

The Paranormal Source

INVESTIGATION, RESEARCH, & ASSISTANCE GROUP

P.O. Box 996 Royse City, TX 75189 * Phone: (214) 918-6601 * Website: www.paranormalsource.com

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: FIELD / GUEST INVESTIGATOR

Including Group Objectives / Standards of Operation / Code of Ethics

The Paranormal Source was formed from the collective vision of its founders, April & Allen Slaughter, to coordinate a team of individuals dedicated to the factual and thorough documentation of paranormal activity in areas including, but not limited to the following:

GHOST/SPIRIT/HAUNTING PHENOMENA
INSTRUMENTAL TRANSCOMMUNICATION (ITC)
UFO & USO PHENOMENA
CRYPTO ZOOLOGY
PSYCHICAL RESEARCH

Any individual seeking to become an investigator with **The Paranormal Source** will need to review the information included in this packet, initial each section, and return it for review. While applications submitted via e-mail are accepted, the applicant must initial and sign all documents before participating in an investigation. All applications must be approved through the unanimous vote of the Executive Board Members. Upon approval, applicants will also be issued an e-mail address for the specific purpose of inter-group communication and submission of field reports. **The Paranormal Source** is seeking individuals who take paranormal research seriously. Should your application be accepted, we expect you remain objective and to conduct yourself in a manner befitting a professional. Our lead investigators have an extensive background in paranormal research that allows them to be well-informed and of great assistance to those seeking it.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS / LEAD INVESTIGATORS:

APRIL SLAUGHTER

Co-Founder / Paranormal Investigator, Author & Journalist

ALLEN SLAUGHTER

Co-Founder / Paranormal Investigator & Technical Director
Lead Investigator & Case Manager

JERRY BOWERS

Lead Paranormal Field Investigator & Coordinator of Field Operations

BUFFY CLARY

Lead Paranormal Field Investigator

SECTION I. – OBJECTIVES

- ✚ Gain a better understanding of paranormal occurrences through proper data collection, thorough documentation and direct, honest experience.
- ✚ Provide reliable and professional assistance to those involved in a reportedly paranormal experience, resulting in a better understanding of how to handle a specific situation.
- ✚ Correct any misconceptions that have been portrayed by such things as the media, other investigators, etc. in regards to paranormal research & assistance.
- ✚ Share our knowledge and experience in the field with other investigative organizations to further the overall progress and validity of paranormal research.

Please initial that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with the information provided in this section of the application. X_____

SECTION II. – CODE OF ETHICS

- 1) **HONESTY & INTEGRITY** - This research or any association formed within it, requires us to be viewed as honest individuals as well as a professional collective. Honesty and Integrity are integral parts in establishing trust among team members, the community, other investigative teams, the media as well as anyone in want or need of our services.
 - a) How we represent ourselves is how we represent the group. This pertains to any public presence we maintain (i.e. social networking websites, blogs, attended events, etc.). As an investigator with and a representative of The Paranormal Source, Inc. each of us expected to remain professional and inoffensive with anything that is connected to the group's name and image.
 - b) We will not make claims about our experience in the field, investigations that have been conducted, etc. that cannot be substantiated.
 - c) We keep our commitments. If circumstances arise that require us to rearrange schedules or activities, we will be forthright in our explanations to save time and confusion whenever possible. Any information provided to us in confidence will always remain in confidence.
- 2) **RESPECT** - We are a team. Respecting one another's space, privacy, and points of view are all necessary. Any disrespect among team members, or toward anyone outside of the group will not be tolerated.
 - a) We will be diligent and mature in our dealings with others. If an issue arises, it will be addressed and resolved with patience and willingness to compromise.
 - b) We will not make assumptions. If something is unclear, it is expected of us to ask questions.
 - c) Respect your surroundings. While accidents are bound to occur, keep in mind that the environment around us commands respect as well. This includes any property or location we investigate, other individuals in the area,

and any phenomena that may be occurring.

