



Grave Concerns Paranormal's "mission" is to document tangible, undeniable evidence of the paranormal. We are a group of like-minded individuals on a quest for raw, unbiased evidence of paranormal activity. The team approaches each case with a healthy dose of skepticism and zero judgment as to what the client is experiencing. We are ordinary people and do not claim to be experts in this field but we do take what we do seriously. During an investigation we remain objective, look for logical explanations to what is occurring first, not jumping to conclusions.

If you are interested and feel you would be a good fit for our group please familiarize yourself with what is expected of our investigators and how things work within the group. Within Grave Concerns there are three branches of investigators:

Guest Investigator-someone who attends one investigation with Grave Concerns. We understand that paranormal investigating is not for everyone, but we're glad you were open minded enough to try it out.

Investigator-a person who attends at least two investigations with Grave Concerns.

Lead Investigator-a person who has attended at least five investigations with the group, complies with and has signed & returned the rules and regulations set forth by Grave Concerns. These are the people who go the extra mile and wear many different hats within the group. To become a lead investigator you must be willing to take an active role in the group, this may include helping in research, helping to review evidence if needed, help spread the word about the group within the community, etc. Without the hard work and dedication of our lead investigators Grave Concerns would not exist.

***Notes on becoming a lead investigator**-Not everyone who is eligible is interested in becoming a lead investigator and because of this reason we will not ask you. If you are interested in taking the next step and becoming a lead investigator you will need to make us aware of it. Only 8 lead investigators are allowed within the group at any given time. If you are interested in becoming a lead please let us know, even if all spots are filled at the time we can keep you in mind if anything becomes available in the future. Once you are eligible for lead you **must sign and return all 4 pages of the rules & regulations (please keep a copy for yourself)** at which point the established lead investigators will vote on your application. You may be wondering why we require an investigator to attend so many investigations before becoming eligible to become lead, simply because we feel it can take that many investigations before you can get a feel for how the group works and visa versa. We're looking for lead investigators that will fit in well with the rest of the group and that will be around for a while, not people that are just acting on a whim or going through a passing phase. If at anytime a lead investigator feels they need to step down from the position or can not fulfill the required responsibilities please let us know upfront, don't leave us guessing.

Although not all sections of the rules and regulations may apply to you, you are encouraged to read them in their entirety. **Failure to follow the rules set forth could result in dismissal from the group or exclusion from any future investigations.** Only lead investigators need to sign and return rules and regulations. Please email me if you have any questions, contact@gcparanormal.com

Sincerely,

Beth Brown

Beth Brown
Founder, Grave Concerns Paranormal



What are Grave Concerns' views on the following issues?

Orbs

We believe that 99.9% of so called orbs seen in photos and on video footage are not paranormal. In most cases, orbs are just refraction of light from dust, moisture, bugs, reflection off an object ,etc. The reason you didn't see with your own eyes is because it doesn't show up until you snapped the picture and it refracted the light from your flash or IR light. In order for us to even consider an "orb" to be signs of the paranormal, it has to be solid, show signs of movement & emit it's own light.

Shapes and faces in photographs

Please examine your photos closely before assuming you have caught something paranormal in them. A common problem when analyzing photos and sometimes even audio is matrixing, no investigator is immune to this problem. Matrixing is a term used to describe the brains ability to find the familiar in complex shapes and colors. In other words our mind tries to makes sense of something that is unfamiliar to us. A perfect example of matrixing is "the man in the moon," these are merely complex clusters of craters on the surface of the moon which cause our minds to form the shape of a face. Ever seen the shape of a rabbit in the clouds, once again matrixing. So please ask yourself the following questions in order to identify this problem before someone else does. Without asking these questions before hand you are putting your credibility and the credibility of the entire group on the line.

1. What is the photograph of? Is the subject in the photo something that is cluttered or chaotic, for example a cluttered closet, a forest of trees, mirrors or glass? These all include very complex patterns and it becomes very easy for our minds to form a face or shape from them resulting in matrixing.
2. Is the face or figure in the photo realistic, proportionate and well defined or is it fuzzy, disproportionately splashed across the photo or background? If it's the latter, it's probably matrixing, a lens flair or a natural play on the room's light.

Unless well defined, proportionate and undeniable, photos should not be submitted to the team as potential evidence.

Psychics, mediums, sensitive's, etc.

