



## SCOTTISH POLICE STATION INTERVIEW TRAINING (SUPRALAT inspired)

### Module Five: Suspect Interview

This module looks at the *suspect interview* from a law and psychology perspective. The module explores the different models of suspect interview, pressure and tactics applied at the interview, and your role as defence lawyer in countering pressure and tactics.

It aims to equip you with the knowledge and tools to:

- a) determine when the interview becomes problematic
- b) understand and assert *why* it is problematic.

We aim, in this e-learning module, to introduce key concepts which will be built upon during the face-to-face training on the Suspect Interview.

The main materials are followed by a 30-minute presentation by Dr Andy Griffiths (Centre of Forensic Interviewing, University of Portsmouth), a former police officer who now researches and trains on police interviewing. In this highly instructive webinar, Dr Griffiths describes what is a "good", namely, effective and ethical, police interview of a suspect. He contrasts the descriptions of "good" interviewing practices with those practices, that are considered unethical and ineffective. He furthermore offers reflections on the lawyer's role at the suspect interview from the police perspective.

We encourage you to consider the following questions:

- 1) Do you recognise the features described by Dr Griffiths in the real-life interviews that you have been attending?
- 2) Do you, as a lawyer, consider it to be your role to help ensure that your client is interviewed in a proper/ethical manner?
- 3) How, if at all, can the ability to assess the quality of your client's interview benefit you in your role as a defence lawyer?
- 4) Do you agree with Dr Griffiths' perspective on the lawyer's role at the suspect interview? Would the police officers that you typically encounter share the same perspective? If not, could (or would) you do anything to educate them about your proper role