- 3) **LOYALTY & SUPPORT** - Everyone that is on our team (or that will become part in the future) plays an important role. Being loyal and supportive with every individual involved is key. Be mindful of events and circumstances that could benefit from our assistance and understanding. Excluding any member of the team due to any misunderstanding, miscommunication, or differences in belief is not acceptable.
- a) Do not allow any misrepresentation of the group or any member within it. It is up to everyone to defend and maintain our reputation as professionals.
 - b) Notify lead investigators immediately if an issue arises that you cannot rectify on your own, and be willing and available to assist if asked.
 - c) Notify lead investigators immediately of any changes in your contact information. We cannot communicate/coordinate effectively without this information.

Please initial that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with the information provided in this section of the application. X _____

SECTION III. – STANDARDS OF OPERATION

***NOTE:** If at any time any of the following regulations or guidelines are violated by a team member or a guest accompanying us on an investigation, it is grounds for immediate dismissal.*

1) **FEES FOR SERVICES**

There is absolutely no fee or charge associated with conducting an investigation.

2) **DRUG & ALCOHOL USE** prior to or during an investigation is strictly prohibited.

3) **SAFETY**

The safety of the team, as well as anyone accompanying us on an investigation is a priority. Familiarizing ourselves with our surroundings and any possible hazards/dangers is imperative. We will NOT attempt an investigation in an area that can in any way be observed as a potential safety issue. Nor will we continue an investigation if an obvious danger is detected, or if anyone is injured.

a) It is never acceptable to wander off alone. Not only is this a physical safety issue, but it could also lend itself to mental strain or emotional instability when unexpected or overwhelming phenomena is encountered.

b) Every individual is expected to stay within an acceptable distance to other members of the group, in case an emergency occurs so that they are easily reached and assisted.

4) **DOCUMENTATION**

Collecting accurate data before, during, and after an investigation is highly important. We need to be as detail-oriented as possible to ensure a precise interpretation of events that may or may not occur.

- a) Bring a notebook, or an alternate means of making notations to document all key factors in an investigation, such as date/time/location information, environmental details, any personal impressions or experiences on an investigation, etc.
- b) All field investigators will be issued a Member Handbook, which they are expected to bring to **every investigation and meeting**. It will include all necessary forms as well as a copy of the Group Objectives & Standards of Operation. This ensures that all imperative information stays organized and readily available to you , fellow investigators, and the clients.
- c) Every field investigator will have an individual member file. It contains all relevant experience and contact information, personal equipment information, as well as any data he/she obtains on an investigation.
- d) We are responsible for any evidence or data we obtain or present. In order to catalog and use it effectively, it needs to be handled efficiently. Please remember to credit it (or any portion thereof) to those who assisted in obtaining it.
- e) Every location has its own case file and number. All relevant information collected by investigators will be kept in the file and accessed only by the lead investigators. This is to ensure no tampering occurs and to preserve its authenticity.
- f) Reports are expected from every member attending an investigation (with the exception of Guest investigators) within 14 days, unless stated otherwise by members of the board.
- g) No data from any case file shall be shared with anyone outside of the group without first obtaining the permission of all lead investigators.

5) **DEPENDABILITY**

Our commitments and the relationships we forge from them are intrinsic to the overall growth and success of the group, and our ability to make necessary connections to continue our work.

- a) Punctuality is a must. If a time is scheduled for an investigation, we must do our best to meet that time commitment. If any member is late in joining an investigation already in progress, their admittance will be denied.
- b) Be prepared. Having all necessary documentation and equipment needed readily available will allow the team to work quickly, thoroughly, and professionally.

6) **INVESTIGATION REQUESTS & AVAILABILITY**

All investigation requests or invitations, including those from other groups will be reviewed by all lead investigators prior to approval and scheduling. Case management duties will be exclusively handled by the lead investigators.

- a) Any investigator may request a particular location for an investigation. However, the lead investigators will be responsible for contacting the necessary parties to obtain permission to investigate. This ensures the

proper channels are utilized and liability is not passed onto field investigators.

- b) Field Investigators are not limited to investigations exclusively with **The Paranormal Source**. However, the lead investigators need to be informed of any outside paranormal activities or investigations. This keeps the line of communication honest and clear, and also helps with possible scheduling conflicts.

7) **CONFIDENTIALITY / DISCLOSURE**

The information we obtain in researching a location or on an investigation needs to be treated with the utmost respect. It is important that we are viewed as a trustworthy resource for assistance and anonymity.

