

# Bryan J. Sweeney, Ph.D.

## Curriculum Vitae

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Licensed Psychologist #32939  
Texas Psychology Services  
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### **EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Philosophy, 2002.** Counseling Psychology. The University of Houston. Dissertation, “Variables Related to Intrinsic Motivation in High School Level Athletes.”  
**Master of Arts, 1998.** General Psychology. Sam Houston State University. Master’s Thesis, “Detecting Deception in Eyewitness Testimony Using Descriptive Detail Analysis.”  
**Bachelor of Arts, 1996.** Psychology. Baylor University.

### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

- 7/05-present     **Psychologist, Texas Psychology Services, PLLC. (Co-founder)** - Counseling, Forensic, and Corporate Psychology, Houston, TX. Services include forensic, clinical, counseling, sports, and corporate psychology. Provide psychological services to adults, adolescents, children, families and couples. Currently see over 50 clients per week. Expert in the field of forensic psychology. **Over 70% of practice dedicated to forensic psychology.**
- 9/02-7/05        **Staff Psychologist.** Life Skills Support Center, Barksdale AFB, LA. Provided psychological services to active duty United States Air Force members. Served as both a forensic consultant and forensic expert on a number of criminal cases. Completed fitness for duty evaluations for many military career fields to include Security Forces, Intelligence, and Military Training Leaders and Instructors. Worked closely with ADAPT and Family Advocacy, often doing evaluations for both services. Chief, Critical Incident Stress Management Team.
- 7/01-9/02        **Clinical Psychology Intern.** Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB. San Antonio, TX. Clinical experience focused on the needs of active duty United States Air Force members, retirees, dependents, and basic trainees. Major rotations included:
- Forensic Psychology** – 2 months – certified as expert in field of Forensic Psychology; provided expert testimony US v Hogan, 2002.
  - Clinical Health Psychology** – consultation service – 4 months
  - Life Skills Support Center** – outpatient mental health clinic – 4 months
  - Behavioral Analysis Service**-basic trainee mental health evaluations –2 months
  - Primary Care Behavioral Health Consultant** – 1 month
- 8/00 – 7/01     **M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Pediatrics.** Houston, Texas. 16-hour-per-week practicum site focusing on children and families of children with cancer. Duties include; play therapy, individual psychotherapy, group facilitation, neurological testing, personality assessment and vocational counseling. .

- 8/99 – 6/00 **University of Houston –Counseling and Psychological Services**, Houston, Texas. 16 hour-per-week practicum site focusing on a racially diverse population of students and staff members at the University of Houston. Individual therapy, intake interviewing, multicultural training, academic and psychological assessment, crisis intervention, and outreach presentation and workshops served as major focus areas for the site.
- 9/99 – 6/00 **Counselor/Mentor:** University of Houston Athletic Department. Responsibilities included: psychological and academic counseling for 8 student-athletes participating in various Division I sports for the University of Houston athletic programs.
- 9/98 – 9/99 **Dual Diagnosis Consultant.** Montgomery/Walker County Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Responsibilities include: preparation and presentation of Dual Diagnosis training's to various agencies in and around the Huntsville area, formation and implementation of a Dual Diagnosis Task Force, and participation in radio and newspaper interviews.
- 6/97 – 8/98 **Director/Head Counselor.** Winners Are Special People Program, Montgomery/Walker County Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Responsibilities included: Daily preparation of events for up to 30 children, basic counseling activities and self-esteem building techniques for children, and supervisory and management responsibilities for the staff.

## **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY EXPERIENCE**

1/02-present **Forensic Psychologist** – Regularly serves as an expert witness/consultant; completed a large number of custody and psychological evaluations; trained and proficient in many types of criminal psychological assessments to include sex offender appraisals and recidivism, sanity boards, psychopathology, and malingering. Work regularly with the military and serves as an expert in state, family, and federal courts. Evaluates and assesses for psychological effects of trauma. Completed psychological autopsies for both criminal and civil/probate court. Completed many work-product reviews of other professionals and educated the court and counsel on the strengths and weaknesses of such work.

Served as an expert forensic psychologist on over 80 federal/military/criminal court cases. Cases have included rape, murder, assault, involuntary manslaughter, theft, obstruction of justice, alcohol related crimes, drug charges, fraud, insubordination, desertion from military duty, child pornography, child physical and sexual abuse, and other sex related and non-sex related crimes.

