

# CRAIG WEST, Psy.D., President, CEO

Psychwest, Clinical & Forensic Psychology, Inc.  
Clinical Psychologist, PSY 17789

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Web: [psychwest.com](http://psychwest.com)  
[couplescommunicationprogram.com](http://couplescommunicationprogram.com)  
[gotomycourse.com](http://gotomycourse.com)

## Education

**The Professional School of Psychology.** Doctorate of Psychology, Clinical Psychology, August 1999.

*Specialized Neuropsychological Training:*

- Behavioral Neurobiology: Pass with Honors
- Psychopharmacology: Pass with Honors
- Clinical Case Conference: Pass with Honors
- Neuropsychological Assessment

**California State University, Hayward.** Master of Science, Counseling Psychology, May 1996.

Pupil Personnel Service School Counseling Credential, June 1998.

**San Francisco State University.** Bachelor of Arts, Clinical Psychology, May 1993.

## Professional Panels & Associations

- Psychwest, Clinical & Forensic Psychology, Inc., President, CEO 2015 - Current
- Board of Parole Hearings Panel, 2005 - Current
- Placer County Child Custody Evaluator Panel, 2013-Current
- Sacramento Valley Psychological Association, Forensic Division (SVPA-FD), President 2013 and 2014
- Sacramento Valley Psychological Association (SVPA)
- San Francisco Superior Court Forensic Expert Panel
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- American Psychological Association Accredited Continuing Education Provider
- California Psychological Association, Division I, Clinical and Professional Practice (CPA)
- California Psychology Internship Council (CAPIC) Formal Internship Program, Supervisor and Director
- Alliant International University. Doctoral Practicum-Intern Supervisor, Clinical Psychology - Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
- Sacramento Valley Child Custody Evaluators Group, Former
- Sacramento Court Family Law Child Custody Panel, Former
- Pacific Cascade Psychological Association (PCPA), Former

## Professional Presentations and Course Instruction

- Mental Health Restoration/Rehabilitation Treatment for Probationers/Parolees, El Dorado County, 2017
- Mental Competency Assessment and Training (MCAT) Community-Based Program, Juvenile and Adult Competency to Stand Trial Assessment and Restoration Services, Ventura County Juvenile & Superior Court, 2016
- Mental Competency Assessment and Training (MCAT) Community-Based Program, Juvenile and Adult Competency to Stand Trial Assessment and Restoration Services, Butte County Mental Health, 2014
- DSM-5, Exploring Contemporary Issues in Forensic Settings Juvenile and Adult Complexities (Learning Disabilities, Competency to Stand Trial, Insanity Cases, Risk Assessments) – Public Defender Office, Sacramento Spring 2014
- “Mental Competency Training, Assessment and Services for Adults and Juveniles: A Contemporary Training on the Judicial System,” Fall 2013, Winter 2014
- California Psychological Association, Roundtable Presenter. “Assessing Couples and Building an Online Psychology Practice,” Spring 2011
- St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Workshop Presenter. “Couples Communication Enrichment Program”, Winter 2011
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Seminar Presenter. “Couples Communication Enrichment Program: Therapy and Assessment of Couples,” Winter 2011
- Alliant International University, Continuing Education Instructor. Couples Communication Enrichment Program: Therapy and Assessment of Couples, Fall 2010
- Alliant International University, Guest Lecturer. Couples Communication Enrichment Program: Intimate Communication Model and the Couples Communicative Evaluation Scale, Fall 2010
- “Couple’s Communication Enrichment Program,” Certified Course. APA and BBS approved course, 2010
- “Couple’s Communication Enrichment Program,” Online Certification Course. APA and BBS approved course 2009 to Present
- “Couple’s Communication Enrichment Program,” Workshop Public Presentations, 2010
- “Mental Competency Evaluations, What You Should Know,” Yuba-Sutter Attorney Bar Meeting, 2005



**Professional Publications**

- West, C.E. (2005) Clinical Utility and Validation of the Couple’s Communicative Evaluation Scale. Psychological Reports, 97, 599-622.
- West, Craig. Dissertation. Intimate Connections, An Interactive Guide for Couples and Professionals Working With Couples. The Professional School of Psychology, Sacramento, 1999.
- West, Craig. Intimate Communication Exercises For Couples
- West, Craig. The Couples Communication Enrichment Program - Becoming an Intimate Communication Specialist and CCES Analyst.

