

Dean S. Molnar, Jr.
Biographical Information & CV

Mr. Dean Molnar is a highly trained and exceptionally experienced firearm and tool mark examiner, crime scene and firearms trajectory analyst, and a proven leader in the field of forensic science operations and quality assurance.

Mr. Molnar has over 25 years of experience as a certified law enforcement officer and State Trooper, and over 17 years of experience serving as a firearm and tool mark examiner, firearms and tool mark unit supervisor, and laboratory director with the Michigan State Police (MSP) Forensic Science Division. His experience as a forensic firearm and tool mark examiner includes recognized expert testimony in over 140 criminal cases in both state and federal courts involving both firearms and tool mark identification, crime scene investigation, and shooting reconstruction.

Mr. Molnar's leadership experience has included firearms unit supervisor duties at three different laboratories. In addition, he has spent considerable time working special assignments to support the division's priorities in leading and mentoring young examiners and training many others. He currently serves in a key role as the Laboratory Director at the Michigan State Police-Lansing Laboratory where he is specifically assigned as the operations director for pattern disciplines.

Dean also has over seven years of quality assurance experience as an ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) assessor and has considerable understanding concerning how quality and continuous improvement must intersect with both scientific lab practice and crime scene operations within an accredited laboratory.

Mr. Molnar's years of experience includes almost 15 years of ongoing training within an extremely professional and accredited crime scene processing program at MSP, along with even more specialized training in firearms trajectory analysis. He has personally processed over 60 homicide scenes during his career, including scenes involving shooting reconstruction, photography, and documentation.

Mr. Molnar holds a Bachelor of Science in Fire Science and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Lake Superior State University. He is a long-time member of the Association of Firearms and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) and is also a member of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD).

Mr. Molnar's complete CV can be found below.





DEAN S. MOLNAR, JR.

P.O. Box 70

Frankenmuth, MI 48734

Telephone: (734) 735-9620

Email: molnarforensics@gmail.com

Curriculum Vitae

Education:

Institution	Major	Degree Completed
Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, MI	Criminal Justice	Bachelor of Science
Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie, MI	Fire Science	Bachelor of Science

Employment History:

(1) Job Title: Firearms and Shooting Reconstruction Consultant March 2026 – *Present*

Employer: Riley, Welch, LaPorte & Associates Forensic Laboratories

Principal Duties: As a Forensic Consultant with Riley, Welch, LaPorte & Associates, Mr. Molnar provides independent technical review and expert analysis in criminal and civil matters involving firearm and toolmark identification, shooting incident reconstruction, firearms trajectory analysis, and crime scene reconstruction. His work focuses on evaluating whether firearm examinations, laboratory documentation, trajectory analyses, and investigative conclusions are supported by accepted scientific principles, validated methodologies, and established forensic practices. He conducts comprehensive reviews of laboratory case files, microscopic comparison documentation, firearm function testing, trajectory analyses, crime scene photographs, diagrams, and related investigative materials to determine whether examinations and conclusions are scientifically reliable and consistent with applicable laboratory procedures and accreditation standards, including ISO/IEC 17025. Mr. Molnar also evaluates the technical sufficiency of shooting reconstruction methodologies, bullet path determinations, scene documentation, and firearm-related evidence interpretation, providing case-specific opinions regarding the reliability, limitations, and forensic significance of the evidence. Drawing upon his extensive experience as a firearm and toolmark examiner, crime scene and trajectory analyst, laboratory supervisor, laboratory director, and ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation assessor, he



provides consultation, affidavit review, expert reports, and testimony that translate complex forensic firearm and shooting reconstruction issues into clear, objective opinions that can be readily understood and evaluated by attorneys, judges, and juries.

(2) Job Title: Laboratory Director (Detective First Lieutenant) 2026–Present

Employer: Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division

Principal Duties: As Laboratory Director of the Michigan State Police Lansing Laboratory, Mr. Molnar serves as the executive administrator of an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited forensic laboratory. He directs laboratory operations, personnel, budgeting, strategic planning, quality assurance, accreditation compliance, and stakeholder engagement while ensuring scientifically reliable and timely forensic services. He oversees pattern evidence disciplines, mentors supervisory personnel, leads continuous improvement initiatives, and represents the laboratory before executive leadership, prosecutors, investigators, and partner agencies.

