



## **Voluntary Intoxication – It's Not Consent for Sex You Know...**

Alcohol facilitated sexual assaults are by far some of the most, if not the most, challenging cases any criminal justice or allied professional can be asked to work in an effective manner. The vast majority of alcohol facilitated sexual assaults are not reported, but when they are, the reported victims and suspects rarely receive the justice they deserve. This can be extremely problematic because many offenders, when not held accountable, go on to commit additional serious offenses such as rape and sexual assault.

This presentation involves the profusion of sexual assaults that occur while the victim is under the influence, to some degree or another, of alcohol. The role of alcohol in our society, and more specifically, in the social spectrum of dating and pursuing sexual encounters, will be presented and discussed. A thorough description and understanding of this complex issue is at the heart of this presentation. Providing comprehensive information on how we all can become better at recognizing the effects of alcohol and its role in the fact that ethanol alcohol is the drug of choice for sexual predators is explored and processed.

Multiple visual examples, and ample time for discussion is provided during this block, in order to help participants, recognize and evaluate varying degrees of intoxication; this will assist in providing a foundation for assessing substantial incapacitation, and how that term fits within the realm of a complete and thorough investigation and prosecution.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Understand the role of alcohol on public and private decision-making
- Differentiate between the impact of alcohol on different body types
- Make determinations on the levels of incapacitation and consent
- Look at evidence such as food consumption and timing and other facts to assist in making well informed case determinations
- Provide concrete recommendations to assist criminal justice and allied professionals working with victims, suspects and witnesses in cases involving alcohol