**Professional Media Appearances**

- CBS News Sacramento, 2012
  - Expert Consultant and Analyst for CBS News - Consulted on the 2012 mass shooting incident of James Holmes where he was charged with 24 counts of murder and 140 counts of attempted murder in Aurora, Colorado. Provided an analysis and psychological profile of James Holmes, including the discussion of competency proceedings – A special guest appearance with reporter, Steve Large, regarding the Holmes’ case.
- CBS News Sacramento, 2013
  - Expert Consultant and Analyst for CBS News - Consulted on the 2013 mass shooting incident of Christopher Dorner. Provided an analysis and psychological profile of Christopher Dorner, and reviewed and provided an in-depth explanation and opinion as to the seriousness of his manifesto describing his feelings of revenge.
- CW 31 Good Day Sacramento, 2013
  - Expert Consultant and Analyst for Good Day Sacramento - Consulted on the 2012 mass shooting incident at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Discussed how to respond to children and the impact incidents like these have on children and adults.
- KFBK 1530 Talk News Radio with John Lobertini and Kitty O’Neal/Sacramento, 2011
  - Interview and cover story on couple’s communication
- ABC News, Sacramento & Company/Sacramento, 2011 (3 Shows)
  - Interview and cover story on couple’s communication, including live communication profile readings

<b>Psychwest, Clinical &amp; Forensic Psychology, Inc.</b> <i>President, CEO/Clinical Psychologist</i> <i>Specialization: Clinical, Neurology, Forensic</i>	<b>January 15 - Present</b>
<b>Private Practice, PSYCHWEST, Clinical &amp; Forensic Psychology</b> <i>Clinical/Forensic Psychologist</i>	<b>January 02 - January 15</b>

**Forensic Experience**

**Forensic Evaluations:**

- Child Custody Evaluations (PC §730 & §3110)
- Competency to Stand Trial Evaluations (PC §1368, WIC 709)
- Mental State at the Time of the Offense Evaluations (PC §1027)
- Sex Offender Evaluations (PC §288.1) & Sexually Violent Predator Civil Commitment Evaluations (WIC §6600)
- Risk for Future Violence Evaluations
- Understanding Miranda Rights Evaluations
- Arson Risk Assessments (PC §457)
- Substance Abuse Evaluations
- Disability and Workers’ Compensation Evaluations (P&P, AME, Workability)
- Veteran Disability Evaluations
- Immigration Evaluations
- Parental Fitness, Ability to Benefit from reunification Services (WIC §361.5(b))
- Dependency/Bonding Studies
- Neurological Evaluations (Specializing in Traumatic Brain Injury)



**Additional Forensic Services:**

- Family Mediation services, assisting families in the reunification process and in the resolution of disputes
- Jury Consultation
- Witness Preparation
- Expert Witness Consultation/Services
- Expert Witness Cross Examination Consultations

**Forensic Prison Experience:**

Perform Mentally Disordered Offender Evaluations through the Board of Parole Hearings and the Department of Mental Health. Competency to consent to parole conditions are evaluated. California Out of State Correctional Facility (COCF) Program Evaluations were previously conducted. The following prisons in which these evaluations are conducted include:

- Atascadero State Hospital
- California Department of Mental Health (DSH) – Mental Competency Assessments and Training
- California State Prison, Corcoran (COR)
- California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison, Corcoran (SATF)
- California Health Care Facility (CHCF)
- California State Prison, Solano (SOL)
- San Quentin State Prison (SQ)
- Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP)
- North Kern State Prison (NKSP)
- California Medical Facility (CMF)
- Mule Creek State Prison (MCSP)
- California State Prison Sacramento (New Folsom/SAC)
- Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP)
- Pelican Bay State Prison (PB)
- Folsom State Prison (FSP)
- Valley State Prison (VSP)
- Deuel Vocational Institute (DVI)
- California Training Facility (Soledad Prison) (CTFS)
- Porterville Developmental Center (PDC) (Mental Competency Assessments for Developmentally Disabled Individuals)

**Forensic Programs:**

Developed the Mental Competency Assessment and Training, Community-Based Program (MCAT) for Juveniles and Adults which is utilized by the courts and regional centers within California, including Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco Counties. An established professional relationship with the California Department of State Hospital (DSH) in providing mental competency assessments and training is present. Assessments are provided to individuals whose mental competency to stand trial is in question. Mental competency training is given based on each individual's developmental level, assessment results and nature of the case. Training is multidimensional and includes mock trials and visual and auditory aids. Supplemental training includes attorney consultation, crime scene visitation, courthouse visits and courtroom guidance consultation.

