Chief Educator

The principal officer at Career Development Institute is John C. Saccenti.

Mr. Saccenti attended Fordham University where he received his Bachelor in Education, Masters of Science in Education and Political Science as well as his Educational Specialist Degree.

After service as an Army officer and special assignments with the FBI, Mr. Saccenti served as a teacher and administrator before working with the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. Before his retirement from that agency, his primary responsibility was the development of all Basic Law Enforcement Training. His work included the design and writing of the Basic Course for Investigators, the redesign and writing of the Basic Course for Police Officers and other major basic and advanced law enforcement courses.

Mr. Saccenti served as President of the National Association of Local Boards of Health and advised the US Surgeon General and the White House on public health policy. He has served as a consultant to the Office of the Attorney General, Office of Counter-Terrorism. He currently serves as a consultant to the United States Department of Justice.

Mr. Saccenti is a nationally known speaker on public health, law enforcement and training development and management. Mr. Saccenti is the author of many articles on both law enforcement training and public health and serves as an adjunct professor at several New Jersey Colleges. Mr. Saccenti is an advisory board member of the Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey.

Faculty

Chief Investigator Michael Melchionne has served 37 years as an Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator. He is the founder and past president of the NJ Certified Animal Control Officers Association and an advisory board member of the AWFNJ.

Heather Cammisia is the President and CEO of St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center, a state certified Animal Control Officer, an Animal Cruelty Investigator, and a board member of the AWFNJ.

Dr. Colin Campbell, DVM, C.P.M. is a veterinarian and lecturer with extensive experience in private practice and public health.

Investigator Willie Cirone has served 27 years as an Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator. He has 36 years experience as a structure and wildland fire fighter. He is a member of the NJ Incident Management Team.

Marjorie Ford served 19 years as a wildlife rehabilitator. She is past president of the NJ Association of Wildlife Rehabilitators and the recipient of the AWFNJ “Hero to Animals” award.

Investigator Tim Vazquez has 20 years of law enforcement experience and 30 years of martial arts experience. He is a retired NJ State Investigator.

William J. Zaorski, J.D. is a retired Deputy Attorney General of the NJ Division of Criminal Justice and a former assistant prosecutor in Monmouth County.

Chief William Kelly retired after 32 years in law enforcement. A former Deputy Chief of the Elizabeth Police Dept., he serves as an adjunct instructor at several NJ colleges.

Michael Richmon, J.D. was a former Municipal Prosecutor and has represented hundreds of defendants in Municipal Court as a private counsel and public defender. He co-authored the book, Municipal Court Handbook and was the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award.

Geoffrey R. Goyette serves as the Career Development Institute Program Director. He is a NJ State Certified Animal Control Officer and Animal Cruelty Investigator. He co-founded an animal rescue organization and was a recipient of the 2011 United Way “Home Town Hero” award.

Belle is a 6-year-old golden retriever who is an AKC nationally recognized therapy dog and Pet First Aid Instructor.
Who We Are

Career Development Institute provides New Jersey certified training that leads to careers in the Animal Welfare Field. These programs are for anyone seeking career enhancement, personal growth, or the latest skills and information related to animal welfare. The majority of our courses are delivered at colleges and police training academies.

The strength of our courses lies in the depth and experience of our instructors. Our teachers are expert practitioners in the areas that they instruct. Each course is taught by numerous experts and the opportunity is there for each student to form lasting bonds with each instructor.

The materials provided in the course are the actual presentation slides and handouts presented during each lesson. Students concentrate on the lecture rather than trying to copy down the lessons. This allows for excellent participation in each class. Each student comes away from the course with a significant learning experience and leaves the course feeling that they have been able to retain a significant amount of the information presented to them.

We provide a unique guarantee. Every student who attends our courses has a lifetime opportunity to take any part of that course of instruction whenever it is offered. This allows the student to stay current with new developments and changes without having to re-take and pay for an additional “refresher” course.

Courses

We currently offer a wide variety of Animal Welfare related courses. They are:

- Animal Control Officers Certification Course *
- Animal Cruelty Investigators Certification Course **
- Humane Law Enforcement Officers Certification Course ****
- Basic Certificated Course for Animal Facility Workers & Volunteers
- Basic Certificated Course for Wildlife Rehabilitators & Friends of Wildlife ***
- Trap, Neuter, and Release (TNR) certification training
- A Pet Owner’s Primer...“living with, caring for, and loving your cat or dog”
- FEMA Incident Command System (ICS) 100, 200, 700 Certifications related to animal rescues
- Animal Control Officer/Cruelty Investigator Certification Course Puerto Rico*
  *NJDHSS Approved
  **NJDHSS and PTC Approved
  ***NJDEP Approved
  ****PTC Approved

What Some of our Participants and Clients Have Said

"Instructors were very knowledgeable, interesting, approachable, patient and professional."

"It empowered me to follow my calling in life."

"The training was intense and brought out the best in me."

"Can't wait to tell everyone about this training."

"The instructors really helped us to understand the material."

"It really challenged me to better myself."

"I thoroughly enjoyed every class. Every instructor kept my interest and taught me something."

"I can't remember a better learning experience."

"Their training design has greatly improved our organization."

"Our entire community is better for this program."

"You saved our agency a great deal of money and man-hours by bringing the training to us -- thanks."