

# DeCola Detectives Inc.

Confidential Private Investigations

PO Box #42

Ches. Pa. 19547

OPERATES IN PA & NJ

State Licensed, Bonded & Insured

Phone 1-800-466-7568

E-Mail [decola@tdjprolog.net](mailto:decola@tdjprolog.net)

WEB Site <http://www.ny-business.com/decola>



## STEVE DECOLA

President DeCola Detectives Inc.  
Licensed Private Investigator Pennsylvania and New Jersey  
State Licensed, Bonded, & Insured Since 1983

## CREDENTIALS

- 1) Certified Master Investigator
- 2) Certified Legal Investigator
- 3) Certified Bail Enforcement Agent
- 4) Certified Aot 235 Lethal Weapons Training
- 5) NAIS CERTIFICATES

- \* Surveillance Law
- \* Physical Surveillance Techniques
- \* Technical Surveillance
- \* Insurance Claims Investigations
- \* Detective Agency Management
- \* Auto Accident Investigation Techniques
- \* Public Records Access

- 6) Certificate

Microsoft Windows Solutions (advanced computer security)

- 7) PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- \* National Association of Investigative Specialists
- \* Fraternal Order of Police Hero Scholarship Recipient
- \* World Association of Detectives
- \* Pennsylvania Sheriffs Association
- \* Association of Counter-Intelligence Professionals
- \* Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
- \* National Association of Bail Enforcement Agents
- \* New Jersey Private Investigators Association
- \* Pennsylvania Association of Licensed Investigators
- \* Chamber of Commerce

- 8) Faculty Advisory Board Member

Berk's Technical Institute (Criminal / Private Investigation Program)

- 9) Listed

International Who's Who of Professionals

- 10) Media

Steve DeCola Pres./ P.I. has made the cover of P.I. Magazine, done local radio, has been profiled by area newspapers, worked on cases aired on such shows as ABC Prime Time, and written articles that have been published by "The Legal Intelligencer" Steve is also a Licensed Private Pilot.

THE DECOLA DETECTIVES "WHEN YOU NEED TO KNOW"



# DECOLA DETECTIVES INC.

"When You Need To Know"

Confidential

Private

Investigations

Licensed  
Bonded  
Insured  
Since 1983

Local (610) 987-9027

Toll Free (800) 466-7568

## 1) "Are You Licensed By The State?"

It is not easy to obtain a State of Pennsylvania Private Investigator License.

The Requirements are too rigorous for many persons. In order to obtain an Investigator License, agencies besides submitting a criminal background check with each individual and the work can not be insured, and they have no license to worry about losing if they do wrong. Some license numbers shown on ads are only local law registrations, which are not PA licenses, or a license number that belongs to a person who is not working for you. That is like having your driver's license in a friend's car not allowed make any connections. Call your local State Police & they will gladly verify if a person is agency or his own.

The DECOLA DETECTIVES are state Licensed, Bonded, and Insured. Since 1983

## 2) "Are You Insured?"

PA agencies are not required to be insured, in the majority are not.

This leaves the client completely exposed, possibly financially and criminally liable for any crime, mistake, error, or omission committed by the PI. Many claims to be covered but can not provide proof of CURRENT COVERAGE when asked to do so.

The DECOLA DETECTIVES have Millions Dollars of liability

## 3) "Have You Had Many Cases Like Mine?"

Call every firm in the book, and yourself that they may have handled cases just like yours. Maybe they have maybe not.

Let them show you by asking to review their last few cases that are similar to yours. Listen to the detailed accounts and reviews that follow. You don't need to see confidential names and addresses, as you are only looking for content and attention to detail in reports. This proof of experience is not too much to ask for. The DECOLA DETECTIVES can readily comply with this request.

## 4) "Are There Any Hidden Charges?"

Besides an hourly rate and a per-mile charge, some agencies will try to charge extra for things that should be included in field cases. It might be called "video camera rental", or Report fee, or surveillance research, or administrative fee, or many other things.

The DECOLA DETECTIVES charge only for hours, mileage, and true expenses.

## 5) "Who Does The Actual Work?"

In every agency, no matter what you are paying, the work is done by a trainee getting paid a small fraction of the billed amount. This low skilled work would not be accepted in this or any other trade by a skilled, trained, or experienced person. Many are trainees who are learning the basics, while on your assignment. No school, no experience, NO IDEA! That trainee could also be the one need to testify in court about your case, should testimony be required.

The DECOLA DETECTIVES require all Investigators to complete an 18 month accredited training program, or have previous law enforcement background.

## 6) "Can You Guarantee Results?"

Since so many variables can affect a case, a little amount of extremely complicated cases is just best insurance.

The DECOLA DETECTIVES have conducted investigations with the highest levels of integrity, ethics and professionalism for over a decade.