To a degree, you will be asked to check your psychic feelings at the door as not to influence the objectivity of other investigators during the investigation, this goes for interaction with other paranormal groups also. We do not want to give the impression we are a psychic driven group. If you think you are unable to do this, or think it unfair, we may not be the group for you. In no way do we mean this as a disrespect to you or your ability but for us it's a matter of unbiased documentation and we can't document your personal experiences any more than any other member of the team. We understand that if you are sensitive that you will have feelings and personal experiences on many of the locations but we do not want you or the rest of the team to base the investigation around this. If we fall into this trap then we run the risk of too much emphasis on one aspect of the investigation. Put another way, we don't want the investigation to revolve around the physic while ignoring the documentation of data. Without documentation there is no proof, without proof it's just another personal experience or ghost story.



RULES & REGULATIONS

SECTION A: FOR ALL INVESTIGATORS

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Follow all rules set forth by property owners at investigations.
- Show respect to the staff/owners and property at investigations. This includes cleaning up after yourself and smoking only in designated smoking areas. "Leave it as you found it or better" Remember the way you conduct yourself during an investigation is a direct reflection on Grave Concerns as a whole.
- Sign up and payment deadlines are set for a reason! If your payment is not received by the deadline date given, your name will be taken off the attendance list and another investigator will be found to take your place. Unless you have made other arrangements with me in advance there will be no exceptions to this rule.
- In no way does Grave Concerns endorse breaking and entering or trespassing in the name of paranormal investigating. **Breaking this rule is grounds for automatic dismissal from the group!**
- On all residential and commercial investigations, all information remains confidential! Never release information such as names and location unless you are given permission to do so by the home owners. This also applies to empty houses in which we have been granted permission by the owners to investigate.
- During investigations the group breaks down into small teams of 2-3 people, each team is sent to a designated area for an allotted amount of time before meeting back with everyone to switch off. Please do not wander off from your team by yourself or with a friend without letting the entire group know. Many of the locations we investigate are run down and all are pitch black. By wandering off you are putting yourself in danger and hindering the investigation for everyone attending by contaminating evidence. I can not stress this point enough!
- During investigations all cell phones need to be turned off or silenced! This also goes for digital cameras that play tones when being turned on and off, please disable this feature if your camera allows.
- If you are conducting a KII session during an investigation, keep in mind that walkie talkies can provide false readings. If you are getting what you think could be legitimate hits on the KII turn your walkie off but you must radio the rest of the group first to tell them you are going off line and you must radio us when you turn the walkies back on.
- There will be times when we team up with other groups on investigations. It is not a competition between the two groups or between one Grave Concerns' investigator and another.
- Don't forget, we all share a common interest. We're all here to pursue the same thing and to have fun while doing it.
- No whining allowed, unless the entire group is whining and then it's ok.

SECTION B: FOR LEAD INVESTIGATORS

(only 8 leads investigators are allowed within the group at any given time)

In addition to Section A above you must:

- After becoming a lead investigator you must attend at least three investigations a year in order to maintain lead investigator status.



RULES & REGULATIONS

SECTION B: FOR LEAD INVESTIGATORS (CONT.)

- We understand that not everyone can afford to buy an arsenal of equipment but you must own a digital voice recorder at the very least.
- Have a way to review your own audio and any other evidence that may apply.
- Have access to the internet in order to share your findings with other lead investigators.
- All lead investigators will help with the set up and break down of equipment on investigations.
- Upon completion of an investigation you will have three weeks to review your photos and audio for evidence, we understand that video review may take a little longer.
- When reviewing your audio do not email it to other lead investigators as you find it, unless you find something extraordinary please wait until the deadline date or until everyone is done to send them. When reviewing audio, keep these tips in mind:
 - When in doubt-throw it out
 - On the fence-please submit
 - Grabs you in the ass-submit it fast!

BENEFITS OF BEING A LEAD INVESTIGATOR

- Lead investigators will be called upon first for investigations of smaller or residential locations. The only exception to this rule will be if the person responsible for setting up the investigation is not a lead investigator. If there are lead investigators who can not attend then other investigators will be asked, if needed.
- Business cards-when deciding how many we order we will take lead investigators only into account. What a lead investigator does with their portion of the cards afterwards, whether it's split cost or share them with others investigators, is up to them. But we can't order them in mass quantities to be split among all investigators.
- Allowed to vote on what is deemed valid evidence and used on the website.
- Allowed to vote on which locations to investigate for the upcoming year (usually done in November)
- In *most* cases, seats in The Grave Concerns Mystery Machine will be reserved for lead investigators. These investigators usually will not have to worry about transportation to and from investigations.

Print Name of Lead Investigator: _____

Signature of Lead Investigator: _____

Date: ___/___/___

I acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the above rules and regulations and failure to follow the above could result in dismissal from Grave Concerns.