

THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 AND HOW PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS HAVE RECOVERED

WRITTEN BY CHAD KLEIMAN

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on many industries, including private investigations. The sudden shift to remote work and social distancing measures has forced private investigators to adapt their methods and techniques to continue their work. Covid-19 has affected private investigations and how investigators have adapted to the new normal. From surveillance to interviews, every aspect of private investigations has changed with small nuances to assure safety from Covid-19.

What aspects have been affected?

- **Remote Surveillance**

- One of the biggest changes in private investigations due to Covid-19 is the shift to remote surveillance. With social distancing measures in place and many people working from home, traditional in-person surveillance has become more difficult. To adapt, private investigators have turned to remote surveillance methods such as GPS tracking, online monitoring, and drone surveillance.

- **Digital Investigations**

- Another change in private investigations due to Covid-19 is the increased use of digital investigations. With more people communicating and conducting business online, private investigators have had to adapt by becoming proficient in digital forensics and cyber investigations. This includes the ability to conduct online background checks, track social media activity, and uncover digital evidence.

- **Virtual Interviews**

- Covid-19 has also led to a shift in the way private investigators conduct interviews. In-person interviews are not always possible, so investigators have turned to virtual interviews to gather information. This includes conducting video and phone interviews, as well as using online chat and messaging platforms.

- **Difficulty in Accessing Physical Locations**

- Covid-19 has also made it more difficult for private investigators to access physical locations, such as businesses and homes. With lockdowns and social distancing measures in place, investigators have had to be more creative in their approach to accessing these locations. This includes using drones and other remote surveillance methods, as well as working with insiders to gather information. As one investigator stated, "It's like trying to solve a puzzle with missing pieces, but we're finding new ways to piece together the information we need."

- **Increase in Demand**

- Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, the demand for private investigations has increased in some areas. With more people working remotely and conducting business online, there has been an increase in cases related to cybercrime and employee misconduct. Additionally, the pandemic has also led to an increase in cases related to child custody and domestic disputes.

How Has the Industry Recovered

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced private investigators to adapt their methods and techniques to continue their work, which has ultimately led to the industry becoming stronger. The shift to remote surveillance, digital investigations, virtual interviews, and the use of drones and other remote surveillance methods have allowed investigators to gather information in new and innovative ways.

Additionally, the pandemic has also led to an increased need for security and risk management, as many companies and organizations have had to adapt to new ways of working and conducting business. This has created new opportunities for private investigators to offer their services in these areas.

Furthermore, the pandemic has also highlighted the importance of online security and privacy. With more people working remotely and conducting business online, the need for digital investigations and cyber security has become more important than ever. This has led to an increase in the demand for private investigators with expertise in these areas.

Overall, the private investigation industry has come back stronger due to Covid-19 as it has been forced to adapt and evolve to meet the new challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic. These adaptations have led to new and innovative ways of gathering information and have created new opportunities for investigators to offer their services in areas such as cybercrime, risk management, and digital investigations.

Conclusion

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on the private investigation industry. The pandemic has forced investigators to adapt their methods and techniques to continue their work, including the shift to remote surveillance, digital investigations, virtual interviews, and the use of drones and other remote surveillance methods. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the demand for private investigations has increased in some areas, such as cybercrime and domestic disputes. The private investigation industry continues to evolve and adapt to the new normal brought on by the pandemic.