**Clinical & Neurological Experience**

**Clinical Evaluations/Testing:**

Extensive knowledge and experience utilizing psychological and forensic instruments including personality tests, cognitive tests and neuropsychological instruments. Assessment and testing provided for individuals with ADHD, Autism, Depression, Anxiety, Personality Disorders and other Mental Health and Childhood Disorders. Pre-surgery evaluations performed (i.e., Gastrointestinal Surgery & Spinal Stimulation Surgery). Evaluation of infants, children and adults. Thorough, detailed reports are provided.

**Neurological Evaluations/Testing:**

Extensive knowledge and experience performing numerous assessments utilizing a multitude of neuropsychological instruments (e.g., Neuropsychological Assessment Battery (NABS) [NABS complete Screening, Attention, Executive, Language, Memory, & Spatial Modules], Boston Diagnostic Aphasia, Boston Naming, Dementia Rating Scale, WAIS, WMS, Bender, Trails a & b, Hand Grip Strength, Finger Tapping Purdue Pegboard, TEA, TEA-CH, TOVA, Connors, C-TONI). Assessment and testing provided for individuals with cognitive and memory decline, traumatic brain injury (TBI) (focal & diffuse), post-traumatic epilepsy (PTE), Alzheimers, vascular disease, substance/medication induced (Korsakoff syndrome), and Parkinson's disease. Assessments assists in determining the extent of cerebral functioning including cognitive, memory, emotional and behavioral effects. Assess individual from mild to severe brain trauma including falls, automobile accidents., (decline, Autism, Depression, Anxiety, Personality Disorders and other Mental Health and Childhood Disorders. Pre-surge and explosive blast neurotrauma. Also am certified as a neurocognitive technician, providing neurocognitive and memory enhancement training (i.e., Cogmed) for those with attention and neurocognitive deficits.



### **Therapy**

#### *Individual*

Psychotherapy is provided. Working contract with Regional Centers providing services to developmentally disabled individuals, including therapy, evaluations and consultative services. Individual, group and family therapy is performed. Parent training and behavioral modification interventions are implemented. Through the Victim Witness Programs of Yuba and Sutter County specialized therapeutic interventions are performed with victims of crime to help decrease feelings of helplessness and anxiety. Behavioral and inpatient psychiatric consultation services are rendered. Therapy for depression, anxiety, life adjustment skills. Services provided for children and adults.

#### *Groups/Family*

Provide group and family therapy for those requiring treatment to assist with social connection, setting boundaries and alleviating negative behaviors. Family reunification therapy is performed.

#### *Couples*

Provide couple's therapy. Couples are seen to assist in creating intimacy and decreasing negative interactions. Incorporate the use of the Couple's Communication Enrichment Program (CCEP), including the Couple's Communication Evaluation Scale (CCES), to build intimate communication skills. Therapy is designed to teach couples how to communicate in positive and fulfilling ways and how to resolve future conflicts effectively.

### **Clinical Program:**

Founder and director of the **Couple's Communication Enrichment Program (CCEP)**. The program utilizes an assessment portion and a therapeutic portion. The assessment section includes the Couple's Communication Evaluation Scale (CCES) which is a comprehensive online test developed to measure intimate couple's communication strengths and weaknesses. The therapeutic aspect utilizes the CCES results to work with couples and their specific communication skills. The program includes workbooks, manuals, exercises and guides.

- Conferences for professionals (both live and online courses) are offered to gain knowledge about the CCEP for use with clients.
- Workshops for couples are provided to enhance communication skills within their relationship.

### **Clinical Supervision**

- Supervise Psychological Assistants (third year practicum students, pre-doctoral interns and post-doctoral interns) in providing evaluations and therapeutic services. Includes collaboration with post-graduate universities.
- California Psychology Internship Council (CAPIC) Approved Internship Site
- Supervise MFT Interns in providing therapeutic services for individuals, couples and families. Individual and small group therapy is offered.

