

# Central Illinois Paranormal – CIP

## Paranormal Investigation Information

### **PRIVACY**

Your privacy is very important to us! We understand that discussing possible paranormal activity in one's home or business can be uncomfortable and possibly embarrassing. We are very sensitive and empathetic to this and we will do everything in our power to protect your privacy.

Our investigation of your property will be discreet.

- Our vehicles and investigators will not have any paranormal logos.
- We will not contact your neighbors or previous owners of your property without your consent. Sometimes information provided by those individuals can be helpful, but we will not do so without your express consent.
- We will never share your name or address with other paranormal groups or the public.
- No identifying information about your case will be released without your consent. We may sometimes put evidence on our webpage or social media, such as EVPs, but we assure you that there will be no identifying information.
- You will not receive any solicitation from us or e-mails that do not pertain to your case. Though we would love for you to spread the word to your family and friends about what an awesome group we are!

# **INVESTIGATION PROCESS**

Most people have never had a paranormal investigation done in their home or business. The prospect of strangers coming into your space and just sitting there in the dark can, understandably, make people feel uncomfortable. We want to take the mystery out of the investigation process and try to explain to you what approximately will happen before, during, and after the actual investigation of your property.

## **PRE-INVESTIGATION**

After your contact with a paranormal claim submission, we will schedule an interview to document your claims. This interview can be done in person, or over the phone. Any information you can provide, no matter how small or unimportant you may think it is, is key to a successful investigation.

When possible, we will come to your home or business more than once. Spirits do not perform on cue and we can better gather evidence over a couple of separate investigations if needs be. How many times we visit is, of course, up to you.

You, as the client, have the absolute right to stop the investigation for any or no reason at all.

We may need to ask some personal questions to prepare for our investigation. Such questions may include: Have there been any recent deaths in your family? Has there been any use of spirit communication tools (such as Ouija boards) by yourself, your family, or employees? Is there any turmoil in your personal, family, or business relationships? It is important that you are 100% honest with us in answering these questions. We are not there to judge you but we can better understand what may be feeding the activity in your home or business if we have this information. It is also highly recommended that you keep a log of any activity that you are encountering. This log of events will help the investigation in a major way.

Before we agree to investigate your home or business, both parties must agree to the conditions of the investigation and waivers must be signed by you and a Lead Investigator of Central Illinois Paranormal. Some of this may sound harsh, but you don't know us and we don't know you. We both need assurances. You need to know that we are a trustworthy, professional group, and we need to be sure that we are not being hoaxed. It happens more often than you might think.

## **DURING THE INVESTIGATION**

Once we arrive for the scheduled investigation, we would like to have a tour of your property, inside and out. It is helpful for us to know the layout of the building and be aware of where the activity is occurring. We also require that you inform us of any hazards on the property or areas that would be dangerous for us to enter.

During the tour we will look for alternate explanations for some of the activity you claim to have experienced. We are not trying to offend you by doing this, but it is the responsibility of every respectable paranormal group to look for natural explanations before jumping to paranormal conclusions. Things we may look for are faulty electrical wiring, evidence of rodents/insects in the home, the way the shadows play on the walls from passing cars or the wind blowing through trees, etc.

Our equipment set-up is very simple. We use mostly all hand-held equipment as it is quicker and easier to set-up and take down, and you do not have miles of cables and wires running throughout your home or business. Those cables can create hazards for investigators walking around in the dark, but if we have to use them, we will take all precautions necessary.

We will ask that everyone leave the home or business while we conduct our investigation. This prevents contamination of evidence. However, exceptions can be made, especially if activity seems to center around a certain person. If it is decided that someone stay in the building during the investigation, it will be only one person in most instances, they will be required to stay with us during the entire investigation under most circumstances. But please understand that during a normal investigation, it is best if we are in the building alone.

You should allow approximately 4-6 hours for an investigation. However, if we are getting a lot of activity, we may ask you for permission to stay longer.

## **POST-INVESTIGATION**

We will need 1-2 weeks, minimum, to analyze all the data we collect during our investigation. During that time, please continue to update your log with any activity that occurs after we leave. Sometimes, the activity may stop for a while as the spirits may have been frightened off by strangers walking around "their space" with weird equipment. Other times, activity can increase. It's just impossible to say, but it is important for you to document anything that may happen after we leave.