Provided expert testimony over 50 times in criminal, military, civil, and family court. Expert testimony has included alcohol-related blackouts, assessment of dangerousness, sexual abuse allegations, effects of sexual abuse, violent and sex-offender risk-appraisals, sanity board development and findings, personality disorders related to crimes and accusations, memory, therapeutic recommendations, custody recommendations, effects of trauma, child abuse reporting, parental alienation, malingering, psychological assessments and diagnosis, and other such topics.

Consulted on over 110 criminal and military trials. Consultation includes development of trial strategy, jury selection, development of direct and cross-examinations, development of opening and closing statements, motion work, findings strategy, and sentencing strategy. Have worked evenly for the defense and the prosecution.

Completed over 45 comprehensive custody evaluations and psychological assessments related to custody; findings and recommendations include child custody

recommendations, parent recommendations, and therapeutic recommendations for the child and the family.

Completed over 150 individual psychological assessments directly related to the legal system.

2006-2009 Trained and supervised under Sheri Schneidman-Corning Ph.D., in the discipline of custody evaluations and family assessments.

2006 – present Completed over 60 hours of CEU's dedicated to the field of forensic psychology

2001-2005 Completed regular trainings on family violence, domestic violence, and child abuse through the military family advocacy program.

4/02 **Initially Certified as an Expert Witness in Psychology: US v Hogan, 2002**

1/02 – 3/02 **Forensic Psychology Internship Rotation**: Served as a consultant to 12 federal court cases. Member of four sanity boards requiring complete psychological assessments regarding competency to stand trial and sanity of the defendants.

1996-98 **Forensic Psychology Research Assistant**: Worked in state run prison facilities to generate and analyze research data driven by inmates in an effort to better understand ways of detecting deception and malingering in eyewitness testimony.

## **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

9/00-8/01 **Research Assistant – MD Anderson Cancer Center.** Grant funded through the American Cancer Society. Responsibilities included: Research design, research coordination, data collection, and data analysis.

9/99-6/01 **Adjunct Instructor**: Introduction to Psychology, Department of Psychology, Houston Community College. Responsibilities included: preparation and presentation of course format, lecture, evaluation, and the maintenance of the student records.

9/99-5/00 **Research assistant – Virtual Environment Technology Lab,** Human Factors Division. Grant project through the Office of Naval Research. University of Houston. Responsibilities include: coordinating scientific research studies, the recruitment and manipulation of subjects, conducting statistical analysis, and writing polished research reports.

9/97-6/98 **Instructor.** Introduction to Psychology. Department of Psychology and Philosophy, Sam Houston State University. Responsibilities include: preparation and presentation of course format, lecture, evaluations, and the maintenance of student records.

10/96-8/98 **Research Assistant – Detecting Deception in Eyewitness Testimony.** Grant project through the Advanced Research Program of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Research design, data collection, and analysis for the Eyewitness Testimony Research Team at Sam Houston State University. Supervisor, Cheryl K. Hiscock.

8/96-6/97 **Teaching Assistant.** Research Methods Lab. Department of Psychology and Philosophy, Sam Houston State University. Responsibilities include: preparation and presentation of course format, lecture, and the materials and the maintenance of student records.

## **MILITARY EXPERIENCE**

- 8/01-7/05      **Captain, United States Air Force, Active Duty**
- 3/01-8/01      **2d Lieutenant, United States Air Force Reserves**

## **RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

- 11/00-7/01      **Cancer and Body Image Research Project.** Quantitative analysis of the body images of adolescents who suffered from cancer compared those who have not. Work included establishing a research design, collecting data from area high schools, analyzing data, and writing polished research reports. Supervised by Martha A. Askins, Ph.D.
- 9/99-6/00      **Navy-3 Team Training Project.** Qualitative and Quantitative analysis of team training methods including virtual reality, video, and map techniques utilized to train teams to move through a building with a primary focus on communication techniques. Work includes data collection and data analysis. Funded by the Office of Naval Research.
- 9/97-8/98      **Eyewitness Testimony Research Team.** Paralinguistic analysis of verbal behavior elicited in eyewitness testimony for the purpose of establishing statement credibility. Work includes research design and data collection in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility at the Hobby Unit, Marlin, September, 1997.

