

Ray Collins grew up in the Midwest, attended Yale, and was drafted as an Army combat infantryman during his junior year. He married his wife, Betty Ann, when he was mustered out of the service and went on to earn an MPA at Princeton. He became a foreign service officer with the Department of State, then a Japanese language and East Asia specialist and interpreter for the White House before leaving State to focus on programs for vulnerable families.

He was a resident Mid-Career Fellow and earned a PhD at Princeton and for five years was a nonresident Fellow at the Zigler Center for Child Development and Social Policy at Yale. When not writing thrillers (*The General's Briefcase*), Ray enjoys traveling and watching movies with Betty Ann, weight training, and spending time with his four children and extended family.

In *MOTIVE FOR MURDER*, rookie detective Hana Brown's traumatic past puts her front and center of the Fairfax County Police Department's media push—and gets her assigned to the gruesome murder of an Asian woman. At first the death is considered a routine gang killing. By the time the FCPD realized the victim is the first in a series of Chinese American women being murdered by someone who signs their notes “Jack the Ripper,” it's too late to replace Hana.

An FBI agent chosen as her deputy—despite his protests—endorses the belief that the culprit is a serial killer. But everything changes when Hana finds herself attracted to an intrepid news reporter who has advanced a competing theory: that political intrigue is the true motive behind the murders.