**Clinical Practice/William Falzett, Ph.D.**

**August 99 - January 02**

*Psychological Clinician*

### **Forensic Experience**

Completed Competency to Stand Trial Evaluations examining individuals abilities to consult with counsel and understand the court proceedings. Other court appointed evaluations included assessing alternative treatment options and appropriateness for diversion programs. Family mediation services were performed. Developed working relationship with CPS of Yuba County and the probation department of Sutter County. Involved with law enforcement to help reduce recidivism in theft related crimes. Developed and facilitated groups (e.g., Parenting, Anger Management, Sexual Assault).



**Clinical Experience**

Individual, group and family therapy was performed as needed. Provided services for Victim Witness program of Yuba and Sutter County. Contracted with Alta California Regional Center to provide services to developmentally disabled individuals. Individual psychological assessments were completed. Established relationships with skilled nursing facilities in Yuba and Sutter County including providing in-services and grief counseling. Parent training and behavioral modification interventions were implemented.

**Sacramento County Department of Health & Human Assistance** **July 97 - June 99**  
*Mental Health/Substance Abuse Counselor*

Assessed individuals for related mental health and substance abuse issues. Supported clients through individual and group counseling. Brief therapy and specialized treatment modalities (i.e., EMDR) were used to help clients with the healing process. Established a training program for professionals to enhance their interviewing skills to better identify at risk clients and deescalate crisis situations.

**Valley Psychological Center** **July 97 - June 99**  
*Psychological Assistant*

*Psychological Assistant.* Administered full battery psychological and neurological tests to children and adults. Assessed cerebral cognitive and neurological functioning as well as personality traits. Written evaluations were completed and differential diagnoses given. Forensic evaluations were performed for state disability.

**Specialized Training/Certifications**

- ☒ Psycho-Legal Associates, Inc., "Child Custody Update: Current Theory, Applications and Research," January 2017
- ☒ Psycho-Legal Associates, Inc., "Domestic Violence Update: Best Practices for Custody Cases Involving Domestic Violence," January 2017
- ☒ American Academy of Forensic Psychology, "Threat Assessment and Management," October, 2016
- ☒ American Academy of Forensic Psychology, "Controversies in Forensic Mental Health Assessment," October 2016
- ☒ American Academy of Forensic Psychology, "Competencies in the Criminal Process," October, 2016
- ☒ American Academy of Forensic Psychology, "Assessment of Mental State Defenses in Criminal Cases," October 2016
- ☒ State of California, Board of Parole Hearings, "Mentally Disordered Offender Orientation," September, 2016
- ☒ The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, "2015 Domestic Violence Update" with Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, January 2016
- ☒ The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, "2015 Custody Evaluators Update" with Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, January 2016
- ☒ State of California, Board of Parole Hearings, "Mentally Disordered Offender Orientation," September 2015
- ☒ The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, "2014 Domestic Violence Update" with Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, January 2015
- ☒ The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, "2014 Custody Evaluators Update" with Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, January 2015
- ☒ Zur Institute, LLC, "Supervision: Advanced Topics, Ethics and Law," July 2015
- ☒ Forensic Mental Health Association of California, "Competency Assessment and Provision of Restoration Services for Juveniles," October 2014
- ☒ The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, "2013 Custody Evaluators Update" with Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, Spring 2014
- ☒ WorkCompCentral/WorkCompSchool Accredited QME Training, "QME Report Writing for Psychologists – Post SB863," January 2014
- ☒ Sacramento Valley Psychological Association. "Diagnosis in the DSM-5," 2013
- ☒ Forensic Mental Health Association of California. "Incompetent to Stand Trial: Guidelines for Examiners and Attorneys, 2013
- ☒ Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. "Custody Evaluator & Mediator Annual Training Update," 2013
- ☒ Custody Evaluator and Domestic Violence Update, 2012
- ☒ American Academy of Forensic Psychology. "Intensive Forensic Practice Workshops-Advanced Forensic Psychology Practice: Issues and Applications," with Alan Goldstein, Ph.D., ABPP, Fall 2011
  - Trial competence assessments of juveniles
  - Evaluations for juvenile waiver/transfer hearings
  - Personal injury cases: Law, liability and ethics
  - Employment discrimination, harassment and the ADA
  - Case law update
  - Ethical issues in forensic psychology
  - Developments in violence risk assessment
  - Developments in sex offender risk assessment
  - Child custody evaluations: Advances in practice
  - Parenting evaluations in child protective matters
  - Evaluating validity of Miranda rights waivers



