PROGRAM

AAFS 2026 | NEW ORLEANS

BACK TO BASICS

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

February 9-14, 2026
New Orleans Ernest N Morial Convention Center

#AAFS2026

AAFS
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES



WELCOME LETTER



Joanna L. Collins, MFS
2025-26 AAFS President

On behalf of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to New Orleans, LA, for the 78th AAFS Annual Scientific Conference. We are excited to gather in this vibrant and historic city as we come together around this year's theme, "**Back to Basics: The Fundamentals of Forensic Science**." This year's conference schedule promises to be amazing and insightful with 35 offered Workshops, five (5) Lunches, six (6) Case Breaks, and three (3) Professional Deep Dives, not to mention the 1,000+ section-specific scientific sessions and numerous Special Sessions.

At this time of rapid technological advancement, evolving legal standards, and increasing public scrutiny, this conference invites us to pause and focus on the foundational principles that define forensic science: scientific rigor, methodological integrity, ethical responsibility, and a steadfast commitment to truth. By returning to these fundamentals, we strengthen the reliability of our disciplines, enhance interdisciplinary collaboration, and ensure that forensic science continues to serve justice with accuracy and credibility.

Equally important, going "back to basics" requires us to recognize that the foundation of forensic science is its people. Across all forensic disciplines, practitioners are routinely exposed to traumatic material and high-stakes decision-making. Vicarious trauma, secondary traumatic stress, and burnout are real and growing challenges that affect individual well-being, professional performance, and the sustainability of our workforce. Addressing wellness is not ancillary to our mission—it is fundamental to maintaining excellence, objectivity, and resilience in forensic practice.

Throughout the week, you will have opportunities to engage with a thought-provoking Plenary Session, Scientific Presentations, Workshops, and discussions that span the full breadth of forensic disciplines. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner, researcher, educator, or student, we hope this program encourages reflection on core practices while inspiring innovation grounded in sound science.

New Orleans provides a fitting backdrop for this important work—a city rich in history, resilience, and culture. We encourage you to take time to experience its unique traditions, music, cuisine, and hospitality while reconnecting with colleagues and building new professional relationships. Our conference is being held during Mardi Gras in the week leading up to Fat Tuesday, with parades and live music in the streets—you won't want to miss witnessing or taking part in this unique celebration!

Thank you all for your dedication to forensic science and for your continued contributions to the AAFS community. And an overwhelming THANK YOU to the Program Committee and AAFS Staff for their hours of dedication in bringing this conference to life. Together with the hundreds of presenters, many volunteers, and our sponsors and exhibitors, this conference has the makings of a successful gathering. We look forward to a meaningful, engaging, and memorable conference as we return—together—to the basics that unite and strengthen our profession.

Welcome to AAFS and welcome to New Orleans—Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!

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OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS

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Section Officers

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Odontology: Khlea Sumani, DMD
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Erica Baer, PhD
Questioned Documents: Mark Goff, BA
Keelie Johnson, BA
Toxicology: Svante Vikingsson, PhD
Curt Harper, PhD

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration Desk Hours

Sunday	February 8	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Monday	February 9	6:45 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	February 10	6:45 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday	February 11	6:45 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	February 12	6:45 am - 5:00 pm
Friday	February 13	6:45 am - 4:00 pm

Exhibit Hall Hours

Wednesday	February 11	11:30 am - 4:00 pm
Thursday	February 12	9:00 am - 2:00 pm
AAFS Reception	(Exhibits Open)	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday	February 13	9:00 am - 1:00 pm

All times are in the U.S. Central Time Zone

Media Statement: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) does not comment on forensic cases or medicolegal investigations. Media releases will be issued by the AAFS Board of Directors only in response to matters deemed pertinent to the business of the Academy. The sitting AAFS President is the only member of the Academy authorized to provide comment on behalf of the Academy. Comments, views, and opinions expressed by all other members of the Academy reflect the comments, views, and opinions of the individual solely.

Registrant Minimum Age: All registrants and presenters at the AAFS Annual Scientific Conference must be at least 18 years old at the time of the conference.

Lost Badge Policy: Lost, misplaced, stolen, or forgotten badges will incur a replacement fee equal to the original purchase amount of your registration. If your badge was complimentary, the fee will be the current, on-site rate.

Author Information: The *Journal of Forensic Sciences* encourages authors to submit previously unpublished reports and papers presented at the AAFS annual conference. For full instructions on manuscript preparation, consult the Information for Authors available at: https://www.aafs.org/resources/journal-of-forensic-sciences/information-for-authors/.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* Manuscript Central site: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jofs. For questions, please contact: jfs.editor@att.net.

Important Reminders:

- Video and/or audio recording of any session(s) or parts thereof is not permitted without prior approval from the AAFS.
- English is the official language of the AAFS and its meetings; neither oral nor written translations will be provided.
- Although precautions are taken to prevent schedule changes, speakers and program schedules may change due to unforeseen circumstances.
- As a courtesy to others, please silence your cell phone when attending the sessions.
- The AAFS has a zero-tolerance policy for discrimination or harassment of any kind, including bullying, offensive language, inappropriate gestures, acts of violence, or any other form of harassment. We also require that you refrain from any disruptive behav that undermines our constructive and inclusive environment. In digital interactions, carefully consider the potential impact of sharing sensitive or triggering content. Be mindful of cultural differences and diverse perspectives. Treat others with respect. Any inappropria behavior during a presentation will not be tolerated and may result in being removed from the session.

Future AAFS Annual Conferences

2027 AAFS Annual Conference	2028 AAFS Annual Conference	2029 AAFS Annual Conference
February 15-20, 2027	February 21-25,2028	February 19-23,2029
Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Center	Caesar's Palace	Columbus Convention Center
Orlando, FL	Las Vegas, NV	Columbus, OH

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

AAFS takes the safety of its meeting attendees seriously and strives to promote a welcoming experience for all. In order to promote a safe environment for meeting attendees, we have resources for meeting attendees about sexual misconduct.

What is sexual misconduct?
Sexual misconduct is an umbrella term that includes different types of sexual violence, including sexual harassment and sexual assault. (https://www.rainn.org/types-sexual-violence)

What is sexual harassment?
Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature in the workplace or learning environment, according to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. (www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-harassment?gclid=CjwKCAjw2P-KBhByEiwADBYWCqz0g1E4mRJrXf5TN-EQ-JYXo2Q7USO-Yrtu1c9kIaUmTmrEtpmsaxoCbiQQAvD_BwE)

What is sexual assault?
The term sexual assault refers to sexual contact or behavior that occurs without explicit consent of the victim.
(www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-assault)

What do I do if I experience sexual misconduct during the annual conference?
- Call 911.
- Call the AAFS ‘‘safe person’’ number below or contact another member of the AAFS staff.
- Locate security personnel at the conference venue.
- Report conduct to the AAFS Ethics Committee.
- Refer to the resources list below.

What do I do if I have witnessed sexual misconduct during the annual conference?
- Talk to the victim/survivor. Encourage them to review this resource page.
- Direct them to the AAFS ‘safe person’ or another member of the AAFS staff.
- Direct them to security personnel at the conference venue.
- If the person is in immediate danger, call 911.

Resources:

AAFS “safe person”: 917-678-7197

New Orleans Crimes Victims’ Resource Center
https://www.crimesurvivorsnola.org/

New Orleans Police Department
504-658-5523
https://nola.gov/next/nopd/home/

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

RAINN
www.rainn.org
Resources include definitions, statistics, crisis line, and crisis chat.

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
www.nsvrc.org
Resources for survivors, including definitions, where to get help, and post-assault recovery.

National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.thehotline.org
Resources include definitions, local resources/legal aid, crisis line, and crisis chat.

No member or Affiliate of the Academy shall participate in unacceptable behavior at an annual Academy conference, to include times not specifically in session or at gatherings, social or otherwise, not specifically a part of the Academy program. Unacceptable behavior includes, but may not be limited to, harassment; intimidation; discrimination; physical abuse; physical assault, verbal abuse; inappropriate use of nudity or sexual images; threats; stalking; unwanted sexual comments or advances; or derogatory comments related to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, or political positions.

CONFERENCE EXTRAS

Crime Lab Tour: Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office

Monday – February 9 | 1:00 pm
Tuesday – February 10 | 1:00 pm



Take a peek inside the world-class facility home to the Jefferson Parish Sheriff Office Crime Lab Tour. Their team is opening the doors to allow AAFS attendees a special look at how they operate to support the region. Limited space will be available and tours will be approximately 2 hours. Transportation to/from the facility will be provided and is the preferred way to arrive and depart the facility.

Special thanks to Laboratory Services Director Elaine Schneida, MS, for partnering with us to offer this special opportunity.

Registration is required, and space is limited. Tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to select your preferred *tour and time during the registration process once it opens on September 18th.*



The French Quarter Welcome Tour

Sunday – February 8 | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

As you stroll along on this tour, you'll learn about the fascinating beginnings of the city that shaped this world-famous neighborhood. Discover the must-see spots in the French Quarter and learn about the history of the "Vieux Carré." Local guides will enlighten you about the best bars, restaurants, and hidden gems to see on your visit. You will be guided on a tour from the mighty Mississippi River to buildings older than our country to present-day curious and unique locales. Understand why people become captivated with this city and keep coming back for more.

Starting location: 815 Toulouse St. New Orleans, LA 70112 (Meet inside the Unique NOLA Tours shop).

Spots are first come, first served and available during the registration process. Cost includes guided tour.

New Orleans' Original True Crime Tour

Sunday – February 8 | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Maybe ghost stories don't quite pique your interest, but you have that curiosity about the dark side of humanity. Some of the most terrifying things are what people do to each other, and perhaps you want a glimpse into this corrupt corner of existence. You'll travel on a tour of the sordid details behind New Orleans' dark bloody murders. You'll visit locations in the French Quarter where the echoes of gruesome crimes of murder still cry out. This city, while soulful and charming, has always had a seedy side, from its beginnings of being settled by the dregs of France — people offered to be released from poorhouses and prisons if they boarded ship for Louisiana — to the delinquency and depravity of today, where the unspeakable still happens.

Starting location: 815 Toulouse St. New Orleans, LA 70112 (Meet inside the Unique NOLA Tours shop).

Spots are first come, first served and available during the registration process. Cost includes guided tour.

AWARDS

R.B.H. Gradwohl Laureate

Michael A. Peat, PhD



The Gradwohl Medallion is the highest honor of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) and is the foremost peer award in the forensic sciences. The Gradwohl Medallion is conferred only upon those persons who have attained exceptional distinction in the advancement of the forensic sciences, who have given outstanding service to the AAFS over a long period of time, and who have achieved outstanding recognition in a public position through service to the forensic science profession. We are pleased to announce **Michael A. Peat, PhD**, as the recipient of the 2026 award.

His academic journey began in the United Kingdom and culminated in a PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Utah. This foundation propelled him into a storied career that has shaped the field of forensic science and toxicology at every level. From his early years in the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory in London to his professorial roles at the University of Utah and subsequent executive leadership in both private and academic laboratories, Dr. Peat has remained consistently at the forefront of forensic science innovation, rigor, and, importantly, leadership.

Dr. Peat has served on the *Journal of Forensic Sciences (JFS)* Editorial Board for over 35 years — initially as a Member, then as Editor (2000–2017), and currently as Editor-in-Chief. In his editorial leadership roles, Dr. Peat has guided a diverse and accomplished team of Associate Editors and Editorial Board Members from academic and research institutions in publishing peer-reviewed articles of the highest quality and impact. His vision and dedication have advanced every discipline within forensic science and his influence on *JFS* has been profound and far-reaching. Under his editorial leadership, *JFS* has not only grown in scientific rigor and international stature but has also become a beacon of cross-disciplinary forensic scholarship. His partnership with the journal's publisher, Wiley, has greatly enhanced *JFS's* visibility, growth, and international relevance. He has modernized *JFS* by leveraging digital platforms and electronic communication to improve the reach, efficiency, and quality of its content — positioning *JFS* as a globally recognized, multidisciplinary leader in forensic science publishing.

Under Dr. Peat's leadership, *JFS* continues to be the top-rated AAFS membership benefit. It has also become a major revenue contributor to AAFS — ranking third in overall contributions. His restructuring of *JFS* to a professional operation with a dedicated editorial leadership team in 2017 resulted in remarkable growth, with *JFS* revenue to AAFS increasing by 86% together with a 94% growth in readership.

Dr. Peat's contributions to the Academy extend far beyond his role as the Editor-in-Chief of *JFS*. He served on the AAFS Board of Directors and Executive Committee, as well as AAFS President during its 50th Anniversary. In addition, Dr. Peat held numerous leadership roles within both the AAFS and the Toxicology Section and served on multiple Academy-wide committees. His achievements include receiving the Alexander O. Gettler Award in 1998 and the Distinguished Fellow Award in 2006.

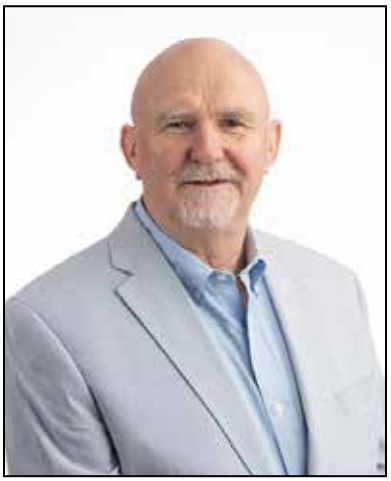
Dr. Peat has played a pivotal role in shaping national drug testing policy through work with the Drug Testing Advisory Board for NIDA, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the United States Anti-Doping Agency. He contributed to the National Laboratory Certification Program, educating inspectors, and enhancing lab oversight. His perspectives on analytical rigor, laboratory accreditation, and the societal implications of toxicology have helped shape global forensic policy discussions. As a long-time faculty member for the Medical Review Officer Training Course and other national programs, his commitment to professional education and scientific standards is unmatched. His scholarly output includes 40 publications, 19 abstracts, 13 book chapters, 6 book reviews, and over 100 presentations.

Dr. Peat's career is a paragon of excellence in scientific achievement, professional service, and public leadership. His distinguished and multifaceted contributions reflect not only his unparalleled commitment to scientific advancement, integrity, and public service, but also his lasting impact on the Academy and the global forensic science community. Dr. Michael Peat represents the highest ideals embodied by the Gradwohl Medallion — which makes him a standout recipient for this most prestigious recognition.

AWARDS

Distinguished Fellow

Barry K. Logan, PhD



The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Distinguished Fellow Award is presented to an AAFS Fellow who has given meritorious service to the Academy, the forensic sciences, and to other professional peer group organizations. The second highest award was established in 1990 and is presented at the AAFS Annual Scientific Conference. The AAFS is pleased to announce that Barry K. Logan, PhD, is the 2026 recipient of the Distinguished Fellow Award.

Dr. Logan is Senior VP of Forensic Sciences and Chief Scientist for NMS Labs, the nation's largest forensic chemistry and toxicology reference laboratory. He is also Chief Scientist at the non-profit Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE) at the Fredric Rieders Family Foundation in Willow Grove, PA.

At NMS Labs, he established the first drug-impaired driving panels compliant with the National Safety Council's recommendations, which he helped establish in 2007. He also initiated the lab's NPS Strategy Team to track new and emerging drugs and implemented large-scale, quantitative THC testing after the introduction of the United States Farm Bill in 2018.

Dr. Logan is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and of the American Board of Forensic Toxicologists (ABFT) and has over 210 publications and 850 presentations in forensic toxicology and chemistry, including work on the effects of illicit and prescription drugs on drivers, and drug-caused and -related death. He currently works closely with the Drug Advisory Program of the Colombo Plan, an international non-governmental organization focused on Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific, which was established in 1950 to promote foreign aid and technical assistance. He also serves as a member of the Evolving and Emerging Threats Committee (ETC) created under the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

His current research priorities are focused on the polydrug crisis and the analytical and interpretive toxicology and chemistry of novel psychoactive substances, founding www.NPSDiscovery.org in 2018. In 2023, he was recognized as the most highly cited author in the field of forensic toxicology in the United States.

Dr. Logan also serves as Executive Director of the Indiana University Center for Studies of Law in Action and it's "Robert F. Borkenstein Course on Alcohol: Pharmacology, Toxicology and Litigation," which convenes on the campus of IU Bloomington every May and December. He has served in that role since Professor Borkenstein, the inventor of the Breathalyzer, became incapacitated in 2000.

He spends a lot of his personal time as Chief Scientist at the CFSRE focused on professional development and mentorship of the next generation of forensic science teachers, researchers, and leaders.

In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Logan has received numerous awards and recognitions, including The International Association of Forensic Toxicologist (TIAFT) mid-career achievement award, the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety (ICADTS) Widmark Award, the National Safety Council's Robert F. Borkenstein Award and its Distinguished Service Award, the Alexander O. Gettler award from the AAFS, and the Alan Curry Career Achievement Award from TIAFT in 2021. He served as President of AAFS from 2013–14.

AWARDS

AAFS Mosaic Award

Jesse R. Goliath, PhD

FSF Humanitarian and Human Rights Resource Center's Clyde Snow Award

Morris V. Tidball-Binz, MD

FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award

Marion E. Davidson, MSc
Cesar E. Cantu, PhD

FSF Jan S. Bashinski Criminalistics Graduate Thesis Assistance Grant

Kerri Matthews, MS

FSF Warren-Young Scholarship

John Valdes, EdD

IAFS Douglas M. Lucas Medal

Sheila Willis, DS

SECTION AWARDS

The Section Awards will be presented during Section Business Meetings on Wednesday, February 11.

Section Award Honorees

Anthropology Section's	
Ellis R. Kerley Research Award	Heather J.H. Edgar, PhD
J. Lawrence Angel Award	Krista E. Bennett, PhD
Section Service Award	Jaymelee Kim, PhD
	Rebecca J. Wilson Taylor, PhD
Criminalistics Section's	
Paul L. Kirk Award	Claude Roux, PhD
Mary E. Cowan Outstanding Service Award	Gerald M. LaPorte, MSFS
Meritorious Service Award	Mechthild Prinz, PhD
Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section's	
Outstanding Case Study Award	Nicole R. Odom, MSFS
Outstanding Student Research Award	Sonali Tyagi, MS
Forensic Nursing Science Section's	
Forensic Nurse Scientist Award	Michelle Patch, PhD
Virginia Lynch Nurse Innovator Award	Janean M. Fossum, BSN
Distinguished Forensic Nursing Service Award	Amy Y. Carney, PhD
General Section's	
Robert Gaffney Achievement Award	Carlos A. Gutierrez, DFS
John R. Hunt Award	Gina Londino-Smolar, MS
Paul W. Kehres Meritorious Service Award	Erin P. Koester, MS
Robert "Bob" Thibault Award	Claire E. Shepard, MS
Odontology Section's	
Lester Luntz Odontology Award	Gary L. Bell, DDS
Reidar F. Sognnaes Award of Excellence in Forensic Odontology	Peter W. Loomis, DDS
Pathology/Biology Section's	
Milton Helpern Award	Dorothy E. Dean, MD
Award for Achievement in the Forensic Life Sciences	Noemi Procopio, PhD
Best Resident Paper Award	Ashley L. Smith, MD
Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section's	
Maier I. Tuchler Award	Karen B. Rosenbaum, MD
Questioned Documents Section's	
Maureen Casey-Owens Award	Samiah Ibrahim, BSc
Toxicology Section's	
Rolla N. Harger Award	Michelle R. Peace, PhD
Ray Abernethy Award	Donna M. Papsun, MS
Annual Lectureship in Toxicology	Mahmoud A. ElSohly, PhD
Best Poster Award	Amanda L. Pacana, MSFS

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Attend Your Section's Annual Business Meeting!

Wednesday, February 11

Section	Time	Room
Anthropology	1:00 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 353
Criminalistics	1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	NOCC 243
Digital & Multimedia Sciences	1:30 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 238
Engineering & Applied Sciences	1:30 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 235
Forensic Nursing Science	1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	NOCC 338
General	1:30 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 352
Jurisprudence	1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 339
Odontology	2:00 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 356
Pathology/Biology	1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	NOCC 252
Psychiatry & Behavioral Science	1:15 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 335
Questioned Documents	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	NOCC 333
Toxicology	1:30 pm - 3:15 pm	NOCC 343

All times are in the U.S. Central Time Zone

Attend the AAFS Annual Business Meeting for a Chance to Win a Complimentary Meeting Registration!

The Annual Business Meeting of the Fellows and Members of the AAFS will be held on Wednesday, February 11, at 3:45 pm. It is essential that all Fellows and Members attend this very important meeting in order to reach a quorum for the voting process. Agenda items include the election of 2026-27 Officers, consideration of bylaw amendments, a summary of AAFS activities during the past year, and plans for the future.

As an incentive to attend, all Fellows and Members present will automatically be entered in a drawing for a complimentary meeting registration to attend the 2027 AAFS Annual Scientific Conference in Orlando, FL.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences would like to thank the following for their contribution to the 78th Annual Scientific Conference:

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

General Information

All meeting sessions are lectures with one or more speakers. Continuing professional education credits will be offered for physicians, dentists, and attorneys. Continuing education credit applications will be submitted for physicians, nurses, and dentists. Attorneys may request CLE credit; please see the "Legal" section.

To register for continuing education credit, please complete the appropriate section on the meeting Registration Form. An individual must be a registrant to obtain continuing education credit. Fees charged for continuing education credits are based on projected costs of providing the various types of continuing education credit. The AAFS has adopted a user-pay approach so that those individuals who benefit from the specific continuing education program are responsible for the costs incurred.

In order to be in compliance with accrediting organizations, introductions and breaks have been deducted from the total hours. Please note that continuing education credit is not available for all sessions. All continuing education credit recipients will receive certificates with the number of continuing education hours awarded. Attendance reports are filed with the appropriate state or national agency, as required.

Learning Objectives of the AAFS Continuing Education Program

- Recognize the perspectives and roles of the various forensic science disciplines
- Assess current concepts and practices
- Discuss relevant forensic science issues related to science, evidence and the law
- Identify strategies for researching descriptive studies, technology and methods, diagnostics, interpretation and testimony
- Review administrative functions performed by forensic scientists

American Board of Criminalists Approval

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) is approved by the American Board of Criminalistics (ABC) to offer continuing education points for approved workshops for criminalists and forensic scientists. The ABC maintains responsibility for the program, and credit may be awarded to ABC Fellows, Diplomates, and Affiliates.

Overall Purpose and Objective Statements for Major Aspects of AAFS Programs

Workshops and Special Sessions

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for experts to present material and to lead discussion and practical exercises related to forensic science methods, procedures, diagnosis, investigation, professional relations and practices, communication, administration, and professional development.
Learning Overview: Detailed individually in each workshop and special session announcement and description.

Plenary and Keynote Sessions

Purpose: To provide a multidisciplinary presentation and discussion of issues related to the forensic science profession.
Learning Overview: Attendees will be able to: a) identify the challenges the forensic science profession has faced and will continue to face in terms of ensuring quality; b) identify ways to deal with the variances each challenge presents; and c) identify the entities which have influence over setting the quality standards in the field of forensic science.

Oral and Poster Section Scientific Sessions

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for presentation and discussion of case reports, descriptive studies, review presentations, research, administrative issues, and investigative/diagnostic methods regarding topics and issues of importance to a primary discipline among the forensic sciences.
Learning Overview: To meet the educational objectives stated by each presenter for his/her/their presentation.

Last Word Society

Purpose: To provide a retrospective forensic analysis of historical events and to provide education about the history and evolution of forensic sciences as well as the modern methods and technologies used to re-examine past events of forensic science interest. Emphasis is placed on the evaluation of the original opinions and case outcome and on the development of newer hypotheses based on the re-analysis.
Learning Overview: To meet the educational objectives stated by each presenter for his/her/their presentation.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Guidelines For Claiming Credit

As the sponsor of Continuing Education Credit, the AAFS recognizes that the forensic science disciplines are inextricably linked and that interdisciplinary knowledge is critical to promote competence in forensic practice. As a result, the claiming of credit for various continuing education activities related to medicine, dentistry, law, and other forensic disciplines need not be limited to one's primary professional specialty. For example, a forensic pathologist from the Pathology/Biology Section may gain very useful and relevant information by attending a presentation in the Anthropology Section scientific session. It is appropriate to claim continuing medical education credit for that session. Many other examples exist where the claiming of continuing education credit is appropriate for attending sessions that cover material related to, but which lay outside of, one's primary professional area of expertise.

It is the conference attendee's responsibility to document which program sessions were attended and to determine those sessions for which continuing education credit may be claimed. The AAFS operates under the assumption that meeting attendees will, in general, be unlikely to attend sessions that will not be beneficial to their professional practice and that the claim for continuing education credit is justified if a session contains scientific or practice-related information that may bring new knowledge, may affirm current knowledge, or may provide information that could possibly modify one's professional practices.

Those who wish to receive continuing education credit must register and pay the Continuing Education Credit fee during registration. CE Credit Request instructions will be made available before the conference, and credit must be claimed using the online CE portal. AAFS will provide CE Credit worksheets on-site for tracking of applicable hours.

Joint Accreditation Statement

JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the Postgraduate Institute for Medicine and the American Academy of Forensic Science. Postgraduate Institute for Medicine is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physician Continuing Medical Education Credit

The Postgraduate Institute for Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 43.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Dental Continuing Education Credit

This continuing education activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the standards of the ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) through joint efforts between Postgraduate Institute for Medicine and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Postgraduate Institute for Medicine is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of the credit hours by boards of dentistry. The Postgraduate Institute for Medicine designates this activity for 43.25 continuing education credits. Concerns or complaints about a CE Provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at www.ada.org/cerp.

Legal Continuing Education Credit

Continuing legal education credit will be awarded on an hour-for-hour basis. Attorneys may file the AAFS-issued CLE certificate with their respective state bars. Please note that AAFS is not a pre-approved provider for any state. Each claimant is responsible for any CLE credit approval requirements, including any claim applications, documentation, or fees required in order to submit their CLE credit to their respective state board.

Non Physician Continuing Education Credit

A general non physician certificate of attendance will be available.

General Continuing Education Credit

General continuing education credit is offered for those practicing the various forensic science disciplines not represented in the aforementioned list.

Nursing Continuing Education Credit

The Postgraduate Institute for Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum 43.25 Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) credits. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE FORUM AND RECEPTION

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:00 pm - 10:00 pm**

Moderated by the AAFS Community Connections Committee

The AAFS Community Connections Committee (CCC) invites you to a forum and reception at the annual conference in New Orleans. By fostering a welcoming and supportive culture, the CCC encourages diverse ideas that advance culturally competent education, research, and expertise in the legal system. Its mission is to build meaningful relationships and cultivate inclusive practices across the forensic sciences.



Join us for the CCC Forum & Reception featuring Dr. Shamika Kelley, the first Black Crime Laboratory Director in Louisiana. Dr. Kelley earned a BS in Biological Sciences from Louisiana State University, an MS in Forensic and Investigative Genetics from the University of North Texas Health Science Center, and a PhD in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University.

Dr. Kelley's career includes work as a forensic DNA analyst, supervisor, and consultant at the Houston Forensic Science Center, where she conducted DNA analyses, provided expert testimony in criminal cases, and led initiatives to reduce case backlogs. Her practitioner work has earned national recognition, including the Saltzman Award for Contributions to Practice from the American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime, honoring her impact on justice and safety for women.

Her research has been published in leading journals such as Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Feminist Criminology, Crime & Delinquency, and the Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology.

Conference attendees are encouraged to join this special event on Tuesday, February 10, from 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Don't miss the opportunity to connect, learn, and be inspired.

MENTORSHIP MEETUP

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

If you are an up-and-coming forensic scientist interested in being partnered with an experienced colleague who can advise you in your career progression, help you network, and assist in learning new skills, then please consider signing up for the AAFS Mentorship Program.

The 2026 Mentorship Meetup will bring together those mentees with mentors who are willing to help guide personal growth within the individual AAFS sections. Refreshments will be served.

For those unable to make it to New Orleans or have a conflict, but are interested in the Mentorship Program, please let us know by contacting mentorship@aafs.org.

STUDENT ACADEMY

Pre-Registration Required ($35/Person)

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

The purpose of the Student Academy of Forensic Sciences is to bring to the attention of high school students the vital importance of the application of scientific principles to the administration of justice. It acquaints the participants with the role of the forensic science disciplines in the legal system as well as the education and training required for the career in each discipline.

Chair:
Ginesse A. Listi, PhD
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Co-Chair:
Kelly L. Knight, MS
George Mason University
Fairfax, VA

Faculty:
Anthropology
Lauren R. Pharr Parks, PhD
Memphis, TN

Jurisprudence:
Pamela King, JD
District Court Judge
Rochester, MN

Criminalistics:
Alyssa Berthiaume, MS
Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab
Springfield, MA

Odontology:
Lillian A. Nawrocki, DDS
Forensic Odontology Chief
Orlando, FL

Digital & Multimedia Sciences
Douglas Lacey, MS
BEK TEK LLC
Stafford, VA

Pathology/Biology:
J.C. Upshaw Downs, MD
forensiX, LLC
Johns Island, SC

Engineering & Applied Sciences:
Roy Crawford, PE
R.R. Crawford Engineering, Inc.
Whitesburg, KY

Psychiatry & Behavioral Science:
Karen B. Rosenbaum, MD
Attending Psychiatrist
New York, NY

Forensic Nursing Science
Russell Rooms, DNP
Diversity Family Health
Newalla, OK

Questioned Documents:
Meg O'Brien, MS
U.S. Secret Service
Washington, DC

Nancy Downing, PhD
University of North Texas Health
College of Nursing
Fort Worth, TX

Toxicology:
George F. Jackson, PhD
NJ Office of the Chief State Medical Examiner
Burlington Township, NJ

General:
Natalie M. Borgan, MS
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Detroit, MI

Ashraf Mozayani, PhD
Texas Southern University
Houston, TX

STUDENT ACADEMY

Program:

9:00 am - 9:10 am	**Introduction** Ginesse Listi, PhD
9:10 am - 9:20 am	**Welcome** Joanna Collins, MFS
9:20 am - 9:30 am	**"The Case"** Kelly Knight, MS

The Forensic Sciences Group I Disciplines

9:30 am - 10:45 am	**Pathology/Biology** J.C. Upshaw Downs, MD
	Anthropology Lauren Pharr Parks, PhD
	Odontology Lilliian Nawrocki, DDS
	Toxicology George Jackson, PhD; Ashraf Mozayani, PhD
	Digital & Multimedia Sciences Douglas Lacey, MS
	Forensic Nursing Science Russell Rooms, DNP; Nancy Downing, PhD
10:45 am - 11:00 am	**Q&A, Assignment, and Break**

The Forensic Sciences Group II Disciplines

11:00 am - 12:15 pm	**General** Natalie Borgan, MS
	Criminalistics Alyssa Berthiaume, MS
	Questioned Documents Meg O'Brien, MS
	Engineering & Applied Sciences Roy Crawford, PE
	Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Karen Rosenbaum, MD
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm	**Lunch and Student Trivia**
1:30 pm - 1:45 pm	**Case Conclusion** Pamela King, JD
1:45 pm - 2:00 pm	**Wrap-Up**

All times are in the U.S. Central Time Zone

FEPAC SESSION

Accreditation of Forensic Science Academic Programs

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 | ***Pre-Registration Not Required—Open to All Meeting Attendees*** | **8:30 am – 12:45 pm**

Chair:
Pamela Marshall, PhD
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, PA

Commissioner:
Thomas Brettell, PhD
Cedar Crest College
Allentown, PA

Commissioner:
Amy Brodeur, MFS
Boston University
School of Medicine
Boston, MA

Commissioner:
Josh Brunty, ScD
Marshall University
Huntington, WV

Commissioner:
Heidi Eldridge, PhD
The George Washington University
Washington, DC

Commissioner:
A. Karl Larsen, PhD
University of Illinois
Chicago, IL

Commissioner:
Joseph Levi White, PhD
US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL)
Forest Park, GA

Accreditation Manager
Nicole Zevotek, MS
AAFS
Colorado Springs, CO

Learning Overview: Upon completion of this session, the participant should be able to understand the process of accreditation through the AAFS FEPAC mechanism and be able to participate in the process as a reviewer of academic programs. Participants from academic programs will also learn about the process of accreditation from different perspectives.

Program Description: This session has been developed to assist academic institutions offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs in forensic science and forensic digital evidence to prepare for the accreditation process through the FEPAC. This session will also assist future on-site evaluators (academic and practitioners) to prepare for on-site evaluations of academic programs. Successful completion of this session will qualify participants for consideration to serve as on-site evaluators for FEPAC in the future (please note that participants must still meet other FEPAC requirements, such as membership in the AAFS and designation as either a practitioner or academician). This training session will highlight updates to the FEPAC Standards for Accreditation and provide valuable information for both program directors and on-site evaluators.

The FEPAC is a standing committee of the AAFS with a membership that includes five educators, five forensic science practitioners, and a public member as voting members. The mission of the FEPAC is to maintain and enhance the quality of forensic science education through a formal evaluation and recognition of college-level academic programs. The FEPAC has been accrediting programs since 2004. The primary function of the committee is to develop and maintain standards and to administer an accreditation program that recognizes and distinguishes high-quality undergraduate and graduate forensic science programs. Forty institutions comprising a total of fifty academic programs are currently accredited. Additional information on FEPAC can be found on the FEPAC website.

Program:

8:30 am - 9:00 am	**Introduction and Welcoming Remarks/Module 1: What to Know About FEPAC** Pamela Marshall, PhD
9:00 am - 9:30 am	**Module 2: An Overview of the FEPAC Application Process** *Thomas Brettell, PhD*
9:30 am - 10:00 am	**Module 3: A Review of Self-Study Standards 3.0—General for All Programs** Heidi Eldridge, PhD
10:00 am - 10:15 am	**BREAK**
10:15 am - 10:45 am	**Module 4: A Review of Self-Study Standards 4.0—Undergraduate Programs** A. Karl Larsen, PhD
10:45 am - 11:15 am	**Module 5: A Review of Self-Study Standards 5.0—Graduate Programs** Josh Brunty, ScD
11:15 am - 11:45 am	**Module 6: Accreditation Decisions and Categories, Appeals Process, Annual Reports, Substantive Changes, and Post-Visit Survey** Joseph Levi White, PhD
11:45 am - 12:15 pm	**Module 7: FEPAC On-Site Evaluator Training** Amy Brodeur, MFS
12:15 pm - 12:45 pm	**Questions and Answers** FEPAC Commissioners and Accreditation Manager

All times are in the U.S. Central Time Zone

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

Open to All Meeting Registrants—Pre-Registration Encouraged

S1 Unmasking the Voodoo — Empowering the Next Generation of Truth-Seekers

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:00 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 7.0**

YFSF Chair:
Emily Rue, PhD
Department of Army Criminal Investigation
Forensic Exploitation Division
Atlanta, GA

Presenters:
Amy Carney, PhD
California State University San Marcos
San Marcos, CA

Marla Carroll, BS
Forensic Video & Audio Associates, Inc.
Atlanta, GA

Claire Cartozzo, PhD
MRI Global
Louisa, VA

James Caruso, MD
AAFS President-Elect
DPHE Office of the Medical Examiner
Denver, CO

Isabelle Cohn, BASc
Innocence Project
New York, NY

Joanna Collins, MFS
AAFS President
LINUS Investigations and Consulting
San Antonio, TX

Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Beth Saucier Goodspeed, MS
Lasell University
Auburndale, MA

Cheryl Hunter
American Academy of Forensic Sciences
Colorado Springs, CO

John Paul Jones II, MBA
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, VA

Brooke Kammrath, PhD
University of New Haven
West Haven, CT

Laura La Cagnina, DNP, MSN, RN
Forensic Nurse/Educator
Marietta, GA

Tiffany Roy, JD, MSFS
ForensicAid, LLC
West Palm Beach, FL

Shivani Sanger, MSc
Liverpool John Moores University
Liverpool, England

Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, PhD
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

April Solomon, MFSF
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office
Regional DNA Laboratory
Metairie, LA

Jeffery Tomberlin, PhD
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Elora Wall, MS
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office
Crime Laboratory
Metairie, LA

Sara Zapico, PhD
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Newark, NJ

Learning Objective: The YFSF offers students and young professionals the opportunity to interact with professionals in the forensic science community as they begin their careers. This session presents attendees with the chance to learn about the multitude of careers available in forensic science as well as develop professional skills that are essential for the job-hunting process. Our mission is to provide the education, mentorship, and resources necessary to champion students and young forensic scientists to promote interest, membership, and participation with AAFS and the forensic science community for years to come.

Impact Statement: The YFSF provides students and young professionals with less than five years of experience an opportunity to network, collaborate, and learn from fellow peers and experts in the field. This session will prepare attendees for a successful career in their discipline of choice and allow them to look from the outside-in as they evaluate themselves and their future impact on forensic science. Our mission is to provide education, mentorship, and resources to students and burgeoning forensic scientists in order to promote interest and longevity in the field and to encourage participation and advancement in the AAFS.

Program Description: This year, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) is celebrating 78 years of global engagement. The overall theme of the conference is Back to the Basics: The Fundamentals of Forensic Science. In the past few years, we have seen more people exonerated for a multitude of reasons, including fallacious science, improper investigation and analysis, and misrepresentation of results. AAFS President Joanna Collins' plan is to focus on the ethical application of science, standards development and implementation, implementation of the scientific method, and a duty to remain unbiased. Our Special Session theme, Unmasking the Voodoo: Empowering the Next Generation of Truth-Seekers, was chosen to invigorate young forensic

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

S1 Unmasking the Voodoo — Empowering the Next Generation of Truth-Seekers

scientists and demonstrate how education and training play a vital role in the success of forensic science. This full-day session will show young forensic scientists that their contribution matters and that the decisions they make today can have a positive impact on the scientific community at large.

This year, the YFSF is excited to present an outstanding group of speakers. These distinguished presenters have been carefully selected to provide exceptional mentorship to attendees through topics such as how to use standards to increase your confidence, pathways for forensic nurses, a path to leadership, and how research plays an integral role in forensic science. The session will also include thoughtful demonstrations on assessing one's professional goals, establishing what success looks like for a young forensic scientist, and thinking about one's responsibilities as a mentor and leader as one advances into a career. The YFSF Special Session provides an inclusive atmosphere for young forensic scientists to have the opportunity for professional growth/development and scientific engagement with esteemed colleagues.

Through these presentations, attendees will hear from experienced practitioners as they discuss their extensive education, training, and experiences that have led to success in their field of study. These presentations include case-driven research, innovative methodology, scientific studies, and personal stories. Through this session, the YFSF aims to integrate young professionals into the field as they begin their journey into forensic science. The YFSF offers two additional opportunities for young professionals and students: the Bring Your Own Posters (BYOP) Session and the Bring Your Own Slides (BYOS) Session. We are excited to announce that, for the fourth year, we have collaborated with The Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE) to honor and award two outstanding scientists for their contribution to forensic science. Finally, the session will host a resume review workshop, so do not forget to update your resume and bring printed copies with you to the session!

