

# CI TIMES



## The CI Fairytale

Once upon a time in a far away land known as Wisconsin, a young lady went to work as a Private Investigator. Upon graduating from Winona State University in Minnesota, with a BS degree in pre-law/paralegal studies, the young lady decided to stray from law towards the investigative field. By applying to Private Investigative Agencies listed in the Yellow Pages she was lucky enough to have met her boss charming, Ed Willey. Ed was a retired Chicago Police Officer who owned Commercial Investigations – yes, the original Commercial Investigations. Ed’s company logo was a traditional eagle with an olive branch and his company colors were red and grey.

While working at the original Commercial Investigations the young lady learned hands on what she had been taught in her investigation classes. Such as, how to conduct interviews that have favorable results for the employer who was their client; how to successfully run an undercover operation; how to perform surveillance mostly for workers compensation cases; how to legally serve process papers; and, most importantly, how to conduct background investigations. After a very stressful workers’ compensation surveillance case Ed called the young lady in from the field and into the office. It was then that he introduced her to background investigations. She was amazed at the amount of information available and the resources Ed used to generate the background investigation reports, and, most importantly how safe this type of investigation work was.

Let’s fast forward to today. I’m Michelle Pyan, President and founder of Commercial Investigations LLC, and I was that young lady private investigator. I am now a seasoned lady with a company that turned 10 years old this March 8, 2014. Many people inquire as to how I got my start as a private investigator and about the history of Commercial Investigations LLC. So, it is at this time, as I reflect on where we’ve been and most importantly formulate strategic plans as to where we’ll go, that I share our story with you.

Ed had passed away a few years before the current Commercial Investigations was formed. When forming Commercial Investigations LLC I reflected on how Ed took me under his wing. He showed me the ropes, introduced me to other mentors, and sent me to educational conferences. So, I called his wife and asked if I could use the name, logo and colors. With the family’s blessing I set forth to establish Commercial Investigations LLC in January 2004. We received our company Private Investigation Agency License to operate on March 8, 2004. Our logo is a more contemporary eagle and our colors are, of course, red and grey. A conscientious decision was made early on to focus on Background Investigations and formulate our niche there. And, in May 2004 Due Diligence made his debut. Due Diligence is a character with his own life and webpage that focuses on the importance of background investigations. You can learn more about him at <http://www.commercialinvestigationsllc.com/duespage.html>.

Although we encounter interesting situations daily in our current background investigations activities, they are not as much of an adrenaline rush as being undercover, conducting surveillance in the woods and encountering a man with a gun, and other “on the street” investigations. I prefer our safe and much calmer atmosphere. Although background investigations are relatively safe, in true Private Eye fashion I have been known to carry a concealed weapon.

My colleagues share my passion for background investigations and find the work rewarding and fulfilling. We are rewarded daily when we locate a sex offender applying to a position that deals with children, someone convicted of assault applying for a healthcare position, or when a convicted drug dealer applies at a financial institution. We look forward to the future of CI and thank our clients for our success and their support.

Let’s see how this fairytale ends . . . Stay tuned for years to come . . .

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### CI Webinar Series

In 2014 we are bringing monthly educational webinars to our clients. Here is a preliminary schedule:

- Thursday January 23 11:00 AM ET: Securing Confidential Data
- Thursday February 20 11:00 AM ET: The Preadvers/Adverse Action Process
- Thursday March 27 11:00 AM ET: Origin vs Protection PLus
- Thursday April 17 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday May 22 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday June 26 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday July 24 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday August 28 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday September 25 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday October 16 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday November 20 11:00 AM ET
- Thursday December 18 11:00 AM ET

To make sure you get our email notifications please contact us at 800-284-0906 or [info@commercialinvestigationsllc.com](mailto:info@commercialinvestigationsllc.com).

See you online!