## **RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Englert, D. F., Hunter, C. L., Sweeney, B. J. (In Press). Mental health evaluations of U.S. air force basic military training and technical training students. Military Medicine, Vol 168:11. November 2003.

Paper Presentation at the University of Houston Research Symposium. Houston, Texas, March, 2000. "Discriminating Biased from Honest Eyewitness Testimony Using Descriptive Detail Analysis.' Co-authored by Cheryl Hiscock, Ph. D.

Poster Presentation at the American Criminology Society Annual Conference. San Diego, California, October 1997. "Discriminating Deceptive Testimony from Honest Testimony Using Descriptive Detail Analysis." Co-authored by Cheryl Hiscock Ph.D. and Kevin Colwell.

## **MEDIA INTERVIEWS**

December 2018, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed by the Houston Chronicle, as a forensic psychologist for the article entitled, "Step-Mother, Father convicted of Abusing Emaciated 5-year-old boy found under staircase."

August 2017, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed by the Victoria Advocate newspaper to explain the job of a Forensic Psychologist and what it's like to testify and conduct competency evaluations

January 2017, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed and appeared in a KTRK Eyewitness News story about a local teen accused of killing his parents.

December 2015, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed on a recent episode of "Where Justice Lies" discussing the psychological effects on children caught in the middle of CPS decisions.

October 2014, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed by Pocono Record newspaper to discuss the factors that lead to children who murder.

May 2014, Dr. Sweeney made an appearance as an expert forensic psychologist on the documentary series Killer Kids, (Season 3, Episode 3, "Frenemies & The Reject").

January 2014, Dr. Sweeney was interviewed by Houstonia Magazine to give his expert opinion on Sexual Predators and what makes them tick.

## **NON-RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**

"Life Coaching for Eliminating Depression," published by Bryan J. Sweeney, PhD., PC. ISBN: 978-1-60458-384-72; copyright 2008.

Sweeney, Bryan J. "DEPRESSION: Choose to Take Control," Barksdale Observer. May, 2003.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS**

- 2/18            **When They Come Home – The Effect of PTSD on a Veteran's Conduct.** 2018 Veteran's Justice Clinic. Austin, TX.
- 6/05            **How to Use an Expert Witness.** Workshop designed to train criminal lawyers on the use of psychologists as expert witnesses.
- 4/02-present    **Depression Management Workshop.** United States Air Force. Barksdale AFB. Psychology Service Corp. Houston, TX.
- 4/02-7/05       **Stress Management Workshop.** United States Air Force. Barksdale AFB
- 9/01-7/05       **Suicide Prevention.** United States Air Force. Lackland and Barksdale AFB.

- 12/02-7/05 **Stress Management Briefing: Controlling the Unpredictable.** United States Air Force. Barksdale AFB.
- 12/02 - 7/05 **Understanding Trauma and Combat Stress.** United States Air Force. Barksdale AFB.
- 10/99 & 4/00 **Concentration and Motivation Workshop.** University of Houston – Counseling and Psychological Services, Houston, Texas. One-hour workshop geared to help college students understand and implement concentration and motivation techniques to be utilized in the academic environment. Number of attendants: 225 people.
- 9/01-8/02 **Recruiter Stress Briefing.** United States Air Force, Recruiting Dept. Lackland AFB.
- 11/99 & 3/00 **Relaxation Techniques Workshop.** University of Houston – Counseling and Psychological Services, Houston, Texas. One-hour workshop geared toward helping college students learn specific relaxation techniques to help dilute social anxiety, test anxiety and sleep problems. Number of attendants: 22 people.
- 98-99 **Dual-Diagnosis Referral Presentation.** Montgomery/ Walker County Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Huntsville, Texas. Over 100 presentations to public and private agencies emphasizing the understanding and the referral of dual-diagnosed or possible dually-diagnosed individuals. Number of attendants: 300.
- 11/98 **Dual-Diagnosis Training Seminar.** Montgomery/ Walker county Council on Alcohol /and Drug Abuse and Texas Mental Health Mental Retardation Agency, Huntsville, Texas. 2-day training seminar focusing on the understanding, assessment, referral, and treatment of the dually-diagnosed population. Number of Attendants: 150.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Psychological Association (APA)