



INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT GROUP, INC.

4613 North University Drive • #256
Coral Springs, FL 33067
www.investigativesupportgroup.com
email: info@flisg.com

Just a quick note in case you are in need of a private investigator. Although ISG specializes in surveillance and investigations within the Product Liability and Personal Injury field, our Investigators are trained to handle criminal investigations, background checks, and child custody cases.



Our knowledgeable and experienced team of investigators is ready to assist you regardless of the type of investigative services required.

The experienced and dedicated staff of ISG contributed to this newsletter. Thank you for reading our newsletter and if you have any suggestions, please contact me at 954-755-4611 or send an email at alan@flisg.com.

Alan Payton
President
Investigative Support Group, Inc.

Inside this Month's Newsletter

- Who's Your Nanny?
- Juror Profiling
- License Verification Research Tips
- Top 10 TV Private Detectives

Do You Need Someone Located?
We at ISG are experts at finding those who don't want to be found!
Contact us at 877-784-2469 or info@flisg.com

FREE CONSULTATION - 877-784-2469

The Investigative Report

Good News and Information from your Friends at the Investigative Support Group

Who's Your Nanny?

You recently had your first child and after an always too-brief maternity leave, it's time to return to work. You want your child to have the attention he or she deserves as an infant, so you look for a Nanny to come into your home and provide one-on-one care.

You surf the web, and place an ad in the local classifieds and a number of prospective nannies apply. Is one of them your Mary Poppins? When many have similar resumes, a parent should use a two-part process when determining on the Nanny to hire: a proper interview and a thorough background investigation. All interviews should have the following category of questions:

- Icebreaker – Tell me about yourself? How long in childcare? What do you like most about it?
- Family/Upbringing – How would you describe your childhood? What disciplinary methods did your parents use? Tell me about your family?
- Education – Tell me about high school? Any college, if so what major? What was your favorite subject and teacher? Have you had childcare classes?
- Safety questions – Do you have certifications in CPR, First responder, and first aid? Have you ever had a child that was injured? What would you do if a child bumped their head?
- Age specific – What do you do to quiet a baby? What activities stimulate a child's mind? Have you ever potty-trained a child? How would you teach a toddler good eating habits?
- General questions – What are your strongest qualities? Are you willing to drive the children? How is your driving record? Any arrests? Where have you lived the past ten years and for how long? Do you have references?

Many resumes may contain lies or half-truths, or omit a fact that could be key to your child's well being, as well as the safety of your home and assets. How do you check the facts? Typically through a background check. A nanny background investigation should include the following:

- Residential History. Does this person have roots in the area, and local referrals that can vouch for them? Are there large amounts of time spent elsewhere?



- Criminal History including Federal, State and County records.
- Are they Sex Offenders or Sex Predators? Receiving a call from a Probation Officer on a nanny you recently hired, and was unaware of their past transgressions, can leave you in an uncomfortable, and costly position.
- Drivers License History. With a report detailing traffic violations and accidents, you will know if an applicant can be trusted traveling with your child.
- Social Security Number Validation. A fake can easily be identified – date and state issued, and in many cases, using the Social Security number of a deceased or previous child cared for.
- Liens and Judgments. Outstanding liens and judgments can provide a snapshot on one's accountability. If they can't manage their own life, can they help with yours?
- Professional licenses including State child care certifications.
- Miscellaneous Back Story. Research through relevant media sources can detail past dealings that were below the radar.
- Employment/education verifications.

Continued on Page 2

South Florida 954-755-4611 / Statewide 877-784-2469 / Tampa 727-515-4141

Continued from Page 1

After a Nanny is hired, a parent should continue to monitor the safety of the child. The following is a list of signs of a good nanny:

- Your child lights up at the first sight of her.
- Your kids can't stop talking about all the wonderful things she says or does.
- She comes up with creative solutions to problems and works with you to provide the best possible case for your child.
- She arrives on time.
- She makes an effort to stay connected.
- Your child volunteers new songs and words, and shows off his many projects.



While having lunch with a client several weeks ago, he paid me a nice compliment, "Alan, the work you did for me was well worth the time and money I spent. " Of course, I thanked him for the nice words. He then looked at me and asked. "Private investigation isn't always held in the highest esteem in a professional sense, is it?" I smiled, thought for a second, and explained that he was exactly correct. Private investigators were indeed often perceived as sneaky, secretive, individuals, willing to hurl themselves in other personal lives for their own profit. Destroyers of other's lives, if you will. While he appreciated my honesty, I then proceeded to explain to him *my* philosophy regarding private investigation. It was simply this. Any field, whether it be medicine, business, law, education, athletics, etc., certain employees do not operate "above board." Integrity certainly isn't a priority, and unfortunately this matters very little to these individuals. The field of private investigation is no different, since integrity can be demanded or conversely totally ignored. My point being, private investigation is a valuable and necessary profession, but private investigation must be compounded with the highest level of integrity. It's a necessary formula for success at ISG. Maybe that's why I'm so proud of my company!

—Alan Payton, President,
Investigative Support Group, Inc.

- Your child's room is clean, and so is your child.
- Accidents are infrequent.

Parents should consult experts when hiring a Nanny. Investigators with the **Investigative Support Group (ISG)** will assist a parent in the hiring process. Investigators will provide the parent with a detailed nanny questionnaire, complete an extensive background investigation, and, if necessary, help with the installation of nanny cams in the house.

