

Steven C. Drielak President Drielak & Associates Inc.

Steven C. Drielak is an internationally recognized expert in the area of environmental forensic attribution. He received his Master's degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. He has over 30 years of law enforcement experience in senior management and senior leadership positions. Steven was responsible for the establishment of the Suffolk County, New York Environmental Crime Unit and commanded that unit for 16 years. During his tenure in Suffolk County he collected forensic and environmental contamination evidence at over 500 crime scenes. For the past 12 years, Steven has served as a Director within the EPA's Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training. As the Director of the EPA's National Criminal Enforcement Response Team, he was responsible for deploying law enforcement forensic evidence collection teams to numerous environmental crime scenes throughout the United States including BP Alaska's Prudhoe Bay oil pipeline failure, the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster and the West Texas Fertilizer Company explosion. Steven has authored and co-authored numerous text books in the areas of Environmental Crimes, Weapons of Mass Destruction and Forensic Attribution. He currently serves as an appointed member of the President's Interagency Microbial Forensics Advisory Board in Washington D.C. and serves on the International Association of Chiefs of Police Environmental Crimes Committee. Steven Drielak has provided expert testimony at numerous state and federal criminal trials involving the release of hazardous substances to the environment.

Criminal Environmental Enforcement Advanced Lecture Series



- ♦ Crime Scenes: What Not To Do
- ♦ Search Warrants: Developing Probable Cause
- ♦ Search Warrants: Planning & Execution
- ♦ Environmental Crime: Investigative Techniques
- ♦ Hot Zone Forensics
- ♦ Environmental Prosecutions: Forensic Evidence Trial Issues

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Criminal Enforcement Today

In any criminal environmental prosecution, the evidentiary standard to which the chemical, biological and radiological evidence will be held will be that of "beyond a reasonable doubt." Unfortunately, the vast majority of criminal environmental evidence collection protocols used today have been designed to meet only a civil or regulatory standard. While these evidence collection protocols may be acceptable within these venues, they may prove to be woefully inadequate in obtaining a criminal conviction within our adversarial based criminal justice system.



The Prosecution's Challenges



Drielak & Associates Inc., with its 30 years of environmental crime investigative experience, has identified 5 major areas of vulnerability in a criminal environmental prosecution. These 5 areas alone will generate a defense discovery request for dozens of specific documents and produce over 100 cross examination questions for the government's technical witnesses.

Criminal Defense Strategies

In environmental crime prosecutions, the quality of the analysis will be determined by the quality of the evidence sample. The quality of that evidence sample will be determined by the evidence collection protocols, proper equipment preparation and the adequate training of those individuals who are wholly or partially responsible for the collection of that evidence. If these basic principles are called into question, then the quality of the analysis and final results of that analysis will also be questioned.

Services

Drielak & Associates Inc. will provide training and consultation services for prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement officers and technical support personnel involved in criminal environmental enforcement matters.

Prosecutors

Investigative Guidance
Search Warrant Planning
Evidence Evaluation
Trial Preparation

Defense Attorneys

Law Enforcement & Technical Support

Search Warrants
Investigative Techniques
Hot Zone Forensics
OSHA Requirements
Trail Preparation