(3) Job Title: Firearms and Toolmarks Unit Supervisor (Detective Specialist Lieutenant)
2020–2026

Employer: Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division

Principal Duties: Mr. Molnar supervised Firearms and Toolmarks Units serving multiple laboratories throughout Michigan. He directed examiner assignments, technical reviews, quality systems, personnel development, workload distribution, scheduling, and operational planning while ensuring compliance with accreditation standards and accepted forensic practices. He provided technical leadership, mentored new examiners, and supported statewide initiatives involving firearms identification, laboratory modernization, and continuous improvement.

(4) Job Title: Firearms and Toolmarks Examiner 2009–2020

Employer: Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division

Principal Duties: As a Firearms and Toolmarks Examiner, Mr. Molnar performed microscopic examinations of firearms, fired bullets, cartridge cases, ammunition components, and related evidence. He prepared formal reports and provided expert testimony in more than 140 criminal proceedings in state and federal courts. He also responded to homicide scenes to conduct trajectory reconstruction, document firearm evidence, process crime scenes, and assist investigators in reconstructing shooting events. His responsibilities included validation studies, research participation, examiner training, and maintaining technically defensible forensic methodologies.



(5) Job Title: Trooper 2004–2009

Employer: Michigan Department of State Police, Uniform Services Division

Principal Duties: Performed patrol, criminal investigations, advanced traffic crash investigation, child forensic interviewing, and other statewide law enforcement duties, establishing the investigative foundation that complemented his later forensic science career.

(6) Job Title: Deputy Sheriff 2003–2004

Employer: Clinton County Sheriff's Office

Principal Duties: Performed patrol, investigations, evidence collection, report preparation, and coordination with prosecutors and allied agencies.

(7) Job Title: Deputy Sheriff 2001–2003

Employer: Missaukee County Sheriff's Department

Principal Duties: Performed general patrol and investigative responsibilities, evidence handling, and community policing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2026-Present Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Lansing South Laboratory Director, Detective/First Lieutenant, Lansing, MI

2025-2026 Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Supervisor of the Lansing Firearm and Toolmarks Unit, Detective/Specialist Lieutenant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Lansing, MI

2025-2025 Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Supervisor of the Bridgeport Firearm and Toolmarks Unit, Detective/Specialist Lieutenant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Bridgeport, MI, Temporary project reassignment

2023-2025 Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Supervisor of the Lansing Firearm and Toolmarks Unit, Detective/Specialist Lieutenant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Lansing, MI

2020-2023 Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Supervisor of the Bridgeport and Grayling Firearm and Toolmarks Units, Detective/Specialist Lieutenant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Bridgeport, MI

2014-2020 Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division, Detective /Specialist Sergeant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Detroit, MI

- 2011-2014** Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division,
Detective/Specialist Sergeant Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Northville, MI
- 2009-2011** Michigan Department of State Police, Forensic Science Division,
Detective Trooper Firearms and Toolmarks Unit, Northville, MI
- 2004-2009** Michigan Department of State Police, Uniform Service Division, Trooper:
Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Advance Accident Investigator, Child Forensic
Interviewer, and Child Safety Seat Inspector
- 2003-2004** Clinton County Sheriff's Office, Deputy:
Patrol and Investigations
- 2001-2003** Missaukee County Sheriff's Department, Deputy:
Patrol and Investigations

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- 2026** Association of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Conference, May
Midwest Crime Laboratory Directors Conference, July
- 2025** Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) Conference,
October
- 2024** Midwest AFTE Conference, Grand Rapids, October
Elimination on Individual Characteristics, March
- 2023** Michigan State Police Supervisor Academy, June
- 2022** Michigan State University School of Staff and Command, January through June
- 2021** Virtually attended Association of Firearms and Tool mark Examiners Conference,
August
- 2019** Machining for the Firearm Examiner, Precision Forensic Testing, April
Glock Armorer Course, September
Integrated Ballistics Identification System Data Acquisition, October
- 2018** Cumberland County Sheriff's Office Fired Bullet and Cartridge Case Study
Cadre Forensics Virtual Comparison Microscopy – Error Rate Study
The University of Alabama at Birmingham Bullet Research Study
Attended the Midwest AFTE Seminar, October