- Strict mens rea examinations
- Assessment in capital (death penalty) cases
- Psychological test use in forensic assessments
- Expert testimony
- ✚ CPA Annual Conference, 2011  
(Behavioral Management of Pain, The Healing Power of Children's Imagination, Legal/Ethical Telepsychology Opportunities, Client-Therapist Encounters on the Web, Creating Psychologically Healthy Workplaces)
- ✚ Couples Communication Enrichment Program: Therapy and Assessment of Couples, Alliant International University, 2010
- ✚ Juvenile Competency to Stand Trial, APA Approved, 2009
- ✚ 23rd National Conference on the Family and the Self, 2009
- ✚ Bridge Over Troubled Waters: Interdisciplinary Perspectives Above the Turmoil-Addressing Conflicts Between Parties, Professionals, and Paradigms 2009  
(DV in Custody Disputing Families: Debates and Dilemmas, Listening to Children's Voices in Divorce Processes, Understand DV Allegations in Child Custody Disputes, The Nuts and Bolts of Interviewing Children, Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Collisions (Therapy Paradigm - Part 1), Coaching a Parent for a Child Custody Evaluation: A Call for Guidelines, Re-Naming the Problem: Can Court-Ordered Therapy Survive Close Scrutiny?)
- ✚ Foundations of Clinical Supervision, 2009
- ✚ Custody Evaluator & Mediator Training, 2009
- ✚ AAMFT Annual Conference, 2009  
(Emotionally Focused Therapy, Process of Learning EFT, Losing A Child, Marital Assessment in Practice, Online MFT Education and Supervision, Gottman Method Marital Therapy, Can Family Therapy Shine, Family Therapy through the Years)
- ✚ Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute, 2008  
(Child Custody Evaluation: Getting the Whole Story / Basic and Advanced Forensic Techniques in Child Custody Evaluations / Mediation from a Narrative Perspective)
- ✚ Forensic Psychology: Introduction and Overview, Zur Institute, 2007
- ✚ Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute, 2007  
(Issue of Attachment Related to Parenting Plans/Child Custody and Visitation / Mediation in the Court Setting: Bridging Theory, Research and Practice / Nuts and Bolts of Child Custody Evaluation and Investigation / Parenting Plans: Special Circumstances (designed for mediators and evaluators))
- ✚ Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute, 2006  
(Testifying in Court / Relocation Cases / Juvenile Dependency Mediation)
- ✚ Domestic Violence for Child Custody Evaluators, 2006
- ✚ Treating Pain: Evidence-based Myth and Magic, CSU Chico, October 2005
- ✚ Child Custody Update through Psycho-Legal Associates, Joan Kelly, Ph.D., 2005
- ✚ California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System/National Crime Information Center System, CLETS, 2005
- ✚ Psychological Testing & Expert Testimony through Psycho-Legal Associates, 2003
- ✚ Divorce Mediation & Parental Alienation through Psycho-Legal Associates, 2003
- ✚ Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Assessment through Psycho-Legal Associates, 2003
- ✚ Child Custody Evaluations-Reports to the Court and Court Testimony, Alliant International University, November 2003
- ✚ Child Custody Evaluations-Domestic Violence, Safety Issues and Child Abuse, Alliant International University, November 2003
- ✚ Child Custody Evaluations-The Context of Child Custody, Alliant International University, 2003
- ✚ Child Custody Evaluations-Evaluation & Adult Assessment, Alliant International University, 2003
- ✚ Child Custody Evaluations-Adult Assessment and Assessment of Children, Alliant International University, 2003
- ✚ Coaching Skills and Proactive Development, Jeffrey E. Aerbach, November 2002
- ✚ Emotional Intelligence and Coaching, Jeffrey E. Aerbach, November 2002
- ✚ Executive Coaching: What You Need to Know, Jeffrey E. Aerbach, November 2002
- ✚ ADOS Certification Training, June 2002
- ✚ Sacramento County Advanced Drug & Alcohol Training, Level I, II & III, including SASSI Certification, July 1999
- ✚ Sacramento County Advanced Group Facilitator Training, August 1999
- ✚ EMDR Level I & II, June 1998