

# GREAT LAKES PARANORMAL RESEARCH TEAM

## Taking Baselines Before your Investigation

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It is true that there is enough data to review without thinking of baselines of the building or area you are investigating. However, you need to be able to compare your investigation data to something else. It also helps to get a feel and a sense of your space before you begin to investigate. Taking baselines could also reveal problems and issues that might not be paranormal at all. It could turn out to be a man made problem. It could turn out that there is an easy solution to the pesky problem.

### **You might ask, what is a baseline?**

A baseline is a measurement of something or someone before you start to examine further. A physician takes baseline information about you before he/she starts to go deeper into your problem; such as heart rate, blood pressure, temperature, etc.

So this is what you need to do for a home. Take the pulse of the home before you start looking at the problem.

### **What kind of baselines?**

- Temperatures of each room. Make note of a random temperature readings.
- EMF levels of electrical sockets, electronics, basement equipment, TV, computers, etc. Make note of any random EMF levels. With your EMF detector make note of the EMF reading up close and then a foot away. If the EMF level is still high, make note of the reading 2 feet away, then 3, then 4 feet away until it dissipates completely.
- 5-8 photos of each room
- A sound test for each area. You can travel around while doing the baselines and have a voice recorder running. Just make sure you tag it as such, baseline sounds only.

This should be enough. Make note of time and locations of each baseline. You will use this data to compare it to the data you collect during an investigation. If unexplained things happen during your baseline work, make note of it and move on. Try not to linger. If it seems important enough, stop, and try to figure out what seems to be going on. Let your fellow investigators know of your experience.

### **Baseline photo story:**

In one of my investigations in the Arabian Library in Phoenix, AZ, I was taking baseline photos before our investigation. I found a cute bench near a glass door and thought it would be a good place to start. I got my camera ready, raised it up, aimed and then a deep, male voice said to me “put...thaaat....downnnnnn”. I absolutely thought it was one of my male buddy investigators pulling my leg. I turned around and said “oh Steve....Steve? There was no one there. I build up the courage to say “I am sorry, I mean no harm what so ever. If you would like to be in the photo, please have a seat at the bench”. I took just one photo and then I ran back to base to look for Steve and tell him what happened. Steve came back with me, but we could not repeat the event or have the voice happen again. I had moved on to take more photos elsewhere of course.

Something like this could happen to you. The important thing is to keep your cool, finish your task and then inform the rest of your team. The lesson here is certainly to do your work in pairs and never alone.