



# SAFE (Safe and Accessible Forensic Interviewing with Elders) Training

## 2-Day Training Overview

SAFE (Safe Accessible Forensic Interviewing for Elders) Training was developed to meet the growing need for victim-centered, trauma-informed interview techniques for use with older adults in criminal contexts.

The SAFE Two-Day training is designed for elder justice professionals seeking to gain additional information on communicating with older adults who are alleged victims of crime. This training is for Adult Protective Services workers, law enforcement, district attorneys, attorneys general, victim services professionals, medical professionals, etc. While this is not a course specifically designed for forensic interviewers, it is intended for professionals to increase their understanding and skills for communicating with older adults who are alleged victims of abuse and neglect. The training is founded in forensic interviewing best practices with considerations and adaptations to account for age related declines in cognition, underlying neuropathology (e.g., dementia, Alzheimer's), language capacity and cultural background. This training may be used towards law enforcement annual in-service training obligation.

*This training is in collaboration with Modell Consulting Group, LLC.*

### Headshot and Bio of Presenter:

Dermot Whelan is a Senior Consultant for Modell Consulting Group, LLC. In his role, Mr. Whelan is responsible for teaching and co-authoring trainings for forensic interviewing and investigations involving victims with disabilities.

Mr. Whelan was instrumental in the development of an advanced Forensic Interviewing Protocol for interviewing individuals with disabilities. Prior to joining MCG, Mr. Whelan served as a Criminal Investigator with the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs where he was responsible for conducting and supervising criminal investigations involving victims who receive services through New York State operated, licensed, or certified agencies.



**Dates:** April 1-2, 2026

### Times:

9:00 am- 4:30 pm (Local Time) both days

### Location:

55 Farmington Ave Hartford, CT, 06105

### Registration link:

<https://forms.gle/xPQKFaqGsDwLxzFt5>

**Lunch will be provided both days thanks to generous donations from The Alzheimer's Association and AARP. POST credits, CLEs and 13 SW CEUs will be offered. This program has been approved for Continuing Education Credit Hours by the National Association of Social Workers, CT and meets the continuing education criteria for CT Social Work Licensure renewal.**

**This training is limited to 75 participants**

Completion of this course does not confer expertise as interviewing expertise is attained through repeated training and practice. However, this course provides the basic tools needed to understand elder abuse and effectively communicate with older adults.

