



Adrian Parsons

Adrian retired as a constable from Kent Police in October 2020 having worked in the drugs field for over 26 years. He is a DET (DTLLS) qualified trainer and joined Kent Police in 2002 after serving nearly 10 years in Lincolnshire Police. His interest in illicit drugs markets started when he took over the combined roles of Field Intelligence Officer & Drug Liaison Officer in "*the finest stone town in England*", Stamford, Lincolnshire.

From there he moved into a drugs targeting team based in Grantham and stayed in the drugs field for the remainder of his police career. He is a founder member of the Law Enforcement project to screen banknotes to determine levels of cocaine contamination in support of POC applications. This cash testing regime is still in operation today across a number of forces resulting in enhanced levels of drug proceeds being fed back into the CJS.

He has provided evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry on the Cocaine Trade & briefed the Home Secretary & ACMD on Policing the Night-Time Economy. He was also an active member, & co-author, of the Home Office DTK Committee that published HOC 015/2012 regarding the use of Drug Testing Kits & Cannabis Identification within UK Law Enforcement. His involvement with this committee in 2012 initially saw his own force save in excess of £40k a year in cannabis laboratory submissions, which was then replicated across the country saving the wider police organisation in excess of £2m a year.

For the last 10 years of his Police service Adrian worked very closely with Dr David Potter, the botanical director of GW Pharmaceuticals. With Dr Potter, Adrian has delivered cannabis training to over 1000 UK police officers. He has been involved in a number of drug related documentaries including National Geographic, BBC3, Channel 4, Sky Tv & the Home Office 'Pablo' campaign.

Adrian has been providing opinion evidence in the courts for over 15 years and through the delivery of the UK's leading drug expert witness course has provided drug expert training to over 400 UK police officers.

Up until his retirement he was the association secretary of the National Law Enforcement Drug Expert Witness and Valuation Association (DEWVA) and he was, and still is, a committee member of the Association of Police Controlled Drug Liaison Officers (APCDLO).

Since his retirement he has continued delivering bespoke drugs training courses to UK law enforcement, become a CEPOL (European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training) registered expert and acts as a consultant, and Op Venetic report writer, to Bedfordshire Police.