## Due Diligence: Arrested Development

In our January edition of CI Times winter had descended and this meant Due was to begin his required volunteer work. The park decided to send Due back home to New York to help out with disaster relief resulting from hurricane Sandy. When he found out that the disaster relief organization Clean Slate Disaster Relief was using Commercial Investigations, Due knew he was not going to be able to hide his criminal past. Due decided that the best way to get his life on track was to be honest, and with that he disclosed his entire criminal past to the relief agency. Due to Due's honesty and the fact that Clean Slate Disaster Relief used VolChecked's Platinum option, Due was allowed to start his volunteer work.

The first weekend Due packed a lunch and an overnight bag and headed for his friend's house. His friend, Hot Rod Robinson, said that Due could crash at his place anytime Due was in New York. Hot Rod owned a small but busy mechanic shop, this surprised Due because he knew Hot Rod wasn't one for hard work. It seemed to be paying off for Hot Rod because he had a nice house with more than enough room for Due to stay on the weekends. His pal's house was cozy and things were looking up, what more could Due ask for?

On the weekends, Due spent his time on volunteer sites where he was being praised for his hard work. Due's company, Clean Cut Clippings, was getting more exposure when Due was able to use his truck and several of his tools to help with some clean-up, which meant the Clean Cut Clippings logo was being seen in a lot more places than just the little Connecticut town Due was currently calling home. On the weekdays, Due met with park personnel on how things were progressing with the volunteer group and what their plans were for Due come spring. His Clean Cut Clippings website was getting more and more hits, and people were hoping that he could help with their lawns when the snow melted. With all this attention Due started thinking his little lawn care service might eventually become a big lawn care service.

Unfortunately, Due's luck seemed to be running low. One day as he was running out the door to head to work his truck wouldn't start. Hot Rod had recently acquired a nice new truck, one that Due was slightly dubious a man like Hot Rod could afford. In fact the more Due stayed the less he was sure Hot Rod was on the straight and narrow. Nonetheless, Hot Rod said Due could borrow his truck and he would fix Due's truck while he was at work. Due was in a hurry, so he grabbed Hot Rod's keys and hit the road.

Due vowed that when he returned home to Connecticut that night he would pack up his things and find some other place to crash in New York. The last thing Due needed was someone dragging him back down the dirty, bumpy path he had worked so hard to get off of. Making it to the site just in time for

work, Due worked his day as he normally did. Little did he know his luck wasn't just running low, it had ran out completely.

The trouble, you see, started when Due was heading back from the volunteer site. Due suddenly heard the sirens and saw the flashing blue lights of a police cruiser that were so often a precursor to trouble in his life. Due pulled his friend's truck over and wondered what he could possibly have done, he wasn't speeding. The only thing Due could think of was that perhaps he had a taillight out or something. Unfortunately for Due, it was much, much worse. Before he knew what was happening, Due was cuffed and in the backseat of a police car.

Due eventually found out the truck he borrowed from his presumably good friend, Hot Rod, was reported to the police as stolen. Due couldn't believe his longtime friend could do this to him! Come to think of it, that might have been the problem. Due had moved to Connecticut to get away from his past and that included the friends who were steering him the wrong way. How on earth could Due have let himself be taken down that road of criminality again? He should have known that your past catches up to you. Due had missed enough job opportunities because of Commercial Investigations' background investigations to know that the past is never completely behind you. Due was once again in plenty of trouble.

Due was not only in hot water with the law, but also with Clean Slate Disaster Relief because they used Commercial Investigations platinum level on VolChecked. Choosing the platinum level meant that Clean Slate Disaster Relief knew what was happening with Due in New York and it didn't look good. With Due's past and this new and very recent arrest, Clean Slate Disaster Relief was thinking that perhaps they made a bad decision in allowing Due a volunteer position. Regardless, they eagerly awaited a chance to speak with Due about what had happened regarding his recent arrest and hoped it was just a misunderstanding. They really like Due and he was a great addition to their relief team. They certainly did not want to lose his help.

Due was trying to turn things around, but thanks to his recently not-so-good friend Hot Rod Robinson, Due was currently back on the wrong side of the law. What will happen to Due? Will this cost him his volunteer position? How might that affect his Clean Cut Clippings company's contract? Will all his hard work and diligence be for nothing?

