



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES

Announcement and Call For Papers

69th Annual Scientific Meeting

February 13-18, 2017 — New Orleans, LA

2017 Annual Meeting

The 69th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) will be held February 13-18, 2017, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Program Committee solicits the submission of abstracts on topics of interest to the forensic science community. **August 1, 2016**, is the deadline for the submission of abstracts.

Scientific papers selected for presentation will be divided into two groups:

- Platform Presentation (standard scientific session)
- Poster Session

The Program Committee will select appropriate abstracts from those **submitted by the August 1, 2016 deadline**.

Abstracts of papers must be submitted on the official abstract form which accompanies this announcement. Specific format and content requirements for the abstracts are noted on the form. A current copy of the presenting author's curriculum vitae must be attached to the original abstract form.

To submit your abstract online, go to the AAFS website at: www.aafs.org.

Notification of Acceptance

Notification of Acceptance will be mailed to all presenting authors by **November 15, 2016**. Meeting registration materials will be sent to presenting authors.

Oral Presentations

Time

The final determination as to the length of time that will be allocated to a specific paper rests with the Section Program Chair. However, 15 minute presentations are standard.

Poster Presentations

Preparation

Authors have complete freedom to choose ways of displaying their information in figures, tables, text, photographs, etc. However, they should avoid crowding too much information into a limited space. The poster may be augmented by the use of manuscripts and sketch pads with marking pens.

General Information

Abstract Length

A single spaced, one page length document containing a minimum of 400 words to a maximum of 700 words is required. Please attach additional sheet(s) if needed.

Key Words

Each author is to provide three key words or terms in the space provided on the abstract form.

Oral Presentation

Each scientific session meeting room will be equipped with a lighted pointer, podium, microphone, LCD projector, and screen.

General Information cont.

Requests for additional audio-visual equipment will be reviewed by the Program Committee and are subject to approval by the Section Chair. Speakers will be notified of the disposition of their requests.

Poster Presentation

Each author selected for poster presentation will be provided with a 4' x 8' tack board on which to display material related to his/her presentation. Thumb tacks will be provided. If material is better suited as a table top display, please indicate on the abstract form.

Illustrations

All tables and graphs should be converted to grayscale.

Meeting Registration

All speakers and presenters (oral or poster) are required to register for the annual meeting. If your abstract is accepted for presentation, you will be required to pay the basic registration fee for the annual meeting.

Commercial & Conflict of Interest

Commercial Interest

Commercial Interests are any proprietary entity producing goods or services, as well as any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services, used on, or consumed by, patients. Providers of clinical service directly to patients are not considered commercial interests.

Conflict of Interest

Circumstances create a conflict of interest when an individual has an opportunity to affect CME content about products or services of a commercial interest with which he/she has a financial relationship.

Journal of Forensic Sciences

The *Journal of Forensic Sciences* encourages authors to submit all previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the Academy's annual meeting. Please submit your manuscripts electronically to <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jofs>.

AAFS Abstract Policy

Presentations at AAFS annual meetings and corresponding abstracts must be formulated to promote education and to elevate accuracy, precision, and specificity in the forensic sciences. Presentations or abstracts which promote a commercial product, company, entity or service will not be allowed at AAFS annual meetings. Presentations by commercial entities shall be limited to the science and not to an advertisement or promotion of their product over that of a competitor. Any abstract or presentation that is perceived by a section program chair or the Academy Meeting Program Chair as a product endorsement will not be approved for presentation at the Meeting. A presentation given at a Meeting that in the opinion of the section program chair or the Academy Meeting Program Chair to be a product endorsement may result in the presenter and corresponding company being barred from making presentations at future AAFS meetings.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION & LCD PROJECTION

Presentations and abstracts will be allowed to mention a product by name only in the context of describing a scientific methodology or the source of sample. For example, specimens often have unique physical or chemical properties that are the key to their identification or analysis (e.g., Dacron fibers, Glock rifling, 3M tapes, explosive formulations, coating materials, etc.). It is appropriate for those materials to be specifically identified since they are the relevant to the scientific results. Or references to specific reagents or instrumentation validated for use in the analytical procedure being presented where the use of a different product may affect the outcome of the analysis (e.g. Identifier™ Amplification Kit, Agilent 5860 GC, HP-1 column, Olympus BHP microscope, etc).