Program:

8:00 am - 8:20 am	**Introduction to the YFSF** Claire Cartozzo, PhD; Sara Zapico, PhD; Emily Rue, PhD
8:20 am - 8:40 am	**Membership in the AAFS** Cheryl Hunter
8:40 am - 9:00 am	**The Science Behind the Spells: A Real Look at a Forensic Career** Beth Saucier Goodspeed, MS
9:00 am - 9:20 am	**From Curiosity to Credibility: My Path in Forensic Science, Research, and Publishing** Brooke Kammrath, PhD
9:20 am - 9:40 am	**Forensic Nursing: Pathways for Forensic Professionals** Amy Carney, PhD
9:40 am - 10:00 am	**Unmasking Forensic Anthropology: A Journey of Research, Challenges, and Outreach** Shivani Sanger, MSc
10:00 am - 10:15 am	**BREAK**
10:15 am - 10:35 am	**Using Forensic Science Standards to Increase your Confidence and Competence** John Paul Jones, II, MBA
10:35 am - 10:55 am	**There and Back Again: A Chemist's Journey** Elora Wall, MS
10:55 am - 11:15 am	**Forensic Science in the Fight Against Wrongful Conviction** Isabelle Cohn, BASc

YOUNG FORENSIC SCIENTISTS FORUM

S1 Unmasking the Voodoo — Empowering the Next Generation of Truth-Seekers

Program cont.:

11:15 am - 11:55 am	**The Resume Masquerade: How To Unmask Your Potential** Emily Rue, PhD; Claire Cartozzo, PhD
11:55 am - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:20 pm	**Fundamentals First: A Path to Leadership** Joanna Collins, MFS
1:20 pm - 1:40 pm	**Mentoring: Pass It On!** James Caruso, MD
1:40 pm - 2:00 pm	**Beignet, Done That: Donut Believe Everything You See or Hear** Marla Carroll, BS
2:00 pm - 2:20 pm	**Navigating the Pirate Ship: Bridging the Gap Between Research and Practice in Forensic Science** Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD
2:20 pm - 2:40 pm	**From Classroom to Courtroom: Unspoken Truths of a Forensic Career** Tiffany Roy, JD, MSFS
2:40 pm - 2:55 pm	**BREAK**
2:55 pm - 3:15 pm	**Hey, Just Checking In** April Solomon, MFSF
3:15 pm - 3:35 pm	**Dirt Roads, Farming, and Forensic Entomology: How Did It All Happen?** Jeffery Tomberlin, PhD
3:35 pm - 3:55 pm	**The Hidden Toll of Truth-Seeking** Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, PhD
3:55 pm - 4:15 pm	**Could I Be a Forensic Nurse and Not Know It?** Laura La Cagnina, DNP, MSN, RN
4:15 pm - 4:55 pm	**Voodoo No More: Q&A and Breakout Sessions** Claire Cartozzo, PhD; Emily Rue, PhD
4:55pm - 5:00 pm	**Closing of the YFSF Special Session**

INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

Open to All Meeting Registrants—Pre-Registration Encouraged

S2 Sustaining the Science and the Scientist: Foundations for the Future

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 6:00 pm** **CE Hours: 4.75**

Chair:
Katharine Pope, MA
SNA International
(supporting the DPAA mission)
Fruitland, MD

Co-Chair:
Laura Labay, PhD
NMS Labs
Horsham, PA

Presenters:
Nathaniel Adams, BS
Forensic Bioinformatic Services
Dayton, OH

David Annas, MD
Forensic Psychiatry Consulting, LLC
Alexandria, VA

Ryan Backmann
Project: Cold Case
Jacksonville, FL

Garry J. Bombard, PhD
Garry Bombard Forensic Consulting
Chicago, IL

Stacey Chepren, MSc
United States Air Force
International Association of
Coroners & Medical Examiners
Tucson, AZ

Laura Gaydosh Combs, PhD
University of New Haven
West Haven, CT

Jan M. Gorniak, DO
World Peace Forensic Consulting, LLC
Tallahassee, FL

Krystal R. Hans, PhD
Department of Entomology
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN

Sherri Kacinko, PhD
NMS Labs
Horsham PA

Dustin Nolen, PE
Vista Engineering & Consulting, LLC
Birmingham, AL

Raymond Thompson, PhD, PE
Vista Engineering & Consulting, LLC
Birmingham, AL

Joe Treviño
New York Police Department
New York NY

Jalika Waugh, PhD
Emergency Management/Public Safety
Pinellas County Schools
Largo, FL

Teresa White, PhD
Bone & Stone Anthrosciences, LLC
Bigfork, MT

Program Description: The 2026 AAFS Annual Scientific Conference's Interdisciplinary Symposium (IDS) highlights the theme "Back to Basics" through a dynamic program including a keynote address, five presentations focused on "Building the Practice," and five presentations focused on "Building the Practitioner," with dedicated time for discussion. IDS keynote speakers are Krystal Hans from Purdue University and Ryan Backman from Project Cold Case. Their presentations will address the importance and benefits of an interdisciplinary approach to the investigation of cold cases. The first IDS panel, moderated by Katharine Pope, delves into "Building the Practice" and features insights from Jalika Waugh, Garry Bombard, Raymond Thompson, Dustin Nolen, David Annas, and Laura Gaydosh Combs. This session explores strategies to strengthen forensic science as a discipline. Topics include promoting STEM education, understanding *Daubert* standards, maintaining competency for testimony, and learning from failures in casework. The second IDS panel, moderated by Laura Labay, focuses on "Building the Practitioner" and features insights from Sherri Kacinko, Joe Trevino, Jan Gorniak, Stacy Chepren, and Theresa White. This session addresses personal and professional challenges faced by forensic practitioners. Topics include creating welcoming workplaces and preventing burnout, managing stress, promoting inclusion among practitioners, understanding and mitigating imposter syndrome in courtroom settings, and delivering difficult communications, such as death notifications. Together, these sessions will explore the interplay between advancing rigorous practices and cultivating resilient practitioners, reinforcing the collective responsibility to ensure that all AAFS sections of forensic sciences remain credible, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of justice.

Learning Objectives: This session features presentations and professional discussions across AAFS sections that address the multifaceted challenges forensic scientists encounter throughout their careers. Beyond technical expertise, sustaining excellence in forensic science requires deliberate attention to ethics, education, communication, and well-being. Speakers will examine strategies to uphold professional standards, protect personal well-being, and maintain public confidence in forensic science. Psychological factors, including the infallibility complex and imposter syndrome, will be explored alongside approaches for

S2 Sustaining the Science and the Scientist: Foundations for the Future

strengthening community support and fostering workplace well-being. The session will also address long-term career sustainability through mentorship and continuous quality improvement. By integrating multiple perspectives, the program seeks to cultivate a more resilient, ethically grounded, and sustainable forensic science workforce.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: Attendees will acquire critical perspectives on the professional and personal challenges that influence the trajectory and longevity of careers in forensic science, as well as strategies for sustaining both. The session is structured around two interrelated themes: the development of the practitioner and the advancement of the practice, with particular attention to long-term sustainability. Presenters will underscore the importance of well-being in both occupational and personal domains, emphasizing its direct impact on the integrity and effectiveness of forensic science from analytical testing and data interpretation to the delivery of expert testimony in judicial settings. Topics will also include learning from system failures, fostering STEM education, and strategies for maintaining competency throughout a career. Finally, the session aims to promote interdisciplinary dialogue on how practitioners can support one another, ensuring the continued evolution of forensic science while enabling AAFS members to thrive and contribute meaningfully to the field.

Program:

1:00 pm – 1:40 pm	**Keynote: Advocacy and Interdisciplinary Action in Unresolved Cases** Krystal Hans, PhD; Ryan Backmann
Building the Practice	**Moderated by Katharine Pope**
1:40 pm – 2:00 pm	**Humanizing Forensic Science: STEM Education in Title I Florida High Schools** Jalika Waugh, PhD
2:00 pm – 2:20 pm	**Embracing Social Science Research: Demonstrating the Effectiveness of Forensic Science by Determining Forensics' True Societal Value** Garry Bombard, PhD
2:20 pm – 2:40 pm	**Forging the *Daubert*-Proof Opinion: A Framework for the Modern Engineering Expert** Raymond Thompson, PhD, PE; Dustin Nolen, PE
2:40 pm – 3:00 pm	**Back to the Basics for Forensic Mental Health: Challenges and Potential Solutions** David Annas, MD
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	**BREAK**
3:15 pm – 3:35 pm	**Fundamental Failures: Lessons for Continuous Improvement** Laura Gaydosh Combs, PhD; Nathaniel Adams, BS
Building the Practitioner	**Moderated by Laura Labay**
3:55 pm – 4:15 pm	**The Importance of a Welcoming Workplace** Sherri Kacinko, PhD
4:15 pm – 4:35 pm	**Navigating Vicarious Trauma through Stress Management** Joe Trevino
4:35 pm – 4:55 pm	**Representation Matters** Jan M. Gorniak, DO
4:55 pm – 5:15 pm	**Courtroom Confidence: Navigating Imposter Syndrome for Forensic Professionals** Stacy Chepren, MSc
5:15 pm – 5:35 pm	**Compassion Fatigue: An Occupational Hazard of Delivering Bad News** Teresa White, PhD
5:35 pm – 6:00 pm	**Panel Q&A – Building the Practice & Closing Discussion**

HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTER

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Poster Session

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

The Humanitarian and Human Rights Resource Center (HHRRC), with the support of the Forensic Sciences Foundation (FSF), provides resources and support for research, laboratories and active projects around the world that apply modern forensic science techniques to global humanitarian and human rights projects. This HHRRC Poster Session is an open meeting where attendees can learn about some of the recently funded HHRRC grants, highlighting research and projects dedicated to the investigation of humanitarian and human rights injustices.

Moderator:
Dawnie W. Steadman, PhD
HHRRC Chair
Director Emeritus, Forensic Anthropology Center
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

Poster Presentations:

1. **The Distomo Massacre: A Preliminary Osteological Assessment of Civilian Victims of a Nazi Reprisal in Greece**
   Constantine Eliopoulos (Liverpool John Moores University), Matteo Borrini, Konstantinos Moraitis, Georgios Panagiaris

2. **Improving Femicide Data Quality and Strengthening Classification in Morocco: A Forensic Approach to Human Rights, CRVS Reform, and Prevention from the Femicide Data Quality Improvement Project of Casablanca**
   Hind Abouzahir (Medico-Legal Institute of Casablanca), Barthelemy Munkana Matadi, Olga Helena Joos, Sam Notzon, Carmen Sant Fruchtman, Hicham Benyaich

3. **Dental Age Assessment Using Orthopantomograms: Validation of the Demirjian Dental Age Estimation Method in the Nigerian Pediatric Population**
   Busuyi Kolade Akinola (University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria), Candice Small, Gabriel Oladipo, Michael Oyakhire

4. **Documentation of a Colonial Genocide in Western Cameroon**
   Julia Barnes (University of Tennessee), Jacob Tatsitsa, Ferdinand Marcial Nana, Lucie Mbogni Nankeng, Gilbert Wate Sayem, Alain Tamonoche, Duarte Nuno Vieira

5. **Forensic Anthropology Training: Enabling African (Uganda) Forensic Practitioners to Assess Human Skeletal Remains**
   Desiré Brits (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa), Sam (Skalungi) Kalungi, Stacey Simons

6. **A Humanitarian Forensic Assessment of the Management of the Dead in Arizona**
   Sherry C. Fox (Arizona State University)

7. **Tracing the Nameless Dead: Forensic Data Centralization for Migration-Related Fatalities in Greece**
   Despoina E. Flouri (University of Crete, Greece), Sophia R. Mavroudas, Despoina Nathena, Christina Kaydi, Fatemeh Parivand, Konstantinos Moraitis, Elena F. Kranioti

8. **Root Dentin Translucency as an Indicator of Age-At-Death: A Model Based on Bayes' Theorem**
   Gonzalo Garizoain (CONICET), Roberto Carlos Parra, Claudia M. Aranda, Leandro Luna

9. **First Forensic Entomology Training and First Survey of Forensically Important Diptera in the Republic of Gambia**
   M. Denise Gemmellaro (Kean University), Amanda J. O'Connor, Gloria Raise

10. **Evaluating the Suitability of Ultrawide Band Dual Frequency Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) for Detecting Operation Condor-Era (c. 19702s) Clandestine Graves in Paraguay**
    Jacob A. Harris (Arizona State University), Adriana Sartorio, Rogelio Goiburú, Katelyn Bolhofner

HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTER

Poster Session (cont.)

11. **Validation of the Forensic International Dental Database (FIDBx2), A Global Forensic Proposal for Adult Age Estimation Using Single-Rooted Teeth**
    Leonardo Luna (CONICET), R. Parra, G. Garizoain, D. Ubelaker, P. Rodríguez, L. Matrille, K. Escalante Florez, C. Souza Faviero, A. Franco, D. Mansegosa, S. Giannotti, P. Miamoto, M. Mishra, F. Camarasa, E. Baccino, F. Retana-Milán, C. Hernández Flores, E. Zorba, K. Moraitis, L. Condori, C. Aranda

12. **Biogeochemical Approach to Forensic Migration Issues Based on Contemporary Populations from Peru and Argentina**
    Martha Palma Málaga (Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos de Perú), Belén Sandoval Ramos, Paula Miranda de Zela, Roberto C. Parra, Lucio Condori, Digna M. Vigo Corea, Samantha Robinson, Jazmin Borrayo, Petrus le Roux, Augusto Tessone, Eric Bartelink

13. **Fixing a Broken System: Challenges and Advancements in the Development of a Human Identification Center in the Rio Grande Valley (RGV)**
    Courtney C. Siegert (Texas State University, San Marcos), Carina Marques, Molly A. Kaplan, M. Kate Spradley, Victoria M. Swenson, Savannah Molina, Armando Montalvo, Navit Nachmias, Daniela Martinez-Herrera, Rebecca Stowe, Victoria Rosas, Luke Gent, Chloe McDaneld

14. **BITACORA Project Update: An HHRRC-Supported Isotopic Reference Database of Contemporary Human Tissues for Forensic Applications in Argentina**
    Luciano Valenzuela (Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Cientificas y Tecnicas, Argentina), Felipe Otero, Luciano L. Loupias, Marien Beguelin, Rocio Garcia Mancuso

15. **The Impact of HHRRC Sponsored Projects**
    Dawnie Wolfe Steadman (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

PLENARY SESSION

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 **9:00 am – 11:00 am** **CE Hours: 1.75**



Navigating Invisible Wounds: Mental Health and Well-Being Across the Forensic Spectrum

Welcoming Remarks

Joanna L. Collins, MFS
AAFS President
LINUS Investigations & Consulting
San Antonio, TX

Plenary Session Chair:
Marla Carroll, BS
Forensic Audio & Video Associates, Inc.
Plantation, FL

Plenary Session Co-Chair:
Edward Mazuchowski, MD, PhD
HNL Lab Medicine
Allentown, PA

Presenters

Gregory I. Mack, PhD
New York Police Department, Medical Division
New York, NY

Anjali A. Ranadive, MFS, JD
SciLaw Forensics, Ltd.
Phoenix, AZ

Kathryn C. Seigfried-Spellar, PhD, MA
School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

Honorable Daniel G. Martin
Judge, Maricopa County Superior Court
Phoenix, AZ

Overview: Forensic science practitioners routinely operate in environments defined by high stakes decisions, demanding workload, administrative burdens, and repeated exposure to violence and human tragedy. While the impact of this work varies by forensic science discipline and individual, the often-unseen consequences can reshape views, challenge well-being, and influence professional performance. Despite these challenges, considerations for the mental well-being for the forensic workforce have historically received limited attention. This presentation will provide a comprehensive overview of the psychological risks and well-being needs of practitioners across the diverse spectrum of forensic disciplines—from scene to laboratory to courtroom.

Drawing from current research and individual experiences, this session examines how repeated exposure to trauma, high caseloads, organizational pressures, ethical responsibility, and the emotional weights of case outcomes contribute to vicarious trauma, secondary traumatic stress, compassion fatigue, and burnout, to highlight a few. While these stressors manifest uniquely across disciplines—whether through direct scene exposure, laboratory analysis of evidence from violent crimes, or continuous review of disturbing digital media—they create a shared vulnerability that impacts personal well-being, professional performance, and long-term workforce sustainability.

PLENARY SESSION

Open to All Meeting Registrants

Each speaker brings different experiences, expertise, and perspectives based upon their role within the criminal justice system and forensic science. By integrating these varied viewpoints, the Plenary Session will explore these perspectives and highlight the pervasive reach of mental health consequents across disciplines, emphasizing the need for systemic awareness, cross-disciplinary support, and trauma-informed organizational practices. As we celebrate the theme of Back to Basics, there is nothing more fundamental to forensic science than the individual practitioners and their ability to perform and practice their discipline. This session underscores that safeguarding the mental health of forensic and justice professionals is essential not only for individual well-being but also for the integrity, accuracy, and humanity of the justice process.

Program:

9:00 am - 9:10 am	**Opening Remarks and Introduction** Joanna Collins, MFS; Marla Carroll; Edward Mazuchowski, MD, PhD
9:10 am - 10:40 am	**Perspectives of a First Responder and Mental Health Provider** Gregory I. Mack, PhD
	Perspectives of a Digital Forensic Examiner Kathryn C. Seigfried-Spellar, PhD, MA
	Assessing VT and Attitudes Toward Mental Health in AAFS Kathryn C. Seigfried-Spellar, PhD, MA Chair, Presidential Ad Hoc: Vicarious Trauma Outreach
	Perspectives of a Criminologist Anjali A. Ranadive, MFS, JD
	The Judicial Perspective Honorable Daniel G. Martin, JD
10:40 am - 11:00 am	**Questions From the Audience and Closing Remarks** All Presenters

CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB1 Fiction vs. Science: The Yara Gambirasio Case on Netflix

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 am** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Luciano Garofano, PhD
Italian Academy of Forensic Science
Parma, Emilia-Romagna, Italy

Michele Vaira, JD
Criminal Procedure and International Criminal Law
Vaira Law Firm
Parma, Italy

Learning Objectives: After attending this presentation, participants will understand how journalistic investigations and TV dramas can mislead the perception of the facts established in criminal trials.

Impact Statement: This presentation will highlight the danger that biased information may influence public opinion on the fairness of judicial decisions and, in jury-based legal systems, sway the jury's perspective.

Program Description: The case concerns the murder of Yara Gambirasio, a 13-year-old girl, which took place on February 26, 2010, in a small town called Brembate di Sopra (Bergamo-Italia). Three months after her disappearance, on February 25, 2011, her dead body was found in a field, frozen and partially decomposed. Yara had several stab wounds, including to her throat, but she died of starvation and cold.

CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB3 A Manual to Reduce the Communication Barriers Concerning the Use of the Verbal Scale Developed by the NIST-OSAC Trace Subcommittee, Focusing on the Reporting of Glass and Paint Associations

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 am** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Lauryn C. Alexander, PhD
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV

Sarah E. Wagner, JD
West Virginia University College of Law
Morgantown, WV

Melissa Giggenbach, JD
West Virginia Innocence Project Clinic
Morgantown, WV

Learning Objectives: By attending this session, attendees will: (1) discuss current issues between criminal lawyers and forensic scientists on how to properly convey the weight of the evidence using the verbal scale of the National Institute of Technologies-Organization of Scientific Area Committees (NIST-OSAC) trace subcommittee; (2) discuss the importance of pre-trial preparation and communication and propose ways forensic scientists can articulate the verbal scale; (3) know what questions to ask (and provide an explanation of why they should be asked) during direct examination of a trace evidence expert (these will be based on the simulation from the overview); (4) know what questions to ask (and provide an explanation of why they should be asked) during cross-examination of a trace evidence expert (these will be based on the simulation from the overview); and (5) create a mock transcript of a direct-exam and cross-exam of a trace evidence expert using a simulated case study.

Impact Statement: Currently, there is no manual, set of guidelines, or a standard operating procedure to reduce the communication barrier between trace evidence analysts and criminal lawyers. However, the issues with forensic science and its integration into the legal system must be addressed, specifically with the use of the verbal scale to report on the weight of the evidence. Many have published on the misinterpretation of likelihood ratios reported for DNA evidence, but it has not been reported for trace evidence, particularly glass and paint. Furthermore, the NIST-OSAC's verbal scale has been developed and proven useful but has not been integrated into reporting guidelines or taught to attorneys. This manual could be useful for lawyers planning to direct or cross-examine trace evidence analysts who use this verbal scale. Reporting with associations helps the scientist properly convey their results, while also reducing the risk of confusing attorneys, jurors, and judges alike.

Program Description: This case break addresses the communication gap between forensic scientists and criminal lawyers, a key issue that often leads to misunderstanding or misinterpretation of forensic evidence in court. While lawyers may struggle to grasp the significance of technical findings, scientists often find it difficult to express their conclusions in clear, accessible language.

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CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB4 From Investigation to Conviction: Combined Forensic and Investigative Efforts in an Infant Death Due to Diphenhydramine Toxicity

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 am** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Nathan Shaller, MD
Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner
Las Vegas, NV

Learning Objectives: By attending this session, attendees will be able to: (1) describe key autopsy findings in fatal toxicity cases, including in cases due to diphenhydramine; (2) explain the role and importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, including forensic pathologists, toxicologists, death investigators, and law enforcement; and (3) extrapolate on collaboration and discuss the medicolegal significance of comprehensive death investigation in pediatric homicide cases and how coordinated efforts impact legal outcomes.

Impact Statement: This case highlights the interdisciplinary efforts on behalf of the forensic pathologist, toxicologist, coroner investigator, and law enforcement required to determine a rare homicidal manner of death for a pediatric toxicological death that ultimately resulted in conviction.

Program Description: This case involves the homicide of a 5-month-old infant initially thought to have died from co-sleeping. Early investigation by the Coroner's Office and Abuse and Neglect Department — including a doll reenactment — raised concerns about the circumstances of death.

The autopsy revealed subtle external injuries (frontal hemorrhages and abrasions) and significant internal bleeding in the brain and spinal cord. Toxicology testing found lethal levels of diphenhydramine (an antihistamine) in multiple samples. Further coordinated testing and investigation confirmed that the infant had been intentionally administered diphenhydramine, leading to the classification of the death as homicide. The defendant later accepted a plea deal and was incarcerated.

CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB5 Air Crash Management and Victim Identification Prior to DMORT)

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

John P. Kenney, DDS, MS
Davidson County Medical Examiner's Office
Nashville, TN

Learning Objectives: This session will: (1) review management and identification procedures in late 20th-century accidents, (2) present the origins of the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT), and (3) give recognition to the forensic scientist who participated and directed identifications prior to personal or desktop computers and associated identification software.

Impact Statement: In keeping with the theme of the meeting, this presentation will review, particularly for younger members of the Academy, the effort needed prior to the inception of DMORT to respond to a mass fatality incident and pay tribute to the senior and deceased members of the academy that paved the way for modern and rapid identification of victims, particularly in air crash incidents.

Program Description: Commercial air carrier accidents, with their immediate tragic newsworthiness and effect not only on a local community but the nation as a whole or even worldwide, occur with little or no warning. Fire, police, and then local coroners or medical examiners were forced to respond and literally create from scratch a morgue and identification center in the days before DMORT and its three portable morgues. Through the efforts of Tom Shepardson and others and starting with the National Foundation for Mortuary Care, the herculean effort calling on all manner of resources to assemble the space, equipment, and personnel needed was simplified into a unified effort now known as the Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team. This presentation will examine a number of these earlier incidents and pay tribute to the pioneers within the forensic science community, particularly Anthropology, Odontology, and Pathology, who were responsible to respond, recover, process, identify, and release the properly named victims back to their next of kin in a timely manner. Incidents reviewed will include the Tenerife, Chicago, Milwaukee, Washington, DC, and Roselawn, IN events. AAFS Members played a key role in all these events, some members at multiple events. Many participating AAFS members have gone before us and left this world a better place, and a number that are still active or retired members of the Academy also served as operational leaders and were our mentors and teachers. This presentation is a tribute to all of those who responded in the past and those who respond today.

CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB6 When Airduster Means Instant Death

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 am** **CE Hour: 1.0**

CANCELED

CASE BREAK SESSIONS

CB7 Challenging Probabilistic Genotyping and DNA-TPPR Assumptions: A Case Study From *Minnesota vs. Porter*

Friday, February 13, 2026 **7:15 am – 8:15 am** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Cynthia Cale, MSc
DNA Mavens LLC
Cleveland, TX

Learning Objectives: Attendees will learn how limitations in probabilistic genotyping software validation, specifically contributor number assumptions, can affect the reliability of DNA evidence interpretation. This presentation will also explore the potential for sub-source likelihood ratios to be misinterpreted at the activity level. It will emphasize the importance of clearly communicating such limitations in forensic reports and testimony.

Impact Statement: This presentation will help forensic practitioners, attorneys, and stakeholders recognize the importance of adhering to software validation boundaries and properly contextualizing probabilistic results. It will promote more transparent and scientifically responsible communication of forensic DNA findings to prevent misinterpretation by courts and juries.

Program Description: In the case of *State of Minnesota v. Porter*, DNA evidence recovered from a firearm and its magazine played a pivotal role in the prosecution's case. The swabbing from the firearm was interpreted as a five-person mixture. While the true number of contributors cannot be known, the DNA profile likely exceeded five contributors, thereby falling outside the validated parameters for STRmix™ interpretation. Despite this, the laboratory proceeded with probabilistic genotyping using STRmix™ and reported a likelihood ratio supporting the hypothesis that the defendant was a contributor rather than not a contributor.

This case illustrates the importance of adhering to validated parameters and providing transparent, scientifically grounded interpretations. When probabilistic genotyping software is used at the edge or outside of its validated limits, it is essential that limitations be clearly disclosed and alternative explanations considered. Returning to the foundational principles of forensic DNA interpretation is critical to ensuring that the resulting conclusions are reliable, scientifically defensible, and ethically communicated.

DEEP DIVE SESSIONS

The Professional Deep Dive Breakouts are designed to showcase content and topics not typically included in the oral scientific session or poster session categories, but are still of strong interest and importance to the forensic and greater professional communities. These sessions are designed to be highly engaging and interactive with the attendees, focusing on professional development topics, technology use cases, and other content aimed at furthering personal and professional skills and knowledge.

DD1 Vicarious Trauma and Cognitive Restructuring in Forensic Professionals: A Comparative Psychometric Study of Risk and Protective Factors

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **4:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Maria Ludovica Lo Bianco, BASc
Mercatorum University
Palermo, Sicilia, Italy

Stefania Zerbo, PhD
University of Palermo
Palermo, Sicilia, Italy

Antonina Argo, PhD
University of Palermo
Palermo, Sicilia, Italy

Ginevra Malta, PhD
University of Palermo
Palermo, Sicilia, Italy

Educational Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will be able to: (1) define Vicarious Trauma (VT) and distinguish it from related constructs such as burnout and compassion fatigue, based on established theoretical models; (2) describe the
cognitive impacts of VT in forensic professionals, with specific reference to changes in belief systems and emotional regulation mechanisms; (3) interpret comparative psychometric data regarding emotional symptoms, cognitive restructuring, coping strategies, and
resilience between exposed and non-exposed groups; (4) evaluate the role of individual and organizational protective factors in mitigating the effects of VT and promoting professional well-being; and (5) identify implications for clinical practice and organizational policy, including the importance of supervision, targeted training, and preventive strategies in forensic settings.

Impact Statement: This presentation will provide the forensic science community with novel insights into the cognitive and emotional consequences of VT in professionals regularly exposed to traumatic material. By offering comparative psychometric data and highlighting patterns of cognitive restructuring rather than overt psychopathology, the study challenges traditional views of trauma impact and emphasizes the subtle yet pervasive effects on professional functioning.

Program Description: This study investigates VT among forensic practitioners who are routinely exposed to traumatic material through postmortem work and case reconstructions. VT is understood as a cognitive and emotional response to indirect trauma, distinct from burnout or compassion fatigue, and involves shifts in worldview and meaning-making.

A comparative cross-sectional study was conducted with 24 forensic practitioners and 17 controls not exposed to trauma. Participants completed four validated scales assessing: (1) emotional symptoms (depression, anxiety, intrusion); (2) cognitive belief changes; (3) defensive and coping strategies; and (4) resilience and protective factors.

The findings underscore the critical need for structured organizational support, supervision, and resilience-building strategies within forensic institutions. This research contributes to shaping evidence-based policies and interventions aimed at safeguarding the mental health of forensic practitioners and ensuring long-term professional sustainability.

DEEP DIVE SESSIONS

DD2 When Cases Fuel and Fracture: Unraveling the Mental Health Paradox in Forensic Science

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **4:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Donia Slack, PhD
Nova Southeastern University
Holly Springs, NC

Learning Objectives: Attendees will understand how traumatic case exposure specifically impacts work performance and mental health outcomes in forensic science personnel. Participants will gain knowledge of the prevalence of Vicarious Trauma (VT) and burnout in the forensic workforce and learn about validated assessment methodologies used to measure these conditions. Upon completion, attendees will be able to recognize the correlation between traumatic case exposure and decreased work ability while understanding the paradoxical relationship between engagement and trauma exposure in forensic professionals.

Impact Statement: This presentation will enhance the forensic science community's competence in recognizing and addressing mental health challenges that directly affect laboratory performance and case outcomes. The findings demonstrate that VT significantly impacts forensic scientists' perceived ability to perform their duties, with implications for quality assurance, error rates, and the fair administration of justice. Understanding these relationships will enable laboratory managers and administrators to
implement targeted interventions that protect both personnel well-being and operational effectiveness.

Program Description: This study examined the prevalence of VT and burnout among forensic science practitioners and their impact on work ability using a causal-comparative quantitative research design with 585 participants. The research addressed two critical questions: whether forensic scientists experience VT and burnout due to traumatic case exposure, and whether these conditions affect their perceived job performance capabilities.

The study demonstrates that forensic scientists frequently encounter traumatic material, leading to measurable psychological impacts that affect their perceived ability to perform essential duties. While traumatic case exposure increases engagement, it simultaneously develops VT that negatively impacts work capacity through increased illness-related absences and reduced effectiveness. These findings have significant implications for laboratory management, quality assurance protocols, and the broader criminal justice system.

The research highlights the need for targeted mental health interventions, workload distribution strategies, and organizational support systems to maintain workforce resilience while preserving the engagement that drives forensic professionals' commitment to justice. Understanding these relationships is crucial for maintaining laboratory effectiveness and ensuring reliable forensic science outcomes in criminal proceedings.

DEEP DIVE SESSIONS

DD3 Mental Health and the Effects of Mass Fatality Response: The COVID-19 Response in New York City

Friday, February 13, 2026 **2:30 pm – 3:30 pm** **CE Hours: 1.0**

Justin Z. Goldstein, PhD
NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner
New York City, NY

Helen S. Alesbury, MA
NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner
New York City, NY

Learning Objectives: After attending this presentation, attendees will have a greater understanding of the impacts that responding to COVID-19 had on medical examiner personnel in New York City.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing critical data on how mass fatality response influences practitioner mental health over time through longitudinal survey data.

Program Description: Vicarious Trauma (VT) is the secondary traumatization of individuals who interact with others who are experiencing a trauma or crisis. Medical examiner personnel are regularly exposed to VT in their daily activities, not only when conducting casework but also when interacting with families and communities of the deceased. During mass fatality events, these demands increase and occupational interactions may intensify, potentially impacting practitioner wellness. While substantial literature exists regarding the impacts of VT on first responders, fewer studies have addressed the wellness needs of medical examiner staff.1-3 Moreover, no studies have addressed the longitudinal impact of VT in relation to medical examiner mass fatality response. To address this deficit, this research presents quantitative and qualitative data from longitudinal surveys at the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner (NYC OCME) from 2019-2023, reporting how non-clinical measures of practitioner wellness changed over time in relation to COVID-19 response.

Four anonymous online surveys were sent to all NYC OCME staff (IRB exemption from NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene). Surveys were deployed in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023. All surveys included questions about participant demographics, education level, professional experience, department of employment, overtime hours worked, and participant experience responding to mass fatality incidents. Participants were also asked to quantitatively self-report perceived levels of stress, support, happiness, satisfaction, pride, investment, comfort, and burnout. In addition, participants were able to share experiences, comments, and concerns in open-ended formats. Collectively, this approach allowed for both quantitative and qualitative data collection over a four-year study period. Responses were aggregated and analyzed in IBM SPSS (quantitative data) and NVivo 15 software (qualitative data).

Collectively, quantitative and qualitative results speak to a change in practitioner wellbeing in relation to mass fatality response. This research provides a critical perspective into practitioner experiences before, during, and after mass fatality response that can help identify practical strategies for the future development of wellness resources and infrastructure that meets the needs of medical examiner personnel.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required — $85

LS2 Disaster Management for the Forensic Laboratory: A Hurricane Katrina Primer and Retrospective

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Anna S. Duggar, PhD
Loyola University
New Orleans, LA

Learning Objectives: This session will explore the fundamental roles, responsibilities, and needs of forensic laboratories after a disaster, using Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans as a case study. Key points of discussion will include:

- Impacts on laboratories during a natural disaster
- Changing demands on the laboratory and on individual analysts during the immediate response and subsequent recovery
- Ways in which standard disaster preparation and response guidelines may not take into account the particular needs of forensic laboratories.
- Concerns of physical plant, personnel, evidence, and the long-term potential for assistance and recovery will be discussed, as well as opportunities to be found at the center of the crisis.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by highlighting the benefits of basic disaster preparedness, specifically tailored to the forensic laboratory. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the strengths and vulnerabilities of their labs, learn from real-world experiences, and leave the presentation with a foundation for short-term and long-term efforts to prepare for simultaneous response and recovery from natural disasters in future.

Program Description: In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina caused catastrophic flooding in New Orleans after federal levees failed, devastating the city and crippling essential services, including the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD). The NOPD Crime Lab and Central Evidence and Property were submerged, halting forensic operations and jeopardizing evidence integrity. While the forensic community is increasingly prepared to respond to major disasters, it is less equipped to function as a victim of such events. This
presentation reviews the Crime Lab's experience during and after Katrina, highlighting both individual and collaborative recovery efforts. It encourages labs to adopt a systems-based approach for managing both disaster response and recovery in future crises.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required — $85

LS3 Grizzlies, Guns, and Glaciers: Interesting National Park Death

Thursday, February 12, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Tatiana Bihun, MD
Saint Louis City Medical Examiner's Office
St. Louis, MO

Learning Objective: National Parks fall under various jurisdictions, to include Federal, Local, and Reservation. These different landscapes not only include glaciers, large bodies of water, forests, mountains, caves and deserts, but also encompass all four seasons. Attendees will learn of the complex nuances needed to complete investigations and hear interesting cases that are unique to our National Parks.

Impact Statement: Presenting on National Park Deaths will impact the forensic science community by highlighting not only the intricacies of interjurisdictional collaboration to include Local Police, Tribal Police, National Park Rangers, Coroner Offices, and Medical Examiners Offices, but also the challenges of completing death investigations in the absence of a body. It highlights the differences of resources, training, environment, and types of visitors that is unique to each National Park.

Program Description: National Parks, located in the United States, are visited by over 300 million people a year. From 2014-2019, a total of 2,149 deaths were recorded. Despite deaths drawing media attention, the parks are relatively safe. Mortality data, collected by the National Park Service, reported a mortality rate of 0.11 per 100,000 recreational visits, substantially lower than the 715 deaths per 100,000 people of the overall United States population. Death investigations that take place in our National Parks cover a multitude of breath takingly beautiful, yet harsh terrains. There are even cases of which that the topography is so harsh, that bodies are not recovered and individuals are "presumed" dead. National Park investigations are also complex in the sense that they often cross not only multiple states, but multiple jurisdictions.

Attendees will hear about multiple cases of National Parks, from Denali National Park in Alaska to Gateway National Park in Missouri. Deaths resulted from multiple different causes, including but not limited to: environmental exposure, accidental firearm discharge, animal attack, airplane crashes, and falls. Cases were shared by Coroners, Death Investigators, and Medical Examiners. Manner of Death was determined by not only autopsy examination, but from thorough scene investigation by either National Park Rangers or other Death Investigators to also include police. These cases also highlight the principle of "presumed dead" and the challenges of body recovery in the setting of rough terrain.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required — $85

LS4 Deriving Forensic Intelligence Using Artificial Intelligence

Friday, February 13, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Vinicius Lima, PhD
SUNY Albany
Lafayette, IN

Learning Objective: Participants will explore the history of Forensic Intelligence, its application within Forensic Science, and the current and future challenges involved in its practical implementation. We will then discuss how Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies can support and enhance forensic investigations. This section will also address the limitations and challenges AI faces when applied to forensic contexts. A practical example will be presented to illustrate how AI techniques, particularly those based on Natural Language Processing and simple analytical visualization tools, can be leveraged to extract insights from forensic evidence. It will be shown how such work generates insights including uncovering crime patterns, supporting case linkage analysis, and informing public security policies. The goal of this talk is to introduce the audience to the intersection of Forensic Intelligence and AI, and to foster discussion among interested participants for future contributions in the field.

Impact Statement: By gaining a deeper understanding of the Forensic Intelligence landscape and the potential of Artificial intelligence to enhance the field, the audience will be better equipped to expand their knowledge, engage in meaningful discussions, and contribute to future research and innovation in this emerging area.

Program Description: This seminar explores the evolution of Forensic Intelligence, which moves beyond the traditional case-by-case forensic approach to a broader, insight-driven analysis of evidence. Despite its potential, real-world adoption faces operational and institutional challenges. The seminar also examines how Artificial Intelligence (AI) — particularly Natural Language Processing (NLP) — can enhance Forensic Intelligence by identifying crime patterns, linking cases, and informing public safety strategies.

A case study from Brazil illustrates how AI can extract actionable insights from crime scene reports. The seminar emphasizes the need for cross-sector collaboration to successfully integrate AI and Forensic Intelligence into forensic practice.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required — $85

LS5 Failure to do the Fundamentals: The Forensic Investigation of the Titan Submersible and OceanGate

Friday, February 13, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Bart B. Kemper, PE
Kemper Engineering Services
Baton Rouge, LA

Learning Objective: The 2023 loss of the Titan submersible and the five fatalities off the coast of Halifax captured the world's attention. The U.S. Coast Guard and National Transportation Safety Board conducted a joint investigation, with the October 2024 Marine Board of Investigation bringing to light many issues regarding CEO Stockton Rush and the OceanGate team. This presentation will provide insight into the information presented during the eight days of testimony.

Impact Statement: Attendees will gain knowledge of the sequence of events of the investigation into OceanGate and the Titan submersible implosion. There will be a focus on the Verification, Validation, and Uncertainty Quantification (VVUQ) process, its role in innovation, and how VVUQ is part of the due diligence for applying engineering simulations, including in a forensic investigation. Finally, attendees will gain insight into how to form a successful multidisciplinary team to confront a novel forensic situation.

Program Description: This presentation covers the forensic investigation into the June 2023 implosion of OceanGate's submersible, TITAN, during a dive to the Titanic wreck, which killed all five people aboard, including CEO Stockton Rush. OceanGate had previously been praised as a leader in deep-sea exploration, but concerns about its safety practices were raised by industry experts, including engineer Bart Kemper, who had warned the company prior to the disaster.

Kemper, an expert in pressure vessel engineering and forensic analysis, was later asked by the NTSB and US Coast Guard to lead a multidisciplinary review of the recovered evidence. Drawing inspiration from the Challenger shuttle investigation, he assembled a 13-person team to examine the incident from a forensic procedural perspective.

The presentation focuses on the methodology and key forensic aspects of the investigation. Final results are pending official release, so content is limited to information already made public by the Marine Board of Investigation (MBI) and various documentaries.

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

Pre-Registration Required — $85

LS6 Postmortem Computed Tomography (PMCT) Basics and Beyond: A Game of Jeopardy for Strong Stomachs

Friday, February 13, 2026 **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm** **CE Hour: 1.0**

Jamie M. Elifritz, MD
Forensic Radiology Group
Destin, FL

Learning Objective: This presentation will: (1) Introduce fundamental PMCT findings, including pattern recognition, (2) demonstrate the PMCT findings of frequently encountered pathology, (3) strengthen understanding of PMCT basic concepts through engaging case-based examples that integrate radiologic-pathologic correlation, and (4) foster critical thinking in the evaluation of complex and atypical PMCT cases.

Impact Statement: This interactive seminar bridges foundational principles with modern imaging technology in a format that is both educational and memorable. By combining case-based learning, peer-reviewed imaging examples, and live audience participation, the session reinforces critical PMCT concepts while emphasizing the responsible application of PMCT in medicolegal death investigations. Attendees will leave with a stronger grasp of PMCT fundamentals, enhanced diagnostic confidence, and a renewed appreciation for collaboration between forensic pathologists and radiologists.

Program Description: PMCT Jeopardy is a lively, interactive luncheon seminar that combines forensic education with game-show fun. Aligned with the AAFS 2026 theme, Back to Basics, the session uses a Jeopardy-style format to reinforce core principles of Postmortem CT (PMCT) through real-world cases — ranging from classic findings to bizarre surprises.

Attendees will split into two teams to compete in categories like Classic PMCT Findings,Affairs of the Heart, and You Might Lose Your Lunch. Each case includes brief teaching points, dark humor, and practical takeaways grounded in best practices.

Designed for everyone from PMCT newcomers to seasoned forensic professionals, this fast-paced, case-based event offers education, entertainment, and even prizes — making it a must-attend for anyone wanting to sharpen their skills and enjoy forensic science in a fresh, memorable way.