- a) *ALL* information initially obtained shall remain confidential among group members until it is agreed upon to release it by the lead investigators. This includes any information we publish on our website, openly disclose in discussion with the public, or release to the media.
- b) If anonymity is requested from a client, no information regarding their case (i.e. location, current phenomena, evidence collected, etc.) shall be released in any form with anyone outside the group. You are expected to strictly adhere to any confidentiality agreements set forth by the client and the lead investigators.

8) **PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE**

It is standard practice of the group, as well as common sense, to respectfully request permission to investigate any location not openly available to the public for that purpose (please refer to section 5a. under the Standards of Operation for regulations regarding obtaining permission). It is not acceptable AT ANY TIME to enter a location without the expressed permission of the caretaker and or owner of the property of interest.

9) **WORKING WITH PSYCHICS / SENSITIVES**

Every investigator relies on his/her instincts and intuition when it comes to investigating. However, our approach in collecting evidence is now, and should always remain as scientific and objective as possible.

- a) If a psychic/sensitive wishes to attend an investigation with the group, it will need to be approved by all lead investigators, as well as the property owner / caretaker of the location.
- b) If it is the client's request to involve a psychic on an investigation, one will be invited to attend by the lead investigators.
- c) In presenting evidence, or the lack thereof to a client, the information provided from a psychic/sensitive will not be presented unless it can otherwise be substantiated with research of the location to validate it. Clients can request to be informed on collected information if they so wish.
- d) We will often be conducting psychical research when a controlled environment can be established and maintained.

10) **GUEST INVESTIGATORS / OPEN INVESTIGATIONS**

The team will occasionally hold open investigations for those interested in learning more about paranormal research. All field investigator applicants will be expected to attend open investigations for on-the-job training

before attending a full-scale investigation. It is to be understood that not every investigation we conduct is open to allowing guests to attend.

- a) Anyone requesting permission to attend an investigation with the group will need the approval of all lead investigators beforehand. The necessary documentation of their attendance is required.
- b) All guests are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner.
- c) You must be at least 18 years of age or older to attend an investigation with the group. Individuals ages 16-17 can attend only if accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who is at least 21 years of age or older. We will **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** allow any individuals under the age of 16 to attend an investigation for the safety of both the child and investigators involved.

11) MEDIA RELATIONS

Though **The Paranormal Source** is not opposed to working with the media on occasion, it is to be understood that we conduct our investigations for the purpose of obtaining information about paranormal phenomena and not to gain notoriety. This leaves the question of the validity of our research out of the equation and ensures we do our job with the right intent and professionalism in place.

- a) Any event / investigation including media exposure will be discussed and approved with all lead investigators prior to the event.
- b) If at all possible, all lead investigators should be present so as to assure proper representation.
- c) Outside guests wishing to accompany the media will need to be reviewed by all lead investigators. This includes camera/television crews, investigators from other paranormal groups, and psychics/sensitives. We reserve the right to refuse attendance to anyone we feel uncomfortable working with on any investigation or event we arrange or participate in.

Please initial that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with the information provided in this section of the application. X _____

Please fill out the portion of the application below in its entirety and be as detailed as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Birth date: ____/____/____

Home Phone: () -

Mobile: () -

E-mail: _____

Web URL(s): _____

How long have you been investigating/researching the paranormal?

What would you consider to be your area(s) of most experience or expertise?

What investigative group(s) do you currently belong to? How long have you been a member?

What equipment (if any) have you acquired to assist you in investigations?

How did you hear about us?

Have you worked with any of our current investigators / members before? If so, who and what were the details of the case(s)?

Should your membership be accepted, what do you feel you can contribute to the group?

What are your personal beliefs / philosophies / theories regarding the paranormal?

By filling out and submitting this application, you understand that any information you share with us will be kept confidential, and only used for the purposes of determining your eligibility. You understand that is it in no way a guarantee of membership.

Applicant Signature

Date

The Paranormal Source will review your application and will inform you of your membership status as soon as possible. Please be patient and allow us at least seven days to process your application.

How would you prefer we contact you regarding your status?