timely.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

INVESTIGATORS WILL BE TESTIFYING IN COURT PROCEEDINGS:

Investigators must present themselves in a professional manner and work well with everyone on the legal team. You must be able to exchange accurate information in these situations.

A TYPICAL SURVEILLANCE DAY IS USUALLY NOT TYPICAL:

Each case is different, but we use the same tools to help ensure that our investigators provide top-notch investigations to our customers.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Physical demand is a consideration for a surveillance investigator. You must be able to remain in a stationary position constantly during some shifts; and in others you may be frequently moving from front seat to back seat inside your vehicle to take up mobile surveillance. Consistent operation of small cameras, devices, and tripods are required. Night time driving is a must. Remember, you will be constantly driving and sitting in your vehicle in all weather conditions.

INVESTIGATORS ARE PROFESSIONALS AND NEED TO CONTINUE TO ADVANCE THEMSELVES WITH EITHER CEU, SEMINARS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND/OR DEGREES:

Interstate Reporting will work with individual investigators to achieve personal growth, as well as advanced skills development.

THE INVESTIGATOR POSITION IS AT THE ROOT OF OUR BUSINESS:

It is a vital position to our organization, but the requirements and long hours do not make it a good fit for everyone.

***Please examine closely your personality and lifestyle.
This position can be extremely fulfilling and satisfying, but it is not for everyone.***

The Investigator-Surveillance position is where all investigators start at Interstate Reporting Co., Inc.
As other positions become available, investigators have room to grow into specialty areas.

SO, STILL INTERESTED?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DO I NEED A LICENSE TO WORK AS A PRIVATE DETECTIVE IN WISCONSIN?

Yes, please refer to:
<http://dsps.wi.gov/Licenses-Permits/PrivateDetective>

IS THERE AN EXAM TO BECOME A PRIVATE DETECTIVE IN WISCONSIN?

Yes, please refer to the website above.

DO I NEED TO WORK FOR A P.I. AGENCY BEFORE I CAN GET MY PRIVATE DETECTIVE LICENSE?

Yes.

HOW DOES THE HIRING PROCESS AT INTERSTATE REPORTING CO., INC. WORK IF YOU DO NOT ALREADY HAVE A P.I. LICENSE IN WISCONSIN?

Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. will make a contingent offer of employment to an individual who does not have their private detective license in Wisconsin.

When the candidate signs the contingent job offer, Interstate Reporting Co., inc. will sign off on the candidates P.I. application. Showing the candidate will worker under the Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. agency license.

The candidate is required to complete and mail the application to the state with all applicable fees.

- ✓ *Please note that Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. does not pay any fees associated with obtaining the P.I. license. This position requires a license prior to training.*

Fees as of September 15, 2015 for a P.I. license is \$202.00.

The candidate must get their fingerprints submitted electronically for a background check.

- ✓ Schedule an appointment with the Department's approved vendor Fieldprint, by visiting their website at <http://www.FieldprintWisconsin.com>
- ✓ Use the Fieldprint code "FPWISecurity" when prompted. The cost for the digital fingerprints will be \$39.25 and is expected at the time of reservation. You should plan to arrive at the test center 15 minutes before the scheduled start time of the appointment for check-in.

YOU MUST SUBMIT YOUR P.I. LICENSE APPLICATION WITHIN 14 DAYS OF BEING FINGERPRINTED

While your application is being approved, the candidate should be studying and reviewing the suggested reading, which can be found at the following website: <http://dsps.wi.gov/Licenses-Permits/PrivateDetective>

You will be notified electronically once you are approved to take the exam.

CHECKLIST

INVESTIGATOR MUST HAVE CHECKLIST:

The following are the minimum requirements which must always be valid and available during employment:

- ✓ State of Wisconsin Private Detective License, and listed as an Interstate Reporting Co., Inc. employee with the State of Wisconsin Department of Safety & Professional Services.
- ✓ Valid Wisconsin Driver's License and insurance on your surveillance vehicle.
- ✓ Pass and maintain a clear background record.
- ✓ Approved surveillance vehicle with valid insurance and tinted windows.
- ✓ Approved compatible camcorder, tripod, digital voice recorder, back-up camera, as well as all backup batteries, cords, and car chargers as needed..
- ✓ Cell phone.
- ✓ Laptop or tablet for internet while away from the office. (Smart phones may cover this.)
- ✓ Suit and / or dress clothes to testify in.
- ✓ Overnight change of clothes, disguise, or your 'go bag'.
- ✓ Other props, gadgets, and disguises to be determined. These items may include; binoculars, orange traffic cones, safety vest, hard hat, clipboards, traffic count signs, safety light, etc.

NOW, DO YOU WANT TO BE A P.I.?