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W1 Back to Basics: Foundations of Medicolegal Death Investigation

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:00 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 8.0**

Learning Objectives: By the end of this workshop, attendees will be able to identify the basic and core responsibilities of medicolegal death investigators, including next-of-kin notifications, scene documentation, and report writing. Attendees will analyze investigative strategies for child deaths, drug-related fatalities, cold case management, and mass fatality response using current national standards. They will demonstrate understanding of interdisciplinary collaboration and apply lessons learned from real case examples to improve investigative accuracy and scene outcomes.

Impact Statement: This workshop provides foundational training in medicolegal death investigation, covering next-of-kin notification, scene photography, infant and drug deaths, cold cases, report writing, and mass fatality response. Attendees will learn to apply investigative advancements and national standards, improving documentation, scene outcomes, and multidisciplinary collaboration in complex cases.

Program Description: This workshop is designed for both new and experienced medicolegal death investigators. It offers practical, scenario-based training on core responsibilities such as Next-of-Kin notification, scene photography, and report writing. The workshop covers specialized topics like child deaths, drug fatalities, unidentified remains, and mass fatality response, featuring real-world case studies and firsthand insights from high-profile events like the 2013 San Francisco plane crash.

Attendees will explore investigative strategies, new tools such as Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG), and national standards like SUIDI protocols and ABMDI certification. The event includes interactive case reviews, peer discussions, and a closing panel addressing issues like workforce burnout and ethical response. Participants will also receive digital resources to support continued professional development. The workshop aims to boost confidence, improve investigative skills, and enhance service to the community.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Kathleen Diebold Hargrave, MA
Office of the Regional Medical Examiner
St. Charles, MO

Co-Chair:
Erin Worrell, BSc
Franklin County Forensic Science Center
Columbus, OH

Presenters:
Kelly Allmeyer, BA
Regional Medical Examiner
Franklin, Jefferson, & St. Charles Counties
Defiance, MO

Lisa A. Potteiger-Visconti, BS
Medicolegal Death Investigator (*Retired*)
Harrisburg, PA

Tara Rick, BA
Saint Louis City Medical Examiner's Office
St. Louis, MO

Michelle Rippy, EdD
California State University East Bay
Hayward, CA

Alisha M. Simpson, MS
Dauphin County Coroner Office
Paxinos, PA

WORKSHOPS

W1 Back to Basics: Foundations of Medicolegal Death Investigation

Program:

8:00 am - 8:10 am	**Welcome/Introductions** Kathleen Diebold Hargrave, MA
8:10 am - 9:00 am	**Foundations of Death Investigations** Lisa Potteiger, BS; Alisha Simpson, MS
9:00 am - 10:00 am	**Child Death Investigations** Kelly Allmeyer, BA; Kathleen Diebold Hargrave, MA
10:00 am - 11:00 am	**Drug-Related Fatalities** Erin Worrell, BSc
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	**Long-Term Unidentified and Cold Case Management** Tara Rick, BA
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Mass Fatality Response** Michelle Rippy, EdD
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	**Notable Case Presentations** All Presenters
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	**Panel Discussion: Emerging Challenges, Q&A, and Closing Remarks** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W2 Intimate Partner Homicide: How to Detect, Investigate, and Prevent Misdiagnosis

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:00 am – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 6.75**

Learning Objectives: This workshop addresses Intimate Partner Staged Homicides (IPHs) and teaches participants how to recognize, document, investigate, and prosecute IPHs by reinforcing foundational investigative practices and incorporating "new basics" consisting of validated investigation tools. Through case scenarios and subject matter experts, participants will demonstrate the ability to recognize IPH indicators and implement at least three response strategies and four tools that can help triage cases for the need for search warrants, scene processing, autopsies, etc. Attendees will be able to explain at least three types of bias that have contributed to cases being missed and misdiagnosed by all levels of practitioners. Each stage of the process will emphasize the need for a multidisciplinary approach from medicolegal death investigators, forensic pathologists, law enforcement, and prosecutors.

Impact Statement: Globally, more than 50% of femicides are committed by current or ex-IPs.(1) In some of these cases, offenders will conceal homicides by disguising them as non-suspicious deaths (i.e., natural, accident, or suicide) or missing person cases, causing misdirection, and impacting case resolution and prosecution. In response to these IPHs, and as many agencies are overwhelmed with cases and underfunded, there is a greater need for validated decision-making and investigation tools. This workshop will: (1) provide crucial background information and training on what IPHs are and how to identify them; (2) when and how to respond to them; and (3) ultimately support more accurate determinations of cause and manner of death, leading to improved justice outcomes for victims and their families.

Program Description: This presentation addresses the frequent misdiagnosis of Intimate Partner Homicides (IPHs) and calls on professionals—from patrol officers to forensic pathologists—to return to investigative fundamentals while integrating emerging knowledge. It highlights how IPHs are often overlooked due to bias, premature conclusions, and overreliance on autopsy findings without full consideration of contextual, behavioral, and historical evidence.

Key topics include:

- Offender staging tactics, coercive control, and lethality risk indicators.
- The limitations of relying solely on physical injuries (e.g., ligature marks, blunt force trauma), especially in cases of strangulation, which can be externally undetectable—particularly in victims with darker skin tones.
- The importance of scene assessment and understanding that cause of death (e.g., drowning, overdose) often requires contextual analysis, not just autopsy results.
- The dangers of cognitive and confirmation bias in death investigations.
- The use of validated tools like the Danger Assessment, Joanna's Law Criteria, and the Monckton Smith IPV Homicide Timeline to guide decision-making and early intervention.

The session encourages multidisciplinary collaboration and the use of specialized resources (e.g., ligature analysis experts, IPV advocates), aiming to improve the accuracy of death classifications and promote justice for victims through evidence-informed and unbiased investigations.

Target Audience: General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

WORKSHOPS

W2 Intimate Partner Homicide: How to Detect, Investigate, and Prevent Misdiagnosis

Chair:
Andrea Zaferes, MFS
Dutchess County
Medical Examiner's Office/FACT
Shokan, NY

Co-Chair:
Jan M. Gorniak, DO
World Peace Forensic Consulting, LLC
Tallahassee, FL

Presenters:
Micaela A. Ascolese, MS
RTI International
Durham, NC

Kristen E.L. Edwards-Bova, BS
Larimer County Coroner's Office
Fort Collins, CO

Joni E. Johnston, PsyD
Del Mar, CA

Kelsey McKay, JD
Law Firm of Kelsey McKay
Austin, TX

Kiersten Reif, BA
Bannockburn Police Department
Bannockburn, IL

James K. Roberts, APM
Bingham County Coroner's Office
Blackfoot, ID

Kenneth Rosgen
Polk County Medical Examiner's Office
Dallas, OR

Paul S. Uribe, MD
Fort Bend County Medical Examiner Office
Richmond, TX

Program:

8:00 am - 9:00 am	**Welcome, Introductions (Presenters and Attendees), Learning Objectives, and the Impacts of Missed and Misdiagnosed IPHs** Andrea Zaferes, MFS; James (Jimmy) Roberts, APM
9:00 am - 9:30 am	**The Epidemiology and Demographics of Suicides, Drownings, Overdoses, IPHs, Non-Fatal IP Abuse** James (Jimmy) Roberts, APM; Micaela Ascolese, MS
9:30 am - 9:40 am	**BREAK**
9:40 am - 9:50 am	**Conceptual Toolkit (e.g., "Abuse" v. "Violence"), "New Basics!"** Kelsey McKay, JD
9:50 am - 10:00 am	**Contrasting IP and General Population Suicides — and Why It Matters** Joni Johnston, PsyD
10:00 am - 10:20 am	**A Case Scenario With Audience Participation**
10:20 am - 10:30 am	**The Asphyxiation Journey** Andrea Zaferes, MFS; Jan Gorniak, DO
10:30 am - 10:45 am	**The Pathophysiology of Asphyxiation — Are There Always Fatal Anatomical Findings or Even Any Internal/External Injuries?** Paul Uribe, MD; Jan Gorniak, DO
10:45 am - 11:00 am	**A Serial Killer Case Scenario With Audience Participation** Kenneth Rosgen
11:00 am - 11:10 am	**BREAK**
11:10 am - 12:00 pm	**The Validated DA Tool: How and Why It Was Developed Application to a Misdiagnosed Case Scenario** Joni Johnston, PsyD; Kiersten Reif, BA
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**Different Types of Biases and Controversies in Medicolegal Death Investigations Such as Contextual Information in Autopsies v. Black Box Autopsies** Paul Uribe, MD

WORKSHOPS

W2 Intimate Partner Homicide: How to Detect, Investigate, and Prevent Misdiagnosis

Program cont.:

1:30 pm - 1:45 pm	**Autopsy Protocols Guided by Context: When Are Posterior Dissections and SAKs Warranted?** Jan Gorniak, DO; Paul Uribe, MD
1:45 pm - 2:00 pm	**BREAK**
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	**"She's Been Threatening This for Months": Unmasking Staged Suicides Through Evidence-Based Risk Assessment. Physical Evidence Associated With, but Not Attached to, the Body. Suicide/Homicide Timelines, Joanna's Law (Data — How Was It Validated?)** Joni Johnston, PsyD; Andrea Zaferes, MFS
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	**A Case Scenario Applying All Three Tools** Kenneth Rosgen
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	**BREAK**
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	**Practical Tool Applications by MDIs and Law Enforcement Officers** Kiersten Reif, BA; Kristen Edwards-Bova, BS; James (Jimmy) Roberts, APM
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**Integrating ME/C Determinations, LE Investigation Findings, and MDT Findings Into Jurisprudence Decision-Making and Prosecutions** Kelsey McKay, JD
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	**Conclusion and Calls to Action** Panel Discussion

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W3 Pediatric Neuropathology in Forensic Practice

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:00 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: Through collaborative insights from multiple experts in the field, attendees will gain practical knowledge and diagnostic strategies related to perinatal and pediatric neuropathology, applicable to forensic autopsy examination in all age groups. Learning objectives included in this talk include the following: (1) understand and describe developmental and acquired neuropathology resulting in immediate or delayed death; (2) describe neuropathologic evaluation in seizure disorders, trauma, and the utility of ancillary stains for microscopic examination; and (3) summarize the role of advanced diagnostic tools, including molecular testing and postmortem imaging, and assess their practical utility and limitations in the forensic evaluation of pediatric and perinatal deaths.

Impact Statement: This knowledge will impact the forensic science community by enhancing the understanding of developmental neuropathology, sample collection, diagnostic criteria, and interpretation of common neuropathologic findings in perinatal and pediatric autopsies that can also be implicated as a cause of death in later age groups. By fostering a comprehensive and systematic approach, the session aims to advance the field of forensic neuropathology and support multidisciplinary collaboration.

Program Description: This half-day workshop offers a practical introduction to pediatric and perinatal forensic neuropathology, tailored for forensic pathologists of all experience levels. It focuses on building core skills such as:

- Recognizing normal vs. abnormal brain development
- Proper tissue selection, dissection, and fixation techniques
- Differentiating age-appropriate structures from anomalies
- Evaluating conditions like epilepsy and pediatric trauma (inflicted and accidental)

Participants will learn when to preserve the brain for deferred exams and how to document findings effectively to support clear, defensible cause-of-death determinations, including in SUID/SUDC cases. The workshop features case-based learning, histologic/gross images, and practical handouts, providing a systematic, confidence-building approach to pediatric neuropathology in forensic autopsies.

Target Audience: Pathology/Biology

Chair:
Melissa M. Blessing, DO
Johnson County Medical Examiner and
University of Iowa Health Care
Iowa City, IA

Co-Chair:
Jolee Suddock, DO
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Oklahoma City, OK

Presenters:
Jared T. Ahrendsen, MD, PhD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, IL

Rebecca D. Folkerth, MD
MooseHenge Medical Consulting
High Falls, NY

Michael Harrell, MD
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Oklahoma City, OK

Heather S. Jarrell, MD
Office of the Medical Investigator
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine
Albuquerque, NM

Lorraina J. Robinson, DO
University of Oklahoma
Oklahoma City, OK

WORKSHOPS

W3 Pediatric Neuropathology in Forensic Practice

Program:

8:00 am - 8:10 am	**Introduction** Jolee Suddock, DO; Melissa Blessing, DO
8:10 am - 8:40 am	**Perinatal and Pediatric Neuropathology in Forensic Practice: Evaluation, Sampling, and Interpretation** Jolee Suddock, DO
8:40 am - 9:10 am	**An Overview of Common Developmental and Acquired Anomalies** Rebecca Folkerth, MD
9:10 am - 9:40 am	**Neuropathology of Pediatric Seizure Disorders: Diagnosis, Mimics, and Medicolegal Implications** Lorraina Robinson, DO
9:40 am - 9:55 am	**BREAK**
9:55 am - 10:25 am	**Forensic Neuropathology of Pediatric Trauma** Jared Ahrendsen, MD, PhD
10:25 am - 10:55 am	**Postmortem Pediatric Neuroimaging: Modalities and Interpretation** Michael Harrell, MD
10:55 am - 11:25 am	**The Future of Developmental Neuropathology: Molecular Testing and Other Technological Advancements in Postmortem Diagnostics** Melissa Blessing, DO
11:25 am - 11:55 am	**Case-Based Approaches to Developmental and Pediatric Neuropathology in Forensic Practice** Heather Jarrell, MD
11:55 am - 12:00 pm	**Closing Statements**

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W4 Fundamentals of Blast, Blast Effects, and Forensic Investigations

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.0**

Learning Objectives: Attendees of this workshop will learn about different types of blast, the type of damage and injuries blast can cause ("blast effects"), and how to apply the information as key elements of investigating a blast event.

Impact Statement: This workshop will impact the forensic science community's practice by introducing foundational concepts regarding blast and blast effects in order to provide a framework for a better understanding of forensic investigations involving blast and blast effects.

Program Description: This introductory-level workshop explores the medical and engineering principles of blast events, covering a wide range of explosion types—including accidental, industrial, criminal, military, and terroristic incidents. It emphasizes that blasts are not limited to military or terrorist contexts and highlights real-world data: over 770 explosions, 320 bombings, and 18,000+ explosive-related incidents were reported in 2023 alone.

Key topics include:
- The anatomy of a blast wave
- Differences between high- and low-explosives
- Hazards from fragments, projectiles, and explosive environments (e.g., gas leaks, medical gases)
- Forensic methods and tools, including blast modeling programs

Participants will apply their knowledge during a hands-on "petting zoo" session, examining real-world blast fragments, case summaries, and protective armor failures in small groups. The workshop focuses on hazard recognition, scene investigation, and prevention, without covering how to construct explosive devices. It aims to enhance forensic professionals' ability to identify, investigate, and respond to explosive-related incidents effectively.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Forensic Nursing Science, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Bart B. Kemper, PE
Kemper Engineering Services
Baton Rouge, LA

Co-Chair:
Paul Messner, JD
FBI
Dry Ridge, KY

Presenters:
William Sayin, BSME
Booz Allen and Hamilton
Baton Rouge, LA

Krista Wohlfeil
Kemper Engineering Services
Baton Rouge, LA

WORKSHOPS

W4 Fundamentals of Blast, Blast Effects, and Forensic Investigations

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Introduction and Background** Paul Messner, JD
8:45 am - 9:15 am	**An Introduction to Explosive Hazards** William Sayin
9:15 am - 10:00 am	**Blast: What It Is and What It Isn't** Bart Kemper, PE
10:00 am - 10:15 am	**BREAK and "Petting Zoo" (exemplars from the field)**
10:15 am - 11:00 am	**Blast Effects: Waves, Frags, Projectiles, and Other Effects** Bart Kemper, PE
11:00 am - 11:45 am	**Digging In and Digging Out: The Forensic Work** Bart Kemper, PE
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	**Standards, Wrap-Up, and Q&A** Krista Wohlfeil

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W5 Back to Mass Spectrometry Basics: Analysis and Spectral Interpretation

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 7.0**

Learning Objectives: During this workshop, attendees will learn the fundamental principles of mass spectrometry and spectral interpretation. This will include an understanding of the main components of the mass spectrometer, ionization, separation, and detection. The attendees will learn techniques for small molecule structure elucidation such as identification of the molecular ion, elemental composition, and the analysis of basic fragmentation patterns.

Impact Statement: This workshop will impact the forensic science community by providing an educational opportunity for new forensic scientists to expand their understanding of mass spectrometry and offer a refresher course for more seasoned chemists. The goals of this workshop are to increase the attendees' working knowledge of the mass spectrometer while improving their ability to recognize and interpret mass spectra, thereby increasing their confidence in compound identification.

Program Description: This workshop, part of the "Back to Mass Spectrometry Basics" series, offers a foundational and practical overview of mass spectrometry as it applies to forensic drug analysis and toxicology, with a focus on identifying Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

Key topics include:
- Core principles of mass spectrometry: how ions are generated, separated by mass-to-charge ratio (m/z), and detected
- Use of Electron Ionization/Mass Spectrometry (EI/MS) for structure elucidation
- Interpretation of mass spectra, including molecular ions, base peaks, isotopic distributions, and the nitrogen rule
- Understanding fragmentation mechanisms (e.g., sigma/alpha cleavages, neutral losses)
- Differences in odd- vs. even-electron ion behavior

The afternoon features interactive exercises using real-world NPS cases to reinforce learning. The session concludes with a review of spectral libraries, interpretation tools, and complementary techniques like ESI-MS and DART-MS, providing participants with a practical toolkit for forensic compound identification.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, General, Toxicology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Sandra E. Rodriguez-Cruz, PhD
DEA Special Testing and Research Laboratory
Dulles, VA

Co-Chair:
Matthew R. Wood, PhD
Ocean County Sheriffs Office
Toms River, NJ

WORKSHOPS

W5 Back to Mass Spectrometry Basics: Analysis and Spectral Interpretation

Program:

8:30 am - 8:35 am	**Welcome and Introductions** Matthew Wood, PhD; Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
8:35 am - 9:00 am	**The Mass Spectrometer** Matthew Wood, PhD
9:00 am - 9:30 am	**Sample Delivery/Introduction** Matthew Wood, PhD
9:30 am - 10:00 am	**Making Ions** Matthew Wood, PhD
10:00 am - 10:10 am	**BREAK**
10:10 am - 11:00 am	**Interpreting the Mass Spectrum** Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	**Common EI-MS Fragmentation Patterns** Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:50 pm	**Fragmentation Exercises** Matthew Wood, PhD
1:50 pm - 2:50 pm	**Structure Elucidation Examples** Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
2:50 pm - 3:00 pm	**BREAK**
3:00 pm - 3:55 pm	**MS Libraries and MS Interpretation Tools** Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
3:55 pm - 4:50 pm	**Beyond EI-MS** Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD
4:50 pm - 5:00 pm	**Closing Remarks** Matthew Wood, PhD; Sandra Ridriguez-Cruz, PhD

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W6 Ketamine: The Clinical Renaissance and Traffic Safety Implications

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:00 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will gain an understanding of the reason for the recent surge of interest in ketamine for promising new clinical applications and potential for misuse. Participants will: (1) become familiar with the increased research and prevalence of ketamine in the United States; (2) understand the basic pharmacology of ketamine; (3) gain insight into the most recent clinical research, appropriate use, and potential risks of ketamine; (4) appreciate the implications of side effects to human performance; and (5) recognize the presentation of impairment of normal faculties in subjects consistent with ketamine use and the impact to traffic safety.

Impact Statement: An impact to the forensic science community will be accomplished by increasing attendees' understanding of the clinical applications and potential adverse effects of ketamine. As the use of ketamine has increased significantly in the past ten years, practitioners will be better prepared to recognize both the beneficial effects and adverse events that it may produce.

Program Description: Ketamine has been in clinical use since the 1960s as a general anesthetic. The past ten years have marked a period of vigorous research activity into new clinical applications for ketamine. This includes low-dose administration in concert with therapy for treatment-resistant depression, pain management, and addiction. Along with this period of increased academic research and clinical use has come a corresponding growth in public interest and recreational use. Over the past decade, the number of ketamine drug possession cases submitted to crime laboratories in the United States has increased by three-fold. Recent illicit preparations include "pink cocaine," most commonly a mixture of ketamine and Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA).

The basics of ketamine will be introduced, from its development and continued primary use as a general anesthetic to the recent clinical applications for low-dose administration. Current understanding on the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics will be discussed to frame the scope of effects and their duration while recognizing the remaining knowledge gaps on its mechanisms of action. An objective overview of the benefits and risks of ketamine use will conclude with the implication for traffic and other safety concerns discussed through a presentation of authentic cases. Get back to basics and advance your knowledge with a first-hand instruction on the bedrock scientific research by a leader in the field and Medical Director of the Yale Depression Research Program. This is a Society of Forensic Toxicologists/American Academy of Forensic Sciences (SOFT/AAFS) Drugs and Driving Committee-sponsored workshop.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Toxicology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Nicholas B. Tiscione, MS
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
West Palm Beach, FL

Co-Chair:
Corina Freitas, MD
Freitas and Associates LLC
Alexandria, VA

Presenters:
Rebecca L. Hartman, PhD
Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner
Rochester, NY

Svante Vikingsson, PhD
RTI International
Research Triangle Park, NC

Samuel Wilkinson, MD
Yale School of Medicine
Yale Depression Research Program
New Haven, CT

Edward X. Zumaeta, MS
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
West Palm Beach, FL

WORKSHOPS

W6 Ketamine: The Clinical Renaissance and Traffic Safety Implications

Program:

8:00 am - 8:15 am	**Introduction: Increasing Interest and Prevalence of Ketamine** Nicholas B. Tiscione, MS
8:15 am - 8:45 am	**Pharmacology: The Pharmacodynamics, Pharmacokinetics, and Chemistry of Ketamine** Svante Vikingsson, PhD
8:45 am - 9:45 am	**Clinical Applications and Recent Research: Ketamine for Treatment-Resistant Depression** Samuel T. Wilkinson, MD
9:45 am - 10:00 am	**BREAK**
10:00 am - 10:40 am	**Clinical Applications and Recent Research: Ketamine for Pain Management and Addiction** Corina Freitas, MD
10:40 am - 11:10 am	**The Potential for Adverse Events: The Impact to Cognitive, Motor, and Driving Ability** Rebecca L. Hartman, PhD
11:10 am - 11:50 am	**Forensic Toxicology: Impaired Driving Case Reports** Edward X. Zumaeta, MS
11:50 am - 12:00 pm	**Questions and Answers**

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W7 The Ground Truth vs. the Provable Truth: Problematic Results and Strategies to Reach Consensus in Forensic Document Examination

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.25**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will learn in-depth background information on historical and current Forensic Document Examiner (FDE) proficiency testing and research testing, FDE standards, and accreditation considerations. Participation in the hands-on portion of the workshop will give the attendee opportunities to engage in critical thinking about how conclusions are expressed and how to explain the differences between consensus, ground truth, and evidence-supported results.

Impact Statement: This workshop will impact the FDE community by illustrating difficult examinations and beginning a conversation on when the ground truth result for an exam may not be the correct result based upon the sufficiency of the evidence provided.

Program Description: This session explores challenges in standardized testing for Forensic Document Examiners (FDEs), particularly the use of a 5-point conclusion scale in research exams where the ground truth is known. While these tests aid in mass evaluation, they often don't reflect how FDEs form conclusions in real casework.

A key issue arises when FDEs are asked to compare questioned writing to multiple known writers. If one writer is correctly identified, the others are often marked as eliminated in the test—even though, based solely on their samples, an elimination may not be justifiable. This highlights a disconnect between test design and real-world practice, where opinions must be based strictly on available evidence, not on known outcomes.

Target Audience: Questioned Documents

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Kate Butler, BS
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Pensacola, FL

Co-Chair:
Mark T. Goff, BA
Michigan State Police
Lansing, MI

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome/Introductions** Mark T. Goff, BA; Kate Butler, BS
8:45 am - 9:45 am	**Workshop Overview** Kate Butler, BS
9:45 am - 10:45 am	**Practical Exercises** Mark T. Goff, BA; Kate Butler, BS
10:45 am - 11:45 am	**A Discussion of Practical Exercises** Mark T. Goff, BA; Kate Butler, BS
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	**Closing Remarks** Mark T. Goff, BA; Kate Butler, BS

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W8 A Multiagency Response to the Mid-Air Collision: A Strategic Approach and Lessons Learned

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 6.5**

Learning Objectives: Through lectures and panel discussions, workshop attendees will learn detailed information about the multiagency successful response to and processing of the January 2025 mid-air collision at the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. The involvement of a military helicopter and commercial airline as well as the incident location in the Potomac River triggered a multi-jurisdictional response involving local, state, federal and non-governmental agencies. Attendees will learn from incident responders the challenges faced, and strategic solutions implemented to recover, examine, identify, and return victims to their loved ones in a timely and dignified manner.

Impact Statement: The information provided during this workshop will impact the forensic science community by highlighting the challenges faced during a multi-jurisdictional response to a mass disaster. The content will include quickly devised response plans allowing operations to ramp up while maintaining daily workloads as well as innovative solutions taken to identify and reassociate victim remains.

Program Description: This workshop provides an in-depth review of the multi-agency response to the January 29, 2025 mid-air collision between an American Airlines commercial flight and a U.S. Army helicopter near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, which resulted in 67 fatalities. The crash created a complex recovery environment across both water and land.

The workshop is structured into three main components, each led by experts directly involved in the disaster response:

1. **Facilitating External Operations**
- Focuses on leadership, incident command, media/family communication, and interagency coordination.
- Includes insights from the DC Chief Medical Examiner, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), and medicolegal investigators.

2. **Maintaining Mortuary Operations**
- Details how the DC OCME scaled up to handle the mass fatality event while managing daily caseloads.
- Covers integration of DMORT, FBI, and forensic anthropologists for identification and fragment reassociation.

3. **The Role of DNA**
- Highlights the combined use of Rapid and traditional DNA analysis to identify victims.
- Includes presentations from the DC Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS) and BODE laboratory on contract setup, analysis workflows, and innovative reporting methods that enabled sample processing within 48 hours.

The workshop also features two expert panels and emphasizes interdisciplinary coordination, rapid response, and best practices in mass fatality management.

Target Audience: Anthropology, General, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W8 A Multiagency Response to the Mid-Air Collision: A Strategic Approach and Lessons Learned

Chair:
Jennifer C. Love, PhD
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Co-Chair:
Micayla Spiros, PhD
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Presenters:
Sara Achrati, MD
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Mike Cariola, MFS
Bode Technology
Lorton, VA

Francisco C. Diaz, MD
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Julie Ferragut, BS
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Krystyna Hopkinson, MScFS
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Katherine Hyun Kim, MS
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Lalynn G. Kurash, MS
DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Daniel Morgan, MFS
National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC

Program:

Facilitating External Operations

8:30 am - 9:40 am	**Responding to the Mid-Air Crash: A Director's Perspective** Francisco C. Diaz, MD
9:40 am - 10:20 am	**National Transportation Safety Board** Daniel Morgan, MFS
10:20 am - 10:40 am	**BREAK**
10:40 am - 11:20 am	**Responding to the Incident Site: A Medicolegal Death Investigator's Perspective** Lalynn Kurash, MS
11:20 am - 12:00 pm	**The Role of Medicolegal Death Investigator at the Family Assistance Center** Katherine Kim, MS
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**

Maintaining Mortuary Operations

1:00 pm - 1:40 pm	**Responding to a Mass Fatality Event: A Medical Examiner's Perspective** Sara Achrati, MD
1:40 pm - 2:20 pm	**Decedent Identification: The Role of the Anthropologist** Micayla Spiros, PhD
2:20 pm - 2:40 pm	**BREAK**

The Role of DNA

2:40 pm - 3:20 pm	**The Role of Rapid DNA for Victim Identification** Mike Cariola, MFS; Krystyna Hopkinson, MScFS
3:20 pm - 4:00 pm	**Reassociation of Fragmentary Remains: A DNA Laboratory's Response** Julie Ferragut, BS
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	**Panel Discussion**

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W9 Investigating the Unsolved: Building Cold Case Programs Through Academic and Law Enforcement Partnerships

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 6.0**

Learning Objectives: By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to design and implement a sustainable cold case program within a higher education institution. They will identify at least three open-source or intelligence-based investigative tools available in academic settings and demonstrate how to apply them in collaboration with law enforcement. Attendees will also be able to articulate the measurable benefits of student-law enforcement partnerships on both case outcomes and student competency development.

Impact Statement: This presentation will enhance the forensic science community's competence by equipping educators and students with practical frameworks to implement cold case programs in higher education, leveraging academic resources and investigative training. It will improve performance by fostering collaborative partnerships between colleges and law enforcement, enabling students to apply investigative techniques and open-source intelligence tools to real cases. Ultimately, these efforts can lead to meaningful stakeholder outcomes by supporting case resolution, delivering justice, and advancing public trust in forensic practices.

Program Description: This workshop explores how academic institutions can support unsolved case investigations through the creation of cold case programs. Aimed at educators, law enforcement, and forensic professionals, it offers a step-by-step guide for launching and sustaining initiatives that combine student involvement, faculty oversight, and agency collaboration.

Key topics include:

- Integrating forensic science fundamentals (e.g., evidence-based reasoning, chain of custody, scene integrity) into student-led work
- Teaching objectivity, critical thinking, and the scientific method in real-world contexts
- Utilizing open-source tools like public records, social media, and research databases
- Managing confidentiality, case selection, funding, and alignment with academic goals

The session includes interactive case studies and provides a resource toolkit (syllabi, planning guides, checklists, and templates) for immediate implementation. The workshop highlights how these programs benefit both students—by enhancing forensic and investigative skills—and law enforcement—by providing meaningful support for long-dormant investigations.

Target Audience: Engineering & Applied Sciences, General, Jurisprudence, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Sharon K. Moses, PhD
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, AZ

Co-Chair:
Jalika Waugh, PhD
Pinellas County Schools
Largo, FL

Presenters:
Maylynn Burns
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Prescott, AZ

Edwin S. Cochran, MA
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Prescott, AZ

Kelly Crockett, MSFS
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Prescott, AZ

WORKSHOPS

W9 Investigating the Unsolved: Building Cold Case Programs Through Academic and Law Enforcement Partnerships

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome/Introductions** All Presenters
8:45 am - 9:30 am	**Investigating Cold Cases in an Academic Environment** Kelly Crockett, MFS; Edwin Cochran, MA, MS
9:30 am - 10:15 am	**Structuring a Cold Case Program in High Education** Kelly Crockett, MFS; Edwin Cochran, MA, MS
10:15 am - 10:30 am	BREAK
10:30 am - 11:15 am	**Partnering With Law Enforcement** Kelly Crockett, MFS; Edwin Cochran, MA, MS
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	**Objectivity and Ethics in Cold Case Investigations** Kelly Crockett, MFS; Edwin Cochran, MA, MS
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	BREAK
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	**Open-Source Intelligence and Academic Resources in Investigations** Edwin Cochran MA, MS Kelly Crockett, MFS
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	**Case Selection, Confidentiality, and Oversight** Kelly Crockett, MFS; Edwin Cochran MA, MS
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	**BREAK**
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	**Student Impact Presentation** Maylynn Burns
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	**Interactive Case Study and Group Discussion** All Presenters
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	**Closing Remarks and Q&A** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W10 Behind the Evidence: The Impact of Vicarious Trauma in the Forensic Science Community

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 6.5**

Learning Objectives: This workshop is designed to help the forensic sciences community understand the serious implications of work-related stress. In the forensic sciences, work-related stress can lead to emotional burnout, physical illness (high blood pressure), and psychological effects like PTSD, depression, anxiety, and hypervigilance. These emotional and physical reactions may surface after one difficult case or after decades on the job. This workshop will include recommendations based on the academic literature, anecdotal stories, and open discussion on how to recognize the impact of trauma, build resiliency, and reduce mental health stigmas and barriers to help-seeking within the forensic science community.

Impact Statement: This workshop will impact the forensic sciences community by addressing mental health and well-being by discussing work-related stress, vicarious trauma, healthy and unhealthy coping mechanisms, and ways in which we can build resiliency and reduce mental health stigmas within our community.

Program Description: This workshop addresses the often-overlooked issue of work-related stress in forensic science, highlighting its serious emotional, physical, and psychological impacts—including burnout, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety, depression, and hypervigilance. While stress among law enforcement has been widely studied, the forensic sciences community remains underrepresented in this research despite facing similar exposure to trauma.

Key topics include:
- How stress affects forensic professionals across all career stages and personal circumstances
- The ripple effect of trauma on colleagues, families, and students in academic programs
- Strategies to recognize trauma, build resilience, and reduce mental health stigma

The session combines research insights, personal stories, and open discussion, and features a diverse panel representing different sectors of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. The goal is to foster a healthier, more supportive professional environment and promote help-seeking behaviors within the field.

Target Audience: All Sections

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Katharine Pope, MA
SNA International
(supporting the DPAA mission)
Fruitland, MD

Co-Chair:
Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, PhD
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

Presenters:
Sarah Avedschmidt, MD
Sacramento, CA

Zain Bhaloo, MSc
Canada Border Services Agency
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada

Carole E. Chaski, PhD
Institute for Linguistic Evidence
Georgetown, DD

Justin Z. Goldstein, PhD
NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner
New York City, NY

Krystal R. Hans, PhD
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN

Liam Johnson, MA
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Las Vegas, NV

John P. Kenney, DDS, MS, DDS
Davidson County
TN Medical Examiner's Office
Nashville, TN

Pamela Marshall, PhD
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, PA

Kenneth E. Melson, JD
U.S. Department of Justice (*Retired*)
Kinsale, VA

WORKSHOPS

W10 Behind the Evidence: The Impact of Vicarious Trauma in the Forensic Science Community

Mariah E. Moe, PhD
Texas State University
San Marcos, TX

Jessica L. Morel, DO
Integrity Psychiatric Services PLLC
Fayetteville, NC

Lara Newell, MA
Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Richmond, VA

Joseph D. Remy, JD
National White Collar Crime Center
Barrington, NJ

Peter Stout, PhD
Houston Forensic Science Center
Houston, TX

Joe C. Trevino, III, DFS
New York Police Department
Sunnyside, NY

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome/Introductions** Joanna Collins, MFS
8:45 am - 9:45 am	**Understanding Burnout, Vicarious Trauma, Coping Mechanisms, and Mental Health Stigma** Jessica Morel, DO; Kate Seigfried-Spellar, PhD
9:45 am - 10:30 am	**Findings From the Academy-Wide Vicarious Trauma Survey** Kate Seigfried-Spellar, PhD
10:30 am - 10:45 am	**BREAK**
10:45 am - 11:30 am	**Panel: Organizational Support, Overcoming Stigma, and Policy Considerations for Building Resiliency** Joe Remy, JD; Peter Stout, PhD; Pamala Marshall, PhD; John Kenny, DDS
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	**Morning Wrap-Up and Questions and Answers** Katharine Pope, MA
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	**BREAK**
1:15 pm - 1:45 pm	**The Impact of Trauma on Our Family and Friends** Katherine Maloney, MD; Sarah E. Avedschmidt, MD; Joseph D. Remy, JD
1:45 pm - 2:15 pm	**Vicarious Trauma From Interacting With the Living** Lara Newell, MA; Anita Roman, BS
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	**Panel: Academic Stress and Emotionally Demanding Research** Liam Johnson, MA; Justin Goldstein, PhD; Mariah Moe, PhD; Joe Treviño, DFS; Krystal Hans, PhD
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	**BREAK**
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**"It's Just Text and Paper": How Bad Can It Really Be?** Carole Chaski, PhD; Zain Bhaloo, MSc
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	**Afternoon Wrap-Up and Questions and Answers** Ken Melson, JD

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W11 From Past to Present: Forensic Entomology Methods That Have Stood the Test of Time

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:30 pm** **CE Hours: 6.25**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the application of forensic entomology in medicolegal death investigations. They will learn to differentiate between Postmortem Interval (PMI), minimum Postmortem Interval (PMImin), and maximum Postmortem Interval (PMImax), understand insect succession and development, and apply this knowledge to **real-world casework. Hands-on demonstrations will reinforce proper collection and preservation techniques.**

Impact Statement: This workshop will enhance the competence of forensic professionals by deepening their understanding of entomological evidence and its interpretation. It will improve performance in the field and laboratory by reinforcing best practices in evidence collection and analysis. Ultimately, it will contribute to more accurate PMI estimations and stronger courtroom testimony, benefiting stakeholders in the justice system.

Program Description: This workshop focuses on the enduring value of forensic entomology in death investigations, especially for estimating the PMI. Designed for forensic professionals, attorneys, investigators, and students, the session combines scientific principles, legal considerations, and practical skills.

Key topics include:
- Insect development, succession patterns, and the effect of temperature
- Proper collection, analysis, and preservation of insect evidence
- How entomological findings are presented and challenged in court, with emphasis on precise language and defensible conclusions

The workshop includes interactive lectures, real case studies, and a hands-on session for practical experience, plus a panel discussion on current challenges and the future of the field. It emphasizes standardized, proven methods and their critical role in both investigative and legal outcomes.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics, General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Lavinia Iancu, PhD
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

Co-Chair:
Jeffrey D. Wells, PhD
Florida International University
Miami, FL

Presenters:
Christine M. Bogan, JD
Professional Consultant
Rensselaer, IN

Neal H. Haskell, PhD
Forensic Entomology Investigations
Rensselaer, IN

Leon G. Higley, PhD
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE

Olivia Minello, BS
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
CSI
Las Vegas, NV

Amanda Roe, PhD
College of Saint Mary
Omaha, NE

WORKSHOPS

W11 From Past to Present: Forensic Entomology Methods That Have Stood the Test of Time

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome and Introduction** Lavinia Iancu, PhD; Jeffrey Wells, PhD
8:45 am - 9:30 am	**PMI/PMImin/PMImax, and Related Terms** Jeffrey Wells, PhD
9:30 am - 10:15 am	**Case Studies in Forensic Entomology** Neal Haskell, PhD
10:15 am - 10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am - 11:15 am	**The Attorney's Perspective on Entomological Evidence** Christine Bogan, JD
11:15 am - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	**The CSI's Perspective on Entomological Evidence** Olivia Minello, BS
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	**Insect Development and Temperature Effects** Leon Higley, PhD; Amanda Roe, PhD
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	**Succession Studies and Their Application** Lavinia Iancu, PhD
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	**BREAK**
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	**Hands-On: Insect Collection and Packaging Techniques; Preservation and Documentation of Evidence** All Presenters
4:30 pm - 5:15 pm	**Panel Discussion: Challenges and Future Directions** All Presenters
5:15 pm - 5:30 pm	**Q&A and Wrap-Up** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W12 Back to the Basics: Criminal Investigation Assessment—Understanding the Behavior Behind the Crime

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 6.75**

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of the course, the attendee will be able to: (1) cite the difference between Crime Assessment, an evidence-based process, versus Criminal Profiling, a psychological based process; (2) utilize the learned skill set to properly collect the information to decide the level of victim risk and offender risk; (3) compare the dynamics of a crime scene, homicidal pattern, and offender behavior characteristics, and select the proper sub-type and crime motivation; (4) assess the paralogical reasoning system and identify the level of victim and offender emotion; (5) recognize the difference between a crime driven by fantasy and one that contains no fantasy issues; (6) judge a criminal act and conclude whether the crime scene and offender are organized, disorganized, or both; (7) understand the behavior patterns of a Sexual Sadist, and how to identify and interact with them; and (8) understand the behavior pattern of Armin Meiwes, the Rotenburg Cannibal.

Impact Statement: Behavioral Assessment has had a profound impact on the field of forensic science, serving as a bridge between psychological analysis and physical evidence. By systematically analyzing behavioral patterns, motives, and methods of offenders, Behavioral Assessment aids investigators in narrowing down suspect pools and understanding criminal minds. This integration of psychological insight enhances the interpretation of forensic evidence and often directs the focus of investigations, making forensic methodologies more targeted and effective. As a result, Behavioral Assessment not only contributes to more efficient crime-solving but also advances forensic science by promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and refining investigative strategies.

Program Description: This workshop introduces behavioral assessment as an investigative tool to analyze crime scenes through the lens of criminological structures and offender behavior. It focuses on identifying pathological behavior patterns and sub-types across the criminal spectrum to better understand motives, methods, and opportunities behind crimes.

