



## **Trauma Response and the Criminal Justice System: A Virtual Summit on Knowledge, Healing, and Resilience**

### **TIC Communication for LE and Prosecutors**

The term “being trauma informed” has become a buzz phrase in the last few years. This session will identify and then practically apply the actual science underlying the need for trauma informed communication, based on how the brain is affected by trauma. We will address how the brain sees various forms of threats and why it reacts to a threat to an individual's status similarly to the way it reacts to a threat to an individual's physical self. We will cover a variety of ways we can inadvertently threaten status, what it means for a victim to have their status threatened, the impact it can have on the brain, and ways of mitigating this threat (given that it's an inherent part of the criminal justice system).

### **Presenter: Dr. Chris Wilson**

Dr. Chris Wilson is a licensed psychologist from Portland, Oregon. He is currently the Director of Being Trauma Informed (BTI), an organization dedicated to making the science of trauma accessible and practical. Prior to starting BTI, Dr. Wilson had a private practice conducting evaluations and psychotherapy, while also providing training with a focus on domestic violence and sexual assault. For seven years he worked in the Oregon Department of Corrections and for ten years ran groups for abusive men. Dr. Wilson is a guest faculty member at the US Army's Special Victim Capabilities Course, where he teaches military criminal investigators about the neurobiology of trauma. He formerly served as a curriculum consultant for The National Center for Campus Public Safety. Dr. Wilson co-authored, with the National Crime Victim Law Institute, the bulletin entitled “*Judges' and Juries' Common Misperceptions About Domestic Violence Victims' Behaviors.*” He also co-authored, with End Violence Against Women International, the bulletin entitled “*Understanding The Neurobiology of Trauma and Implications for Interviewing*” (an abbreviated version of which was translated and provided for Danish law enforcement in 2017). He's provided training, plenary, keynote, and breakout sessions for conferences and organizations across the United States, Canada, and Europe, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, US Department of Justice, the US Department of the Interior, the US Navy, Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force, and

the US Office for Victims of Crime. His audiences include judges, law enforcement officers, advocates, attorneys, and clinicians. Dr. Wilson received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Pacific University in 2002. He was licensed as a psychologist in the state of Oregon in 2005 and for six years served on the Board of the Oregon Psychological Association. He is also a member of the American Psychological Association