2017	ANAB Lab Assessor Training, December
2016	Daubert Training, October
2015	Subclass Seminar, October
2014	Smith & Wesson Armorer Course, January Leadership Enhancement Workshop, December
2013	Leadership in Police Organizations, September through November
2012	Forensic Shooting Reconstruction School, Noedel Scientific, October Glock Armorer Course, December Sig Sauer Armorer Course, December
2010	Participated in Miami-Dade 10 Consecutive Slide Test, February Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners Conference, May History of Firearms Development by D/Sgt/Spl Robert Rayer, January RUGER Armorer Course (Mini-14, LCP, P-Series Pistols), February Headstamp and Ammunition Seminar, Forensic Ammunition Service, Inc. Training, February Brundage 10 Consecutive Barrel Test, July Serial Number Restoration Training, August Gun Shot Residue/Distance Determination Training, November
2009	National Forensic Science Technology Center (Firearms and Tool Mark Training), August 2009-December 2010
2008	Forensic Child Interview, November
2006	Accident Investigation Training, October Railroad Crossing Crash Investigation, December
2004	Michigan Department of State Police 120 th Recruit School
2001	Lake Superior State University MCOLES Training (Police Officer Certification Training)



LABORATORY / FACTORY TOURS

- 2026** Iowa State Crime Laboratory Tour, July
- 2019** North Carolina State Police, Raleigh Laboratory Firearms Unit Tour, April
Vermont Forensic Science Laboratory Tour, May
Federal Ammunition Tour, July
- 2018** Indiana State Police, Indianapolis Laboratory Tour, October
- 2016** Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Central Laboratory Tour (Richmond), June
- 2014** Michigan State Police, Grayling Laboratory Tour, December
- 2013** Michigan Ammo Tour, August
Michigan State Police, Bridgeport Laboratory Tour, August
- 2011** East Coast Manufacturing Tour, May
Manufactures visited – Drill Master, Mossberg, Wilson Arm's, Savage, Smith & Wesson, Meyhew Tools, Sig Sauer, Ruger, Remington and Channellock
Michigan State Police, Sterling Heights Laboratory Tour, July
- 2010** Hi-Point Firearms, Factory Tour, January
Forensic Ammunition Service, Ammunition Tour, January
- 2009** Michigan State Police, Lansing Laboratory Tour, August

EXPERT TESTIMONY

United States District Court – Eastern District of Michigan Detroit (3)
United States District Court – Eastern District of Michigan Port Huron (1)
3rd Circuit Court – Wayne County (113)
6th Circuit Court – Oakland County (1)
7th Circuit Court – Genesee County (9)
10th Circuit Court – Saginaw County (5)
16th Circuit Court – Macomb County (4)
18th Circuit Court – Bay County (2)
22nd Circuit Court – Washtenaw County (4)
30th Circuit Court – Ingham County (5)
37th Circuit Court – Calhoun County (6)
38th Circuit Court – Monroe County (1)
39th Circuit Court – Lenawee County (1)

44th Circuit Court – Livingston County (1)
36th District Court – Wayne County (3)

ANAB LABORATORY ASSESSMENT

2022 Saint Paul Police Department Forensic Service Unit, October

2020 Kentucky State Police Forensic Science Laboratory (Central and Eastern),
Firearm and Toolmark Units, August

2019 Vermont Forensic Science Laboratory, Firearm and Toolmark Unit, May

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

2009-Present Member of the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners
(AFTE)
Member of the AFTE Technical Procedures Manual Sub-
Committee (2016-2023)
Member of the Quality Assurance Subcommittee (2015-2016)

2026-Present Member of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors
(ASCLD)

PRESENTATIONS / INSTRUCTION

Firearm and Bullet presentation for the University of Michigan Health-Sparrow Medical
Examiner Investigators – September 2024

Firearm and Tool Mark examination presentation for the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office –
July 2024

Firearms portion of Evidence Technician school – June 2024

Trained 3 new Firearms Examiners and 1 new NIBIN Technician, Lansing Laboratory – January
2023

Firearm and Tool Mark examination presentation for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office –
August 2019

Co-Instructed a Criminalistics Course at Wayne State University, September – December 2018

Trained new NIBIN Technician (firearms portion), May 2017





Taught Firearms History & Firearms Identification History at Wayne State University, January 2015

Assisted in training four Metropolitan Detroit Firearm Examiners, August – December 2014

Trained new NIBIN Technician (firearms portion), January 2014

Firearms portion of multiple Evidence Technician schools, 2013

Firearm Clearing and Safety Power Point Presentation, 2013

History of Centerfire Firearms, Michigan State Police Lansing Laboratory, June 2010

Firing Systems, Michigan State Police Northville Laboratory, February 2010

Temporary Staff Instructor for Kiwanis Academy for Police Training, Summers of 2002, 2003 and 2004





Riley Welch LaPorte
— & Associates —
FORENSIC LABORATORIES