Key concepts include:
- Using the crime continuum to decode recurring elements in criminal behavior
- Interpreting physical evidence (or its absence) to reveal power dynamics, emotional drivers, and offender idiosyncrasies
- Recognizing how offenders unintentionally leave behavioral clues during the commission of crimes

Participants will engage in interactive case-based exercises, offering their own insights to develop behavioral profiles based on real-world crime scenes.

The goal is to equip attendees with practical techniques for applying behavioral assessment to investigative work, enhancing their ability to interpret crime scenes and offender behavior.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, General, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Katherine Brown, PhD
Tarleton State University
RELLIS Academic Alliance
College Station, TX

Co-Chair:
Kelsie Bryand, MS
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX

Presenters:
Klaus C. Neudecker, MD
Praxis für Begutachtungen
Landshut, Bayern
Germany

Erin Ryan, BA
Sherry Black Foundation
Sandy, UT

Patrick J. Zirpoli
Sherry Black Foundation
Milanville, PA

WORKSHOPS

W12 Back to the Basics: Criminal Investigation Assessment—Understanding the Behavior Behind the Crime

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Introduction** Patrick J. Zirpoli, Sr.; Erin Ryan, BA
8:45 am - 10:00 am	**Crime Scene Assessment/Identifying Behavior Traits at the Scene: "What Does the Evidence Tell You?"** Patrick J. Zirpoli, Sr.; Klaus Neudecker, MD
10:00 am - 10:15 pm	**BREAK**
10:15 am - 12:00 pm	**Understanding Power-Motivated Offenders and Scenes: "What Is the MOTIVE?"** Patrick J. Zirpoli, Sr.
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Understanding Anger Motivated Offenders and Scenes: "What is the MOTIVE"** Patrick J. Zirpoli, Sr.
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	**BREAK**
2:15 pm - 3:30 pm	**Understanding Anger-Motivated Offenders and Scenes: "The Sexual Sadist"** Patrick J. Zirpoli, Sr.; Klaus Neudecker, MD
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	**The Rotenburg Cannibal** Klaus Neudecker, MD
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	**The Role of the Sherry Black Foundation in Solving Crimes** Erin Ryan, BA

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W13 From General Knowledge to Case-Specific Insights: Navigating the Complexities of Trace and DNA Transfer, Persistence, Prevalence, and Recovery (TPPR) in Forensic Science Opinions

Monday, February 9, 2026 **8:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.0**

Learning Objectives: The goals of this presentation are to: (1) summarize key findings and recommendations from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) DNA Foundation Review and Human Factors reports as they relate to TPPR in forensic science; (2) identify common sources of uncertainty, controversy, and interpretive complexity when forming opinions on trace and DNA TPPR in specific case contexts; (3) critically evaluate when it is appropriate to offer expert opinion on TPPR and describe what type of data and reasoning should underpin such opinions; and (4) contribute to a structured taxonomy to categorize TPPR-related literature and scenarios during a collaborative classification exercise, contributing to the refinement of a searchable TPPR database.

Impact Statement: This workshop will advance the forensic science community's ability to engage with one of the field's most complex interpretive challenges: understanding and explaining trace and DNA TPPR in the context of a specific case. By promoting critical reflection on the scientific and cognitive underpinnings of TPPR opinions, introducing a taxonomy for structuring the TPPR literature, and piloting AI-supported approaches to literature synthesis, the workshop will contribute to more transparent, consistent, and scientifically grounded expert testimony.

Program Description: This half-day workshop addresses the complex challenge of interpreting and applying trace and DNA Transfer, Persistence, Prevalence, and Recovery (TPPR) evidence in forensic casework. It focuses on when—and how—it is appropriate for experts to offer opinions on TPPR.

Key elements include:

- Insights from the NIST DNA Foundation Review and Human Factors report
- Discussion of scientific, cognitive, legal, and interpretive challenges in TPPR
- Review of current knowledge gaps and controversies
- Introduction to a NIST-developed taxonomy and efforts toward a searchable TPPR database

The interactive session includes collaborative activities and explores how AI tools can enhance the organization and application of TPPR literature. Designed for forensic practitioners, researchers, and legal professionals, the workshop aims to strengthen the scientific and interpretive foundation behind TPPR-related expert testimony and case analysis.

Chair:
John M. Butler, PhD
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

Co-Chair:
Jarrah R. Kennedy, MS
Kansas City Police Crime Laboratory
Kansas City, MO

Presenters:
Niki Osborne, PhD
Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science
Auckland, Auckland
New Zealand

Melissa Taylor, BA
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

WORKSHOPS

W13 From General Knowledge to Case-Specific Insights: Navigating the Complexities of Trace and DNA Transfer, Persistence, Prevalence, and Recovery (TPPR) in Forensic Science Opinions

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome and Introductions** Melissa Taylor, BA
8:45 am - 9:15 am	**Framing the Problem: The Difference Between General Knowledge and Case-Specific Interpretations** John Butler, PhD; Jarrah Kennedy, MS
9:15 am - 9:45 am	**Insights From the NIST DNA Foundation Review** John Butler, PhD
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**Insights From the NIST/NIJ Human Factors in DNA Report** Jarrah Kennedy, MS
10:15 am - 10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am - 11:15 am	**Collaborative Exercise: Testing a TPPR Taxonomy** John Butler, PhD
11:15 am - 11:45 am	**Emerging Tools: AI-Assisted Approaches to TPPR Synthesis** Niki Osborne, PhD
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	**Wrap-Up and Next Steps** Melissa Taylor, BA

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W14 Elementary, My Dear Chemist: Cracking the Mysteries of Unknown Substances

Monday, February 9, 2026 **1:00 pm – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 3.0**

Learning Objectives: During this workshop, attendees will learn the fundamental principles of complex chemical analysis and structure elucidation, to include systematic approaches to analytical testing and spectral interpretation, using Mass Spectrometry (MS), Infrared (IR) spectroscopy, and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. Attendees will learn how to evaluate fragmentation patterns, identify functional groups, and understand carbon and hydrogen connectivity patterns. In addition, the attendees will learn innovative techniques used by forensic laboratories to assist in identifying unknown substances encountered in illicit drug samples.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by demonstrating the utility and importance of comprehensive chemical testing to aid investigations across forensic science disciplines. This workshop will specifically focus on the identification and interpretation of emerging drug threats and novel psychoactive substances (NPS). Additionally, the presentations will increase understanding of MS, IR, and NMR analysis and data interpretation.

Program Description: Co-sponsored by the AAFS Opioids and Emerging Drugs Committee and the SOFT NPS Committee, this full-day workshop focuses on the identification and structural elucidation of Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS)—a growing challenge in forensic science as the global drug supply continues to diversify.

Key topics include:
- Overview of 1,302+ NPS identified worldwide (as of March 2025), with synthetic opioids emerging rapidly
- Strategies for recognizing and pursuing unknown substances in forensic drug samples
- In-depth training on structural elucidation using mass spectrometry (MS), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), infrared (IR) spectroscopy, and other advanced techniques like IRMS and ICPM

Highlights:
- Case studies on identifying unknown NPS, adulterants, and novel compounds like BTMPS and tetramethylfentanyl analogs
- Exploration of how drug traffickers alter synthesis routes to evade regulation, creating structurally novel substances with limited or no reference profiles
- Collaborative strategies between forensic toxicologists and drug chemists
- Introduction to how AI and Machine Learning are being used to streamline and improve the structural elucidation process

The workshop provides practical tools and workflows for forensic professionals tackling emerging synthetic drugs, emphasizing analytical rigor, innovation, and inter-disciplinary collaboration.

Target Audience: Criminalistics

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Alex J. Krotulski, PhD
Center for Forensic Science Research & Education
Horsham, PA

Co-Chair:
Agnes D. Winokur, PhD
Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration
Dulles, VA

Presenters:
David B. Guthrie, PhD
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
Dulles, VA

Holly E. Pierzynski, MASc
Cayman Chemical
Ann Arbor, MI

WORKSHOPS

W14 Elementary, My Dear Chemist: Cracking the Mysteries of Unknown Substances

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	**Introduction and Setting the Stage** Agnes Winokur, PhD; Alex Krotulski, PhD
1:15 pm - 1:45 pm	**The Fundamentals of Low-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) and Utility for Structural Education** Holly Pierzynski, MS
1:45 pm - 2:15 pm	**The Fundamentals of High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (LC/QTOF/MS) and Utility for Structural Education** Alex Krotulski, PhD
2:15 pm - 2:45 pm	**The Fundamentals of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy and Utility for Structural Education** David Guthrie, PhD
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	**BREAK**
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	**Additional Analytical Techniques to Assist With Structural Education (e.g., IR, ICPMS, etc.)**
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Tools to Aid the Structural Elucidation Process** Agnes Winokur, PhD
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	**Panel Discussion and Q&A** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W15 Building Scientific Confidence Through Validation of Forensic Methods

Monday, February 9. 2026 **1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to: (1) define method validation and explain its importance in forensic science; (2) identify key components of a validation study and how to design them appropriately; (3) apply principles of validation to both subjective (human interpretation) and objective (instrumental) forensic methods; (4) access and utilize National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)-provided resources and reference materials for validation efforts; and (5) use the NIST Validation Assessment Tool (VAST) to support data analysis and reporting.

Impact Statement: This workshop equips forensic practitioners with the scientific foundation, practical tools, and regulatory insight required to design and execute validation studies that withstand courtroom scrutiny and satisfy modern accreditation demands. The workshop delivers measurable improvements in laboratory competence, courtroom credibility, and overall quality assurance, positioning participants to champion evidence-based practices across the forensic science community.

Program Description: This 4-hour workshop focuses on the importance of method validation in forensic science, ensuring that analytical techniques are reliable, reproducible, and appropriate before being used in casework. Participants will learn to design and carry out validation studies for both human-interpreted and instrument-based methods.

Key topics include:
- Principles of forensic method validation
- Design and execution of validation studies
- Interactive exercises using real-world examples
- Overview of NIST resources, including guidance documents, reference materials, and data
- Hands-on training with the NIST Validation Assessment Tool (VAST) to support structured, transparent validation

The goal is to equip forensic practitioners with the skills and tools needed to support scientifically rigorous validation within their laboratories.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, Digital & Multimedia Sciences, General, Jurisprudence, Questioned Documents, Toxicology

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Nicole S. Jones, MS
RTI International
Oakton, VA

Co-Chair:
Melissa Taylor, BA
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

Presenters:
Henry Swofford, PhD
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

Steven Lund, PhD
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

WORKSHOPS

W15 Building Scientific Confidence Through Validation of Forensic Methods

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:35 pm	**Welcome, Introductions, and Goals** Melissa Taylor, BA
1:35 pm - 2:20 pm	**NIST Principles of Validation** Henry Swofford, PhD
2:20 pm - 2:45 pm	**Validation Guidance** Nicole Jones, MS
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	**BREAK**
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	**VAST Demo** Steve Lund, PhD
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**Validation Practicum—Human Interpretation Instrument-Driven Conclusions** Steve Lund, PhD; Melissa Taylor, BA
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm	**BREAK**
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	**Report Out From Practicum Exercises**

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W16 The American Board of Forensic Anthropology Presents: How Forensic Anthropology Contributes to Trauma Analyses—A Primer for Medical Examiners/Coroners and the Medicolegal Community

Monday, February 9. 2026 **1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours:** 3.5

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will: (1) understand how forensic anthropologists contribute to the analysis of cartilaginous and skeletal trauma in cases of suspected neck compression, pediatric trauma, and dismemberment; (2) recognize the forensic anthropologist's expertise in cartilaginous and skeletal trauma, even in cases where the decedent is not skeletonized; and (3) understand the importance of using a qualified, vetted, board-certified forensic anthropologist with experience in the examination and interpretation of skeletal and cartilaginous trauma.

Impact Statement: This workshop is relevant to medical examiners, coroners, medicolegal death investigators, law enforcement, and legal professionals interested in learning about how forensic anthropological analyses of skeletal and cartilaginous trauma contribute to the death investigation. The field of forensic anthropology has grown in recent years, with more practitioners embedded within medical examiner and coroner offices. As forensic anthropologists have become more integral to the death investigation, they have expanded outside of the more traditional analysis of skeletonized remains and have developed expertise in skeletal and cartilaginous trauma interpretation that contributes to cases of fresh, decomposed, burned, and skeletonized remains.

Program Description: This workshop, developed by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology (ABFA) Outreach Committee, highlights the critical role of board-certified forensic anthropologists (D-ABFAs) in analyzing skeletal and cartilaginous trauma during medicolegal death investigations.

Key focus areas include:
- Expertise in cases involving neck compression, pediatric trauma, and dismemberment
- Identifying cause and manner of death, past trauma, and possible tools or weapons used
- Use of visual aids (diagrams, photos, casts, 3D models) for court presentations and jury comprehension
- The importance of using ABFA-certified experts who meet strict standards of training, ethics, and continuing education

The session emphasizes how D-ABFAs provide quality assurance, legal readiness, and scientific rigor in complex trauma cases, underscoring their value as expert witnesses and investigative partners.

Target Audience: General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Angela Soler, PhD
New York City
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
New York, NY

Co-Chair:
Erin B. Waxenbaum, PhD
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

Presenters:
Bradley Adams, PhD
Lawrence, KS

Heather M. Garvin, PhD
Des Moines University
West Des Moines, IA

Kristen Hartnett-McCann, PhD
Connecticut Office of the
Chief Medical Examiner
Farmington, CT

Melissa A. Pasquale-Styles, MD
Connecticut Office of the
Chief Medical Examiner
Farmington, CT

Christopher W. Rainwater, PhD
Tarrant County Medical Examiner
Fort Worth, TX

WORKSHOPS

W16 The American Board of Forensic Anthropology Presents: How Forensic Anthropology Contributes to Trauma Analyses—A Primer for Medical Examiners/Coroners and the Medicolegal Community

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**What is the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and Why Use a Board-Certified Forensic Anthropologist?** Erin Waxenbaum, PhD
1:30 pm - 2:15 pm	**The Role of the Forensic Anthropologist in Neck Compression Cases** Kristen Hartnett-McCann, PhD; Angela Soler, PhD
2:15 pm - 2:30 pm	**BREAK**
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	**The Role of the Forensic Anthropologist in Pediatric Trauma Cases** Brad Adams, PhD
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm	**The Role of the Forensic Anthropologist in Dismemberment Cases** Chris Rainwater, PhD; Heather Garvin, PhD
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm	**BREAK**
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	**The Role of the Forensic Anthropologist in Trauma Analyses: The Perspective of the Medical Examiner** Melissa Pasquale, MD

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W17 That Was Then, This Is Now—Bridging the Gap Between Genetic Genealogy and the Forensic Communities

Monday, February 9. 2026 **1:00 pm – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 4.0**

Learning Objectives: Upon attending this presentation, attendees will learn how genetic genealogists, law enforcement personnel, and forensic scientists can develop careers in Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) through an understanding of the professional, ethical, legal, and accreditation-related standards they must meet to be compliant with the requirements of the judicial system.

Impact Statement: This workshop will impact the forensic and genealogical communities by demonstrating the need for a responsible and ethical development of an accreditation for independent FIGG practitioners that can bridge the gap with forensic policies, procedures, and standards, along with the legal system they comprise.

Program Description: This workshop explores how to bridge the gap between the structured forensic science community and the emerging, largely unregulated field of genetic genealogy, specifically within Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG).

Key themes include:
- The mismatch between limited employment opportunities in FIGG and the high volume of unsolved cases
- The need for standardized policies, procedures, and training to make FIGG practitioners credible within the legal system
- Current training and certification programs, which provide foundational knowledge but lack pathways to practical experience and job readiness

Workshop topics:
- Development of FIGG as a professional career
- NTVIC recommendations for aligning IGG practices with forensic standards
- Operating within an ISO 17025-accredited lab
- Strategies to expand FIGG job opportunities
- Panel discussion with experts on integrating FIGG into forensic frameworks

The goal is to support the integration of independent FIGG practitioners into mainstream forensic investigations by promoting compliance, credibility, and career development.

Target Audience: General, Jurisprudence

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Colleen M. Fitzpatrick, PhD
Identifinders International LLC
Fountain Valley, CA

Co-Chair:
Ray A. Wickenheiser, DPS
SupreMEtric
Youngsville, LA

Presenters:
Claire L. Glynn, PhD
University of New Haven and
Henry C Lee Institute of Forensic Science
West Haven, CT

Wendy Mclean, BS
UNT Center for Human Identification
Fort Worth, TX

WORKSHOPS

W17 That Was Then, This Is Now—Bridging the Gap Between Genetic Genealogy and the Forensic Communities

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	**Welcome/Introductions** Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD
1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	**The Development of Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) as a Career** Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm	**National Technology Validation Implementation Collaborative (NTVIC) Recommendations for the IGG Community** Ray Wickenheiser, DPS
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	**BREAK**
3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	**Working Within an ISO 17025-Accredited Laboratory** Wendy McLean, BS
3:45 pm - 4:30 pm	**How to Increase the Number of Job Opportunities in FIGG** Clare Glynn, PhD

WORKSHOPS

W18 Teaching With Care: Understanding Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and Its Application in Forensic Science Education

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Digital & Multimedia Sciences, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Krystal R. Hans, PhD
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN

Co-Chair:
Kimberlee S. Moran, MSc
Rutgers University-Camden
Camden, NJ

Presenters:
Ryan Backmann
Project Cold Case
Jacksonville, FL

Leisa J. Nichols-Drew, MSc
De Montfort University
Leicester, England
United Kingdom

Charlie Shunick, MS
Delgado Community College/
Resource Association for Missing People
New Orleans, LA

Katie Wiggins, EdD
Uprooted: Where Healing is Planted
Jacksonville, FL

Program:

8:00 am - 8:10 am	**Welcome/Introductions** Krystal R. Hans, PhD
8:10 am - 8:55 am	**Understanding Vicarious Trauma and PTSD in Forensic Science Education and Practice** Krystal R. Hans, PhD; Katie Wiggins, EdD
8:55 am - 9:45 am	**Trauma-Informed Pedagogy as a Forensic Science Teaching Practice** Kimberlee S. Moran, MSc; Krystal R. Hans, PhD
9:45 am - 10:00 am	**BREAK**
10:00 am - 10:40 am	**Trauma-Informed Pedagogy in Practice** Ryan Backmann, ND; Charlie Shunick, MS
10:40 am - 11:25 am	**Building Resilience in Forensic Education: The United Kingdom Approach to Mental Health and Wellness** Leisa Nichols-Drew, MSc
11:25 am - 12:00 pm	**Panel Discussion and Q&A** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W18 Teaching With Care: Understanding Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and Its Application in Forensic Science Education

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:00 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.75**

Learning Objectives: This workshop will provide attendees with a robust understanding of how Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and vicarious trauma impact forensic science students during their education and career preparation, using real-life examples to highlight the limitations of traditional teaching approaches. Attendees will be introduced to Trauma-Informed Pedagogy (TIP) and learn practical strategies for applying TIP in classroom and laboratory settings to better support student well-being. Finally, attendees will examine how mental health and wellness are integrated into forensic science higher education in the United Kingdom. Attendees will leave with tools to create safer, more inclusive learning environments that foster resilience and emotional health.

Impact Statement: This workshop will enhance educators' competence by deepening their understanding of trauma and equipping them with trauma-informed teaching strategies tailored to forensic science students. By applying these strategies, educators can improve their performance in creating emotionally safe, supportive, and effective learning environments. Ultimately, this shift in educational practice will lead to better outcomes for students, including increased resilience in the workplace, reduced burnout, and a stronger, more ethically grounded forensic science workforce.

Program Description: This workshop introduces Trauma-Informed Pedagogy (TIP) as a critical and timely educational approach in forensic science education, where students are frequently exposed to distressing material such as crime scene imagery, autopsy reports, and cases involving violence or death.

What is TIP?

- TIP recognizes how trauma affects learning and emphasizes emotional safety, empathy, and respect in the classroom alongside academic rigor.
- It's designed to support students' psychological well-being—especially those with prior trauma or at risk of secondary traumatic stress.
- Relevance to Forensic Science:Forensic students often encounter emotionally intense material and may be more vulnerable to trauma.
- TIP helps reduce retraumatization, encourages resilience, and fosters reflective and flexible teaching strategies (e.g., content warnings, varied assessments, open communication).
- Practical Implementation:Educators trained in TIP can recognize signs of trauma, respond supportively, and create inclusive and psychologically safe learning environments.
- Real-world examples will show how TIP has improved student outcomes in forensic programs.

Building Career Resilience:

- TIP prepares students for trauma-exposed careers by helping them identify distress, build coping strategies, and seek help.
- Emotional intelligence and self-awareness are emphasized as core professional competencies.

Long-Term Impact:

- TIP can boost student engagement, retention, and mental health.
- It promotes a cultural shift in forensic education—balancing technical excellence with emotional sustainability.
- Graduates are more likely to foster healthier workplaces and serve their communities with greater ethical awareness and resilience.

By embedding TIP in forensic science education, this workshop aims to produce emotionally resilient, ethically grounded, and professionally competent forensic practitioners—better equipped to face the psychological demands of their work and to support others in the process.

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W19 Cognitive Bias and Error in the Forensic Sciences

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:00 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours:** 7.25

Learning Objectives: This workshop aims to equip forensic professionals with knowledge of cognitive biases impacting forensic science. Participants will learn to identify the effects of cognitive bias and how it relates to errors in decision-making across multiple forensic disciplines. The program fosters interdisciplinary collaboration to enhance accuracy in medicolegal investigations and death certification.

Impact Statement: By addressing cognitive bias, this workshop will improve the reliability of forensic analyses and strengthen justice system outcomes. It empowers professionals to implement bias-mitigation strategies, fostering greater trust in forensic evidence.

Program Description: This workshop provides a comprehensive, interdisciplinary exploration of cognitive biases in forensic science and medicolegal investigations. It brings together experts across disciplines—forensic pathologists, toxicologists, DNA and fingerprint analysts, legal professionals, and cognitive scientists—to examine how biases such as confirmation bias, anchoring, and contextual bias affect forensic decision-making and courtroom outcomes.

Key Highlights:

Understanding Bias in Forensics
- Explores how cognitive biases can distort interpretation, analysis, and testimony.
- Emphasizes real-world consequences of bias on justice and forensic reliability.

Interdisciplinary Perspectives
- Forensic pathologists and death investigators: Strategies for maintaining objectivity in autopsies and scene analysis.
- Toxicologists and DNA analysts: Methods to reduce subjective interpretation and promote standardization.
- Fingerprint analysts: Challenges in pattern recognition and minimizing human error.
- Prosecutors and defense attorneys: Legal perspectives on how biased forensic evidence affects case outcomes.
- Cognitive scientists: Present latest research and evidence-based debiasing tools.

Interactive and Practical
- Includes hands-on exercises to practice bias-mitigation techniques.
- Uses case-based discussions to highlight bias in real investigations and trials.
- Aims to equip attendees with practical tools to improve objectivity in their own work.

Collaborative Goals
- Fosters interdisciplinary dialogue to strengthen forensic reliability and judicial fairness.
- Ideal for forensic professionals, legal experts, and researchers seeking to enhance accuracy, transparency, and integrity in forensic processes.

Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how bias infiltrates forensic science, as well as concrete strategies to recognize, reduce, and guard against it—ultimately contributing to more objective and just forensic outcomes.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Toxicology

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

WORKSHOPS

W19 Cognitive Bias and Error in the Forensic Sciences

Chair:
Paul S. Uribe, MD
Fort Bend County
Medical Examiner Office
Richmond, TX

Co-Chair:
Tiffany A. Roy, JD, MSFS
ForensicAid, LLC
Singer Island, FL

Presenters:
Marion Davidson, MSc
University College London
Baltimore, MD

George F. Jackson, PhD
Office of the Chief State
Medical Examiner
Trenton, NJ

Allison Lewis, JD
The Legal Aid Society
New York, NY

William Oliver, MD
East Carolina University
Seymour, TN

Michelle Rippy, EdD
California State University East Bay
Hayward, CA

Jennifer G. Solari, JD
Baker & Hostetler, LLP
Savannah, GA

Program:

8:00 am - 8:15 am	**Introduction** Paul Uribe, MD
8:15 am - 9:00 am	**Cognitive Bias and Error: The Cognitive Scientist Perspective and the OCME Audit** Marion Davidson, MSc
9:00 am - 9:45 am	**Cognitive Bias and Error in DNA Analysis** Tiffany Roy, JD, MFSF
9:45 am - 10:00 am	**BREAK**
10:00 am - 10:45 am	**Cognitive Bias and Error: A Prosecuting Attorney's Perspective** Jenna Solari, JD
10:45 am - 11:30 am	**Cognitive Bias and Error: A Defense Attorney's Perspective** Allison Lewis, JD
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	**Panel Questions**
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	**Cognitive Bias and Error in Toxicologic Analysis** George Jackson, PhD
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	**Cognitive Bias and Error: A Medicolegal Death Investigation Perspective** Michelle Rippy, EdD
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	**BREAK**
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	**Cognitive Bias and Error: A Forensic Pathologist Perspective** William Oliver, MD
3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	**Closing Statement** Paul Uribe, MD
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	**Complete Panel Q&A**

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W20 The Case of the Contextual Conundrum: Can We Have Forensic Science Without Context?

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:00 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will: (1) understand the foundational role played by context across all forensic science activities; (2) learn that context can be present in different forms and typologies; and (3) understand how context is critical to every step of the forensic science process: investigations, scene investigation, including trace detection and signification, event reconstruction, laboratory analysis, as well as evaluation and reporting.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by emphasizing foundational principles of forensic science, exploring the effect of context in different ways, and illustrating that meaningful interpretation can only be carried out in consideration of context.

Program Description: This workshop emphasizes the foundational role of context in forensic science, arguing that it goes beyond relevance to shape every aspect of forensic practice. It begins by defining context and exploring its various forms—such as case-specific details and the perspectives of forensic professionals and stakeholders. A central theme is that interpretation of forensic evidence depends heavily on available information and individual perspectives.

Key topics include:
The difference between task-relevant and task-irrelevant information
How context affects decision-making throughout investigations
The importance of asking the right questions
How context influences the reporting and communication of forensic findings to different audiences (e.g., investigators, courts)

The workshop also examines how context shapes reporting schemes in comparative examinations and stresses the need to tailor forensic reports to the needs of each recipient. Finally, it highlights the broader value of forensic data in supporting crime pattern analysis, evidence-based policing, and public safety, underscoring that these benefits rely on properly incorporating context throughout the forensic process.

Target Audience: All Sections

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Patrick Buzzini, PhD
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX

Co-Chair:
Michelle D. Miranda, PhD
Center for Criminal Justice Studies
Farmingdale, NY

Presenters:
Claude Roux, PhD
University of Technology Sydney
Ultimo, New South Wales
Australia

Sheila Willis, DSc
Leverhulme Research Centre for Forensic Science
Chapelizod, Dublin
Ireland

WORKSHOPS

W20 The Case of the Contextual Conundrum: Can We Have Forensic Science Without Context?

Program:

8:00 am - 8:15 am	**Attendee Arrival, Introductions, Overview** All Presenters
8:15 am - 8:45 am	**Defining and Describing Context(s) in Forensic Science** Claude Roux, PhD
8:45 am - 9:15 am	**The Sydney Declaration and Its Principles** Claude Roux, PhD
9:15 am - 9:30 am	**BREAK**
9:30 am - 10:00 am	**Criminal Investigations, Crime Scene Investigation, and Reconstruction** Michelle Miranda, PhD
10:00 am - 10:45 am	**Testing, Analysis, and Scientific Methodology** Patrick Buzzini, PhD; Sheila Willis, DSc
10:45 am - 11:30 am	**Evaluation, Explanation, and Interpretation (Source Attributions; Findings vs. Values)** Sheila Willis, DSc: Patrick Buzzini, PhD; Claude Roux, PhD
11:30 am- 12:00 pm	**Discussions, Wrap-up, Closing Remarks** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W21 Forensic Pathology: 101 for Lawyers (and Anyone Else)

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 6.25**

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will: (1) know the history, principles, statutes, and standards that inform the practice of forensic pathology in the US, (2) understand the making of a pathologist from undergraduate years through fellowship, (3) know the components of an autopsy and the contributions of radiological imaging, (4) understand the role of neuropathology, and (5) describe the pre-laboratory, laboratory, and interpretive aspects of forensic toxicology in death investigations and autopsies.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing attendees with an in-depth examination on why and how autopsies are performed, the information they provide, the education and training of the practitioners, and the importance of ancillary studies such as imaging and toxicology in producing complete autopsy reports.

Program Description: This workshop aims to demystify forensic pathology for attorneys and other professionals who work with forensic pathologists. It provides a comprehensive overview of the field to help participants understand, communicate with, and effectively question pathologists in both legal and investigative settings.

Key components include:
- Guided tours through the autopsy suite, histology lab, imaging suite, and toxicology lab
- Explanations of how autopsies are performed and how results are produced
- Visual presentations featuring autopsy photos, microscopy, neuropathology, and postmortem imaging (e.g., X-rays, CT scans)

Discussions on:
- Forensic pathology training
- Legal standards and statutes
- How tissue samples become microscope slides
- The role of imaging in supplementing autopsies
- The impact of neuropathology on understanding injury/disease
- Factors influencing toxicology testing and interpretation

Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of the forensic pathology process and how to engage with pathologists more effectively in investigative and courtroom contexts.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Jurisprudence, Odontology, Pathology/Biology, Toxicology

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Andrew M. Baker, MD
Hennepin County Medical Examiner
Minnetonka, MN

Co-Chair:
J. Keith Pinckard, MD, PhD
Travis County Medical Examiner
Austin, TX

Presenters:
James R. Gill, MD
Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Farmington, CT

Laura M. Labay, PhD
NMS Labs
Horsham, PA

Lindsay Taute, MD
Hennepin County Medical Examiner
Minnetonka, MN

WORKSHOPS

W21 Forensic Pathology: 101 for Lawyers (and Anyone Else)

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Introduction, Housekeeping, Purpose, Overview** Andrew Baker, MD
8:45 am - 10:00 am	**Death Investigation in America** J. Keith Pinckard, MD, PhD
10:00 am - 10:30 am	**The Making of a Pathologist** Lindsay Taute, MD
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**BREAK**
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	**How an Autopsy Is Performed** Andrew Baker, MD
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**Histology** Andrew Baker, MD
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	**Postmortem Imaging** Lindsey Taute, MD
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm	**Forensic Neuropathology for Non-Pathologists** James Gill, MD
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	**Toxicology: The Lab Side** Laura Labay, PhD
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**BREAK**
4:00 pm - 4:45 pm	**Toxicology: The Interpretive Side** James Gill, MD
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	**Closing Remarks and Panel for Q&A** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W22 Ethics in Forensics: Turning Data Into Dialog

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:30 pm** **CE Hours: 7.25**

Learning Objectives: After attending this presentation, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of common sources of ethical strain within forensic science. They will be able to understand patterns that link headline failures with quieter, everyday pressures within the laboratory and how cultural factors may inhibit candid discussion of these issues. Finally, attendees will be better equipped to discuss potential reforms to rectify and minimize these issues, both within their own laboratories and throughout the broader forensic science community.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by creating candid dialogs about the state of ethics in forensic science. It will reveal patterns behind headline failures and the quieter, everyday pressures that are rarely documented, thereby widening our understanding of how ethical strain emerges and persists across disciplines. It will lay a shared foundation for future research, training, and policy discussions that treat ethics as a central scientific question rather than a peripheral compliance task.

Program Description: This full-day interactive workshop explores the state of ethics in forensic science, emphasizing its critical role in maintaining objectivity, accountability, and public trust. While ethical lapses in the field are often driven by workload pressures, organizational expectations, and cognitive bias, they are rarely openly discussed, limiting the opportunity for systemic improvement.

Key elements include:
- Examination of real-world ethical failures and new survey data from forensic scientists
- Analysis of systemic contributors to ethical compromise, not individual blame
- Insights into external oversight and its role in promoting accountability
- Open discussions on how ethical missteps impact investigations, verdicts, and public confidence

The workshop concludes with a solutions-oriented panel and an action planning session, giving participants practical tools and strategies to strengthen ethical practices within their own labs and organizations.

Target Audience: All Sections

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Kevin P. Kulbacki, MSFS
KDX Forensics
Chicago, IL

Co-Chair:
Anjali Ranadive, JD
SciLawForensics, Ltd
Phoenix, AZ

Presenters:
Sarah Chu, PhD
Perlmutter Center for Legal Justice at Cardozo Law
New York, NY

Max Houck, PhD
FIU Global Forensic & Justice Center
Buffalo, NY

Lisa Montanez, MSFS
The Perlmutter Center for Legal Justice
Cardozo School of Law
Yeshiva University
New York, NY

Kyla Wells, JD
Federal Defenders of New York, Inc.
New York, NY

WORKSHOPS

W22 Ethics in Forensics: Turning Data Into Dialog

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome/Introductions** Kevin Kulbacki, MSFS
8:45 am - 9:30 am	**Ethics 101** Lisa Montanez, MSFS
9:30 am - 10:15 am	**Ethical Obligations of Forensic Scientists** Anjali Ranadive, JD
10:15 am - 10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am - 11:15 am	**High-Profile Ethical Lapses in Forensic Science** Kevin Kulbacki, MSFS
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	**Transparency of Forensic Laboratories** Max Houck, PhD
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**The State of Ethics in Forensic Science According to Forensic Scientists** Kevin Kulbacki, MSFS
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	**External Oversight of Forensic Laboratories in Practice** Sarah Chu, PhD
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	**BREAK**
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	**The Impact of Ethical Lapses on the Justice System** Kyla Wells, JD
4:15 pm - 5:30 pm	**Panel Discussion on Practical Change** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W23 Forensic Investigation of Sudden Deaths in the Young: Who, When, and How

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will be: (1) looking at sudden cardiac death of the young as both a forensic and public health issue, (2) learning the whole process of forensic investigation, going from the family history of the victim to the interpretation of molecular autopsy; and (3) learning how to combine ambiguous toxicology, autopsy, histology, and molecular autopsy data in sudden deaths

Impact Statement: This workshop wants to transmit a basic but complete knowledge of what the forensic routine is when a young (younger than 35 years) person suddenly dies, especially when the autopsy results are ambiguous/inconclusive. Real cases will help the audience to simulate decision-making in critical contexts and understand the cost/benefit ratio in highly challenging cases. The workshop hopefully will help to transmit a combined forensic/public health perspective on sudden death, helping forensic experts to transform a tragic event into a chance for the survivors to prevent sudden death.

Program Description: This half-day workshop focuses on sudden death in the young, particularly cases caused by inherited cardiac disorders where sudden cardiac death (SCD) is often the first and only symptom. The workshop emphasizes the forensic pathologist's critical role in diagnosing these cases postmortem to enable potentially life-saving interventions for surviving family members.

The program includes five segments combining interactive lectures and real case discussions:

1. Introduction to Sudden Death
- Definitions and prevalence of sudden death and SCD
- Legal and social implications

2. Autopsy Investigation of Sudden Cardiac Death
- Importance of autopsy in identifying cardiac causes
- Role of clinical/circumstantial data and additional tests (imaging, toxicology, biochemistry)

3. Microscopic Examination Best PracticesHow to sample and analyze heart tissue
- Differentiating normal from pathological findings (e.g., fibrosis, disarray)
- Importance of subtle histological changes in early inherited conditions

4. Role of Postmortem Molecular TestingWhen genetic testing is appropriate
- Challenges of interpretation (e.g., variants of unknown significance)
- Integration of genetic findings with autopsy results

5. Q&A Session
The workshop aims to equip participants with the tools to identify and interpret the often subtle findings of inherited cardiac disorders in young individuals, combining autopsy, histology, and genetic testing to guide accurate diagnosis and family risk assessment.

Target Audience: Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W23 Forensic Investigation of Sudden Deaths in the Young: Who, When, and How

Chair:
Simone Grassi, MD, PhD
University of Florence
Florence, Toscana
Italy

Co-Chair:
Cristina Mondello, PhD
University of Messina
Messina, Sicilia
Italy

Presenters:
Andrea Costantino, MD
Careggi University Hospital
Florence, Toscana
Italy

Antonio Oliva, MD, PhD
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Rome, Lazio
Italy

Program:

8:30 am - 9:00 am	**Introduction to Sudden Death: The Medicolegal Perspective** Antonio Oliva, PhD
9:00 am - 9:50 am	**The Autopsy Investigation in Sudden Cardiac Death** Cristina Mondello, PhD
9:50 am - 10:40 am	**Best Practice for Heart Microscopic Examination and Interpretation of Microscopic Data** Andrea Costantino, MD
10:40 am - 11:30 am	**The Indication of Molecular Testing and the Integration of Its Results With Other Forensic Evidence** Simone Grassi, PhD
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	**Questions and Answers** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W24 Bringing Them Home: The Application of Fundamental and Frontier Science to Identify United States Service Members From Past Conflicts

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 7.0**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of how the DPAA and the AFDIL integrate and leverage forensic archaeology anthropology, odontology, and stable isotopic analyses, and advanced DNA technologies to successfully identify military personnel from complex historical cases. Participants will learn specific methodologies for transitioning cutting-edge techniques from research fields into operational forensic applications, including the implementation of Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNP) analysis and Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) for challenging identifications. Through detailed case studies, attendees will understand the decision-making processes for selecting appropriate skeletal, dental, and DNA analytical methods when standard techniques fail and how inter-agency collaboration maximizes identification success rates. Participants will leave with practical knowledge of how to approach decades-old identification cases using evolving DNA technologies and comprehensive investigative frameworks.

Impact Statement: This workshop will enhance forensic laboratory performance by demonstrating proven methodologies for transitioning frontier scientific techniques from research applications into operational forensic settings, enabling practitioners to overcome technological limitations in challenging cases. Participants will develop a greater understanding of integrated approaches that combine traditional forensic methods with advanced DNA technologies, including SNP analysis and FIGG, providing essential skills for complex identification scenarios. The presentation will improve stakeholder outcomes by showcasing successful inter-agency collaboration models that maximize identifications, ultimately delivering closure to families and demonstrating the forensic community's commitment to leaving no case unsolved through continuous scientific advancement.

Program Description: This workshop showcases the transformative partnership between the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) in identifying missing U.S. military personnel from past conflicts (e.g., WWII, Korean War). It highlights how the integration of traditional forensic anthropology with cutting-edge DNA technologies has revolutionized identification efforts.

