

# **Butane Hash Oil (BHO) Lab Investigations**

This course will include a case debrief of an incident where a BHO lab exploded killing one. The case agent successfully won a conviction for that death.

## **Hosted by the Contra Costa County Fire Department**

2945 Treat Boulevard Concord

**May 13, 2014**

8 Hours 0800-1700 hours

With the greater availability of high-grade marijuana around the country, connoisseurs of marijuana have found new ways to extract THC for even greater highs. One of these methods is the Butane Hash Oil (BHO) process. By introducing butane into the extraction process, the end result can be deadly. BHO labs are exploding and causing injuries throughout the nation, particularly in regions with lax (or none) marijuana laws. BHO labs have their own unique set of investigative techniques: from safe handling of the scene, to evidence collection, to special laws to prosecute these cases. During this course, we will debrief an incident that occurred in Livermore, CA in which a BHO lab being done in an apartment exploded killing one. The case agent will go over how the incident was investigated: from what occurred with the first responding officers, to the arrest of the culprits for murder, and on to a conviction for manslaughter. We will review what went right and what went wrong. Fire Department personnel are encouraged to attend as we will cover aspects important for their response and investigation.

After completing the course, the student will:

- Understand the different types of hashish and, specifically, what hashish is and is not.
- Understand the process, step by step, of how to make butane hash oil
- Know what types of manufacturing processes are going to replace the butane method of extraction
- Know the history of BHO and other types of hashish extraction
- Have an understanding of THC content and how it relates to being high
- Learn the dangers of these types of labs and the tasks needed to be completed for an investigation
- Review successful cases where BHO manufacturers were prosecuted and convicted

### **Instructors:**

#### **John Reynolds**

John Reynolds has been a Police Officer in California since 2000. John is a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor. His teaching experience includes the DRE course, CNOA Drug Abuse Recognition course, driving under the influence courses, DOT Drug Education, and various public education courses related to drugs and influence. John has held assignments as a Narcotics/Vice detective, Crimes Against Persons detective, Field Training Officer, and SWAT Team Leader. John has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, and is a specialized narcotics investigator certified by the Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation (CA P.O.S.T.). John held the CNOA Region 1 board position of Secretary for several years.

#### **Keith Graves**

Keith Graves has been a Police Officer in California since 1990. Keith is a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor and teaches both the DRE course and the CNOA Drug Abuse Recognition Course. Keith currently teaches controlled substances at the Basic Police Academy. Keith has held assignments as a Narcotics/Vice Detective, COPPS Officer, Traffic Officer, and SWAT Team Member. Keith has taught thousands of officers and civilians about drug use, drug trends, and drug investigations. Keith is the Founder and President of Graves & Associates, a company dedicated to providing drug training to law enforcement and private industry.

### **Location:**

Contra Costa County Fire Department  
2945 Treat Boulevard  
Concord

### **Tuition: \$125**

Door registrations are welcome, but pre-registration is encouraged. Pre-registration is requested one week prior to the class. Make checks payable to Graves & Associates LLC. **Registration forms can be downloaded online at <http://www.gravesassociates.com/registration.html>.**

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