It is not possible to guarantee that we can remove whatever spirit may be inhabiting your home or business. Any group that tells you they can do this, is not being honest with you. If we have an active communication with a spirit that is possibly confused about their death, or perhaps has a message to pass along, we might be able to

convince that spirit to let go and move on once we have received their message. But they do have free will and whatever personality they had in life; they often have in the afterlife. They may be happy where they are and not want to go. If that is the case, we will try to teach you how to peacefully coexist with your ghostly roommate. Sometimes it could be a close family member or friend who wishes to remain with you and sort of look out for you.

Once we have reviewed all the data, we will meet with you and go over everything with you. You will also be given digital copies of all evidence we collect.

What if we do not collect any evidence? It happens, and that's not to say you do not have a legitimate haunting. The spirits may have been nervous and shy because of our presence, or they may just simply be uncooperative. There is also the possibility of a residual haunting which occurs only at certain times (which is partially why it is important to maintain the activity log!) Or, it could be a residual haunting that has no set schedule of appearances! In any case, we will always be available to you to come back for another investigation. You may also feel free to contact us at any time if activity picks up or worsens.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR INVESTIGATION NIGHT

At Central Illinois Paranormal, we take our investigations very seriously. We expect you to do the same. We do require that a list of things be completely understood prior to our arrival:

- We do not get paid. We will never ask you for money and none of our members will ask for any payments. We do have a donation page set up in the event you wish to make a DONATION.
- You CANNOT have children (under 16 years of age) present in the home while we do an investigation. There is NO exception to this rule. If we arrive and children are there, we will (and have in the past) leave without conducting an investigation and will remove you from our schedule in the future. An investigation always has the possibility of becoming dangerous and a paranormal investigation itself is NOT recommend to be viewed by impressionable children according to leading psychologists.
- We know it is your home, but we MUST insist, NO SMOKING IN THE HOME while we are at your location. First it is not good for our equipment, our health, and it also masks any smells we might encounter due to paranormal activity. Any of our members could be allergic to smoke. Please respect us and smoke outside. This would include vaping, as the vapors could present data contamination. We will be taking breaks throughout the investigation.
- NO GUESTS while we are investigating! Only residents/business owners, or a representative are to be present. This is not a show, but a serious investigation. We will ask all other person(s) to leave or we will leave.
- If you have pets, this is generally not a problem except for pets that are not friendly or unruly. Sometimes pets can be attuned to paranormal happenings in a home better than humans. But if there is any chance of your pet attacking one of our investigators, they are to be removed from the home prior to our arrival.
- Cell phones need to be turned off or put on airplane mode when we arrive. The Electromagnetic Field interference of your cell phone signal interferes with our equipment monitoring. Trust us, our equipment will know if you have it on! Same hold true for any wireless routers you may have in your home, unless it is needed for any of our equipment. They must be shut off prior to our arrival.
- If you need to cancel or reschedule, PLEASE contact us no later than 4pm the day of the investigation. We are usually loaded and on the road after that time. Please do not make us drive to your residence or business for nothing.

- We usually bring our own drinks and snacks, so there is no need to stock up on anything. Trust me, we greatly appreciate the thought, but it is unnecessary.
- Be prepared for a late night! Our investigations last usually until way after midnight. Sometimes to 2 or 3 in the morning depending on the activity we are getting. We usually schedule to arrive at your home or business between 7 – 9 p.m.
- All rooms must be accessible in your home! We know it is your home, but to properly investigate we cannot be told “every room except this one which we keep locked.” This opens the possibility for fraud, sounds that we cannot explain, and also gives a place for spirits or energies to hide from us.
- Absolutely no drug or alcohol use while we are at the investigation. If we arrive and detect any of the occupants are under the influence, we will leave immediately, and will remove you from our schedule in the future.

We want to assist you. We are extremely professional when we do our investigations. We are respectful to the residents and business owners, and request the same respect be shown our team at all times.

We do a very intense investigation. If at any time we determine that the investigation evidence is phony/staged, or someone is putting on an act, we will pack up and leave. We do this in our spare time... please do not waste our time if you think it is “just cool” to have paranormal investigators in your home. Investigations cost us time and money. Neither of which we can afford to waste.