Key Topics Covered:
- Multidisciplinary Approach by DPAA:Combines skeletal analysis, radiograph comparison, dental exams, isotope analysis, and genealogical research
- Utilizes historical and case-specific recovery context for case triage and sample selection
- Advanced DNA Analysis by AFDIL:Adapts tools from ancient DNA research for degraded remains
- Uses advanced techniques like next-generation sequencing (NGS) and SNP-based kinship analysis
- Employs FIGG (Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy), requiring novel enrichment and bioinformatics for poor-quality DNA
- Impact of Innovations:Expands identification possibilities when traditional methods fail
- Enables the resolution of long-unsolved cases
- Provides closure to families through scientific and genealogical breakthroughs

Case Studies:
- Real-life examples demonstrate how combined forensic and genetic approaches have successfully identified service members previously considered unidentifiable

The DPAA-AFDIL partnership exemplifies how sustained collaboration, scientific innovation, and a holistic forensic strategy are reshaping the landscape of historical military identifications, turning once "unsolvable" cases into successful resolutions.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

WORKSHOPS

W24 Bringing Them Home: The Application of Fundamental and Frontier Science to Identify United States Service Members From Past Conflicts

Chair:
Julie A. Demarest, MSFS
Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory/SNA International
Dover, DE

Co-Chair:
Debra P. Zinni, PhD
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Kailua, HI

Presenters:
Carrie A. Brown, PhD
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Plattsmouth, NE

Luisa Forger, MS
Armed Forces Medical Examiner System
Wyoming, DE

Amy Hazelwood, MS
AFMES/AFDIL/PAS
SNA International
Dover Air Force Base, DE

Megan E. Ingvoldstad, PhD
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Omaha, NE

Jennie Jin, PhD
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Honolulu, HI

Kerriann Meyers, MS
Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory/SNA International
Dover, DE

Kimberly Sturk Andreaggi, PhD
Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory/SNA International
Dover, DE

Rebecca J. Taylor, PhD
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Kapolei, HI

Program:

8:30 am - 8:35 am	**Workshop Introduction** Julie Demarest, MSFS; Debra Zinni, PhD
8:35 am - 8:55 am	**Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA): An Introduction to the Personnel Accounting Mission** Debra Zinni, PhD
8:55 am - 9:15 am	**Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL): The Role of DNA in the Personnel Accounting Mission** Julie Demarest, MSFS
9:15 am - 9:45 am	**The Foundation of Success: Optimized DNA Extraction and STR Methods for Challenging Samples** Amy Hazelwood, MS
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**Korea Sequence 2** Jennie Jin, PhD
10:15 am - 10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**A Decade of Casework Experience With Next Generation Sequencing and Whole Mitochondrial Genome Analysis** Luisa Forger, MS
11:00 am - 11:30 am	**Reconstructing Identity: A Korean War Case Study Using Mitogenome Sequencing and Integrated Forensic Methods** Jennie Jin, PhD
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	**When Lineage Markers Fail: The Development and Validation of SNPs for Extended Kinship Analysis** Kimberly Andreaggi, PhD
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**

WORKSHOPS

W24 Bringing Them Home: The Application of Fundamental and Frontier Science to Identify United States Service Members From Past Conflicts

Program cont.:

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**SNP Analysis: A New Era in DNA Testing at AFDIL** Kerriann Meyers, MS
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	**Across Time and Space: How SNPs Were Integral to the Identification of a Battle of Tarawa Loss** Rebecca Taylor, PhD
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	**Advancing Science and the Decade-Long Journey to Identify the Crew of MACR 9396** Carrie Brown, PhD
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	**BREAK**
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm	**The Implementation of SNP Testing in a Forensic Laboratory: Challenges Beyond Casework** Julie Demarest, MSFS
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	**The Next Frontier: SNP Profile Generation Strategies for Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) From Compromised Skeletal Remains** Kimberly Andreaggi, PhD
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	**The Use of FIGG in the Ploesti Identification Project** Megan Ingvoldstad, PhD
4:15 pm - 4:55 pm	**Panel Discussion** All Presenters
4:55 pm - 5:00 pm	**Workshop Closing** Julie Demarest, MSFS; Debra Zinni, PhD

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W25 Testifying Without a Net: Navigating Activity-Level Evaluation Questions Without Formal Evaluation

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:30 pm** **CE Hours: 7.0**

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will have an alternate strategy to answer questions about transfer and persistence at trial. They will know how to correctly formulate activity level propositions, apply the Case Assessment and Interpretation framework, support their opinions with data, and answer questions without transposing the conditional. Participants will be given options that can assist in developing a protocol and training program for use in their own casework.

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing guidance on how to answer activity-level questions on biological results during testimony when no formal Activity-Level Evaluation (ALE) had been conducted. The strategies discussed will provide the participants with a way to deliver answers that are useful to the court and based on data, emphasizing balance, logic, and transparency.

Program Description: AThis workshop addresses the challenges faced in the U.S. regarding Activity Level Evaluation (ALE) of DNA evidence, especially during live courtroom testimony when experts are unexpectedly asked questions about DNA transfer without prior preparation or formal model-driven analysis.

Key Issues:
- ALE questions often arise in real time at trial, catching experts off guard.
- Common responses like “Yes, it’s possible…” are uninformative and unhelpful.
- While formal, model-based ALE reporting exists, it’s rarely feasible in unanticipated courtroom scenarios.
- Currently, no guidelines exist for experts to navigate these unscripted ALE questions when no formal ALE was performed.

Workshop Focus:
- Presents a new best-practice framework developed by a North American working group of forensic DNA practitioners.
- Offers judgment-based strategies for responding to ALE questions in court when no formal analysis was conducted.
- Emphasizes a real-world, testimony-ready approach grounded in: rigor, transparency, balance, logical reasoning, and traceability of thought process.

This workshop fills the critical gap between full ALE reporting and courtroom reality, equipping DNA experts with practical, ethical, and defensible strategies for addressing unexpected ALE questions during testimony.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, General, Jurisprudence

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

Chair:
Simone Gittelson, PhD
The George Washington University and
DC Department of Forensic Sciences
Washington, DC

Co-Chair:
Tim Kalafut, PhD
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX

Presenters:
Michael Bissonnette, MS
Centre of Forensic Sciences
Ontario, Canada

Michael A. Marciano, PhD
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY

Ray A. Wickenheiser, DPS
SupreMEtric
Youngsville, LA

WORKSHOPS

W25 Testifying Without a Net: Navigating Activity-Level Evaluation Questions Without Formal Evaluation

Program:

8:30 am - 9:00 am	**Opening Remarks** Tim Kalafut, PhD
9:00 am - 9:30 am	**The Questions Being Asked in Court: An Informal Lab Survey of Transcripts** Michael Marciano, PhD
9:30 am - 10:30 am	**Probabilities . . . What Are They?** Tim Kalafut, PhD; Simone Gittelson, PhD
10:30 am - 10:45 am	**BREAK**
10:45 am - 11:45 am	**Activity Level Evaluation (ALE): A Bit of Theory** Simone Gittelson, PhD
11:45 am - 12:15 pm	**The Existing Guidelines on ALE** Tim Kalafut, PhD
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	**BREAK**
1:15 pm - 2:45 pm	**New Guidelines for ALE Testimony** Ray Wickenheiser, DPS; Simone Gittelson, PhD
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	**BREAK**
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	**Mock ALE Testimony Strategy and Examples** Tim Kalafut, PhD; Michael Bissonnette, MS
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	**Training in ALE** Michael Bissonnette, MS
5:00 pm - 5:30 pm	**Discussion/Questions and Answers/Closing Remarks** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W26 Advancing the Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in Forensic Science: Use Cases, Innovation Pathways, and a Procurement Framework

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.0**

Learning Objectives: The goals of this workshop are to: (1) identify and describe high-impact AI use cases relevant to forensic science, including applications in case management, evidence analysis, research, training, and quality assurance; (2) access and contribute to a shared use case library and taxonomy, designed to accelerate innovation by aligning developer efforts with real-world forensic needs; (3) explain the core principles of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) AI Risk Management Framework (RMF) and the Responsible AI Framework for Forensic Science, and how these tools support effective and transparent AI adoption; and (4) explore a forensic-specific procurement framework to evaluate the readiness, fit-for-purpose design, and scalability of AI tools under consideration for operational use.

Impact Statement: This workshop will equip forensic scientists, quality managers, researchers, and legal practitioners with the tools and frameworks needed to make informed decisions about adopting AI technologies in forensic science. By introducing structured use cases, shared terminology, and risk management and procurement frameworks, the session aims to bridge the gap between technical innovation and operational readiness. The outcomes will support the development of innovative, transparent, and fit-for-purpose AI-enabled applications in forensic science.

Program Description: This half-day workshop explores the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in forensic science, focusing on how AI can improve efficiency, accuracy, and insight across various forensic disciplines.

Key Objectives:
- Showcase real-world AI applications in forensic workflows, such as:Case management
- Evidence analysis
- Quality assurance
- Training and research
- Identify and reduce barriers to AI adoption in forensic settings
- Provide hands-on experience with an evolving library of forensic AI use cases
- Support evaluation and integration of AI tools in participants' organizations

Collaboration and Governance:
- Encourage collaboration between AI developers and forensic professionals to align language, goals, and expectations
- Introduce governance frameworks to support responsible AI adoption, including:NIST AI Risk Management Framework (AI RMF 1.0)
- Responsible AI Framework for Forensic Science

NIST's Role:
- Leading national efforts to:Map AI tools to forensic workflows
- Develop a shared forensic-AI taxonomy
- Design AI procurement frameworks tailored to forensic needs

Participants will leave with a better understanding of how to responsibly adopt and govern AI technologies in forensic science, fostering innovation while ensuring transparency, reliability, and legal compliance.

Target Audience: General

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W26 Advancing the Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in Forensic Science: Use Cases, Innovation Pathways, and a Procurement Framework

Chair:
Henry Swofford, PhD
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

Co-Chair:
Melissa Taylor, BA
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD

Presenters:
Niki Osborne, PhD
Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science
Auckland, New Zealand

Janet K. Stacey, MSc
Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science
Auckland, New Zealand

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome and Introductions** Melissa Taylor, BA
8:45 am - 9:00 am	**An Overview of NIST-Led Efforts for AI in Forensic Science** Henry Swofford, PhD
9:00 am - 9:20 am	**Use Case Templates and a Use Case Library** Niki Osborne, PhD
9:20 am - 9:45 am	**The NIST AI Risk Management Framework** Niki Osborne, PhD
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**PHF Science's Responsible AI Framework (RAIF) for Forensic Science** Janet Stacey, MSc
10:15 am - 10:30 am	BREAK
10:30 am - 10:50 am	**The Application of the RAIF to an AI-Powered Tool for the Rapid Identification of Illicit Substances (Lumi Drug Scan)** Janet Stacey, MSc
10:50 am – 11:00 am	**An Introduction to a Framework for Procuring AI in Forensic Science** Niki Osborne, PhD
11:00 am - 11:45 am	**Interactive Exercise: Create Your Own Use Case and Apply the NIST AI RMF and RAIF**
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	**Wrap-Up and Next Steps** Melissa Taylor, BA

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W27 Homicide-Suicide: Back to the Basics

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 6.5**

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will: (1) understand basic procedures in medical examinations for determining that deaths were homicide-suicide and the type of Homicide-Suicide (HS); (2) gain an appreciation of the two-part classification of HS that addresses the psychopathology of the perpetrator and their relationship with the victim(s); (3) recognize the three domains of HS: psychopathology, stressors, and vector (cognitive components of motivation); and (4) recognize from example how physical findings of the deceased can relate to the perpetrator's mindset during the act.

Impact Statement: This workshop should impart a deeper understanding of the interrelationship between autopsy findings and psychological issues behind HS acts. Practitioners can recognize that the classification of all HS pertains to individual, unique cases, and careful examination of individual cases adds to the usefulness of the broader classification. Collaboration between pathologists and behavioral scientists may enhance understanding of these tragic events and provide preventive insights.

Program Description: This workshop, aligned with the theme "Back to Basics: The Fundamentals of Forensic Science," examines the intersection of psychological pathology and physical trauma in domestic violence-related homicide-suicide (HS) cases, both in Texas and internationally.

Core Themes:
Role of the Forensic Pathologist:Maintain objectivity and scientific rigor amid emotionally charged scenes
Focus on evidence, not narratives
Nature of Domestic HS:Often rooted in intimate partner or familial relationships
Reflect a convergence of internal psychological breakdown and external lethal action

Case Reviews Include:
- Familicide with a surviving child
- Spousal homicide witnessed by a child
- Mother-son deaths in a hotel
- Multiple-family-member killings with others spared
- Delayed suicide following multi-victim homicide
- Familicides amid divorce or without known triggers

These cases are analyzed for:
- Injury patterns, range of fire, and number of wounds
- Victim selection and spared individuals
- Clues to perpetrator psychology and motives
- Psychological & Forensic Integration
- Psychopathology/ego structure
- Stressors (chronic or acute)
- Motivational vector
- Psychological categories: depression, psychosis, substance abuse, sociopathy, impulsivity
- Contexts: intimate, parental, adversarial relationships

This workshop deepens understanding of domestic and mass homicide-suicide by combining forensic science with psychological profiling—enhancing investigative accuracy and reinforcing the importance of scientific clarity and human empathy in the face of devastating events.

Target Audience: Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W27 Homicide-Suicide: Back to the Basics

Chair:
Felice F. Carabellese, MBBS
University of Bari
Bari, Puglia
Italy

Co-Chair:
Alan R. Felthous, MD
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Presenters:
Emma Henrie, MD
Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences
Houston, TX

Chanchal K. Kahlon, MD
SSM Saint Louis University Hospital
St. Louis, MO

Paulyann Maclayton, MD
Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences
Manvel, TX

Daniel A. Martell, PhD
Forensic Neuroscience Consultants
APPC
Irvine, CA

Lia Parente, PsyD
University of Rome Sapienza
Trani, Puglia
Italy

Emily Rodgers, DO
SSM Saint Louis University Hospital
St. Louis, MO

Delavar Safari, MD
SSM Saint Louis University Hospital
St. Louis, MO

Julian Samuel, MBBS
Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences
Houston, TX

Tabitha Ward, MD
Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office
San Antonio, TX

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Welcome and Introductions** Alan R. Felthous, MD
8:45 am - 9:45 am	**Homicides-Suicides in Harris County, TX, Over the Past Five Years** Paulyann Maclayton, MD
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**Domestic Homicides-Suicides in Italy** Felice Carabellese, MBBS; Lia Parente, PsyD
10:15 am - 11:00 am	**BREAK**
11:00 am - 11:30 am	**An Overview of Extra-Familial Homicides-Suicides** Alan Felthous, MD
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	**The Psychology of Mass Homicide-Suicide Events** Dan Martell, PhD
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Examples of Fatal Domestic Violence From Postmortem Examinations** Emma Henrie, MD
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	**An Analysis of Specific Cases Involving Parents, Children, and Extended Relatives** Tabitha Ward, MD
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	**A Hypotheses on Spared Victims and Behavioral Warning Signs** Julian Samuel, MBBS
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	**School Shootings Ending in the Death of the Perpetrator** Delavar Safari, MD
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	**Cult-Related Homicides-Suicides** Emily Rodgers, DO

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W28 Forensic Postmortem Imaging and Medicolegal Death Investigations

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 7.0**

Learning Objectives: The goals of this workshop are to: (1) describe the foundational principles of PMCT and its growing role in medicolegal death investigations, with attention to its global adoption and implementation; (2) recognize key PMCT findings across a range of cases—including natural disease, trauma, drug-related deaths, and unidentified remains—with attention to interpretive pearls and common pitfalls; (3) identify practical considerations for implementing a PMCT service, including equipment selection, workflow design, and interdisciplinary collaboration between radiologists and death investigators; (4) engage in hands-on presentations, gaining experience with Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS), review real PMCT cases using a web-based PACS platform, guided by expert tips, interpretation strategies, and feedback; and (5) evaluate emerging technologies and legal applications of PMCT, such as 3D reconstructions and postmortem angiography, and understand their value in documentation, expert consultation, and courtroom presentation.

Impact Statement: This workshop advances the integration of PMCT into medicolegal death investigation by offering practical guidance, case-based learning, and global expertise. Participants will gain essential skills for implementing and interpreting PMCT, explore its application in diverse death scenarios, and understand its value in legal proceedings. By fostering international collaboration and highlighting emerging technologies, this program supports the standardization and broader adoption of PMCT in forensic practice.

Program Description: This workshop offers a comprehensive exploration of Postmortem Computed Tomography (PMCT) and advanced forensic imaging, led by an international group of experts. It is designed for all experience levels—from newcomers to seasoned practitioners—and covers both foundational knowledge and cutting-edge developments.

Key Topics:
- Establishing a PMCT service
- Case reviews with interpretation tips from global perspectives
- PMCT in drug-related deaths and identification of unknown remains
- Natural and unnatural death investigations using imaging
- Postmortem changes and artifacts
- Radiologic imaging modalities in medicolegal death investigations: benefits and limitations
- Basics of PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) and interpretation
- Legal applications of postmortem imaging findings
- Collaboration between radiologists and death investigators

Format:
- Directed lectures, interactive case presentations, and a panel discussion
- Focus on enhancing interpretation skills and understanding the legal relevance of imaging
- Discussion of emerging technologies shaping the future of forensic imaging

Optional Hands-On Component:
- Available for participants who bring a Windows laptop (no firewall)
- Macs not supported due to compatibility issues with the web-based PACS
- A mouse is recommended for more precise image navigation

This workshop equips participants with the knowledge and tools to implement or expand PMCT use in their practice, while addressing both practical and technical considerations. It emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, interpretation accuracy, and the evolving role of imaging in forensic investigations.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Odontology, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W28 Forensic Postmortem Imaging and Medicolegal Death Investigations

Chair:
Summer J. Decker, PhD
University of Southern California
Keck School of Medicine
Los Angeles, CA

Co-Chair:
Edward Mazuchowski, MD, PhD
Armed Forces Medical Examiner System
Dover AFB, DE

Presenters:
Fabrice Dedouit, MD, PhD
Toulouse Hospital
Toulouse, Midi-Pyrenees
France

Lars Ebert, PhD
Zurich Forensic Science Institute
Zurich, Switzerland

Jamie M. Elifritz, MD
Forensic Radiology Group
Destin, FL

Barbara Fliss, MD
University Medical Center of the
Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz
Institute of Forensic Medicine
Mainz, Rheinland-Pfalz
Germany

Jonathan M. Ford, PhD
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

Heather S. Jarrell, MD
Office of the Medical Investigator
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Albuquerque, NM

Yanko G. Kolev, MD, PhD
Department of General Medicine,
Forensic Medicine,
and Deontology
Medical University
Pleven, Bulgaria

Michael Thali, MD
University of Zurich
Zurich, Switzerland

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Introductions and Overview** Summer J Decker, PhD; Edward L. Mazuchowski, MD, PhD
8:45 am - 9:15 am	**The Skeleton Key: pmCT From Login to Diagnosis** Jamie Elifritz, MD
9:15 am - 9:45 am	**Pixels to Pathology: Interpreting pmCT in Forensic Practice** Edward L. Mazuchowski, MD, PhD
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**Forensic Identification With pmCT** Fabrice Dedouit, MD, PhD
10:15 am - 10:25 am	**BREAK**
10:25 am - 10:55 am	**Establishing a New pmCT Center: Hurdles, Challenges, and Wins** Barbara Fliss, MD
10:55 am - 11:25 am	**The Last High: pmCT in Overdose Death Investigation** Heather Jarrell, MD
11:25 am - 12:00 pm	**Postmortem Imaging: International Perspective** Michael Thali, MD, MBA
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**3D Visualization: From 3D Imaging to 3D Printing** Summer Decker, PhD
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	**Emerging Technologies in Forensic Imaging** Lars Ebert, PhD; Jonathan Ford, PhD
2:00 pm - 2:10 pm	**BREAK**

WORKSHOPS

W28 Forensic Postmortem Imaging and Medicolegal Death Investigations

Program cont.:

2:10 pm - 2:40 pm	**Elevating Collaboration Between Forensic Medicine and Science Through Advanced Imaging** Lars Ebert, PhD
2:40 pm - 3:10 pm	**Forensic Imaging and CSI: Bulgaria** Yanko Kolev, MD, PhD
3:10 pm - 3:15 pm	**Stretch and Computer Set Up**
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm	**Dead Right: Crack the Case, Claim the Prize — An Audience Case Challenge** All Presenters
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	**Workshop Wrap Up and Panel Discussion** All Presenters

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W29 Yeah . . . We Have a Standard for That!

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **8:30 am – 4:00 pm** **CE Hours: 6.0**

Learning Objectives: This interactive workshop will explore the history, implementation, and legal perspectives of forensic science standards. Attendees will learn how standards are developed and published, how they are adopted by crime laboratories, and how they are interpreted and assessed by the legal profession. The workshop will incorporate multiple learning modalities to actively engage participants and align the content with real-world forensic practice.

Impact Statement: This workshop will help attendees: (1) understand the process through which forensic science standards are developed and published; (2) identify challenges related to the implementation of these standards in crime laboratories; and (3) gain insight into how the legal profession evaluates the role of standards in courtroom proceedings. To provide practical context, the workshop will be conducted in the format of a fictional crime scene, where presenters will demonstrate the realistic application of forensic standards in both field and laboratory settings.

Program Description: This workshop highlights the role and impact of the Academy Standards Board (ASB) in promoting standardization in forensic science to enhance scientific credibility and reduce wrongful convictions.

Key Points:
- The ASB was established in 2015 by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences to create consensus-based national standards aimed at promoting justice, integrity, and fairness.
- It operates under a framework accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).
- ASB develops and freely provides forensic science standards, guidelines, best practices, and technical reports across multiple disciplines.
- The organization emphasizes values such as scientific rigor, openness, due process, collaboration, diversity, and inclusion.

Workshop Focus:
- Demonstrates how published standards are being realistically implemented by forensic laboratories at various government levels (federal, state, local).
- Includes live demonstrations and discussions to show how standards are applied in operational forensic settings.
- Aims to support practitioners, attorneys, and the courts by improving consistency and quality across forensic practices.

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how forensic standards are developed and applied in practice, and how standardization supports the accuracy, fairness, and integrity of the justice system.

Target Audience: All Sections

Knowledge Level: Basic

Chair:
Teresa L. Ambrosius, BA
AAFS Standards Board
Colorado Springs, CO

Co-Chair:
Kris Cano, MA
Signature Science, LLC,
Austin, TX

Presenters:
Virginia Barron, JD
Birkholz Law
Westbrook, MN

Jennifer Floyd, BS
Arkansas State Crime Laboratory
Little Rock, AR

Mark T. Goff, BA
Michigan State Police
Lansing, MI

Marc A. LeBeau, PhD
LeBeau Forensic Toxicology Consulting
O'Fallon, MO

Michelle Rippy, EdD
California State University East Bay
Hayward, CA

WORKSHOPS

W29 Yeah . . . We Have a Standard for That!

Program:

8:30 am - 8:45 am	**Introduction** Kris Cano, MA
8:45 am - 9:45 am	**A World of Standards** Teresa Ambrosius, BA
9:45 am - 10:15 am	**Our Crime!** Kris Cano, MA; Marc LeBeau, PhD
10:15 am - 10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am - 11:15 am	**The First on the Scene** Mark Goff, BA
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	**Let's Prep for the Afternoon With the Participants**
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**BREAK**
1:30 pm - 4:00 pm	**Let's Collect, Analyze, Collaborate, Solve, and Prosecute Together!** All Presenters and Attendees

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$300

W30 Stronger Together: The Fundamentals of Forensic Teamwork in Mass Disasters and Fatalities

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **9:00 am – 4:00 pm** **CE Hours: 5.5**

Learning Objectives: Attendees will: (1) identify the core roles and responsibilities of various forensic science disciplines and their interdependencies; (2) analyze case studies to understand how collaboration (or lack thereof) impacts case outcomes; (3) apply best practices for interdisciplinary communication and documentation; and (4) evaluate ethical challenges that arise in collaborative forensic work and propose solutions grounded in foundational principles.

Impact Statement: This workshop will have a significant and lasting impact on the forensic science community by reinforcing the foundational principle that forensic science does not operate in isolation. By bringing together professionals from across the forensic, investigative, and legal spectrum, this workshop will foster a deeper understanding of how collaboration enhances the accuracy, efficiency, and ethical integrity of forensic casework. Participants will gain practical tools to improve communication, streamline workflows, and resolve conflicts that often arise in multidisciplinary environments. This workshop will also promote a culture of mutual respect and shared responsibility, which is essential for maintaining public trust in forensic outcomes and the justice system as a whole. By returning to the basics of teamwork, ethical practice, and scientific rigor, this workshop will help reestablish a common language and purpose among forensic professionals. It will inspire a new generation of practitioners to prioritize collaboration as a core competency, ultimately leading to more robust investigations, fairer trials, and stronger communities.

Program Description: This workshop, "Back to Basics: The Fundamentals of Forensic Science in Collaboration," emphasizes the vital role of interdisciplinary cooperation among forensic scientists, law enforcement, and the justice system—especially in the context of mass disasters.

Key Objectives:
- Reaffirm foundational principles:Teamwork, communication, critical thinking, and scientific integrity
- Highlight how collaboration strengthens forensic investigations and promotes just outcomes

Workshop Focus: Mass Disasters

Used as a central framework to explore:
- The complexity of coordination across forensic disciplines
- The need for clear communication, shared responsibilities, and ethical decision-making

Interactive Components:
- Case studies:Real examples of both successful and problematic interagency collaboration
- Expert panels:Perspectives from forensic scientists, law enforcement, and legal professionals on challenges in mass disaster response
- Scenario-based exercises, including:Crime Scene Management: Triage, evidence collection, and body recovery
- Victim Identification: Multidisciplinary approaches requiring strong data-sharing
- Courtroom Testimony: Presenting complex findings clearly and ethically
- Emphasis on chain of custody, terminology alignment, and cross-disciplinary communication

Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how "back to basics" principles are essential in high-stakes forensic contexts—ensuring accuracy, integrity, and justice during the most complex and emotionally charged investigations.

Target Audience: All Sections

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W30 Stronger Together: The Fundamentals of Forensic Teamwork in Mass Disasters and Fatalities

Chair:
Gina Londino-Smolar, EdD
Indiana University Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN

Co-Chair:
Beth Saucier Goodspeed, MS
Lasell University
Bellingham, MA

Presenters:
Megan Bassendale, MSc
Forensic Guardians International
West Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

Claire L. Glynn, PhD
University of New Haven and
Henry C Lee Institute of Forensic Science
West Haven, CT

Brett Harding, MBA
Ada County Coroner's Office
Cape Coral, FL

Robert L. Hunkeler, III, MFS
Montgomery County Coroner's Office
Xenia, OH

Lara Newell, MA
Virginia Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Richmond, VA

Khlea Sumani, DMD
Scarlet Dental
Las Vegas, NV

Jason W. Wills, DSc
Jonesboro Fire Department
Jonesboro, AR

Program:

9:00 am - 9:15 am	**Welcome and Opening Remarks** Gina Londino-Smolar, EdD
9:15 am-10:15 am	**Introduction: An Overview of Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Forensic Science in Mass Disasters** Robert L. Hunkeler, III, MFS
10:15 am-10:30 am	**BREAK**
10:30 am-11:15 am	**Stake Holder Cooperation and the Importance of the Incident Command System in Mass Fatality Events** Brett Harding, MBA
11:15 am-12:00 pm	**Forensic Identification in Armed Conflict: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Complex Challenges** Megan Bassendale, MSc
12:00 pm- 1:00 pm	**BREAK**
1:00 pm -1:45 pm	**Mass Disaster Morgue Operations: Collaborative Approaches for When the Dead Outnumber the Living** Lara Newell, MA
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	**Restoring Identities: FIGG's Role in DNA-Based Identification of Distorted Remains** Claire L. Glynn, PhD
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	**BREAK**
2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	**Panel Discussion: Experts From Various Fields Share Insights of the Overall System and Collaboration** All Presenters

Proceeds from this workshop will benefit the Forensic Sciences Foundation

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W31 Linguistics as a Forensic Science: Methods, Software and Admissibility of Text, Speech, and Handwriting Evidence

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

This workshop has been canceled.

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W32 Culture, Control, and Consequence: Addressing Harmful Norms Impacting LGBTQ+ Rights, Women's Autonomy, and Gender-Based Violence

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.75**

Learning Objectives: By the end of this session, participants will be able to: (1) identify the humanitarian and human rights impacts of cultural practices such as virginity validation, honor-based violence, and the marginalization of LGBTQ+ persons; (2) analyze the intersection of cultural norms with gender, sexuality, and power across diverse global contexts; and (3) evaluate culturally informed yet rights-based strategies for advocacy, intervention, and prevention of gender-based violence and discrimination.

Impact Statement: This presentation equips the forensic science community with a critical understanding of how culturally justified violence impacts forensic practice. By examining activities like virginity testing, honor killings, and anti-LGBTQ+ persecution through legal, clinical, and behavioral lenses, it fosters culturally informed, rights-based approaches to investigation and advocacy. Attendees will gain tools to better recognize and respond to these human rights violations within diverse cultural and forensic contexts.

Program Description: This presentation examines harmful cultural practices that perpetuate gender-based violence and discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals, often under the pretext of tradition, morality, or honor.

Key Issues Addressed:
- Practices like virginity testing, honor killings, and bride burning reflect systems of gender inequality and heteronormativity
- LGBTQ+ individuals face marginalization, criminalization, and violence under similar cultural and moral justifications
- These acts violate human rights and create serious public health, legal, and social consequences

Workshop Focus:
- Explores the humanitarian implications of these practices
- Analyzes the tension between cultural relativism and universal human rights
- Advocates for culturally sensitive yet rights-affirming interventions
- Highlights survivor experiences, international human rights standards, and the importance of community-led solutions

Outcomes for Participants:
- Learn to recognize, respond to, and advocate against harmful traditions
- Gain tools to promote gender equity and protect the dignity and safety of all individuals, regardless of gender or sexual identity

To dismantle these practices, a global, interdisciplinary, and culturally aware approach is essential—one that prioritizes human rights, justice, and survivor-centered advocacy.

Target Audience: Criminalistics, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Jurisprudence, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science

Knowledge Level: Intermediate

WORKSHOPS

W32 Culture, Control, and Consequence: Addressing Harmful Norms Impacting LGBTQ+ Rights, Women's Autonomy, and Gender-Based Violence

Chair:
Jamie Ferrell, MBA
Memorial Hermann Health System
Katy, TX

Co-Chair:
Virginia A. Lynch, MSN
Forensic Nurse Consultants International
Divide, CO

Presenters:
Venera Mehmeti, LLM
Institute on Forensic Medicine
Ministry Of Justice
Prishtine, Tirane
Albania

Russell R. Rooms, DNP
Diversity Family Health
Newalla, OK

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	**Welcome/Introductions** Jamie Ferrell, MBA
1:15 pm - 2:15 pm	**Cultural Practice of Virginity Testing** Venera Mehmeti, RN
2:15 pm - 3:40 pm	**Surviving the LGBTQ Experience: The Right to Be Me** Russel Rooms, DNP
3:40 pm - 5:00 pm	**Gender-Based Violence Resulting in Homicide or Significant Bodily Injury** Jamie Ferrell, MBA

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W33 Unlocking Hidden Truths in Audio Evidence: A Hands-On Workshop on Forensic Audio Enhancement Techniques and Real-World Courtroom Case Studies

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** **CE Hours: 3.5**

Learning Objectives: By the end of this hands-on workshop, attendees will be able to: (1) identify key forensic audio challenges—such as wind noise, engine noise, electronic interference, hum and buzz, police sirens, chirping birds, and dog barks—in evidence from sources like surveillance videos, phone recordings, and body-worn cameras, and explain how enhancement techniques can uncover hidden details to support investigations across forensic disciplines; (2) navigate and apply specialized audio enhancement tools—such as spectral repair, de-noising, de-clipping, de-reverberation, and dialog isolation—within a professional software suite to improve audio intelligibility and quality in real-world samples; (3) evaluate and implement best practices for creating courtroom-ready audio exhibits, including ethical considerations, chain of custody, and admissibility standards, drawing from actual case studies presented by an experienced forensic audio expert; (4) analyze interdisciplinary applications of audio forensics, recognizing how these techniques intersect with video, digital, and other forensic fields to enhance overall evidence analysis and trial outcomes; and (5) demonstrate basic proficiency in audio enhancement through guided exercises, enabling even non-audio specialists to explore and integrate these methods into their own forensic workflows.

Impact Statement: This hands-on workshop will significantly impact the forensic science community by teaching them audio enhancement techniques, empowering experts across diverse disciplines—such as digital forensics, video analysis, pathology, and criminalistics—to understand what is possible with audio forensics and teach them about the options for integrating audio forensics into their workflows. By demonstrating practical tools and real-world case studies, it will enhance the community's ability to uncover critical details in audio evidence, leading to more accurate investigations, stronger courtroom presentations, and higher admissibility rates for enhanced exhibits. Furthermore, as a crossover session, it will foster interdisciplinary collaboration, encouraging non-audio specialists to explore this evolving field, advance the discussion of ethical standards, technological proficiency, and overall evidentiary integrity in forensic practice.

Program Description: This workshop provides forensic professionals with tools and techniques to enhance the clarity and evidentiary value of audio recordings, enabling the development of persuasive, court-admissible exhibits that support truth and justice. Join forensic audio expert David Notowitz in this interactive, hands-on workshop.
Key Focus Areas

Audience:
- Designed for professionals across all forensic disciplines—not just audio/video specialists.

Core Skills Taught:
- Identifying and removing common audio issues: wind, engine noise, electronic interference, hums, buzzes, animal sounds, etc.
- Using professional enhancement software with tools like: spectral repair, de-noising, de-clipping, dialog isolation, and de-reverberation
- Real-World Applications: enhancing audio from surveillance, phone calls, body cams, and more
- Learning ethical best practices for admissibility and chain of custody
- Analyzing actual case studies where enhanced audio influenced trial outcomes

Takeaways:
- Gain practical, transferable skills to apply audio forensics in your discipline
- Enhance investigations, support interdisciplinary collaboration, and improve courtroom impact
- Leave empowered to uncover critical details in audio evidence that could shift the course of a case

This workshop equips forensic professionals with the tools and techniques to unlock the power of audio evidence, turning unclear recordings into persuasive, court-admissible exhibits that support truth and justice.

Target Audience: Digital & Multimedia Sciences, General, Jurisprudence

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W33 Unlocking Hidden Truths in Audio Evidence: A Hands-On Workshop on Forensic Audio Enhancement Techniques and Real-World Courtroom Case Studies

Chair:
David Notowitz, BA
National Center for Audio and Video Forensics
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm	**Introduction and Workshop Overview** David Notowitz, BA
1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	**Identifying Audio Challenges and Basic Software Navigation** David Notowitz, BA
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	**Hands-On Techniques: Applying Enhancement Tools** David Notowitz, BA
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	**BREAK**
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	**Real-World Case Studies and Creating Courtroom Exhibits** David Notowitz, BA
4:15 pm - 4:45 pm	**Interdisciplinary Applications and Guided Exercises** David Notowitz, BA
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	**Q&A and Conclusion** David Notowitz, BA

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W34 A Skeletal Atlas of Elder Abuse II—Beta-Testing a Revised Digital Diagnostic and Educational Tool

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 3.0**

Learning Objectives: After attending this workshop, attendees will be able to: (1) describe methods used to characterize assess skeletal fracture patterns in elderly individuals and the ways in which aging affects fracture and recovery; (2) understand there are different patterns of trauma associated with abuse/neglect and with accidental falls; (3) understand how to navigate the presented digital atlas of elder abuse, both for educational and diagnostic purposes; and (4) participate in beta testing the atlas and contribute usability data toward its final construction.

Impact Statement: Ten percent of adults aged 65+ will experience some form of abuse annually. Physical abuse and caregiver neglect account for most cases, yet remain difficult to prove. Skeletal expressions of abuse offer key indications of inflicted and untreated injuries, but are masked by assignation to accidental falls. Funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), our research aims to produce a standard for the diagnosis of elder abuse in the skeletal system. This presentation will impact the forensic science community by offering a user-reviewed and expert-revised version of a digital tool for diagnosis and education so that we may improve our understanding of fractures and their contexts in elderly individuals.

Program Description: This workshop focuses on the continued development and beta testing of the Skeletal Atlas of Elder Abuse—a digital diagnostic and educational tool designed to improve the recognition and investigation of elder physical abuse.

Key Highlights:

- Background: Rising rates of elder abuse, particularly physical abuse, highlight the need for better diagnostic tools.
- Injuries are often misattributed to falls, medication effects, or natural aging, complicating detection and prosecution.
- Workshop Goals: Introduce the revised version of the Skeletal Atlas of Elder Abuse
- Engage participants in beta testing and provide feedback on the tool
- Present findings from NIJ-funded research on:Differences between skeletal trauma from accidental falls vs. abuse/neglect
- The impact of aging and bone density loss on injury patterns
- Content & Activities: Demonstrations of updates to the digital atla
- Insights from the AI and machine learning developers behind the diagnostic models
- Presentations by the software development team
- Interactive feedback sessions focused on usability, diagnostic accuracy, and interface design

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of elder abuse injury patterns, contribute to the refinement of a pioneering forensic tool, and help shape its future release—enhancing both diagnostic accuracy and justice outcomes in elder abuse cases.

Target Audience: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Digital & Multimedia Sciences, Forensic Nursing Science, General, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W34 A Skeletal Atlas of Elder Abuse II—Beta-Testing a Revised Digital Diagnostic and Educational Tool

Chair:
Katelyn L. Bolhofner, PhD
Arizona State University
Phoenix, AZ

Co-Chair:
Laura C. Fulginiti, PhD
Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner
Mesa, AZ

Presenters:
Jane E. Buikstra, PhD
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Kevin A. Gary, PhD
Arizona State University
Mesa, AZ

Jacob A. Harris, PhD
Arizona State University
Phoenix, AZ

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	**An Introduction and Background of the Project** Katelyn Bolhofner, PhD; Jane Buikstra, PhD
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	**Trauma and the Aging Skeleton: Updated Results From Ongoing Research** Katelyn Bolhofner, PhD
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	**Probability Modeling and Skeletal Trauma: New Avenues for Diagnosis** Jacob Harris, PhD
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	**BREAK**
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	**A Digital Atlas of Skeletal Trauma: An Introduction to the Revised Platform** Kevin Gary, PhD
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	**Beta Testing and Usability of the Digital Atlas** Kevin Gary, PhD; Jacob Harris, PhD; Katelyn Bolhofner, PhD
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	**Wrap Up and Implications for the Forensic Community** Laura Fulginiti, PhD

WORKSHOPS

Pre-Registration Required—$165

W35 The Medicolegal Investigation of Recreational Diving Fatalities

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 **1:00 pm – 4:30 pm** **CE Hours: 3.25**

Learning Objectives: Attendees at this workshop will: (1) gain an appreciation for the number of diving-related deaths that occur each year, the most common causes of death and contributing factors, and how that data is collected; (2) learn best practices in the investigation of recreational diving fatalities and deaths due to drowning; (3) attain a basic understanding of diving physiology and pathophysiology; (4) appreciate that there are certain techniques that can be utilized to maximize the information obtained from the postmortem examination of SCUBA diving deaths and deaths suspected to be due to drowning; (5) know how to interpret the findings of a postmortem examination of someone who died while breathing compressed gas under pressure; and (6) have references and resources that can be used when faced with investigating recreational diving deaths

Impact Statement: This presentation will impact the forensic community by providing the training and resources needed to forensic pathologists, medicolegal death investigators, attorneys, and members of law enforcement agencies so they may competently and confidently investigate recreational diving-related deaths.

Program Description: This workshop provides a comprehensive guide to investigating and certifying SCUBA diving-related fatalities, tailored for pathologists, death investigators, law enforcement, and attorneys.

Key Objectives:

- Understand diving physiology and fatal risks:Covers compressed gas effects, barotrauma, nitrogen narcosis, oxygen toxicity, gas embolism, and decompression sickness
- Reviews drowning physiology, as it is a frequent final outcome
- Investigative approach to diving deaths:Emphasizes the importance of witness interviews, diver's medical and diving history, dive depth and time, and sequence of events
- Discusses the epidemiology and risk factors associated with recreational diving deaths (80–90/year in North America)
- Hands-on component:Participants will examine diving equipment and learn how to evaluate it for investigative purposes
- Autopsy and certification protocols:Presents a suggested autopsy protocol for diving fatalities
- Explains interpretation of findings such as intravascular gas bubbles
- Reviews natural diseases that may cause sudden death during diving
- Legal and forensic considerations:Addresses the possibility of non-accidental deaths and the importance of manner-of-death determinations
- Acknowledges the civil litigation potential following diving fatalities
- Resources Provided:Includes checklists, reporting forms, autopsy guidelines, and recommended reference materials

Attendees will gain the skills and tools to accurately investigate, document, and interpret SCUBA-related deaths, improving their ability to distinguish between accidental, natural, and potentially suspicious causes—while navigating both forensic and legal complexities.