Mainland

Page 17 - News

## Steve DeCola: Armed for snooping in high-tech world

Watch out for the .380 in his sock ... and don't talk into the baseball cap.

By Susan R. and Roger F. Cook  
Main Line Life Correspondents

Private investigator Steve DeCola had a life-size mannequin of a TV screen. He could shoot any man, woman, young kid, gay, and lesbian, and insurance fraud. His software instruction plan, documents obscure insurance and system use, printers.

He is a classic Main Line money. DeCola carried a .380 automatic in his belt. He was a professional investigator. "I usually carry a .44 magnum," he said. The last time he was in a gun fight, he was in a gun fight. He recalled "being a professional and wealthy Main Line attorney."

DeCola to investigate her. He was a professional investigator. He recalled "being a professional and wealthy Main Line attorney."

DeCola was a professional investigator. He recalled "being a professional and wealthy Main Line attorney."

violators of the law, in compensation. He was a professional investigator. He recalled "being a professional and wealthy Main Line attorney."

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Steve DeCola displays a laptop and a video camera in his office. He is a professional investigator.

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## LITIGATION SUPPORT

# Detectives Can Ensure Legitimacy Of Workers' Compensation Claims

BY STEVE DECELA

PHOTO BY JIM HARRIS

In an industry where the liability risk is so high, it's not surprising that workers' compensation claims are a major concern for employers. When an employee is injured on the job, the employer is responsible for covering the costs of the injury, including medical expenses, lost wages and attorney's fees. The employer also has a duty to provide a safe and healthy work environment.

A recent development in the workers' compensation arena is the use of private investigators to help employers determine the legitimacy of claims. This is especially true in cases where the injury is serious and the claimant is seeking a large settlement.

Private investigators can help employers in a number of ways. They can investigate the circumstances of the injury, determine if the injury was work-related, and identify any potential witnesses. They can also help employers understand the legal process and the potential consequences of a claim.



**STEVE DECELA** is the president of DECELA Detectives, Inc., and has over 20 years of experience in the field of private investigation. He is a member of several professional organizations, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and the Association of Licensed Private Investigators.

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investigation, including a deep dive into the claimant's background.

A recent case in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, involved a private investigator firm which was hired to investigate a worker's compensation claim. The investigator discovered that the claimant had a history of similar injuries and was not working at the time of the injury.

The investigator's findings were presented to the employer, who was able to avoid a large settlement. This is a common outcome in cases where the claimant is not working at the time of the injury.

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## Six Questions to Ask When Picking an Agency

1. Are you licensed by the state?

The requirement for licensing is a state of Pennsylvania. Before licensing, the state must be licensed for every state. It is important to check the license to make sure it is current and that the agency has not been suspended or revoked. In addition, the agency must have a good reputation for integrity and honesty. It is also important to check the agency's track record for successful investigations.

2. How long have you been in business?

Most agencies are not required to be licensed, so the history of the agency is a good indicator of its reliability and success. A long history of successful investigations is a good sign that the agency is experienced and knowledgeable. It is also important to check the agency's track record for successful investigations.

3. How do you charge for your services?

Most agencies charge a flat fee for their services, but some charge an hourly rate. It is important to understand the agency's pricing structure and to compare it to other agencies. It is also important to check the agency's track record for successful investigations.

4. How do you handle confidential information?

Most agencies have a strict policy regarding confidential information. It is important to understand the agency's policy and to make sure it meets your needs. It is also important to check the agency's track record for successful investigations.

5. How do you handle difficult cases?

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**Pennsylvania Bar Institute**  
SOUTHWESTERN LEGAL EDUCATION

**PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION CENTER**

Upcoming CLE Courses

<p><b>Wed. June 16</b> 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>It's All in the Family: Impact of Other Substantive Legal Areas on Family Law Practice</b></p> <p><i>Presented by:</i> J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa. and J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.</p>
<p><b>Thurs. June 17</b> 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Choosing the Appropriate Business Entity - Avoiding Shuts</b></p> <p><i>Presented by:</i> J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa. and J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.</p>
<p><b>Fri. June 18</b> 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Planning Techniques for Protecting Client's Assets</b></p> <p><i>Presented by:</i> J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa. and J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.</p>
<p><b>Tues. June 24</b> 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Survival Tactics for the Unemployed in the Philadelphia Trial Court</b></p> <p><i>Presented by:</i> J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa. and J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.</p>
<p><b>Fri. June 25</b> 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Update on Financial Planning for the Attorney</b></p> <p><i>Presented by:</i> J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa. and J. Michael McLaughlin, Esq., Philadelphia, Pa.</p>

For more information on these courses, contact the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, 1000 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19106. Phone: (215) 562-1000. Fax: (215) 562-1001.