General Instructions

Content of Abstract

Your abstract should be informative, containing:

1. **Abstracts should NOT be written in the first person.**
2. A short specific title.
3. The Learning Objectives.
4. A sentence statement of the paper's hypothesis or proposition.
5. A brief synopsis of the content, or statement of the methods, whichever is pertinent.
6. A summary of the results obtained, if pertinent.
7. A general statement of conclusion, if possible.
8. A minimum of one-half page single spaced (approximately 400 words) to a maximum of one full page (approximately 700 words) in length. Abstracts exceeding the full page maximum **will not** be printed in the AAFS *Proceedings*.
9. Three key words.
10. A brief statement of how your presentation will impact the attendees in terms of: competence (ability), performance (competence put into "action"), or patient outcomes (if applicable).

Format of Abstract

Your abstract must be typed and submitted in a legible format following the instructions provided below:

1. The title, names of authors with respective degree(s), and addresses must be stated exactly as you wish them to appear in the program. Indicate with an asterisk (*) who will be presenting.
2. Type abstract single spaced, 10 point type size, and return it along with a copy on disk.
3. Type all copy, including title, in upper and lower case; capitalize and punctuate exactly as you wish the abstract to appear.
4. Exercise care in preparing the abstract. **If unsuitable for publication as received, the abstract will be returned to the author for correction, revision, or completion.**

LCD Projection

A LCD projection unit will be available in the Speaker Prep Room. Please make certain your presentation is compatible with the computer provided for your session and that all is in working order and tested before your presentation.

Below are recommended guidelines for preparing your presentation:

- Dark background and light text give good contrast and show up well in the meeting room; however, a background too dark may blacken the room too much. Avoid color combinations such as red and blue, yellow, and green, etc.
- ARIAL "Bold" is the recommended font style. Avoid using fonts that project poorly because the line width is too thin.
- Use as large a font as possible. Anything below 24 pt. is too small. Suggested font sizes are Titles: 48-54; Main text titles: 32; Smallest text lines: 24.
- Do not crowd the frame. Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions. Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines unless they are very bold and black.

- Avoid backing up the projector. If you need a frame twice, make a duplicate frame.
- Check your computer resolution by going to your computer's control panel, selecting "Display" then "Settings." Recommended resolution is 1024 x 768 (XGA).

Word Processor Preparation

An electronic copy of your abstract submission is required. Please follow the format guidelines provided below:

1. Required: 400 word minimum to 700 word maximum.
2. Software: Microsoft® Word for Windows is required.
3. Type size: 10 pt (10 characters per inch).
4. Single spaced.
5. Margins: top: 1", left side: 1", right side: 1".
6. References/Footnotes: do not put in the header or footer of the document.
7. Do not embed objects, pictures, tables, or charts within document.
8. No boxes, frames, or lines.
9. Remove editing comments, notes, etc., and accept tracked changes in the document prior to saving and submitting.

Specific Instructions

1. Complete attached form.
2. Follow instructions provided in typing abstract.
3. Proofread all information provided.
4. Attach one current electronic copy of presenting author's curriculum vitae to original abstract form. Return the original abstract, with attached c.v., and a copy on disk, by **August 1**, to:

Mailing Address: AAFS
410 North 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Sample Abstract

Injury Pattern Analysis in Fatal Traffic Crash Investigation

Michael D. Freeman, PhD, DC, MPH, Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine, 3071 Dogwood Drive South, Salem, OR 97302; and Clifford Nelson, MD, Medical Examiner Division, Oregon State Police, 301 Northeast Knott Street, Portland, OR 97212-3092*

After attending this presentation, attendees will understand some principles of crash investigation, the necessary elements for the application of Injury Pattern Analysis, characteristic injury patterns of certain types of crashes, and an example of a practical application of Injury Pattern Analysis

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by serving as a key aspect of fatal crash investigation as it can augment traditional means of investigation in a systematized format via interdisciplinary communication and collaboration.

Reconstruction of a fatal crash can be augmented, in certain circumstances, by information gleaned from the postmortem evaluation. Further improvement of the scope and accuracy of an investigation can result from evaluation of the injuries of crash survivors, taking into account the conformity of individual vehicle interiors as well as the movement of the occupants during the crash.

The term "Injury Pattern Analysis (IPA)" is proposed as a description of a fatal crash investigation technique that utilizes accident investigation, and reconstruction techniques, occupant kinematics, postmortem records, hospital and healthcare provider acute injury records, and other evidence as an adjunct to the investigation of homicides resulting from fatal crashes.

The authors will present a case study in IPA as an example of the practical application of the technique. It is recommended that medicolegal death investigators become familiar with the principles of IPA.

Crash, Fatal, Investigation