Target Audience: General, Jurisprudence, Pathology/Biology

Knowledge Level: Basic

WORKSHOPS

W35 The Medicolegal Investigation of Recreational Diving Fatalities

Chair:
James L. Caruso, MD
DPHE Office of the Medical Examiner
Denver, CO

Co-Chair:
Andrea Zaferes, MFS
Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office/FACT
Shokan, NY

Presenters:
Craig Nelson, MD
Office of the Medical Examiner
Raleigh, NC

Frauke Tillmans, PhD
Divers Alert Network
Durham, NC

Program:

1:00 pm - 1:05 pm	**Welcome and Introductions** Jim Caruso, MD
1:05 pm - 1:30 pm	**The Epidemiology of Diving Deaths and Data Collection** Frauke Tillmans, PhD
1:30 pm - 2:20 pm	**Diving Physiology, Pathophysiology, and Death by Drowning** Jim Caruso, MD
2:20 pm - 3:00 pm	**Investigating a Fatal Recreational Diving Mishap** Craig Nelson, MD
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	**BREAK** **Dive Equipment Show and Tell**
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	**Autopsy Findings in Recreational Diving Cases** Jim Caruso, MD; Craig Nelson, MD
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	**When Is a Diving Accident Not an Accident?** Andrea Zaferes, MS
4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	**Resources, Questions, and Wrap Up** All Presenters

78th Annual Conference of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS



February 9-14, 2026
New Orleans Ernest N Morial Convention Center

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ANTHROPOLOGY

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A1**	**A Comparative Analysis of Different Maceration Techniques and Their Effects on Bone Integrity** Emily Mahoney*; Chloe Cummings, BS; An-Di Yim, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A2**	**The Effects of Basic Solution Concentration and Bone Tissue Type on Progressive Decomposition Solution Color and Clarity** Kendall Gehring, MA*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A3**	**The Impact of Standard Forensic Processing Practices on the Accuracy of Dental Age Estimation Methods** Chloe Yingling, BS*; McCarthy Lang, BS; Luis Cabo, MS; Joe Adserias-Garriga, PhD; Cheyenne Hindman, MS
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A4**	**Flesh to Bone: Time-to-Skeletonization Using D. Maculatus in a Forensic Anthropology Laboratory** Gage Papp, BS*; Micki Besse, MS: Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD; Savanna Agilar, MS; Joyce Fassbender, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A5**	**Pore Extractor 2D v. 2.0: New Utilities for Mapping Collagen Fiber Orientation and Cortical Pore Distribution** Mary Cole, PhD*; Emma Brzezinski, MA; Amanda Agnew, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A6**	**Investigating the Position and Morphology of the Mental Foramen for Sex Estimation** Natalie Wise, MA*; Erin Kimmerle, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A7**	**Exploring Cranial Morphological Variation Within Operation Identification Cases Using 3D Surface Geometric Morphometrics.** Rebekah Stowe, MA*; Kate Spradley, PhD; Nicholas Herrmann, PhD; Elaine Chu, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A8**	**Testing Approaches to Population Affinity/Sex Classification Using FORDISC 3.1: Considerations for Best Practice Recommendations for United States Forensic Casework** Alexandra Klales, PhD*; Kate Lesciotto, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A9**	**Comparing the Utility of 3-D Photogrammetry Models and Casts in Forensic Anthropology** Lauren Keith, BS*; Hailee Desrosier, MS; Carolyn Isaac, PhD; Joseph Hefner, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A10**	**Rethinking Variable Standardization: Why Mahalanobis Distance Does Not Require Normalized Craniometric Data** Joseph Hefner, PhD*; Michael Kenyhercz, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A11**	**A Case Study: The Use of Interosseus Infusions in Adults and Resulting Skeletal Indicators** Kaleigh Best, PhD*; Nicholas Passalacqua, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A12**	**Assessing Potential for Individual Variation in Maxillary Sinuses and Mastoid Air Cells: Metric Size Components** Tayler Franklin*; Kaleigh Best, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

ANTHROPOLOGY

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A13**	**Embedded in the Bones: An Investigation of Marginalization Through the Structural Vulnerability Profile** Navit Nachmias, BA*; Kate Spradley, PhD; Elaine Chu, PhD; Michelle Hamilton, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A14**	**Is Sternotomy Wire Morphological Variation Sufficient to Support a Scientific Identification by Comparative Medical Radiography?** Christine Pink, PhD*; Jered Cornelison, PhD; B Charles, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A15**	**A New Methodology of Scoring DISH Severity: A Composite Scoring System** Lauren Nichols, MA*; Erin Kimmerle, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A16**	**The Application of Digital Quantitative Analysis From 3D Scans of Entheses for the Possible Use in Age Estimation** Gillian Stewart, BA* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A17**	**3D-CT-Based Estimation of Facial Soft Tissue Thickness in the Punjabi Population for Craniofacial Reconstruction** Akhilesh Pathak, APM; Chandrakala Gadige, APM
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A18**	**A Disabled Combat Soldier: Multiple Skeletal Anomalies With Klippel-Feil Syndrome** Hyejin Lee, PhD*; Changwon Lee, MA
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A19**	**From Flesh to Formula: Devising a Modular Coefficient-Based System for Population-Specific Facial Soft Tissue Thickness Estimation in Forensic Facial Approximation** Shubham Thakur, MSc*; Jagmahender Singh Sehrawat, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A20**	**The Morphological Variation of the Crista Galli in a Contemporary United States Population** Chastidy Gilbert, BA*; Stephen Nawrocki, PhD; Krista Latham, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A21**	**Human Body Donation and Donated Skeletal Collection Data Management: The Advantages of Building an Internal Database for Education and Research** Skyler Yakes, MA*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A22**	**A Retrospective of Forensic Anthropology Casework at Two Rural University Labs, 2018–2025: Trends, Challenges, and Implications** Samantha Blatt, PhD*; Amy Michael, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A23**	**Standardizing Skeletal Sex: A Review of Terminology, Cited Methodology, and Bias-Mitigation in the Standards and Training Documents of United States Forensic Anthropology Institutions** Taylor Flaherty, PhD*; Marion Davidson, MSc; Allysha Winburn, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A24**	**Methodology Trends in Forensic Anthropological Casework and the Implications for Current Practice** Jasper Shaw, MA*; Donovan Adams, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A25**	**The Value of Forensic Anthropological Postdoctoral Fellowship Training in a Medical Examiner Setting: A Four-Year Retrospective Reflection** Helen Litavec, PhD*; Devora Gleiber, PhD*; Jason Wiersema, PhD; Miriam Soto Martinez, PhD; Julie Fleischman, PhD

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A26**	**An Investigation Into Academic Inbreeding and Prestige Bias in Forensic Anthropology** Nicholas Passalacqua, PhD*; Natalie Clark, BA; Joseph Hefner, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A27**	**Intra-Observer Error in Osteometric Data** Maggie Klemm, MA*; Dakota Taylor, MA; William Belcher, APM *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A28**	**Skeletal Trauma in Pediatric Homicides and Suspicious Deaths: A 6-Year Retrospective Review at the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Mackenzie Strobel, BA*; Diana Messer, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A29**	**Diagnosing Elder Abuse From Skeletal Trauma: A Bayesian Approach to Distinguish Abuse From Accidental Falls** Jacob Harris, PhD*; Laura Fulginiti, PhD; Katelyn Bolhofner, PhD; Jane Buikstra, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A30**	**A Comparative Macroscopic Study of Bone Quality and Fracture Frequency in Individuals With and Without Arthroplast** Theresa De Cree, MS*; Danny Wescott, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A31**	**An Exploratory Analysis of Relationships Between Tibial Diaphyseal Shape and Fracture Outcome** Christopher Goden, MA*; Amanda Agnew, PhD; Angela Harden, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A32**	**Predicting Blade Width From Saw Marks: The Development and Validation of a Novel Equation** Meghan Gast, APM*; Alexis VanBaarle, APM; Heather Garvin, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A33**	**Skeletal Trauma Analysis in Virtual Modalities: Method Development and Application** Elizabeth Paradise, BS*; Christopher Wolfe, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A34**	**The Resilience of Cut Mark Characteristics: The Effects of Freezing and Defrosting on Cut Mark Analysis** Mariana Brito, MSc*; Giada Steiger, MSc; Matteo Borrini, PhD; James Ohman, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A35**	**An Overview of Blunt Force Perimortem Trauma in a Sample of Decedents From the Texas-Mexico Border** Chris McMillan, BS*; Victoria Swenson, PhD; Kate Spradley, PhD; Chloe McDaneld, MA; Victoria Soto, MA; Abigayle Jose, BA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A36**	**Art or Science? Using FADAMA to Assess the "Art" of Synthesizing Skeletal Age-Interval Estimates** Sophia Henn, BA*; Phoenix Farnham, BA*; Allysha Winburn, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A37**	**Considering the Biological Profile in 2026: Accuracy and Relevance in the Current Age** Chelsey Juarez, PhD*; An-Di Yim, PhD; Cris Highes, PhD

ANTHROPOLOGY

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A38**	**Evaluating Accuracy and Precision: A Comparison of Transition Analysis to Traditional Age-At-Death Estimation Methods** Conner Gayagoy*; Allyson Simon, MS; Dawnie Steadman, PhD; Colleen Cheverko, PhD; Mark Hubbe, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A39**	**Testing Non-Adult Age Estimation Methods on a Contemporary Taiwanese Sample** Kara Becker*; An-Di Yim, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A40**	**Age-Informative Features of the Sacral Auricular Surface** Krista Bennett, PhD*;
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A41**	**Developing a Radiographic Application of the Lamendin Method: A Non-Invasive Dental Aging Technique for Forensic Identification** Devin Williams, MA*; Ann Ross, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A42**	**A Test of the Accuracy of Skeletal Age Estimation Methods on a Modern South-Central United States Population** Alexandra Aaberg, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A43**	**A Test of the Cameriere et al. Pulp/Tooth Area Age Estimation Methods in a United States Population** M. Biannet Perez, MA*; Kailee Behunin, BA; Alexandra Semma Tamayo, MSc; Laure Spake, PhD; Cai Caccavari, MA; Nolan Robinson, DDS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A44**	**Addressing Asymmetry in Phase-Based Age Estimation Methods** Allyson Simon, MS*; Conner Gayagoy; Dawnie Steadman, PhD; Colleen Cheverko, PhD Mark Hubbe, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A45**	**A Validation of the CADOES Method on a Taiwanese Sample** Madison Glenwinkel, BA*; Elaine Chu, PhD; Shuo-Yen Lin, MCS; Michael Anekson Widjaya, PhD; Hung-Lin Chen, PhD; Chin-Chi Kuo, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A46**	**Adult Age Estimation From the Pubic Symphysis and Sternal Rib: A Combined Revision of the Hartnett Methods** Author: Valerie Sgheiza, PhD*; Kristen Hartnett-McCann, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A47**	**Rethinking Expectations for Juvenile Growth and Development Based on an Analysis of a Michigan Medical Examinersample** Megan Carroll, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A48**	**Sex Estimation of the Patella Using Machine Learning in an African American Population** Eric Frauenhofer, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A49**	**Assessing the Effect of Method Options (Temporal Period, Ancestry, and World Region) on Sex Estimation using MorphoPASSE v1.0** Laura Lovell, BSc*; Christiane Baigent, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A50**	**Digital Stature Estimation Using Radiographic Measurements of the Tibia** Atlantis Baron, MA*; Meradeth Snow, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A51**	**Using Structural Equation Modeling to Investigate the Relationship Between Innominate Metrics and Morphology for Sex Estimation** Michael Kenyhercz, PhD; Kate Lesciotto, PhD; Carter Unger, MA* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A52**	**Exploring the Relationship Between Heat-Related Fractures, Perimortem Context, and Trauma Mechanism** Allison Thomson, BS*; Rylan Tegtmeyer Hawke, PhD; Catherine Jones, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A53**	**Assessing the Accuracy of Entrance and Exit Wound Characterization in Long Bone Gunshot Wounds** Alexandra Semma Tamayo, MSc*; Tal Simmons, PhD; Laure Spake, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A54**	**Asymmetry of Human Ribs: Considerations for Trauma Experiments and Interpretations** Randi Depp, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A55**	**Bullet Wipe Analysis in Skeletal Gunshot Trauma Cases** Joe Adserias-Garriga, PhD*; Flavia Rossell Hayes, BS; Chloe Yingling, BS; Sydney R. Carlson, APM
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A56**	**Sex-Specific Stature Estimation Using Upper and Lower Limb Anthropometric Measurements in the Modern South Indian Population: A Comparative Analysis of Regression and Mathematical Methods** Ambika Prasad Patra, MD, MBBS*; Shashank Singh, MBBS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A57**	**Narrowing the Age Range: The Utility of Cranial Suture Methods in Aging** Lyndsey Hornagold, MS*; Erin Kimmerle, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A58**	**An Evaluation of Microscopic Techniques in Cementochronology for Forensic Age-at-Death Estimation** Amando Montalvo, MS*; Carina Marques, PhD; Benoit Bertrand, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**A59**	**Anterior Mandibular Morphometry and Its Application in Juvenile Biological Profiling: A Quantitative Analysis and Possible Implications** Jennifer Geisen, MSc*; Matteo Borrini, PhD

Thursday—Session I

Emerging Approaches to Biological Profile Estimation in Forensic Anthropology

Moderator: Krista Bennett, PhD — Co-Moderator: Christian Crowder, PhD

8:30 am—8:45 am	**A60**	**Investigating the Correlation Between Body Mass and Hip Joint Measurements in a Taiwanese Non-Adult Sample** Rachel Riddell, BA*; An-Di Yim, PhD
8:45 am—9:00 am	**A61**	**Stature Estimation Based on Femoral Dimensions: A CT Study on Contemporary Greeks** Despoina Flouri, MD*; Maria Arkouli; Elena Kranioti, PhD; Antonios Papadomanolakis, PhD; Efsevia Daskalaki, MSc; Eirini Chasapi, MSc
9:00 am—9:15 am	**A62**	**Tiny Proteins, Big Impact: Rethinking Sex Estimation Through Dental Proteomics** Niharika Bhardwaj, MSc*; Shubham Thakur, MSc; Sanya Gaur, PhD
9:15 am—9:30 am	**A63**	**Using Virtual 3D Models of the Pelvis to Explore Biometric Relationships Between Transgender and Cisgender Adults** Taylor Flaherty, PhD*; Molly Morano; Jennifer Byrnes, PhD; Carl Streed, MD; Amy Weimer, MD; Mark Litwin, MD

9:30 am—9:45 am	**A64**	**Testing Posterior Probability Informed Thresholds Using the Innominate, Cranial, and Combined Traits in MorphoPASSE: Best Practice Recommendations** Kate Lesciotto, PhD*; Alexandra Klales, PhD
9:45 am—10:00 am		**BREAK**

Advancing Methods in Age Estimation and Population Affinity in Forensic Anthropology

Moderator: Elaine Chu — Co-Moderator: Cheyenne Collins, MA

10:00 am—10:15 am	**A65**	**A New, Flexible, and Accurate Method for Histological Age Estimation From the Femoral Midshaft** Timothy Gocha, PhD*; Shelby Garza, PhD; Amanda Agnew, PhD; Michael Kenyhercz, PhD; Justin Goldstein, PhD; Tessa Herbert, MA
10:15 am—10:30 am	**A66**	**An Age-at-Death Estimation Using Micro-CT Analysis of the Hyoid Bone: A Forensic Anthropology Approach** Samuele Baldi, MD*; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD, PhD; Gulnaz Javan, PhD; Chiara Giraudo, MD, PhD; Miriam Nomba Belem; Laura Secco, MD
10:30 am—10:45 am	**A67**	**A Micro-CT Evaluation of the Sternoclavicular Joint for Age-At-Death Estimation: A Quantitative Microstructural Analysis** Laura Secco, MD*; Pasquale Padalino, MD; Chiara Giraudo, MD, PhD; Guido Viel, MD, PhD; Stefano Palumbi, MD; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD, PhD
10:45 am—11:00 am	**A68**	**Using Information Theory to Better Understand the Relationship Between the Cranial Phenotype and Group Membership** Christopher Wolfe, PhD*; Kyra Stull, PhD
11:00 am—11:15 am	**A69**	**Exploring Population Affinity in United States Asian Populations** Amelia Konda, MA*; Joseph Hefner, PhD; Kate Spradley, PhD; Matthew Go, PhD
11:15 am—11:30 am	**A70**	**Unrepresented and Misclassified: Evaluating FORDISC 3.1 Using Korean Crania** Yangseung Jeong, PhD*; Addison Springer, BA
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Innovations in Computational and AI-Based Approaches to Forensic Anthropology

Moderator: Kyra Stull — Co-Moderator: Anja Petaros

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**A71**	**Automated Craniofacial Reconstruction Through the Use of Generative AI: The FaceGen Project** Oscar Ibáñez, PhD*; M. Alejandra Guativonza Higuera, MSc; Javier Venema, MSc; Andrea Valsecchi, PhD; Pablo Mesejo, PhD; Guillermo Gómez-Trenado, PhD; Stéphane Lathuilière, PhD
1:15 pm—1:30 pm	**A72**	**Automatic 3D Skull Segmentations From Clinical MSCT Scans: An Exploratory Study in Creating a Virtual Osteological Collection in Split, Croatia** Lauren Asbury, BA*

1:30 pm—1:45 pm	**A73**	**Introducing MOSAIC: Methods of Sex, Stature, Affinity, and Age for Identification Through Computational Standardization** Joseph Hefner, PhD; Kate Lesciotto, PhD; Michael Kenyhercz, PhD; Heather Edgar, PhD; Kate Spradley, PhD; Alexandra Klales, PhD*
1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**A74**	**Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed: Interpretable Deep Learning for Forensic Sex and Age Estimation** Željana Bašić, PhD*; Ivana Kružić, PhD; Ivan Jerković, PhD
2:00 pm—2:15 pm	**A75**	**Combining the Micro With the Macro: Age Estimation Using Machine Learning Methods With Histological Variables and Traditional Indicators** Sophia Mavroudas, PhD*; Lauren Meckel, PhD; Nicholas Herrmann, PhD; Justin Goldstein, PhD
2:15 pm—2:30 pm	**A76**	**Applying Machine Learning Models in Forensic Anthropology for Sex Estimation From Long Bone Diaphysis Shape** Melanie Beasley, PhD*; Talha Mahmud, MS; Fengqing Zhu, APM
2:30 pm—2:45 pm		**BREAK**

Developments in Forensic Anthropology: Skeletal Analysis, Decision-Making, and Emerging Methods

Moderator: Carolyn Isaac — Co-Moderator: Theresa De Cree, MS

2:45 pm—3:00 pm	**A77**	**An Assessment of Subadult Skeletal Growth and Development Based on a Michigan Medical Examiner Sample** Megan Carroll, BS*
3:00 pm—3:15 pm	**A78**	**WITHDRAWN**
3:15 pm—3:30 pm	**A79**	**A Foundational Analysis of Practitioner Decision-Making and Interaction With FORDISC** Marion Davidson, MSc*; Micayla Spiros, PhD; Sherry Nakhaeizadeh, PhD; Ruth Morgan, DPhil *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**A80**	**Breaking Down Expertise: How Experience Shapes Sex Estimation in Forensic Anthropology** Nicole Mantl, MSc*; Sherry Nakhaeizadeh, PhD; Ruth Morgan, DPhil
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**A81**	**Areas of Interest: Eye-Tracking in Forensic Anthropology Sex Estimation** Nicole Mantl, MSc*; Sherry Nakhaeizadeh, PhD; Ruth Morgan, DPhil
4:00 pm—4:15 pm	**A82**	**Combining Intracortical Porosity, Histomorphometric, and Toxicological Data to Describe a Profile of Bone Pathological Tissue Changes Associated With Polysubstance Toxicity: A Canadian Perspective** Janna Andronowski, PhD*; Joshua Taylor, MS; Cindy Whitten, PhD; Syed Raza, APM; Shane Randell, MS; Nash Denic, MD, PhD
4:15 pm—4:30 pm	**A83**	**An Examination of How Skeletal Element and Microstructure Alter DNA Amplification in a Novel Environment** Shelby Saut, MA*; Ashley Kendell, PhD; Beth Shook, PhD

Thursday – Session II

Advances in Isotope Analysis for Human Identification

Moderator: Christaine Baigent — Co-Moderator: Janamarie Truesdell, DPhil

8:00 am—8:15 am	**A84**	**Estimating Multi-Residency From Bulk δ18O Enamel Carbonate Sampling** Thomas Delgado, MA*; Kirsten Verostick, PhD; Gabriel Bowen, PhD; Stephannie Covarrubias, MPH; Chris Stantis, PhD
8:15 am—8:30 am	**A85**	**Isotope Ratios in Paired Human Bone and Hair Samples for Forensic Applications** Tiffany Fracchia, PhD*; Gregory Berg, PhD; Lesley Chesson, MS
8:30 am—8:45 am	**A86**	**United States Tooth Enamel Oxygen Isoscapes for Human Identification** Gabriel Bowen, PhD*; Kirsten Verostick, PhD; Gregory Berg, PhD; Lesley Chesson, MS; Thomas Delgado, MA; Chris Stantis, PhD
8:45 am—9:00 am	**A87**	**A Dual-Isotope Approach to Enhancing Isotopic Models for the Identification of Human Remains in North Carolina** Nicole Long, PhD*; Ethan Hyland, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
9:00 am—9:15 am		**BREAK**

New Approaches for Commingling Resolution

Moderator: Micayla Spiros, PhD — Co-Moderator: Esther, Choo, MA

9:15 am—9:30 am	**A88**	**Reassociation of Commingled Tibiae and Tali Using Geometric Morphometrics** Nicole Wray, MS*; Stephanie Melillo, PhD
9:30 am—9:45 am	**A89**	**An Isotope-Aided Multifactorial Segregation of Skeletal Individuals From a Complex Small-Scale Commingled Assemblage** Janet Finlayson, PhD*; Gregory Berg, PhD; Rebecca Taylor, PhD; Lesley Chesson, MS
9:45 am—10:00 am	**A90**	**Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy of Submerged Remains: The Implications for Their Re-Association in Commingled Situations** Matthieu Baudelet, PhD*; Kristen Livingston, PhD; Gregory Berg, PhD; Lesley Chesson, MS; John Lucchi, PhD; John Byrd, PhD
10:00 am—10:15 am	**A91**	**Man's Best Friend: Multi-Species Commingling Resolution of Highly Fragmented, Canine-Scavenged Remains Using Zooarchaeology by Mass Spectrometry (ZooMS)** Andrea Palmiotto, PhD*; Jerry Overman; Emily Sykora, MA; Anneke Janzen, PhD
10:15 am—10:30 am		**BREAK**

ANTHROPOLOGY

Medical and Anatomical Markers in Forensic Human Identification

Moderator: Natalie Langley, PhD — Co-Moderator: Catherine Jones, PhD

10:30 am—10:45 am	**A92**	**Investigating the Utility of Surgical Intervention Products for Personal Identification** Jered Cornelison, PhD*; B Charles, PhD; Christine Pink, PhD
10:45 am—11:00 am	**A93**	**Personal Identification Through Comparative Medical Radiography: Guiding Training Through Recent Trends** B Charles, PhD*; Jered Cornelison, PhD; Christine Pink, PhD
11:00 am—11:15 am	**A94**	**Quantifying the Frontal Sinus to Improve Positive Identification Methods** Brailey Moeder, MS*; Stephanie Melillo, PhD
11:15 am—11:30 am	**A95**	**Anatomical Variants of the Skull: The Potential Use for Identification Purposes** Paolo Palermo, MD*; Sofia Alemanno; Carlo Pietro Campobasso, MD, PhD; Andrea Palamenghi, PhD; Giulia Caccia, PhD; Daniele Maria Gibelli, MD, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Climate Change in Forensic Anthropology

Moderator: Jennifer Byrnes, PhD — Co-Moderator: Colleen Milligan, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**A96**	**Drier Futures, Falling Waters: A Retrospective Analysis of Lake Mead's Forensic Anthropology Cases** Jennifer Byrnes, PhD*; Liam Johnson, MA; Dayanira Lopez, MS; Melanie Rouse, MA; Nathan Shaller, MD
1:15 pm—1:30 pm	**A97**	**Wildfire Deployment: Lessons From the California Wildfires** Alison Galloway, PhD*; Chelsey Juarez, PhD; Elayne Pope, PhD
1:30 pm—1:45 pm	**A98**	**The Impact of Climate Change on the Mortality of Migrants: Forensic Casework in the United States Southwest** Jasmine Hernandez, MS*; Lexi O'Donnell, PhD; Heather Edgar, PhD; Daniel Martinez, PhD; Laura Nellums, PhD
1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**A99**	**Climate Change and Mass Disasters: The Role of Forensic Anthropology Outreach in Helping Communities Better Prepare for Mass Disasters** Colleen Milligan, PhD*; Eric Bartelink, PhD; Ashley Kendell, PhD; Shannon Clinkinbeard, MA; Amber Plemons, PhD
2:00 pm—2:15 pm		**BREAK**
2:15 pm—2:30 pm	**A100**	**Scavengers on the Move: Geospatial Evidence of Changing Vulture Behavior in Forensic Landscapes** Lauren Pharr-Parks, PhD*
2:30 pm—2:45 pm	**A101**	**Climate Change, Vulnerability, and the 2023 Lahaina Fire Victims' Locations and Demography** Patrick Willey, PhD*; Casey Hegel, MA
2:45 pm—3:00 pm	**A102**	**The Geography of Forensic Absence: Climate, Natural Disasters, and the Search for Unidentified Persons in Louisiana** Teresa Wilson, PhD*; Sara Finn, MA
3:00 pm—3:15 pm		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**

*Presenting Author

ANTHROPOLOGY

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A103**	**A Cold Case Reanalysis Demonstrates the Importance of Forensic Anthropology Training in the Interpretation of Trauma to the Skeleton** Ella Uren, BS*; Krista Latham, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A104**	**Identification Patterns in Operation Identification Cases** Emma Giacomello, MA*; Michelle Hamilton, PhD; Kate Spradley, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A105**	**Dignity in Death: Developing Remote Case Management and Burial Protocols for Long-Term Unidentified Decedents** Victoria Swenson, PhD*; Molly Kaplan, PhD; Daniela Martinez Herrera, BA; Abigayle Jose, BA; Ashley Fields, BS; Hannah Stottlemyre, MA *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A106**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A107**	**Close-Interval Metal Detection of Wreckage at Crash Sites of Large Aircraft to Identify Priority Areas for the Recovery of Human Remains** Lillian Antonelli, MA*; David Bavencoff, MS; Andrea Palmiotto, PhD; Lexi Dengah, BA; Francesca Fiorello; Axel Valdez Ruiz
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A108**	**An Evaluation of the Use of Alternate Light Sources in the Search for Burned Skeletal Remains** Jessica Lucia, MA*; James Russell, BFA: Tal Simmons, PhD; Stephen Stockman, MPA; Jenise Swall, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A109**	**Ground Penetrating Radars in Forensic Anthropology: Evaluating Efficacy Through Controlled Systematic Surveys** Dawson Lamb, MA*; Anthony Lanfranchi, MS* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A110**	**Anthropological Approaches to Identification in a Historic World Ware II Aircraft Loss: The Crew of *Little Joe*** Catherine Jones, PhD*; Katie East, PhD; Carrie Brown, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A111**	**From Chaos to Connection: Reassociating Arm Bones in Commingled Contexts** Anna La Valley, MSc*; Erica Baer, PhD; Xenia Paula Kyriakou, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A112**	**Occipito–Atlas Reassociation in Commingled Skeletal Remains** Anna La Valley, MSc*; Stavri Karasiali, MSc*; Erica Baer, PhD; Xenia Paula Kyriakou, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A113**	**Examining Contributing Factors to Natural Human Mummification at FOREST in Cullowhee, North Carolina: A Continued Investigation** Alex Vacca*; Kaleigh Best, PhD; Rebecca George, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A114**	**Terrestrial Scavenger Activity on Human Remains at FROST** Emma Gariepy, BSc*; Hayden McKee-Zech, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

ANTHROPOLOGY

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A115**	**The Importance of Scene Context in Anthropological Time-Since-Death Estimation: "Back to the Basics" of PMI** Ariana Strasheim, MA*; Allysha Winburn, PhD*; Taylor Walkup, MA*; Emily Romdemne, MA*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A116**	**The Effects of Obesity on Decomposition by Measuring Mass Loss Percentage and Postmortem Interval Estimation** Paige Jackson, MA*; Danny Wescott, PhD*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A117**	**A Preliminary Study of Human Decomposition in Aquatic Environments in Greece** Christina Karydi, PhD*; Giorgos Kyros, MSc; Konstantinos Moraitis, PhD*; Kostas Lagouvardos, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A118**	**A Test of Thermal Damage Recording Systems With Advancing Decomposition** Mariah Moe, PhD*; Sophia Mavroudas, PhD; Danny Wescott, PhD; Hailey Collord-Stalder, MA
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A119**	**The Accuracy of PMI Predictions in GeoFOR Using Retrospective Decomposition Data** Victoria Eacott, BA*; Sydney Munkus, BS; Tempest Mellendorf, MS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A120**	**Adipocere Formation in a Subtropical Climate and the Most Effective Method to Process Adipocere on Skeletal Remains** Amanda Schultz, BA*; Erin Kimmerle, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A121**	**The Decomposition of Buried Human Remains in a Semi-Arid Environment** Alexander Smith, BA*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A122**	**Dirt, Decay, and Dentition: Taphonomic Alterations to Teeth From Buried Skeletal Remains in Southwest Florida** Emmalee Bullington, BS*; Micki Besse, MS; Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD; Savanna Agilar, MS; Jeffery Kleeger, PhD; Shawn Keller, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A123**	**Evaluating the Total Body Score (TBS) Method to Assess Performance of PMI Estimates in Forensic Casework** Katherine Weisensee, PhD*; Madeline Atwell, PhD; Hudson Smith, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A124**	**Investigating the Applicability of Different Postmortem Interval Estimation Methods in the Mid-Atlantic Region** Mason Kalin*; Kennedie Lyles, BS*; An-Di Yim, PhD; Emily Rancourt, MSFS; Molly Kilcarr, BS; Chloe Cummings, BS
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A125**	**Saturated (Equatorial) Savanna Soils: The Efficacy of Anaerobic Postmortem Interval Estimations in Southwest Florida** Savanna Agilar, MS*; Micki Besse, MS; Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A126**	**The Need for Additional Environmental Diversity in Human Decomposition Research Facility Locations** Rachael McCrary, MS*; Nicholas Passalacqua, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A127**	**A Camera Trap Analysis of Songbird Scavenging Behavior at the Anthropology Research Facility (ARF) - University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK)** Owen VanAntwerpen, BS*; Hayden McKee-Zech, PhD; Cory Elowe, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A128**	**Assessing the Influences of Burial Environment and Season of Interment on Fetal Pig (Sus Scrofa) Decomposition in Western Pennsylvania** Dakota Dickerson, MA*; Alexandra Schmidt, BA; Andrea Palmiotto, PhD

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A129**	**Investigating the Effectiveness of 3D Documentation of Taphonomic Changes** Emily Powell*; Chloe Cummings, BS; An-Di Yim, PhD; Emily Rancourt, MSFS; Marlowe Vaughn-Bueler, MS
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A130**	**Soil Types and Components That Influence Toolmark Retention for Forensic Archaeological Cases** Josephine Reid, BSc*; Roland Wessling, MSc; David Errickson, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A131**	**Utilizing pXRF to Resolve Unusual Discoloration in Cremains: A Case Study** Samantha McCrane, PhD*; Phoebe Stubblefield, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A132**	**The Persistence of Ultraviolet Bone Autofluorescence Following Submersion in a Corrosive Acidic Solution** Kendall Gehring, MA
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A133**	**Scattered Man: The Curious Case of Captain Henry Goodsell** Anna Delaney, DCrim*; Thomas Crist, PhD; Gina Hart, MA
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A134**	**Exploring the Influence of Loading Direction on Fracture Characteristics in Human Tibiae** Amanda Agnew, PhD*; Christopher Goden, MA; Kyra Stull, PhD; Angela Harden, PhD; Julia McGinley, BS
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A135**	**Incomplete Kerf Morphology and Saw Class Characteristics: Comparative Statistical Insights From Fleshed and Defleshed Experimental Dismemberments** Stephanie Cole, PhD*; Heather Garvin, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	A**136**	**The Resilience of Cut Mark Characteristics: A New Experimental Study on the Effect of Fire on Fleshed Remains** Mariah Morris, MSc*; Giada Steiger, MSc; Matteo Borrini, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A137**	**Investigating the Utility of Micro-CT for Human and Non-Human Bone Compared to Traditional Histology** Rose Raymer*; Laura Cirillo, PhD; Savannah McAdow, MA
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**A138**	**Modeling Sharp Force Trauma: A Bayesian Approach to Differentiate Bone Surface Modifications From Straight and Serrated Blades** Alexander Cortes, BS; Kymani Bledsoe; Jacob Harris, PhD*; William Nyce

Friday – Session I

Bone Trauma: Advances in Sharp Force, Projectile, Blast, and Thermal Analysis

Moderator: Sara Zapico, PhD — Co-Moderator: Lillian S. Antonelli, MA

8:30 am—8:45 am	**A139**	**Chopping/Hacking Sharp Force Trauma on Bone: A Forensic Analysis of Cut Marks Using Macroscopic and Microscopic Techniques** Kelly McGehee, MA*; John Schultz, PhD
8:45 am—9:00 am	**A140**	**Standardizing and Re-Evaluating Observer Agreement in Kerf Traits Commonly Used to Predict Saw Class Characteristics** Ashley Maxwell, PhD*; Alexandra Klales, PhD
9:00 am—9:15 am	**A141**	**Crack Propagation in Projectile-Impacted Human Long Bones** Angi Christensen, PhD; Mariyam Isa, PhD*; Brian Spatola, MA; Timothy Gocha, PhD

9:15 am—9:30 am	**A142**	**Classifying Projectile Entrances and Exits in Flat Bone: Insights and Challenges With Machine Learning** Mariyam Isa, PhD; Delaney Edwards, MA*
9:30 am—9:45 am	**A143**	**Primary Skeletal Blast Trauma: Examining the Effects of the Blast Wave on Skeletal Trauma Using Postmortem Human Subjects and Non-Human Proxie** Petra Banks, PhD*
9:45 am—10:00 am	**A144**	**Evaluating Dimensional Changes in Long Bones Exposed to Fire** Joe Adserias-Garriga, PhD*; Laia Nogue, MS; Luis Cabo, MS; Marta Fernandez-Viejo, MS; Laura Rodriguez, PhD; Rebecca Garcia-Gonzalez, PhD
10:00 am—10:15 am		**BREAK**

New Frontiers in Skeletal Trauma Analysis

Moderator: Benjamin Figura, PhD — Co-Moderator: Amy Spies, PhD

10:15 am—10:30 am	**A145**	**A Preliminary Comparative Assessment of Digital Imaging Modalities for Fractographic Analysis** Delaney Edwards, MA*; Angela Harden, PhD; Mary Cole, PhD
10:30 am—10:45 am	**A146**	**A Comparison of Postmortem Radiograph Modalities for the Detection of Infant Skeletal Trauma** Miriam Soto Martinez, PhD*; Jason Wiersema, PhD; Julie Fleischman, PhD; Si Gao, MS; Michal Pierce, MS
10:45 am—11:00 am	**A147**	**A Micro-CT Analysis of False Start Marks on Fire-Exposed Human Bone**s Laura Secco, MD*; Ludovico Fava, MD; Chiara Giraudo, MD, PhD; Guido Viel, MD, PhD; Stefano Palumbi, MD; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD, PhD
11:00 am—11:15 am	**A148**	**Opening the Black Box: Visualizing AI Decisions in Forensic Trauma Analysis** Giada Steiger, MSc*; Matteo Borrini, PhD
11:15 am—11:30 am	**A149**	**Harnessing Machine Learning to Evaluate Microscopic Characteristics of Skeletal Trauma** Keivan Nalaie, PhD*; Jessica Skinner, PhD; Aurely Sanchez Carreon, BS; Loukham Shyamsunder, PhD; Subramaniam Rajan, PhD; Natalie Langley, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

From Fundamentals to Formulation: Developing Interdisciplinary Approaches for Taphonomy Research

Moderator: Angela Dautartas, PhD — Co-Moderator: Derek Boyd, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**A150**	**Developing Evidence-Based Approaches for Taphonomic Histories: A Call for Communication Across the Disciplinary Divide** Derek Boyd, PhD; Angela Dautartas, PhD*; Hayden McKee-Zech, PhD; Erin Patrick, MSc; Kelly Sauerwein, PhD
1:15 pm—1:30 pm	**A151**	**A Foundational Exploration of the Scavenger Guild in Baltimore, Maryland** Marion Davidson, MSc* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
1:30 pm—1:45 pm	**A152**	**The Detection of Decomposition in Soil With Portable X-Ray Fluorescence** Rhys Williams, PhD*

1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**A153**	**Taphonomic Analyses of Hair: From Postmortem Root Banding to Environmental Degradation** Sandra Koch, PhD*
2:00 pm—2:15 pm		**BREAK**
2:15 pm—2:30 pm	**A154**	**The Application of GeoFOR at the Anthropological Research Facility** Tempest Mellendorf, MS*; Devin Adcox, MA; Sydney Munkus, BS; Victoria Eacott, BA *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*

Forensic Recovery and Reconstruction: Technology, Environment, and Taphonomy

Moderator: Ginesse Listi, PhD — Co-Moderator: Ella Uren, BX

2:30 pm—3:00 pm	**A155**	**A Web-Based Application for Predicting the Fluvial Transport of Human Remains in the Sacramento River, California: Case Applications for Constraining Search Parameters for River Victims** Jazmin Borrayo, BA*; Eric Bartelink, PhD; Colleen Milligan, PhD
3:00 pm—3:15 pm	**A156**	**From Scene to Screen: 3D Data Collection Options for Forensics** Jessica Cronin, MS*; Stephanie Melillo, PhD
3:15 pm—3:30 pm	**A157**	**Virtual Bonescape: Integrating Two Recovery Methods, Virtual Re-Association of Fragmented Remains and Scene Reconstruction, in a Disaster Victim Identification Context** Lise Malfroy Camine, DDS*; Silke Grabherr, PhD; Negahnaz Moghaddam, PhD; Vincent Varlet, PhD
3:30 pm—3:45 pm		**BREAK**
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**A158**	**The Impact of Decomposition Stage, Hypoxia, and Enclosure in a Class C Motorhome on the Morphological Trajectory of Fire-Exposed Human Remains** Christiane Baigent, PhD*
4:00 pm—4:15 pm	**A159**	**Gull (*Laridae*) Scavenging and Dispersal of Pig (*Sus Scrofa*) Remains on Appledore Island, Maine** Austin Millwood, BA, BS*; James Pokines, PhD
4:15 pm—4:30 pm	**A160**	**Patterns of Vulture Scavenging in West Central Florida** Tuesday Frasier, MS*; Erin Kimmerle, PhD Erin Waxenbaum, PhD*; Katharine Pope, MA

Friday – Session II

Standards, Best Practices, and Professional Well-Being in Forensic Anthropology

Moderator: Alice Gooding, PhD — Co-Moderator: Thomas Delgado, MA

8:30 am—8:45 am	**A161**	**An Assessment of Standard Operating Procedures for Forensic Anthropology at Accredited United States Laboratories** Marion Davidson, MSc*; Allysha Winburn, PhD; Taylor Flaherty, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
8:45 am—9:00 am	**A162**	**Description, Interpretation, and Overinterpretation: Ensuring a Scientific Foundation for Forensic Skeletal Trauma Analysis** Donna Boyd, PhD*

9:00 am—9:15 am	**A163**	**Standards Development in Forensic Anthropology: Progress and Updates From the OSAC and ASB** Eric Bartelink, PhD*; Julie Fleischman, PhD
9:15 am—9:30 am	**A164**	**Normalizing Discussions of Mental Health in Forensic Anthropology** Erin Waxenbaum, PhD*; Katharine Pope, MA
9:30 am—9:45 am		**BREAK**

Balancing Justice and Responsibility: Contemporary Ethical Challenges in Forensics

Moderator: Amanda Williams, PhD — Co-Moderator: Melinda Carter, PhD

9:45 am—10:00 am	**A165**	**An Examination of the Medicolegal Processes Relating to Native American Repatriation** Arielle Reich, MA*; Cris Hughes, PhD; Marynia Kolak, PhD; Catherine Discenza, BS; Krystiana Krupa, MSL; Jenny Davis, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:00 am—10:15 am	**A166**	**Assessing Forensic Significance and Ethical First Steps at the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Christine Bailey, MA; Diana Messer, PhD; Devin Adcox, MA* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:15 am—10:30 am	**A167**	**Ethics and Preventive Forensics in the Face of Violent Deaths: WWCD (What Would Clyde Do)?** Derek Congram, PhD*; Nicholas Passalacqua, PhD; Marin Pilloud, PhD; Hugo Rodriguez-Almada, MD; Gina Hart, MA; Mark Skinner, PhD
10:30 am—10:45 am	**A168**	**Language at the Border: Changing Our Language Changes Our Perspective** Makenna Mizell, BA*; Chastidy Gilbert, BA; Krista Latham, PhD; Amandine Eriksen, PhD; Lillian Bucher, BS; Frankey Leggio, MS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:45 am—11:00 am	**A169**	**Preventing a Repeat of the Past: Ethical Considerations in Data Collection and Use in the Age of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** Ashley Smith, MSc*; Eman Faisal, MSc
11:00 am—11:15 am	**A170**	**The Impact of Collection-Specific Sample Bias on Aggregate Cranial Morphology in United States-Based Documented Skeletal Collections** Rhian Dunn, PhD*; Joseph Hefner, PhD
11:15 am—11:30 am	**A171**	**Defining Effective Investigation: A Fundamental Requirement for the Examination of Mass Graves and Other Atrocity Crime Scenes** Ian Hanson, PhD*; Melanie Klinkner, PhD; Diego Nunez, MSc; Ellen Donovan, MA
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

