

# Fitness to be interviewed by the police – Monday 26 July 2021

## Prof Margaret Stark

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Margaret Stark is the Immediate Past President of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine (FFLM). She is Chair of the Forensic Science Sub-Committee, Lead Facilitator for the Faculty's course in General Forensic Medicine, and an educational advisor for the Faculty's examinations. She has been a forensic physician for nearly 32 years, currently working with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). She was the first Medical Director of the Forensic Healthcare Service in London and was also the Director of the Clinical Forensic Medicine Unit for NSW Police, based in Sydney, from 2011 – 2014.

She has a Master of Science in Medical Education from UCL, and a Master in Law from Cardiff. She was the Founding Academic Dean for the FFLM and was awarded the David Jenkins Professorship in Forensic and Legal Medicine 2011/12 and was an Adjunct Professor at Sydney University from 2012-2015. She is Editor of 'Clinical Forensic Medicine' A Physician's Guide, the fourth edition published in 2020. She is an Honorary Professor of Teesside University.

## Learning Objectives

- Revise the definition of fitness to be interviewed by the police
- Outline the areas of assessment required
- Discuss vulnerability
- Review the categories of false confessions

Two cases will be presented to illustrate the importance of the assessment of Fitness to be Interviewed (FTBI) in the police custody setting