To learn more about VolChecked and other products offered by Commercial Investigations please contact a CI representative at [\(800\)284-0906](tel:(800)284-0906) or [info@commercialinvestigationllc.com](mailto:info@commercialinvestigationllc.com).

Stay tuned to find out what Due is up to next!



### Meet Due Diligence

#### Last Scene from Due

In the last edition of CI Times, Due was facing a lack of work for lawn care at the park due to the winter weather. It was now time for Due to begin his volunteer hours. He decided to work for an organization called Clean Slate Disaster Relief. This would involve working on disaster relief efforts from the damages of Hurricane Sandy. This time Due's background check was being done by a much more comprehensive background screening company called Commercial Investigations.

Due quickly realized that he would not be able to hide his criminal past, as he was able to do before in Connecticut. Therefore, Due decided that he would disclose his criminal convictions on the consent form for Commercial Investigations. As expected, the background check did come back with some red flags. Clean Slate Disaster Relief still decided to give Due a chance because of the fact that he disclosed these records and was not deemed a threat based on the work he would be doing.

With that being said, Clean Slate Disaster Relief was still not going to take any chances. They purchased the unique VolChecked Platinum level service from Commercial Investigations. This service will alert Clean Slate Disaster Relief if Due is ever arrested again in NY. It is now up to Due to avoid his criminal tendencies and attempt to turn his life around.

To see Due's past reports, view his page online at: [www.commercialinvestigationllc.com/duespage](http://www.commercialinvestigationllc.com/duespage)

Read previous issues of CI Times to see the full details of Due's life at [www.commercialinvestigationllc.com/newsolder](http://www.commercialinvestigationllc.com/newsolder)



## CI Celebrates 10 Years By Giving Back!

Commercial Investigations LLC just turned 10 years old! We are celebrating by giving back to the community that has made our first 10 years so successful. On March 8, 2014 CI celebrated it's birthday with Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake 2014. CI sponsored two "Bigs" and two "Littles" for a day of bowling. Tracey Lewis of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rochester said, "Two matches had a blast celebrating Commercial Investigations on Saturday at the bowling alley!" We would like to thank Big Brothers Big Sisters for helping us celebrate 10 years and for everything they do to support the youth in our Communities.



Everyone loves celebrating on the day of their Birthday, but CI wants to keep the celebration going all year long!! That is why we will celebrate turning 10 with 10 community events throughout the year. Bowl for Kids' Sake was just the start of our celebration! Please continue to look for updates on the next nine community sponsored events CI will be participating in to celebrate turning 10 years old!



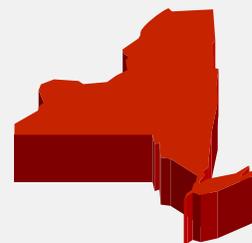
### Inquiry Spotlight

#### VIGILANT NEW YORK

Continuously monitoring individuals for criminal activity is a prudent way to protect clientele and organizations after an individual is brought on as an employee, volunteer, tenant, board member, etc. CI's Vigilant New York inquiry is the only way for New York employers to find out within 24 to 48 hours if an employee has been arrested. Vigilant New York is also available for volunteers, board members, and other individuals you would run a background investigation on before bringing them into your organization.

Once an employee is hired, or volunteer brought on, most organizations no longer look into an individuals' background. Now, New York employers and volunteer organizations have a way to monitor individuals. CI's proprietary data allows organizations a continued peace of mind.

Vigilant New York is a monitoring service which will alert you within 24 to 48 hours of an employee, volunteer, tenant, or board member's arrest within New York State.



Contact CI at (800) 284-0906 or [info@commercialinvestigationllc.com](mailto:info@commercialinvestigationllc.com) for more information on CI's Vigilant New York inquiry.

## Commercial Investigations LLC

A Licensed Private Investigative Agency

Providing the Proactive Truth with high quality Background Investigations through human intervention with an investigative approach.

### Background Investigations

CI provides accurate, timely, cost-effective and fully compliant reports delivered with exceptional client service.

New York State  
Department of Economic Development  
Certified Woman Owned Business Enterprise  
(Certification # 49494)

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