From Numbers to Names: Forensic Perspectives on Missing and Unidentified Individuals

Moderator: Sara Zapico, PhD — Co-Moderator: Nikki Long, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**A172**	**Who Are the Nation's Unidentified? Assessing Demographics and Case Characteristics of Long-Term Unidentified Persons in the United States** Molly Kaplan, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*

*Presenting Author

1:15 pm—1:30 pm	**A173**	**Digging Up Doe: An In-Depth Study of Exhumations in Cold Case Investigations** Erin Kimmerle, PhD*; Kelsee Hentschel-Fey, MA; Amanda Schultz, BA; Lauren Nichols, MA
1:30 pm—1:45 pm	**A174**	**Operation Identification: Ethnographic Stories Beyond Turning Numbers Into Names** Victoria Soto, MA*; Ivanna Robledo, MA; Daniela Martinez Herrera, BA *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**A175**	**The Missing and Unidentified at La Frontera: Communication Networks and the Forensic Anthropologist's Role at the México-United States Border** Aliya Godoy, MA*
2:00 pm—2:15 pm	**A176**	**Understanding Missingness: A Case Study Utilizing the Mississippi Repository for Missing and Unidentified Persons** Sarajane Smith-Escudero, MA*; Rachel Coppock, BA; Jesse Goliath, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
2:15 pm—2:30 pm	**A177**	**A Preliminary Review of Long-Term Unidentified Decedents at the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Lauren Santoro, BS*; Danielle Harrell, DO; Diana Messer, PhD
2:30 pm—2:45 pm		**BREAK**

Forensic Recovery and Identification Across Disasters, Conflicts, and Migration Contexts

Moderator: Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD Co-Moderator: Amanda Walker, BS

2:45 pm—3:00 pm	**A178**	**A Look at the Disaster Response to Hurricane Katrina: How Far Have We Come in 20 Years?** Gina Hart, MA*; Julia Powers, MA; Ryan Siedemann, PhD
3:00 pm—3:15 pm	**A179**	**When Men Are Prey: Melee Skeletal Trauma Patterns From the 1921 Tulsa Graves Investigation** Phoebe Stubblefield, PhD*; Angela Berg, MA; Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD; Arion Mayes, PhD; Sheridan Lea, MSc
3:15 pm—3:30 pm	**A180**	**A Preliminary Examination of the Evidentiary Value of Trauma to Individual Skeletal Elements in Distinguishing Between Circumstances of Death** Maria Nektaria Antoniou, LLM, MS*; Nicholas Marquez-Grant, PhD; Rick Schulting, PhD
3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**A181**	**Necrosilences of the Central Mediterranean: A Preliminary Exploration of Differential Treatment Within the Medicolegal Systems of Tunisia & Malta in Their Responses to Missing & Deceased Migrant Cases** Skylar Joseph, MS*
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**A182**	**WITHDRAWN**
4:00 pm—4:15 pm	**A183**	**The Forensic Identification of Semi-Skeletonized Remains in Ukraine: A Case Study** Laura Donato*; Marta Garazdiuk, MD; Douglas H. Ubelaker, PhD; Michele Treglia, MD; Luigi Tonino Marsella, MD; Mahmoud Mohammed Zalat, PhD
4:15 pm—4:30 pm	**A184**	**Reducing Identification Timelines in South Texas: Assessing the Impact of Postmortem Fingerprinting on Medicolegal Bottlenecks** Mackenzie Murray, BS*; Molly Kaplan, PhD; Kate Spradley, PhD; Courtney Siegert, PhD; Victoria Swenson, PhD; Valerie Arroyo, BA

CRIMINALISTICS

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B1**	**Advancing Forensic Analysis With Chemical Imaging Microspectroscopy** James Cizdziel, PhD*; Kendall Wontor, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B2**	**An Expanded Uncertainty Assessment of GC/MS Chromatographic Peak Area and Retention Time** Emma Hardwick, BA*; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B3**	**The Application of HS/SPME-GC/MS for Hydraulic Fluid Compound Detection in Jet Fuels** Javier Hodges, BS*; Jorn Yu, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B4**	**An Evidence-Based Method for Determining Cause of Death in a Double Homicide Involving Matricide and Patricide** Gennaro Baldino, MD, PhD*; Cataldo Raffino, MD; Giorgia Burrascano, MD*; Elvira Ventura Spagnolo, MD; Domenico Abramo, MD* Gabriele Rotter, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B5**	**A Forensic Approach to Quantifying Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure in Hair: Method Development and Analysis of Cosmetic Treatment Effects** Tanique Z Jones, BSc; Somayeh Mohammadi, PhD; Hamidreza Sharifan, PhD*; Christopher J Trejo, BSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B6**	**Close Non-Matches and Database Searches: Probability That a True Match Is Among the Top K Correlations After a Database Search** Blanca Parker, BA*; Alicia Carriquiry, PhD; Heike Hofmann, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B7**	**Toward a New Forensic Tool: Elemental Profiling of Tire Rubber in Traffic Homicide Cases** John Lucchi, PhD*; James McAleer, BS; Matthieu Baudelet, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B8**	**Washington DC Department of Forensic Sciences: A Strategic Approach to Optimizing Laboratory Operational Efficiency—DC DFS's Implementation of the Casework Administration Group** Krystyna Hopkinson, MScFS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B9**	**Prints That Matter: Identifying the Most Productive Evidence Through Analytical Reporting** Angelic Rountree, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B10**	**The Relationship Between the Ridge Patterning and the Frequency of Minutiae on the Interdigital Area of Palmprints** Angela Tonietto, MSc*; Patrick Buzzini, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B11**	**Cracking the Fingerprint Clock: Age-Dating Latent Fingerprints Using Multivariate Chemical Degradation Models** James Nketsiah, MPhil*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B12**	**WITHDRAWN**

CRIMINALISTICS

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B13**	**Gender Classification From Fingerprints In the East Indian Population** Ms.Roshni Butt, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B14**	**Hand Detail Image Comparisons: The State of the Discipline for an Emerging Forensic Methodology** Nicole Richetelli, PhD*; William Chapman, APM; Richard Vorder Bruegge, PhD; Jim Cole
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B15**	**Reaping the Research: Patent Landscape Analysis of Latent Fingerprint Processing Techniques (1900–2024)** Jatin Kumar Sharma, MScFS*; Abhilasha, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B16**	**The Washing Away of Evidence: The Effect of Different Washing Treatments on Body Fluid Identification and DNA Profiling From Stained Clothing Fabrics** Francisco Medina-Paz, PhD; Maria Josefina Castagnola, MSc; Sara C. Zapico, PhD; Gabriela Roca, MD, PhD*; Vasilisa Yukhno
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B17**	**The Differentiation of Cell Populations in Saliva-Skin Mixture Samples Using Cellular Autofluorescence Profiling** Kara Fairfax, BS*; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD; Arianna DeCorte, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B19**	**A New Spin on DNA Extraction: Validating SpermX GenSpin Differential Extraction for Sexual Assault Evidence Processing** Tori Tyree, BS*; Amy McGuckian, MFS; Julie Sikorsky, MSc; Kelly Beatty, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B20**	**Cell-Free DNA From Clinical Sperm Samples** Xuxiang LI, MS*; Robin Cotton, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B21**	**Differential Extraction: A Comparison of SpermX and I-Sep DL-MB to Determine Cell Separation Efficiency and Kit Sensitivity** Evan Wheeler, MS*; Rhonda Williams, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B22**	**From Swabs to Sequencing: Integrating Y-Screening and NGS Into Sexual Assault Evidence Processing** Lyndsy Stacy, MS*; Joshua Boster, MS; Rachel Houston, PhD; Jennifer Snedeker, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B23**	**DNA Sample Success Rates and Selecting the Most Impactful Evidence for DNA Testing** Julie Ferragut, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B24**	**MixMaSTR: A Software Package for Designing and Interpreting Forensic DNA Validation Studies** Sarah Riman, PhD*; Hari Iyer, PhD; Peter Vallone, PhD; Sarra Chouder, MSc; Edgar Robitaille; Benjamin Long, BBA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B25**	**Validation of the ForenSeq Kintelligence Kit on the MiSeq FGx for Investigative Genetic Genealogy at Marshall University Forensic Science Center** Tara Knoblach, BS*; Emma Katzmann, CLS; Eric Miller, MS; Laura Kuyper, MS; Cassandra Taylor, MS; Chelsea Garza, PharmD

CRIMINALISTICS

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B26**	**A Quantitative Analysis of 12 Cannabinoids from Cannabis Samples Using UPLC-UV-MS** Fiza Tajdin, BS*; Britni Skillman, PhD; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B27**	**A Synergistic Approach for Tobacco Authentication Based on Machine Learning and ATR/FTIR Spectroscopy** Vishal Sharma, PhD*; Akanksha Sharma, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B28**	**An Analysis of Fentanyl Analogs in Multi-Component Drug Mixtures Using Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy** Kristen Jerich, BSc*; Bruce McCord, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B29**	**A Cannabis Flower Potency Analysis by Using Liquid Chromatography/Triple Quadrupole/ Mass Spectrometry** Na Liu, PhD*; Liguo Song, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B30**	**The Development of a Validation and Implementation Package for the Quantification of Several Drugs by LC/MS/MS** Meghan Appley, PhD*; Sarah Shuda, MS; Edward Sisco, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B31**	**Drug Profiling in Marion County, Indiana, Using Advanced Statistical Methods and Chemometrics Based on Components Detected by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry** Natalie Holmes, BS*; Philip Brandyberry, MSFS; John Goodpaster, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B32**	**Evaluating Extraction Techniques for Mushrooms in Chocolate to Avoid Potential 4-Acetoxy-N,N-Dimethyltryptamine Hydrolysis** Naria Ford-Thompson, MSFS*; Elizabeth Shields
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B33**	**Investigating the Stability and Degradation of Psilocybin and Psilocin in Mushroom Gummies: Implications for Forensic Analysis** Alyssa Ricca, BS*; Marianne Staretz, PhD; Thomas Brettell, PhD; Mia Bercier, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B34**	**Microcrystalline Tests for the Detection of Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS)** Grace Pavel*; Ruby Alley*; Kimiko Ferguson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B35**	**The Development and Validation of a Rapid Direct Analysis in Real Time-Triple Quadrupole/ Mass Spectrometry (DART-QqQ/MS) Method for Screening Nitazene Analogs** Nicholas Khorozov, MS*; Alex Krotulski, PhD; Barry Logan, PhD; Joshua DeBord, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B36**	**The Development of a GC/MS Method for the Simultaneous Separation of 21 Different Acidic and Neutral Cannabinoids** Amal Ali, MA*; Mostafa Elhendawy, PhD; Mohamed Radwan, PhD; Amira Wanas, PhD; Mahmoud ElSohly, PhD; Murrell Godfrey, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B37**	**The Development of an Optimized Extraction Protocol for Cannabinoids From Cannabis Plant Material** Emma Fitzgibbons, MS*; Britni Skillman, PhD; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD

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11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B38**	**The Identification of Methyl-Substituted Fentanyl Analogs Using Optimized Weighting Within the Inverted Library Search Algorithm (ILSA)** Christany Liggins, BS*; Alleigh Couch, BS; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD; Arun Moorthy, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B39**	**Under the Light: UV/Vis Spectrophotometry as a Tool for Characterizing Designer and Traditional Benzodiazepines in Varying Solvent Systems** Kailee Marchand, BS*; Cailin Herl, MScFS; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD; Alaina Anderson, MS; James Miller, MA; Mona Colca, BA *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B40**	**Using Dry ATR/FTIR Spectroscopy to Identify 1,4-Butanediol in Alcoholic Beverages** Thomas Spudich, PhD*; Ethan Nugen; Christina Hayes, MNS; Marissa Purfeerst, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B41**	**A Headspace Analysis of Reference Grade and Seized Xylazine, 4-ANPP, and Nitazenes** Sadie Olrogg, BS*; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B42**	**LC/MS and GC/MS Analyses of the Decomposition Products of Fentanyl Using Various Oxidative Processes** Mehdi Moini, PhD*; Edward Bentil, PhD; Brian Eckenrode, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B43**	**Nitazene Analog Identification Using a Combination of Liquid Chromatography/ Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS) and Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS)** Audrey Pless, BS*; Oriana Ovide, MS; Kai Allen, BS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B44**	**Optimizing a Portable-Capillary Liquid Chromatograph With Diode Array Detection for Illicit Drug Analysis** Lauren Deem, BS*; Abigail Ladau, BS; Ira Lurie, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B45**	**The Validation of an LC-PDA Method for the Quantitative Analysis of Cannabinoids in Homemade and Commercial Gummies** Ya-Chih (Jessica) Cheng, PhD*; Walter Wilson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B46**	**Addressing the Oxygen in the Room: A Novel Approach for the Identification of Nitazene Analogs by Oxygenated Species Using DART-MS** Emma Hardwick, BA*; Alleigh Couch, BS; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B47**	**Distinguishing Positional Isomers of Methylfentanyl** Jennifer Skuches, MS*; Brianna Singh, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B48**	**Enhancing Canine Detection Through the International Commission on Detector Dogs (ICODD)** Kenneth Furton, PhD*; Kelvin Frank, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B49**	**Illicit Cannabis Cultivation in California: Illegal Pesticides, False Packaging, and Risks to Human Health** Vidia Gokool, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B50**	**Quantifying Dosage Risk: Fentanyl Concentrations in Counterfeit Drugs From Border Seizures** Mia Borrelli, MSFS*; Amanda Mohr, MS; Barry Logan, PhD; Thom Browne, MA

CRIMINALISTICS

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B51**	**An Evaluation of Deactivations on Gas Chromatographic Stationary Phases for the Analysis of Seized Drugs of Abuse** Amanda Ridgon, BS*; Corby Hilliard; Jared Burkhart, BSc Jamie York, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B52**	**The Deal With Diluents: Fentanyl Test Strips and How Diluents Affect Their Limit of Detection** Kate Mongold, MS*; Heather Barkholtz, PhD; Meshel Lange, MS; Mason Shields, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B53**	**The Impact of Environmental Contaminants on the Accuracy of Bacterial-Signature-Based Identification of Human Saliva Samples** Briley Peacher, BS*; Baneshwar Singh, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B54**	**Improving Source Attribution of Kratom Products Through Novel DNA Barcode Markers** Jasmine Sierra, BS*; Cesar Cantu Jr., PhD; Rachel Houston, PhD; Kari Graham, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B55**	**An Evaluation of OpiumPlex for Genetic Profiling of the Opium Poppy** Greta Hundtofte, BS*; Sara Willer, MS; Rachel Houston, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B56**	**Analyzing the Effects of Time and Temperature on SNP Markers in Fingernails to Indicate Asian and African American Descent** Heather Coyle, PhD; Kelly Murphy, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B57**	**Sub-Regional Biogeographic Inference for East Asian Populations Using 165 AISNPs and Machine Learning** Sohee Cho, PhD*; Sojung Lim, MD; Soong Deok Lee, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B58**	**The Genetic Evidence Trail: Investigating MicroRNA Markers and Their Connection to Body Mass Index** Daja Bonilla, BSFS*; J. Paul Brooks, PhD; Sarah Seashols-Williams, PhD; Tracey Dawson Green, PhD; Xiaomeng (Simone) Yang, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B59**	**That's Some Pig: Protocol Optimization for the Analysis of DNA in Unpulverized Cremated Remains** Kendall Kroha, MS*: Stephanie Gladyck, PhD; Austin Wickham, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B60**	**Studying Human Decomposition Under Dry, Hot Desert Conditions: An Environmental Simulation Experiment** Ashley Kaufman, BS*; Sheree Hughes, PhD; Mayra Eduardoff, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B61**	**The Umbilical Cord as a Novel DNA Sample for Comparison to Unidentified Human Remains** Adelee Conner, MFS*; Cory Lawton, MFS; David Orbin, MFS; Ashley Platt, MS; Stephanie Storino, MPS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B62**	**Infrared Insights: Using FTIR Spectroscopy to Predict DNA Viability in Burnt Bone Samples** Emily Jasek, BS*; Ahana Chatterjee, MS; Amy Mundorff, PhD; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD; Mayra Eduardoff, PhD; Armando Anzellini, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B63**	**Direct STR Amplification of Human Hair Roots** Stephanie Betts, MS; Ivette Espinoza Quiroga, MS; Linda Otterstatter, BS; Joseph Donfack, PhD*

CRIMINALISTICS

Thursday—Session I

Trace DNA and Activity-Level Evaluation

Moderator: Harmeet Kaur, PhD — Co-Moderator: Amber Smith, MSFS

8:00 am—8:15 am	**B64**	**The Fundamental Principles of Activity-Level Evaluation and Their Application to a DNA Case** Simone Gittelson, PhD*; Tim Kalafut, PhD; James Curran, PhD; John Buckleton, DSc
8:15 am—8:30 am	**B65**	**Activity-Level Evaluations of Realistic Crime Scene Scenarios** Ashley Hall, PhD*; Ray Wickenheiser, DPS*
8:30 am—8:45 am	**B66**	**An Enhanced Recovery Method to Improve DNA Profiling Success From Handled Bullet Casings** Andria Morgan-Capers, BS*; Susan Greenspoon, PhD; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD; Stephanie Walcott, MScFS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
8:45 am—9:00 am	**B67**	**The SCAnDi Project: Single-Cell Analysis for DNA Identification** Iain Macaulay, PhD; Katherine Brown, PhD; George Zouganelis, PhD*; Lorna Dawson, PhD; Ardhenu Beheraa, PhD
9:00 am—9:15 am	**B68**	**Continued Optimization of a High-Resolution Melt-Based Mixture Screening Tool and Evaluation as a Contributor Identification Tool** Kiersten Fultz, BS*; Tracey Dawson Green, PhD; Chastyn Smith, PhD
9:15 am—9:30 am		**BREAK**

The Annie Le Homicide

Moderator: Lynne Burley, MS — Co-Moderator: Dragan Primorac, MD, PhD

9:30 am—10:15 am	**B69**	**When the DNA Doesn't Match the Timeline: The Annie Le Homicide and the Forensic Challenges of Unexpected DNA in Unexpected Places** Eric Carita, MS*; Peter Valentin, PhD*
10:15 am—10:30 am		**BREAK**

Probabilistic Genotyping

Moderator: Sylvia Etim — Co-Moderator: Catherine Navetta, BS

10:30 am—10:45 am	**B70**	**Lessons Learned in Implementing and Validating Probabilistic Genotyping** R. Austin Hicklin, PhD*; Nicole Richetelli, PhD*
10:45 am—11:00 am	**B71**	**Turning Unsearchable Mixtures Into Actionable Intelligence for Reliable DNA Evidence** Edward Schikel, MBA*; Terrance Lewis, MA; Mark Perlin, MD, PhD*; Matthew Legler, BS
11:00 am—11:15 am	**B72**	**Understanding and Reducing Variability in Complex DNA Mixture Interpretation: The Centre of Forensic Sciences Strategic Mixture Review** Kelly Bowie, MSc; Tanis Gornall, MS; Michael Bissonnette, MS*; Sonja Stadler, PhD; Melanie Richard, MSc

11:15 am—11:30 am	**B73**	**Why Not Ys? Probabilistic Interpretation of Y-STRs** Jo-Anne Bright, PhD*; Emma Marie, MSc; John Buckleton, DSc; Paul Stafford-Allen, BSc; Hannah Kelly, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

The Past Year and How it Will Shape the Future

Moderator: Hannah Eisenmenger, MS Co-Moderator: Kaylene Bishop, MSc

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**B74**	**A New Resource for Reporting DNA Limitations From the Human Forensic Biology Subcommittee of the OSAC** Jarrah Kennedy, MS*; Michelle Madrid, MS*
1:15 pm—1:45 pm	**B75**	**Highlights and Lessons From the 2025 INTERPOL DNA Review** John Butler, PhD*
1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**B76**	**Standards Development Activities in Human Forensic Biology** Jillian Conte, PhD*; Charlotte Word, PhD; Jarrah Kennedy, MS
2:00 pm—2:30 pm	**B77**	**How Increasing Transparency in Casefile Documentation Strengthened a Laboratory's Quality Management System** Britton Morin, MSFS*; Jan Pappas, MS*
2:30 pm—2:45 pm	**B78**	**Restoring Scientific Rigor in Forensic Science in South Africa** Antonel Olckers, PhD*
2:45 pm—3:00 pm		**BREAK**

Innovations in Sexual Assault Investigations

Moderator: Kelly Knight, MS Co-Moderator: Heather Kramer, MS

3:00 pm—3:15 pm	**B79**	**Single-Cell Evaluations About How Many and Who Donated to the Sperm** Catherine Grgicak, PhD*; Anu Khandelwal, MS; Desmond Lun, PhD; Qhawe Bhembe, MS
3:15 pm—3:30 pm	**B80**	**Catch a Sperm! The Integration of STK Sperm Tracker and Immunochromatographic Tests for Simultaneous Detection of Semen and Saliva in Sexual Assault Cases** Mayaas Hassan, BA; Lucia Julvez Martinez, BA; Sara C. Zapico, PhD*: Gabriela Roca, MD, PhD; Polina Khalizov; Jennifer Santos, BS
3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**B81**	**The Development of a High-Throughput Automated Method to Process Sexual Assault Kits With Increased Male DNA Recovery Utilizing an Innovative Technology** Yogesh Prasad, PhD*; Hiromi Brown, PhD; Sudhir Sinha, PhD; Randy Nagy, BSc; Sid Sinha, MBA; Anusha Prasad
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**B82**	**A Proteomic Analysis of DNA Extraction and Isolation Waste: Having Your DNA Cake and Proteome Too!** Glendon Parker, PhD*; Daniella Corene Luistro, MSFS; Kyle Burk, MS; Allysa Tewksbury, MSFS; Phillip Danielson, PhD; Christian Westering, PhD
4:00 pm—4:30 pm	**B83**	**Harnessing New Enzymes to Improve Differential Extraction** Robin Cotton, PhD*
4:30 pm—4:45 pm		**BREAK**

*Presenting Author

Non-Human DNA

Moderator: Ashley Hall, PhD — Co-Moderator: Sarah Seashols, PhD

4:45 pm—5:00 pm	**B84**	**Optimizing a DNA-Based Workflow for Distinguishing Marijuana From Hemp: An Alternative to Traditional GC/MS Analysis** Rory Conn, BS*; Ya-Chih (Jessica) Cheng, PhD; Tanya Ryzi, BS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
5:00 pm—5:15 pm	**B85**	**Tracing Time Through Touch: Fingerprints and Microbes as Temporal Tools to Date Evidence** Josep De Alcaraz-Fossoul, PhD*
5:15 pm—5:30 pm	**B86**	**Utilizing Digital PCR to Track Bacterial Transfer Following Sexual Assault** Dipanwita Raha, BSc*; Andrea Ramirez-Torres, BS; Bruce McCord, PhD; George Duncan, PhD; Mirna Ghemrawi, PhD
5:30 pm—5:45 pm	**B87**	**WITHDRAWN**

Thursday—Session II

Let's Get this Controled Substances Party Started, Bring your own Beads

Moderator: Brooke Kammrath, PhD — Co-Moderator: Marianne Staretz, PhD

8:00 am—8:15 am	**B88**	**The 2026 Update From the Scientific Working Group for the Analysis of Seized Drugs (SWGDRUG)** Jaclyn Iera, PhD*
8:15 am—8:30 am	**B89**	**Seized Drug Trends in the Northeastern United States: A Decade of Macro and Micro Trends** Tara Rossy, BS*
8:30 am—8:45 am	**B90**	**ATR/FTIR and Raman Hyperspectral Imaging With Chemometric Modeling for the Detection of Xylazine in Illicit Drug Mixtures** Xuyang He, PhD*
8:45 am—9:00 am	**B91**	**Multi-Drug Quantification by LC/MS/MS: Overcoming Enhancement and Suppression** Joshua DeBord, PhD*; Max Denn, MS; Barry Logan, PhD; Alex Krotulski, PhD
9:00 am—9:15 am	**B92**	**A Method Development for Ultraviolet Absorbance and Fluorescence Detection of Psilocybin and Psilocin Following Liquid Chromatographic Separation** George Sakellariou, BS*; Walter Wilson, PhD; Ya-Chih (Jessica) Cheng, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
9:15 am—9:30 am	**B93**	**Distinguishing Between the Tandem Mass Spectra of Positional Fentanyl Analogs Using the Expert Algorithm for Substance Identification** Alexandra Adeoye, MS*; Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz, PhD; Glen Jackson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
9:30 am—9:45 am	**B94**	**The Optimization and Validation of a Method for Rapid Quantitation of Fentanyl in Seized-Drug Samples Using Direct Analysis in Real Time-Mass Spectrometry (DART-MS)** Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz, PhD*
9:45 am—10:00 am		**BREAK**

CRIMINALISTICS

Criminalistics Gone Wild - AGAIN?!

Moderator: Kyle Konkol, BS | Co-Moderator: Patrick Buzzini, PhD | Co-Moderator: Michelle Miranda, PhD

10:00 am—10:30 am	**B95**	**It Could Happen to You: A Forensic Scientist in the Crosshairs—Epilog** Laskowski Gregory, MPA*
10:30 am—12:00 pm	**B96**	**Criminalistics Gone Wild—Does Technology Kill the Truth?** Patrick Buzzini, PhD*; Anna Duggar, PhD*; Claude Roux, PhD*; Michelle Miranda, PhD*; Sheila Willis, DSc*; Mark Profili, MFS*
12:00 pm—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

The Smallest Clues Ignite the Biggest Presentations

Moderator: Beth Goodspeed, MS | Co-Moderator: Luther Schaeffer, MFSF

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**B97**	**Standards Development Activities in Trace Materials** Sandra Koch, PhD*; Celeste Grover, MSFS; Jennifer Remy, MS
1:15 pm—1:45 pm	**B98**	**The Basics of Light Microscopy: Getting the Most Out of Your Microscope** James Schrode, BS*
1:45 pm—2:00 pm	**B99**	**Assessing the Utility of Elemental Profiling to Differentiate the Silt-Sized Fraction of Soils Collected at Varying Spatial Scales** Peixuan Du, BS*; Libby Stern, PhD; Jack Hietpas, PhD; Kelly Meiklejohn, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
2:00 pm—2:15 pm	**B100**	**An Investigation of the Effects of Detonation on the Analysis and Comparison of Electrical Tape Backings** Swathi Murali, MS*; Patrick Buzzini, PhD
2:15 pm—2:30 pm	**B101**	**The Effects of Adhesives on the Subsequent Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Analysis of Paint and Fibers** Ashlyn Bartley, MSFS*; Ted Schwartz, MS
2:30 pm—2:45 pm	**B102**	**Using Raman Microscopy to Distinguish Dyed Textile Fibers** Alexis Wilcox, MS*; Lydia Burnett, MASc; Joseph Donfack, PhD
2:45 pm—3:00 pm	**B103**	**A Deep Transfer Learning Framework for the Detection of Ignitable Liquid Residues in Burned Substrates Across Inter-Laboratory GC/MS Systems** Ting-Yu Huang, PhD*; Jorn Yu, PhD
3:00 pm—3:15 pm	**B104**	**A Refinement of the Expert Algorithm for Substance Identification (EASI) to Predict ASTM E1618-19 Ignitable Liquid Classes From Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry Data of Ignitable Liquid Residues** Hannah McMillen, MS*; Glen Jackson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
3:15 pm—3:30 pm	**B105**	**An Evaluation of Kinetic and Thermodynamic Approaches to Predict Evaporation of Gasoline** Jenna Leppek, BS*; Hannah LaVoie, BS; Victoria McGuffin, PhD; Ruth Waddell Smith, PhD

3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**B106**	**The Application of a Conditional Source Estimation Method Using Competitive Similarity to Aluminum Powder Sources From Detonated Improvised Explosives Device** Janean Hanka, MS*; Jack Hietpas, PhD; Danica Ommen, PhD; JoAnn Buscaglia, PhD; Christopher Saunders, PhD; Donald Gantz, PhD
3:45 pm—4:00 pm		**BREAK**

Prints and Pistols

Moderator: Elizabeth Gardner, PhD — Co-Moderator: Hamidreza Sharifan, PhD

4:00 pm—4:30 pm	**B107**	**Evaluating Reporting Practices in Fingerprint Comparisons Using Information Theory: Five Response Categories Are Better Than Three** Thomas Busey, PhD*; Jeffrey Starns, PhD; Meredith Coon, MFS; Nada Aggadi, BA; Andrew Cohen, PhD
4:30 pm—4:45 pm	**B108**	**Forensic Fingerprint Detection Through Adhesive Tapes Using Optical Coherence Tomography** Jiayun Liu, PhD*; Eddie Tan; Yan Wen Crystal Tan, BSc; Chin Chin Lim; Chiew Yung Yang, MFSA
4:45 pm—5:00 pm	**B109**	**Standards Development Activities Related to Friction Ridge Examination** Steven Johnson, BS*; Heidi Eldridge, PhD
5:00 pm—5:15 pm	**B110**	**Advancing the Understanding of 3D Imaging for Firearms Identification** Melissa Nally, BA*; Heike Hofmann, PhD*; Alicia Carriquiry, PhD; Jeffrey Salyards, PhD; Donna Eudaley, BS*; Preshious Rearden, PhD
5:15 pm—5:30 pm	**B111**	**Accuracy, Efficacy, and Reproducibility of Muzzle-to-Target Distance Determination Using Gunshot Residue** R. Austin Hicklin, PhD*; Nicole Richetelli, PhD*
5:30 pm—5:45 pm	**B112**	**WITHDRAWN**
5:30 pm—5:45 pm	**B113**	**The AFTE Procedural Support Committee** Jennifer Floyd, BS*
5:45 pm—6:00 pm	**B114**	**OSAC/ASB Standards Development Activities in Firearm and Toolmark Examination** Rebecca LoBalbo, MPA; Jennifer Floyd, BS*

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B115**	**An Investigation of the Secondary Transfer of GSR From a Shooter to Common Inanimate Objects** Brittany Claassen, MS*; Charley Cross, BS; Kim Kunkler, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B116**	**An Evaluation of Barrel Wear Caused by Polymer-Coated Ammunition** Eden Amin, BS/BA*; Eric Law, PhD; James Creecy, PhD; Stephanie Luehr, MS
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B117**	**A Quantitative Analysis of Full and Partial Shotgun Pellet Patterns for Distance Determination** Jamison Trimber, BS*; Stephanie Walcott, MScFS

CRIMINALISTICS

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B118**	**A Handcrafted Pen Gun Suicide: A Case Report** Quentin Rébillard, MD*; Christian Brocard, PhD; Laurent Martrille, MD, PhD; Emmanuel Margueritte, MD; Clarisse Dubois, MD; Elise Arbefeuille, MD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B119**	**A Comparison of Solid Phase Microextraction and Purge and Trap Methods for Measuring VOCs Emanating From Li-Ion Batteries and Electronic Media** Samuel DeNight, BS*; Edward Bentil, PhD; Brian Eckenrode, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**B120**	**Crystals Under the Lens: A Microscopical and Micro-Raman Analysis of Inorganic Oxidizers in Pyrotechnic-Based IEDs** Carissa Burton, BS*; Jared Estevanes, PhD; Patrick Buzzini, PhD; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B121**	**Evaluating Line Illumination Sampling of a Hand-Held Raman Spectrometer for Detecting Hydraulic Fluid Contamination in Jet Fuel** Megan Linson, BS*; Javier Hodges, BS; Jorn Yu, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B122**	**Optimizing Explosives Detection: How Burial Medium and Moisture Influence Ammonium Nitrate Vapor Transport** Joel Fuentes Carrasco, BS*; Emma Calabrese, PhD; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD; Lindsay Waldrop, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B123**	**Rapid Spectrophotometric Identification of Peroxide-Based Explosives Using a Modified Iodometric Method** Alana Connor*; Marianne Staretz, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B124**	**The Application of Deep Learning in Source Attribution of Ignitable Liquid Residues in Fire Debris for Forensic Fire Investigation** Ting-Yu Huang, PhD*; Jorn Yu, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B125**	**The Rapid Classification of Diesel and Gasoline by Raman Spectroscopy and Machine Learning in Support of Fire Investigations** Jung Tsai, BSc*; Jorn Yu, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B126**	**TNT Explosive Residue Detection: An Investigation of Swabbing Substrates and Solvents Across Witness Materials Using GC-MS** Krystal VanHorn, BS*; Nicholas Jernigan, MS; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD; Jared Estevanes, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B127**	**Two Techniques, One Goal: An Analysis of Intact Explosives Using Confocal Raman Microscopy and Direct Analysis in Real Time-High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (DART-HRMS)** Shannon Keyser, BS*; Alleigh Couch, BS; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD; Jared Estevanes, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B128**	**Using Maggots as Passive Samplers for Explosive Odor Volatiles in Soil-Buried Scenarios** Laney Kimble, BS*; Joshua Smith, PhD; Paola Tiedemann, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B129**	**Augmenting Dogs and Sensors for Improved Detection of Explosives and Drugs** Stephen Isbel, MS*; Patrick Roman, PhD; Kenneth Furton, PhD; Abuzar Kabir, PhD; Kelvin Frank, PhD; Michaela Clarke, MS

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11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B130**	**Gelatin-Based Hydrogels as a Novel Medium for the Efficient Recovery of Organic Explosives from Post-Blast Residues: A Forensic Perspective** Khalid Feras, MPhil*; Khaled Masoud, PhD; Syed Mujeebudin, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B131**	**Beyond the Surface of Architectural Paint: A Comparative Analysis Using DART-MS and Spectroscopic Techniques** Geraldine Monjardez, PhD*; John Laetsch, MS; Patrick Buzzini, PhD; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD; Alleigh Couch, BS; Morgan Carpenter, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B132**	**Developing a Scale to Categorize the Sheddability of Fibers From Fabrics** Flavia Bucci Casari degli Atti di Sassoferrato, MS*; Ted Schwartz, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B133**	**Evaluating the Reproducibility and Interpretive Value of Micro-Spectrophotometry in the Forensic Differentiation of Blue Cotton and Polyester Fibers** Britney Hitt, MSc*; Deborah Moi, BSc; Larry Tang, PhD; Slun Booppasiri, MS; Andres Campiglia, PhD; Maria Aldaba
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B134**	**A Multi-Analytical Characterization and Discrimination of Electrical Tapes Using GC/MS, FTIR, and Evaluation of Physical and Optical Properties** Rayven Cobb, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B135**	**On the Characterization and Differentiation of Clearcoats in Automotive Paint Using UV-Visible Microspectrophotometry, FTIR Spectroscopy, and Raman Spectroscopy** Swathi Murali, MS*; Morgan Carpenter, BS; Patrick Buzzini, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B136**	**Thermal Alteration of Pollen Grains: Implications for Forensic Analysis** Jessica Valerio*; Anna Duggar, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B137**	**DyeSPY: Establishing the First Forensic SERS Reference for Hair Dye Colorant Evidence** Aidan Holman, BSc*; Avery Maalouf; Dmitry Kurouski, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B138**	**The Persistence of Soil Traces on Footwear: Interactions Between Organic Content and Contact Surface** Ashley Buchman, BS*; Jennifer Bonetti, PhD; Lawrence Quarino, PhD; Andra Lewis, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B139**	**A Comparison and Characterization of Nitrocellulose, Gel, and Dip Powder Nail Products as Forensic Trace Evidence** Madison Lindung, MSFS*; Mallory Higgins; Tatiana Trejos, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B140**	**Adhesive Tapes as Sorbent Supports: The Innovation, Challenges, and Potential of Activated Charcoal-Coated Tapes for Fire Debris Analysis** Grace Boyer; Alyssa Eddington, BS; Cynthia Tran, PhD*; Derek Collins, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B141**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B142**	**Identifying Fiber Sources From Absorbance Spectral Data Using Statistics and Machine Learning** Slun Booppasiri, MS*; Larry Tang, PhD*; Andres Campiglia, PhD; Britney Hitt, MSc; Deborah Moi, BSc; Maria Aldaba

CRIMINALISTICS

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B143**	**Exploring the Persistence and Transfer of Trace DNA Samples Recovered From Door Handles in Burglary Scenarios** James Seltzer, BS*; Mechthild Prinz, PhD; Fabio Oldoni, PhD; Georgina Meakin, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B144**	**Investigating the Dynamics of Trace DNA in a Burglary Scenario** Hailee Weiss, BS*; Edward Schikel, MBA; Fabio Oldoni, PhD; Megan Foley, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B145**	**The Impact of Dissolvable Swab Technology for Single-Cell DNA Recovery From Forensic Evidence** Assa John, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B146**	**Time Since Deposition Signatures for Trace Biological Samples Using Cellular Autofluorescence** Gabrielle Wolfe, BS*; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B147**	**An Investigation of DNA Contribution From Trace Samples Recovered From a Screwdriver Used as a Murder Weapon** Lauren Kennedy, BS*; Mechthild Prinz, PhD; Fabio Oldoni, PhD; Tacha Hicks, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B148**	**Indirect DNA Transfer to Duct Tape Rolls and Fidget Blasters Stored in Cars** Rachel Chan, MS; Yuching Chung, MS; Mechthild Prinz, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B149**	**Evaluating the Impact of Surface Type and Swab Moistening Conditions on Trace Collection Efficiency** Anna Franzoni, MSc*; Michele Rosso, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B150**	**The Evaluation of a Mini-Vacuum Device for the Collection for Low-Level Samples** Kayli Carrillo, BS*; Rachel Houston, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B151**	**The Influence of Primary Contact Deoxyrinonuleacic Acid (DNA) on the Detection of Passively Transferred DNA in Forensic Casework Environments** Lauren Watts, BS*; Kimberly Freeman, MFS; Susan Greenspoon, PhD; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B152**	**Exploring the Persistence and Transfer of DNA Under Fingernails in Mock Physical Assaults** Jean Poulson, BS*; Sarah Gino, MD; Daniele Podini, PhD; Fabio Oldoni, PhD; Anna Franzoni, MSc *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B153**	**ChronoGenetics: Beyond Identity—Reconstructing the When, Where, and Why of DNA Evidence** Tasneem Abdelaziz*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B154**	**Method Development for Interpreting DNA Mixtures From SNP Sequencing Data** Betzaida Maldonado, MSFS*; Christopher Gignoux, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**B155**	**Enhancing Forensic DNA Interpretation: A Combined STR-Microhaplotype Framework for EuroForMix** Natalie Holder, BS*; Abigail McDougall, BS*; Daniele Podini, PhD; Zack Beyerl, MFS

CRIMINALISTICS

Friday—Session I

Hairs, Bones, and Missing Persons

Moderator: Nasir Butt, PhD — Co-Moderator: Megan Foley, MSFS, PhD

8:00 am – 8:15 am	**B156**	**Optimized Silica Column-Based Extraction for the Capture of Highly Degraded Nuclear DNA From Rootless Hairs** Mia Gale, BS*; Vinalon Mones, MFS; Daniele Podini, PhD; Helene Douglas, BSc; Elaine Lewis, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
8:15 am—8:30 am	**B157**	**The Extraction and Genotyping of Nuclear DNA From Rootless Hair Shafts Using Capture Hybridization** Daniele Podini, PhD*; Elaine Lewis, PhD; Helene Douglas, BSc; Vinalon Mones, MFS Mia Gale, BS
8:30 am—8:45 am	**B158**	**The Impact of Maggot Feeding on Tissue Time Point Collection and DNA Recovery Success From Decomposing Rat (*Rattus Norvegicus*) Tissues** Ashley Morgan, PhD*; Samantha Sawyer, PhD
8:45 am—9:00 am	**B159**	**Why Mutation Models Matter: Enhancing Accuracy in Relationship Testing** Sanne Aalbers, PhD*; Katherine Gettings, PhD
9:00 am—9:15 am	**B160**	**Missing Person Identification: Anthropologic and Genetic Analyses of the Remains of the Fourth Victim of a Serial Killer in Southwest Ghana** Kofi Afrifah, APM*
9:15 am—9:30 am	**B161**	**Enhancing Identification of Unidentified Human Remains: The Performance of SNP-Based Approaches Across Diverse Ancestries** Heather McKiernan, PhD*
9:30 am—9:45 am		**BREAK**