License Verification Research Tip

For a quick resource to verify the professional license of anyone in the United States, visit www.verifyprolicense.com. This site is organized so that you can do your searches by either state or by profession.

Most occupations, from hair stylist to psychologist, have governing oversight committees that watch over the profession and carryout regulatory actions. These actions/complaints will be indicated in the search.

We at ISG have had much success both verifying and de-bunking "professionals," using this as a starting point.

Do You Need An Accident Investigation?

A comprehensive accident investigation can be the key to a successful case. ISG's experienced investigators can make the difference.

Contact us at 877-784-2469 or info@flisg.com

Top 10 TV Private Detectives

This is my list, intended as my take at this point in time and in my life, of my top ten private detectives in television. This list includes only private detectives—apologies to Starsky and Hutch, Columbo, Kojak, and Barney Miller since they are policemen. I also approached this task with considerable nostalgia.

1. Thomas Magnum. *Magnum, P.I.* (1980-1988) Tom Selleck.
2. *Charlie's Angels* (1976-1981) Farrah Fawcett, Kate Jackson and Jaclyn Smith.
3. Jim Rockford. *The Rockford Files* (1974-1980) James Garner.
4. Dan Tanna. *Vega\$* (1978-1981) Robert Urich. Also: *Spenser for Hire* (1985-1988).
5. Joseph R "Joe" Mannix. *Mannix* (1967-1975) Mike Connors.
6. David Addison and Maddie Hayes. *Moonlighting* (1985-1989) Bruce Willis and Cybill Shepherd.
7. Rick and A.J. Simon. *Simon and Simon* (1981-1989) Gerald McRaney and Jameson Parker
8. *Barnaby Jones* (1973-1980) Buddy Ebsen.
9. *Remington Steele* (1982-1987) Pierce Brosnan and Stephanie Zimbalist as Laura Holt.
10. *B.L. Stryker* (1989-1990) Burt Reynolds.

Honorable mention: Jennifer and Jonathan Hart, Veronica Mars, Jessica Fletcher, Mike Hammer, Ellery Queen and Frank Cannon.



Juror Profiling

A critical phase in any trial is the questioning of prospective jurors in order to determine who to seat in the jury box. This process, or *Voir Dire*, can be the deciding factor in a winning (or losing) case. Much has been made of "reading" the prospective jurors; their attire, posture and attentiveness to questioning. These signs or mannerisms can help in picking jurors, but more importantly, you need to know *who they are* before *Voir Dire* begins. Does this potential juror's belief system fit well with the issues in your case?

Getting to know jurors has often been a focus in movies – from Oscar nominated *12 Angry Men* (1957) to John Grisham's *Runaway Jury* (2003). In the latter, a consultant is brought in to profile prospective jurors for a major gun manufacturer embroiled in litigation. The consultant (played by Gene Hackman) brings in an entire team of researchers and analysts to know every piece of available information on the juror pool.

Very few cases involve the type of time, detail, and expense associated with the case in this movie. Most cases can benefit from a detailed look at the jurors to identify details that could help drive home a key point in a case.

For the gun manufacturer mentioned above, wouldn't it be advantageous to know who in the jury pool belonged to the NRA or had a concealed weapons permit? What about their political affiliation? Civil records or judgments? Someone may be nervous during the questioning and affect your "reading" them, but knowing their beliefs in advance may help in your selection. This also serves a second purpose in sending mixed signals to opposing counsel that may not have juror profiling data to the depth of yours. This can cause confusion for them when considering the physical "reading" of a potential juror, and challenging to jurors you wish to have seated.

You may not need an entire war room of researchers, but a few trained ISG investigators. Coupled with laptops and a bevy of proprietary contacts, the investigators can produce a quick turnaround on key elements pertaining to each juror. Investigators help in shaping a jury that will be open to your client's key points. Get the "snapshot" of each juror that you need.

Travels of the PI Beer Guy

Since I travel the state to work on cases, on my off time, I enjoy a good craft beer. This column is dedicated to those times



Dunedin, Florida

For craft beer lovers the Tampa Bay area, with twelve local breweries, is fast becoming a beer lover's paradise.

In the Tampa Bay area, ground zero for craft beer is Dunedin, Florida. Dunedin is anchored by the **Dunedin Brewery**, the oldest Micro-brewery in the state of Florida. An amazing selection of beer is complimented by great food and music. Beers options range from a light and crisp Gold Ale, to their dark and creamy Nitro Stout. There is always a special release to sample too. Try a *Rye Heart* (rye Scotch Ale), or *Orange Blossom Wit* (Belgian style Wit-bier) while they last.

Just a block away from the Dunedin Brewery lies **7eventh Sun**. Formed just a year ago by brewers from the Atlanta area, they offer an eclectic selection. For baseball's opening day, try their *Bench Beer* – an IPA with Southern Hemisphere Hops and Pomelo fruit. One block down from this brewery is the **House of Beer**, a unique craft beer bar with over 50 on tap.

Another nice aspect of the beer community in Dunedin is that they support each other, including collaborations on some great special releases. *Subtropical Farmhouse Ale* is a Saison brewed in collaboration between Dunedin Brewery and 7eventh Sun. Combining orange peel, lemongrass, pink peppercorns and coconut, it's a perfect change of pace for a hot day.

So when you're in the area, have fun getting lost between these three stellar beer halls, known affectionately as, "*The Beer-muda Triangle*"!