**DECOLA DETECTIVES INC.**

P.O. Box #42  
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 1 (800) 466-7568  
 Fax: 1 (610) 987-9027  
 E-Mail decola@ptd.net

**PA. OFFICES:** Paha, King of Prussia,  
 Bala Cynwyd, Plymouth Meeting, Reading

**N.J. OFFICE:** Marlton

**FAX COVER SHEET**

FAX NUMBER TRANSMITTED TO: (516) 242-2279

To: Mr Joseph Walksni  
 C/O: Ed Snyder  
 From: DECOLA DETECTIVES INC.  
 Client/Matter: Tioga County Warrant  
 Date: 9/24/99

DOCUMENTS	NUMBER OF PAGES*
Retainer agreement for services	2 & this cover

**COMMENTS:****PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL**

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 E-Mail [decola@ptdprtolg.net](mailto:decola@ptdprtolg.net)

## PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

Date 9/24/99

Client Name: Joseph Waiksnis

S.S.# [REDACTED]

Address 40 East Half Hollow Rd  
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Phone# (516) 242-2279

Person responsible for payment of all billings for services As above

Description of services requested: Retainer to look into charges, allegations & accusations  
RE: JOSEPH WAIKSNIS warrant issued by Ticonderoga County

The undersigned hereby subscribes and engages the services of the DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. as set forth below.

This document shall represent the agreement between the parties hereto and may not be altered unless in writing.

The investigation shall consist of one or more investigators, as deemed advisable by DECOLA DETECTIVES INC., in order to perform the services requested by the client. The billing shall be at a rate of \$100.00 per hour-per investigator, plus expenses and mileage. It is further agreed that the client will be advised when, and if, the cost for services, including expenses and mileage has reached the sum of \$10,000.00. The client will then instruct the investigator, either in writing or orally, that additional services are authorized.

Upon signing this agreement a retainer of \$10,000.00 has been paid. The balance of the cost for services will be paid upon receipt of a statement to the client.

DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. reserves the right to cease all work on behalf of the client in the event the billings are not paid timely.

DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. requires that prior to the release of any information obtained on behalf of the client, that billings be paid in full.


The actual documentation, writings, notes or other materials developed, obtained and received by DECOLA DETECTIVES INC, are the sole property of DECOLA DETECTIVES INC and DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. has a proprietary interest in such materials. Further, client agrees that DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. has no obligation to release such materials, writings, reports, notes or other documentation developed in the furtherance of the investigation on behalf of the client, it being understood that much of these materials are received through confidential sources, which cannot be revealed under any circumstances and client agrees that he/she will make no demand for release of confidential sources or the documents produced in the investigation by DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. The client agrees to make no demand for any writings generated in the furtherance of the investigation, but not limited to those generated by confidential sources or others.

The fee charged is not contingent upon the information and details developed by the investigation undertaken or the eventual outcome of the investigation. If services are canceled or stopped by client, the retainer shall be forfeited and any charges and cost which exceed the amount of the retainer shall be paid, in addition to billings for services rendered and expenses, in full within thirty (30) days of the date of the last statement.

The parties further agree that all information developed and submitted to client or his or her authorized representative shall be treated as strictly confidential and shall not be released to any third party, entity or person, without first obtaining written authorization from DeCola Detective Agency, Inc and these conditions shall bind family members, representatives and heirs of the client. In the event that any information obtained is disseminated without prior approval of DeCola Detective Agency, Inc., then the client agrees to hold DECOLA DETECTIVES INC. harmless for any costs, damages or other expenses resulting from the dissemination of such materials, including the cost of litigation, defense, attorney's fees, costs and any payments made to satisfy claims made.

I, we, our, my heirs, beneficiaries, agents, devisees, legatees and administrators, further agree to indemnify and hold harmless said investigative agency and its agents and employees from any and all actions, cause of actions, claims, damages and demands of whatsoever type, wheresoever situated, arising directly or indirectly from the instant investigation which, has been requested.

Intending to be legally bound, we have read the above and do set our hands and seals below this 30th day of September, 1999

  
Client \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)

Client \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)

Accepted by

\_\_\_\_\_  
DeCola Detective Inc.

Detach check prior to obtaining drawer's signature

Name of Account  
VERONICA SHERER

Pay to the order of  
DECOR DETECTIVES INC.

Amount  
\$ 10,000.00

Account of  
Joseph & Watkins

The Chase Manhattan Bank  
New York, N.Y. 10047

Routing Number  
021000021

Account Number  
601440051578

CHASE

0844005267

Date  
SEPTEMBER 30 1999

\$ 10,000.00

USD Dollars

*NON NEGOTIABLE*

If not cashed by the payee, it is subject to your account's  
Do not cash if the MICR line is not present.

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CLASSIFICATION