Rapid DNA

Moderator: Kristen Thoms, MSFS — Co-Moderator: Pamela Marshall, PhD

9:45 am—10:00 am	**B162**	**A Computer Interpretation of RapidHIT Mixtures for DNA Match Information** Paul Berry, MS*; Baron Andrus, MS: Mark Perlin, MD, PhD*; William Allan, MS
10:00 am—10:15 am	**B163**	**Rapid DNA Identification of Human Remains in Diverse Conditions: What Works, What Doesn't** Kayli Carrillo, BS*; Sheree Hughes, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:15 am—10:30 am	**B164**	**An Evaluation of Compromised Teeth Using an Optimized Sample Preparation Method and the Applied Biosystems RapidHIT ID System** Raygan Harrington, MScFS*; Yen Dang, MScFS; Tracey Dawson Green, PhD; Ali Mojarad, DDS; Janina Golob Deeb, DDS; Morgan Eaton, MScFS
10:30 am—10:45 am		**BREAK**

CRIMINALISTICS

Lessons From Exonerations

Moderator: Amanda Mendoza, MS — Co-Moderator: Khalid Lodhi, DSc

10:45 am—11:30 am **B165** **Forensic Science Bias Against the Wrongfully Accused: Sperm Fractions, Defense Hypotheses, Screening Tests, and the Absence of Evidence—Lessons From Exonerations**
Greg Hampikian, PhD*

11:30 am—1:00 pm **BREAK**

Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy

Moderator: Season Seferyn, MSFS — Co-Moderator: Fabio Oldoni, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm **B166** **The Current Landscape of Forensic Genetic Genealogy Implementation, Understanding, and Opinions in the United States**
Julia Otto*; Melanie Armstrong, BA; Tynan Peterson, MA; Megan Foley, PhD

1:15 pm—1:30 pm **B167** **How Should We Report Genetic Matches Following an Investigative Genetic Genealogy Search?**
Feriel Ouerghi, BS*; Michael Edge, PhD; Dan Krane, PhD

1:30 pm—2:15 pm **B168** **When Science Speaks for the Dead: A Multi-Collaboration for Human Remains Identification**
Lisa Mertz, MS*; Karen Ross, JD*

2:15 pm—2:30 pm **BREAK**

Massively Parallel Sequencing

Moderator: Christina Sorensen — Co-Moderator: Nidhi Subhashini, PhD

2:30 pm—2:50 pm **B169** **Solving Complex DNA Mixtures With Next Generation Sequencing**
Kari Danser, MS*; William Allan, MS; Mark Perlin, MD, PhD*

2:50 pm—3:10 pm **B170** **The Developmental Validation of Software for Deconvolution of Mixed mtDNA Samples**
Brian Young, PhD*; Tom Faris, BSc

3:10 pm—3:30 pm **B171** **The Development and Evaluation of a Phase Analysis Pathway for mtDNA Mixture Deconvolution**
Zack Beyerl, MFS*; Robert Lagacé, BA; Daniele Podini, PhD
(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)

3:30 pm—3:50 pm **B172** **An Evaluation of a qPCR-Based Normalization Strategy to Improve Sample-to-Sample Read Depth Balance in STR Libraries Generated Using the IDseek CombiSTR Plus Reverse Complement PCR Technology**
Eleanor Starkey, BS*; Coral Smith, MS; Jill van Wolferen, MSc; Joop Theelen, BASc; Mirna Ghemrawi, PhD
(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)

3:50 pm—4:10 pm **B173** **A Forensic Quantification Kit for Human and Bacterial DNA Using Nanoplate Digital Polymerase Chain Reaction**
Sylvia Etim, MS*; Bruce McCord, PhD
(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)

4:10 pm—4:30 pm	**B174**	**An Evaluation of the NexGenID Software for Complex Mixture Deconvolution Using Microhaplotypes** Lauren Borchert, BS*; Sarah Cavanaugh, MSFS; Daniele Podini, PhD; Andrew Feldman, PhD; Emily Kim, BS; Jeffrey Lin, MS
4:30 pm—4:50 pm	**B175**	**Linkage Patterns of Forensically Relevant Identity SNPs and Autosomal STRs Commonly Multiplexed in Sequencing Assays** Isabella George, MFS*; Megan Foley, PhD; Daniele Podini, PhD; Jamie Belrose, PhD
4:50 pm—5:10 pm	**B176**	**The Identification and Optimization of MicroRNA Biomarkers for Predicting Body Weight and Muscularity in Forensic Samples** Xiaomeng (Simone) Yang, MS*; Daja Bonilla, BSFS; Sarah Seashols-Williams, PhD; Paul Brooks, PhD; Kimberly Lettner, MFS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
5:10 pm—5:30 pm	**B177**	**Next-Gen Solutions: Advancing the Detection of Degraded DNA in Forensics** Emily Quartemont, BS*; Kristen Naughton, BS; Heather Sarik, MS

Friday—Session II

The Fungicide Did It

Moderator: James Cizdziel, PhD — Co-Moderator: Geraldine Monjardez, PhD

8:00 am—8:15 am	**B178**	**Impurity Profiling: A Critical Nexus of Pharmaceutical Quality and Forensic Drug Investigation** Tahir Jamshaid, MPhil*
8:15 am—8:30 am	**B179**	**Quantifying the Similarity of Chemical Spectra** Hana Lee, PhD; Alicia Carriquiry, PhD*
8:30 am—8:45 am	**B180**	**Validation in Forensic Science: Guiding Principles for the Collection and Use of Validation Data** Henry Swofford, PhD*
8:45 am—9:00 am	**B181**	**WITHDRAWN**
9:00 am—9:15 am	**B182**	**A Bug's Life: A Soft Ionization Mass Spectrometric Approach for the Species Identification of Unknown Entomological Evidence for Postmortem Interval Determination** Alexa Figueroa, BS*; Robert Cody, PhD; Rabi Musah, PhD; Jennifer Rosati, PhD
9:15 am—9:30 am	**B183**	**The Detection of Oral Fluid Stains on Fabric Via Solution Extraction Combined With Deep Ultraviolet Raman Spectroscopy** Igor Lednev, PhD*; Mohamed Amin, PhD; Entesar Al-Hetlani, PhD
9:30 am—9:50 am	**B184**	**The Fungicide Did It: False Negatives and Decreased Sensitivity of Heme Tests on a Leather Substrate** Lily Manzi, BA; Allyn Schoeffler, PhD; Anna Duggar, PhD*
9:50 am—10:10 am		**BREAK**

CRIMINALISTICS

A Green Groundhog in Virtual Reality

Moderator: A. Bakarr Kanu, PhD, MRSC Co-Moderator: Tiffany Rodriguez, MS

10:10 am—10:30 am **B185** **Moving Toward a More Sustainability Forensic Science**
Thomas Brettell, PhD*

10:30 am—11:00 am **B186** **The Three Stages of Standards Acceptance: A Groundhog Day's Guide to Implementation**
Vincent Desiderio, MS*; Allison Getz, MS*

11:00 am—11:30 am **B187** **Developing an End-to-End Workflow to Perform Crime Scene Investigation and Training in Virtual Reality**
Vincenzo Rinaldi, MSc*; Niamh Nic Daeid, PhD*

11:30 am—1:00 pm **BREAK**

This Session Is Dope!

Moderator: Mikaela Romanelli, MS Co-Moderator: Glen Jackson, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm **B188** **That's Dope: A Novel Approach for the Differentiation of Δ9-THC Isomers in Cannabis**
Alleigh Couch, BS*; Emma Hardwick, BA; J. Tyler Davidson, PhD; Christopher Zall, PhD; Christany Liggins, BS
(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)

1:15 pm—1:45 pm **B189** **Forensic Alcohol Testing of Jello Shots Given to Children**
Laura Labay, PhD*; Lee Blum, PhD; Michael Lamb, MS; Justine Drake, MSFS; Nina McCullough, BA

1:45 pm—2:00 pm **B190** **Recent Trends in Fentanyl Adulteration: Results From the Near Real-Time Drug Checking RaDAR Program**
Edward Sisco, PhD*

2:00 pm—2:15 pm **B191** **Thirdhand Exposure to Drugs From Residual Contamination: An analysis of Seized Contaminated Vehicles and Experimental Tests From Simulated Smoking of Methamphetamine in an Uncontaminated Vehicle**
Stewart Walker, PhD*; Gemma Kerry, BSc; Jackie Wright, PhD; Kirstin Ross, PhD

2:15 pm—2:30 pm **B192** **The Detection and Quantification of Synthetic Cannabinoids and Other Novel Psychoactive Substances in Jail Contraband**
Max Denn, MS*; Nicholas Khorozov, MS; Barry Logan, PhD; Alex Krotulski, PhD; Joshua DeBord, PhD

2:30 pm—2:45 pm **B193** **Resolving the "Unresolvable" Tandem Mass Spectra of the Isomers THC and CBD Using the Expert Algorithm for Substance Identification (EASI)**
Alexandra Adeoye, MS; Glen Jackson, PhD*

2:45 pm—3:00 pm **B194** **An Investigation Into the Decreased Abundance of Heroin in a Complex Mixture: A Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) Case Study of Seized Drug Evidence**
Mikaela Romanelli, MS*

3:00 pm—3:15 pm **B195** **The Transacetylation of Controlled Substances in Analytical Matrices**
Bailey Davis, MPS*; Jaclyn Beshlian, MFS*; Anthony Chiusano, BS; Jennifer Yung, MS; Daniel Azevedo, BS

3:15 pm—3:30 pm **BREAK**

*Presenting Author

CRIMINALISTICS

You Can't Hide Your Dope From These Dogs

Moderator: Pete Ausili, MS

Co-Moderator: Mariah Carson, MSFS

3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**B196**	**From Concept to Consensus: Advancing Standards for Dogs and Sensors in Detection Applications** Andrea Medrano, MSFS*; Paola Tiedemann, PhD; Kenneth Furton, PhD; Suzanne Perry
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**B197**	**Biological Sensor-Based Detection of Volatile Organic Compound Fractions From Human Remains** Rushali Dargan, PhD*; Ruchao Qian, MS; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD; Fantasia Whaley, MSFS*; Joel Fuentes Carrasco, BS; Daigoro Greco, BS*
4:00 pm—4:15 pm	**B198**	**Detector Dogs: Advancing Drug Detection Operations Using Science at the United States Customs and Border Protection** Jonathan McGrath, PhD*; Armando Avallone, MS
4:15 pm—4:30 pm	**B199**	**The Development and Implementation of Fentanyl Training Aids to Advance Canine Detection Strategies** Armando Avallone, MS*; Jonathan McGrath, PhD
4:30 pm—4:45 pm	**B200**	**The Development and Evaluation of a Novel Alternative Canine Training Aid for Fentanyl** Jonathan McGrath, PhD*; Kristine Tanabe, PhD
4:45 pm—5:00 pm	**B201**	**Canine Training Aid Development of Novel Target Odors to Advance Strategies to Combat Fentanyl Precursors at the Border** Armando Avallone, MS*; Jonathan McGrath, PhD*
5:00 pm—5:15 pm	**B202**	**Canine Training Aid Substrate Optimization: Non-Targeted Contamination, and VOC Adsorption and Desorption** Fernando Zaldivar, BS*; Natalia Gil Guitierrez; Kenneth Furton, PhD; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD; Eduardo Moreira
5:15 pm—5:30 pm	**B203**	**Standards Development Activities Related to Ignitable Liquids, Explosives, and Gunshot Residue** Laura Hernandez, BS*

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**C1**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**C2**	**CrimeEye: A Deep Learning Approach to Suspect Identification From Low-Resolution CCTV Footage** Abhishek Kumar Singh, BEng*; Navdha Bhardwaj, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**C3**	**The Role of Digital Forensics in Identifying Identity Theft** Oreoluwa Ladoja, MSc*; Ashraf Mozayani, PharmD; Jasmine Drake, PhD

Facing the Facts

Moderator: Umit Karabiyik, PhD — Co-Moderator: David Notowitz, BS

8:15 am—8:35 am	**C4**	**Facial Identification: Standardization, Certification, and Beyond** Steven Johnson, BS*; Richard Vorder Bruegge, PhD; Lora Sims
8:35 am—8:55 am	**C5**	**Emerging Paradigms in Forensic Facial Comparison Through Artificial Intelligence** Enrique Bermejo, PhD; M. Alejandra Guativonza, MA; Oscar Ibáñez, PhD*; Antonio D. Villegas, MSc; Alejandro Manzanares, MSc; Daniel García, BSc
8:55 am—9:15 am	**C6**	**The Ethical Concerns of Artificial Intelligence in Forensic Science** Damini Siwan, MSc*; Vishal Sharma, PhD; Kewal Krishan, PhD; Arun Garg, MDS
9:15 am—9:35 am	**C7**	**Advanced Methods in Image Forgery Detection: Bridging Fundamentals and Emerging Technology** Chad Johnson, PhD*
9:35 am—9:55 am	**C8**	**Exploring the Impact of PDF Embedding on BMP and GIF Image Integrity and Authentication: The Initial Phase for Forensic Sciences** Gregory Wales, DSc*; Gregory Wales, MS
9:55 am—10:10 am		**BREAK**

Sound Check

Moderator: Nicole Odom, MSFS — Co-Moderator: Lucky Onyekwelu-Udoka, PhD

10:10 am—10:30 am	**C9**	**The Sound of Deception: Voice and Language Markers in Emotionally Charged Lies** Sunčica Kuzmić, MASc*; Ivan Jerković, PhD; Andrea Ledić, MSc
10:30 am—10:50 am	**C10**	**Speaker-Specific Deepfake Detection in Conversational Audio Analysis** Lucky Onyekwelu-Udoka, MASc*; Yong Guan, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:50 am—11:10 am	**C11**	**Navigating Moral Quandaries on the Front Lines: Lessons From 25 Years of Audio and Video Forensics With Attorneys and Experts** David Notowitz, BA*

11:10 am—11:30 am	**C12**	**An AI-Based Speech Analysis Technology for Courtroom Media Transcripts** Joseph Remy, JD; Aakash Taneja, PhD; Zachary Lord, BS*; Melany Cruz, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Fake It Until You Make It

Moderator: Catalin Grigoras, PhD — Co-Moderator: Shuangteng Zhang, PhD

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**C13**	**The Forensic-AI Fusion Toolbox: A Multi-Modal Framework for the Principled Detection of Advanced Deepfakes** Zeno Geradts, PhD* Stijn Van Lierop, MSc
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**C14**	**A Holistic and Pragmatic Approach to Deepfake Forensics** Marco Fontani, PhD*; Blake Sawyer, BBA; Martino Jerian, MSc
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**C15**	**Advances on Structure and Format Analysis for Media Forensics Authentication** Cole Whitecotton, MSc*; Catalin Grigoras, PhD*
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**C16**	**Evaluating the Use of a Novel Expert System for Media Authentication Results Interpretation** Brandon Epstein, MS*; Bertram Lyons, MA*
2:20 pm—2:35 pm		**BREAK**

Frames, Clicks, and Clues

Moderator: Joseph Remy, JD — Co-Moderator: Yansi Keim, PhD

2:35 pm—2:55 pm	**C17**	**A Quantitative Study of Frame Extraction Methods, Tools, and Their Impact on Extracted Frame Quality From High-Efficiency Video Coding Videos** Susan Kost, MSc*; Catalin Grigoras, PhD; Gregory Wales, DSc; Cole Whitecotton, MSc
2:55 pm—3:15 pm	**C18**	**Exploring Dropbox Image Downloads to iPhone Via Safari: File System vs. Camera Roll Validation Study** Gregory Wales, DSc*; Alexander Nash, MS*; Co-Author: Tierney Moe, BS
3:15 pm—3:35 pm	**C19**	**Uncovering User Behavior: AI-Based Timeline Reconstruction From Mobile Evidence** Chen Shi, MS*; Yong Guan, PhD
3:35 pm—3:55 pm	**C20**	**The Human Link in an Automated Era: Forensic Expertise in the Peritus Framework** Dineusa Amaral, MBA*; Cristiane Barbosa, MA*; Anna Beatriz Rodrigues Geranio

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Friday

Catch Me if You Can

Moderator: Jason Lewis, PhD — Co-Moderator: Patrick Siewert, BS

8:00 am – 8:20 am	**C21**	**Garmin Forensics: A Study on the Device's Data Integrity and Reliability in Court** Vinicius Lima, PhD*; Akif Ozer, MS; Umit Karabiyik, PhD
8:20 am—8:40 am	**C22**	**iGEM: A Multi-Device Forensic Visualization Software for Geolocation and Digital Evidence Matching** Xiao Hu, MS*; Akif Ozer, MS*; Marcus Rogers, PhD; Umit Karabiyik, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
8:40 am—9:00 am	**C23**	**Comparing Smart Phone Geolocation Accuracy: Forensic Analysis of iOS and Android Location Artifacts** Jeff Rutherford, BSc*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**C24**	**The Dark Side of Discounts: How Temu Handles Your Data** Sonali Tyagi, MS*; Umit Karabiyik, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
9:20 am—9:40 am	**C25**	**Leave a Message—Where?: A Study of Apple's Voicemail Databases** Kaylee Schoepe, MS*; Chad Stedl, BS; Andrew Crouse, BA*; Brian Smith, BS
9:40 am—9:50 am		**BREAK**

Man Versus Machine

Moderator: Xiao Hu, MS — Co-Moderator: Michael McGowan, BA

9:50 am—10:10 am	**C26**	**Forensic Analysis and Privacy Implications of LLM Mobile Apps: A Case Study of ChatGPT, Copilot, and Gemini** Sonali Tyagi, MS*; Yufeng Gong, MS*; Umit Karabiyik, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:10 am—10:30 am	**C27**	**From Screen to Scene: An In-Depth Forensic Analysis on DeepSeek** Yufeng Gong, MS*; Sonali Tyagi, MS*; Vaishnavi Mahindra, MS*; Umit Karabiyik, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:30 am—10:50 am	**C28**	**Reading Between the Handles: How Bad Actors on Reddit and Darknet Discuss AI/LLM Misuse for CSEA** Sonali Tyagi, MS*; Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:50 am—11:10 am	**C29**	**Bytes of Evidence: Examining Technology-Facilitated Abuse Against Women and Children** Neha Verma, PhD*
11:10 am—11:30 am	**C30**	**Improving CyberTipline Processing: Leveraging Machine Learning and OSINT for Enhanced ICAC Response** Nina Matulis, MS*; Marcus Rogers, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Show Me the Money

Moderator: Sonali Tyagi, MS — Co-Moderator: Aisha Ali-Gombe, PhD

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**C31**	**Exploring the Use, Challenges, and Opportunities of Generative AI in Digital Forensics** Vir Phoha, PhD*
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**C32**	**Can AI Explain Fraud? Explainable AI for Document Fraud Detection in Digital Forensics** Yujin Lee, BEng*; Umit Karabiyik, PhD; Marcus Rogers, PhD
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**C33**	**Improving Learner Resilience to Online Fraud Through Immersive Roleplaying Experiences: A Transformative Learning Approach** Tatiana Ringenberg, PhD*; Paul Thomas, PhD; Alejandra Magana, PhD
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**C34**	**Weighted Anomaly Detection and Cross-Chain Arbitrage Analysis: A Blockchain Forensics Framework** Xiao Hu, MS*; Umit Karabiyik, PhD* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
2:20 pm—2:35 pm		**BREAK**

Method to the Madness

Moderator: Kyp Stavrou, BA — Co-Moderator: Tatiana Ringenberg, PhD

2:35 pm—2:55 pm	**C35**	**Intent in Isolation: Forensics of Echo Chamber Activity** Vaishnavi Mahindra, MS*; Marcus Rogers, PhD
2:55 pm—3:15 pm	**C36**	**Scalpel3: A New High-Performance Carving Architecture for Recovering Fragmented Files** Golden Richard, PhD*; James Ghawaly, PhD; Karley Waguespack, MS
3:15 pm—3:35 pm	**C37**	**A Research-Focused Framework for Empirical Method Validation in Digital and Multimedia Evidence** Gregory Wales, DSc*
3:35 pm—3:55 pm	**C38**	**Applied Gamification Research in Digital Forensics Higher Education for Knowledge and Skill Retention** Yansi Keim, PhD*; Marcus Rogers, PhD

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**D1**	**A Study on the Application of a Thermal Mannequin for Estimating a Hypothermia Environment** Chan-Seong Park, PhD*
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**D2**	**Forensic Reconstruction of a Fatal Stair-Related Fall Using Postmortem CT, Photogrammetry, and Virtual Reality: A Case Report** Haruki Fukuda, MD, PhD*; Tadashi Hosoya, MD, PhD; Hiroyuki Tokue, MD, PhD
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**D3**	**A Study on an Analysis Methodology for Crowd Crush Accidents** Kyeongmin Lee, MEng*; Chan-Seong Park, PhD

Thursday

Medical Topics

Moderator: Kurt Weiss, MS — Co-Moderator: Darren Franck, MSME

8:30 am – 9:00 am	**D4**	**Built to Harm? Forensic Perspectives on Design-Induced Suicide and Self-Harm in Detention Facilities** Mohsen Ghoreishi, MA*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**D5**	**The Fluid Dynamics of Intravitreal Injections as It Relates to Needle Design** Amanda Felstow*; Cynthia Bir, PhD; Andrew Davis, MPH; Brittany Hodges, MD; Kavon Rahmani, BSc; Pradeepa Yoganathan, MD
9:20 am—9:40 am	**D6**	**Spectral Characterization and AI Modeling of Human Decomposition-Impacted Soils Over the Period of One Year** Koushik Sanjay Saravana Kumar*; Lois Taylor, PhD; Jennifer DeBruyn, PhD; Sathish Samiappan, PhD
9:40 am—10:00 am	**D7**	**The Use of Postmortem Computed Tomography in the Identification of Bodies: A Newly Emerging Technique to Complement Traditional Methods** Maiko Yoshida, MD, PhD*; Yohsuke Makino, MD, PhD; Yukiko Uemura, MD; Ayaka Sakuma, PhD; Hirotaro Iwase, MD, PhD
10:00 am—10:15 am		**BREAK**

AI, Linguistics, and Forensic Methods

Moderator: Nathan Holmes — Co-Moderator: Carole Chaski, PhD

10:15 am—10:35 am	**D8**	**Building the Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure for Forensics** Mihir Joshi, BS*; Vikas Kakar*; Maneesha Pandey, MD; Avneesh Pradhan, MS Avneesh Pradhan, MS*
10:35 am—11:05 am	**D9**	**Computational Linguistic Analysis in Financial Fraud Investigations** David Weber, DBA*; Ruwan Adikaram, PhD; Carole Chaski, PhD

*Presenting Author

11:05 am—11:25 am	**D10**	**From Variation to Verification: A Basic Forensic Method for Identifying Single vs. Multiple Authors of Anonymous Letters** Jelena Tabak, MA*; Andrea Ledić, MSc; Ivan Jerković, PhD
11:25 am—11:45 am	**D11**	**Exploring Runtime Evolution in Android: A Cross-Version Analysis and Its Implications for Memory Forensics** Babangida Bappah*; Aisha Ali-Gombe, PhD; Lauren Bristol, BS; Lamine noureddine, PhD; Sideeq Bello, BSc; Umar Farooq, PhD
11:45 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Multidisciplinary Session: Engineering & Applied Sciences and Forensic Nursing Science

Moderator: Max Veltman, PhD — Co-Moderator: Katie Wells, MPH

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**D12**	**Thoracic Aorta Injuries in Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes: A Pilot Study and Comparative Mechanism Analysis** Angela Harden, PhD*; Delaney Edwards, MA; Mary Cole, PhD; Brian Bautsch, MBA; Lauren Cardoni, MS; John Bolte, PhD
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**D13**	**Evaluating Thoracic Deflection and Injury Risk From Seatbelt Pretensioners in Small Female Occupants** John Bolte, PhD*; Allison Guettler, PhD; Amanda Agnew, PhD; Yun-Seok Kang, PhD
1:40 pm—2:10 pm	**E9**	**A Patient-Centered Forensic Nursing Model of Care for Victims of Law Enforcement Violence** Maija Anderson, DNP*; Jacqueline Callari Robinson, RN; Jocelyn Anderson, PhD; Erin Pollitt, MS
2:10 pm—2:25 pm		**BREAK**
2:25 pm—2:45 pm	**D14**	**Seeing Beyond the Surface: Structured-Light 3D Scanning in a Prison Suicide by Hanging** Simona Calabrese, MD*; Alessandro Nicolosi, MD*; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Filippo Cucinotta, PhD; Fabio Salmeri, PhD; Cristina Mondello, PhD
2:45 pm—3:15 pm	**E10**	**Smarter Than the Science: The History of Service Dogs** Janean Fossum, BS*
3:15 pm—3:35 pm	**D15**	**Multi-Modal Deep Learning for Bruise Age Estimation: Enhancing Forensic Reliability Through Integrated Visual and Contextual Data** Mehrdad Ghyabi, PhD*; Katherine Scafide, PhD; David Lattanzi, PhD

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**D16**	**A Forensic Investigation of Hydrogen-Driven Blasts in Galvanized Sprinkler Systems** Songhie An, PhD*; Sungwan Park, MASc; Wooyong Park, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**D17**	**Multidimensional Scaling of Hybrid Similarity Search Match Factors for Fentanyl Analogs** Melinda Kleczynski, PhD*; Arun Moorthy, PhD; Anthony Kearsley, PhD*

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES

Vehicle Forensic Investigations

Moderator: David Pienkowski, PhD

8:30 am—8:50 am	**D18**	**Officer Confusion Leads to Improper Conclusions in a Fatal Head-On Accident** Darren Franck, MSME*; Harold Franck, MSEE
8:50 am—9:10 am	**D19**	**Sun Altitude and Azimuth Causes a Fatal Crash With a Flatbed Trailer** Kurt Weiss, MSME*
9:10 am—9:30 am	**D20**	**Heavy Truck Cab Integrity and the Swedish Test** Christopher Clarke, BS*; Brian Herbst, BS
9:30 am—9:50 am	**D21**	**The Fine Points of the Interrelationship Between Vehicle Dynamics and Occupant Kinetics in Frontal Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVAs)** David Porta, PhD*
9:50 am—10:05 am		**BREAK**

Environmental Topics

Moderator: Kurt Weiss, MSME — Co-Moderator: Harold Franck, MSEE

10:05 am—10:25 am	**D22**	**The Detection and Forensic Documentation of Clandestine Pollutant Discharges in Federal Watercourses in Brazil** David Domingues Pavanelli, PhD*
10:25 am—10:45 am	**D23**	**WITHDRAWN**
10:45 am—11:15 am	**D24**	**Robust Linking Estimation in the Graded Response Model With Contaminated Ability Distributions** Ibrahim Almansour, MS*; Larry Tang, PhD
11:15 am—11:35 am	**D25**	**Aerosols With Addresses: A Method for Testing Aerosol Dispersion in Variable Environments** Catherine Reyes, PhD*
11:35 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**
1:00 pm—1:30 pm	**D26**	**The Aberrant Behavior of Gas Appliances That Incorporate Flame Arrestors Being Indicative of Fugitive Fuel Gas Intrusion by Soil Migration** Tim Dunn, MS*
1:30 pm—2:00 pm	**D27**	**Lessons From the Wreckage: Forensic Architecture and Construction Failures Every Professional Should Understand** Mohsen Ghoreishi, MA*
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**D28**	**Technical Cooperation in Forensic Engineering and Innovation in Dredging Survey** Jose Medeiros, DSc*; Julio Neto, MSc; Thiago Albuquerque, DSc*; Vladimir Paz, BSc
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**D29**	**Hydrogen Explosion in Sprinkler Pipes: A Forensic Chemical Analysis** Songhie An, PhD*; Sungwan Park, MASc; Wooyong Park, MSc
2:40 pm—3:10 pm	**D30**	**A Mechanical and Metallurgical Investigation of Cracks Within a Pipeline Repair** Bart Kemper, PE*

FORENSIC NURSING SCIENCE

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**E1**	**Forensic Nursing in India-Importance of Introducing Forensic Nursing in Indian Scenario** Sangeeta Shokeen, MSc*

Thursday

Forensic Nursing and Sexual Violence

Moderator: Katie Wells, MPH — Co-Moderator: Max Veltman, PhD

9:00 am—9:30 am	**E2**	**System-Wide Education for Adult Sexual Assault Response: Integrating Emergency and Inpatient Teams to Improve Care and Forensic Readiness** Jamie Ferrell, MBA*; Christie Dawson, MSN; Amber Sneed, MD
9:30 am—9:50 am	**E3**	**Female Genital Mutilation Among Asylum Seekers in Montpellier, France: A Medicolegal Estate and Litterature Review** Quentin Rébillard, MD*; Fanchon Herman, MSc; Eric Baccino, MD, PhD; Laurent Martrille, MD, PhD; Stavroula Papadodima, MD, PhD
9:50 am—10:10 am	**E4**	**WITHDRAWN**
10:10 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**
10:20 am—10:40 am	**E5**	**The Shadow of Gynecological Violence in the Health Management of Survivors of Sexual Assault** Sarah Gino, MD*; Elena Rubini, PhD
10:40 am—11:15 am	**E6**	**Preliminary Findings: Focus Group Insights and Perspectives of Forensic Nurses (SANE) Attending STARS SANE Education** Jacqueline Callari Robinson, RN*
11:15 am—11:45 am	**E7**	**Silent Indicators: STI Positivity in Prepubescent Children With Minimal Disclosure During Sexual Assault/Abuse Evaluations** Sally Henin, MD*; Jamie Ferrell, MBA
11:45 am—12:00 pm	**E8**	**Victims' Perspectives on Optional Forensic Testing of Non-Report Sexual Assault Kits** Rachael Goodman-Williams, PhD
12:00 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Multidisciplinary Session: Engineering & Applied Sciences and Forensic Nursing Science

Moderator: Max Veltman, PhD — Co-Moderator: Katie Wells, MPH

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**D12**	**Thoracic Aorta Injuries in Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes: A Pilot Study and Comparative Mechanism Analysis** Angela Harden, PhD*; Delaney Edwards, MA; Mary Cole, PhD; Brian Bautsch, MBA; Lauren Cardoni, MS; John Bolte, PhD
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**D13**	**Evaluating Thoracic Deflection and Injury Risk from Seatbelt Pretensioners in Small Female Occupants** John Bolte, PhD*; Allison Guettler, PhD; Amanda Agnew, PhD; Yun-Seok Kang, PhD

1:40 pm—2:10 pm	**E9**	**A Patient-Centered Forensic Nursing Model of Care for Victims of Law Enforcement Violence** Maija Anderson, DNP*; Jacqueline Callari Robinson, RN; Jocelyn Anderson, PhD; Erin Pollitt, MS
2:10 pm—2:25 pm		**BREAK**
2:25 pm—2:45 pm	**D14**	**Seeing Beyond the Surface: Structured-Light 3D Scanning in a Prison Suicide by Hanging** Simona Calabrese, MD*; Alessandro Nicolosi, MD*; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Filippo Cucinotta, PhD; Fabio Salmeri, PhD; Cristina Mondello, PhD
2:45 pm—3:15 pm	**E10**	**Smarter Than the Science: The History of Service Dogs** Janean Fossum, BS*
3:15 pm—3:35 pm	**D15**	**Multi-Modal Deep Learning for Bruise Age Estimation: Enhancing Forensic Reliability Through Integrated Visual and Contextual Data** Mehrdad Ghyabi, PhD*; Katherine Scafide, PhD; David Lattanzi, PhD

Friday

Forensic Nursing and Sexual Violence

Moderator: Laurie Charles, DNP Co-Moderator: Jessica Volz, DNP

9:00 am—9:30 am	**E11**	**Mixed Method Assessment of Trauma-Informed Care Decision-Making and Incorporation Into Forensic Nursing Practice** Laurie Charles, DNP*
9:30 am—9:50 am	**E12**	**The Intersection and Implications of Strangulation in Consensual Sexual Encounters and Sexual Assault Cases** Alyssa Lark, BSN*; Julie Valentine, PhD*; Alyssa Lark, BSN
9:50 am—10:10 am	**E13**	**The Role of Medical Records in Cases of Medical and Nursing Liability** Luca Calanna, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Maria Cristina Verrina, MD; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD*; Gioele Grimaldi, MD; Aurora Princi, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Mariachiara Militi; Maria Daniela Monterossi, MD
10:10 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**
10:20 am—11:20 am	**E14**	**The Science of Strangulation: What We Know, What We Assume, and What Still Isn't Proven** Tara Godoy, MBA, BSN*; Merriam Young, MS, RN
11:20 am- 11:30 am		**BREAK**
11:30 am—11:50 am	**E15**	**A Forensic Examination of Paper Medical Records** Linton Mohammed, PhD*
11:50 am—12:10 pm	**E16**	**Exploring the Use of Positive Deviance in Forensic Nursing** Jodie Gary, PhD*; Laurie Charles, DNP
12:10 pm—1:15 pm		**BREAK**

FORENSIC NURSING SCIENCE

Forensic Nursing Across the Globe: Legal Principles, Forensic Science, and Nursing Science

Moderator: Tamar Rodney, PhD — Co-Moderator: Jessica Volz, DNP

1:15 pm—1:35 pm	**E17**	**Following in the Footsteps of Virginia Lynch: The Attitudes of Israeli Emergency Department Nurses Toward the Role of Forensic Nurses** Orli Grinstein-Cohen, PhD*; Sivan Cukerman-Hgag,, MN
1:35 pm—1:55 pm	**E18**	**Violence Against Health Care Workers in a University Referral Hospital in Northwestern Italy** Federica Collini, MD*; Silvia Rampi, MN; Martina Barrea, BS
1:55 pm—2:15 pm	**E19**	**The Impact of Italian Regional Guidelines on the Use of Safety Devices That Limit Patient Movement in Hospitals on Falls, Physical Restrictions, and Their Consequences: A Retrospective Study** Federica Collini, MD*; Silvia Rampi, MN; Martina Barrea, BS

GENERAL

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F1**	**A Five-Year Review of Fire Scene Fatalities at the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Sydney Carr, BS*; Ibrahim Ortanca, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F2**	**A Peculiar Case of Complex Suicide by Hanging With Hesitation Marks From Incised Wounds** Susanna Sabato, MD*; Annachiara Vinci, MD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD; Paolo Visci; Davide Ferorelli, MD; Gianmarco Sirago, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F3**	**A Qualitative NMR and Histological Analysis of Adipocere Formation in Different Aqueous Environments Using Sus Scrofa Models** Mia Sorrentino, MS*; Angelique Corthals, DPhil
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F4**	**A Rare Case of Suicidal Strangulation: Diagnostic Challenges in Forensic Practice** Alessandro Ghamlouch, MD*; Gaia De Angelis, MD; Gabriele Napoletano, PhD; Biancamaria Treves, MD; Maura Racciatti, MD; Fabio Del Duca, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F5**	**A Retrospective Analysis of the Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner Pediatric Homicides (1991–2024)** Laura Jordan, MA*; Candace Caterer; Jennifer Byrnes, PhD; Melanie Rouse, MA; Nathan Shaller, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F6**	**The Characteristics and Resistance of Paper Money in Gunshot Wounds: A Case Report and Experimental Study** Massimo Musardo, LLB; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Maria Cristina Verrina, MD; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD; Saverio Gualtieri, MD; Denise Errigo, LLM; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Roberto Raffaele, MSc*; Claudia Catia De Pasquale, MSc*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F7**	**A Chronological Evolution of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) From Burned Human Remains Analogs** Daigoro Greco, BS*; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F8**	**Concurrent Crises: Modeling the Pandemic's Impact on Accidental Poisoning Deaths and the Medical Examiner and Coroner System Burden** Molly Pierson, MPH*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F9**	**Dealing With Death: Perspectives From Forensic Personnel** Rebecca Platt, BA, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F10**	**Death at Climax: A Case of Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage During Sexual Intercourse** Pawan Kumar, MD*; Abhishek Yadav, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F11**	**Drug Overdose Deaths in Knox County, Tennessee, Adults 65 and Over: A Retrospective Study** Christie-Anne Estrada, MD*; Darinka Mileusnic-Polchan, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F12**	**Drug Trends and Novel Psychoactive Substances Identified Through Forensic Casework in the District of Columbia** Marsha Cox, BS*; Alexander San Nicolas, MSFS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F13**	**Evaluating the Quality and Quantity of Detail of Latent Prints on Buried Objects** Angela Gonzalez Bueno, BS*; Cait Porterfield, MS

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F14**	**The Experimental Evaluation of the Wounding Potential of a Nail Clipper: A Compatibility Study Between an Atypical Tool and Medicolegal Lesions** Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Roberto Raffaele, MSc*; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F15**	**A Fatal Bilateral Jugular Vein Lesion From Multiple Sharp-Force Injuries: An Unusual Case Involving Atypical Weapons** Natalia Sebastiani, MD*; Paolo Visci; Davide Ferorelli, MD; Annachiara Vinci, MD; Alessandro Dell'Erba, MD, PhD; Gianmarco Sirago, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F16**	**A Fatal Tracheal Impalement Injury: An Accidental Fall From a Height or Suicidal Event? A Case Report and Review of the Literature** Tindara Biondo, MD*; Gennaro Baldino, MD, PhD*; Giorgia Burrascano, MD; Pietro Tarzia, MD; Elvira Ventura spagnolo, MD; Marija Caplinskiene, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F17**	**Forensic Age Estimation With Artificial Intelligence: An Experimental Study for the Identification of Underage Victims** Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD*; Roberto Raffaele, MSc*; Aurora Princi, MD*; Saverio Gualtieri, MD; Giuseppe Ivan Aquila, MSc; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Claudia Catia De Pasquale, MSc; Andrea Costa
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F18**	**Forensic Aspects of "Incaprettamento"** Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD; Mattia Solano, MD*; Pietro Tarzia, MD*; Savino Franco, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F19**	**From Autopsy to Action: Leveraging Medicolegal Data to Prevent Overdose Deaths in Correctional Facilities** Ava Lewandowski, BA*; Theodore Brown, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F20**	**From Scene to Autopsy: Foundational Forensic Methods for the Suicide–Homicide Distinction** Gabriella Maisetta, MD*; Rebecca Pieretti, MD*; Marco Di Paolo, MD, PhD; Federica Spina, MD; Matteo Leoni, MD; Chiara Ariani, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F29**	**Medicolegal Death Investigation and the Use of Digital Latent Print Analysis in Establishing Positive Identification on Complex, High Profile, and Time-Sensitive Cases** Caroline Hanau, MS*; Aubrey Bryak, MDI; Carrie Costello, MS

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F21**	**High-Energy Blunt Force Trauma: Massive Craniofacial Disruption From a Tire Projection** Fabio Del Duca, MD, PhD*; Alessandro Ghamlouch, MD; Biancamaria Treves, MD; Gaia De Angelis, MD; Maura Racciatti, MD; Vittoria Zammar, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F22**	**The Incidentally Detected 46, XY Disorder of Sex Development in Short Tandem Repeat Analysis** Sojung Lim, MD*; Sohee Cho, PhD; Soong Deok Lee, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F23**	**Investigating and Analyzing After a Fatal Fall From Heights** Isabelle Sec, MD*; Patrick Joffrin; Bertrand Ludes, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F24**	**Investigating the Effects of Substrate Color on the Detection of Ruhemann's Purple Using Confocal Raman Microscopy** Daye Kim, MFS*; Jorn Yu, PhD; Geraldine Monjardez, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F25**	**It Went Under My Skin: Assessing Tattoo Persistence Under Postmortem Conditions** Jade Ryan, MSc*; Matteo Borrini, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F26**	**Knife Crimes Then and Now: Forensic Lessons From the Murder of Martha Tabram** Matteo Borrini, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F27**	**An LC/MS/MS Analysis of Benzodiazepines in Sewage From Six Metropolitan Areas in the Southeastern United States** Kyle Bledsoe, BS*; Iram Shahzadi; Katherine Bollinger, APM; Mahmoud ElSohly, PhD; Murrell Godfrey, PhD; Waseem Gul, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F28**	**Lethal Heat—The Deadly Impact of Rising Global Temperatures: A Case Study** Monica La Greca, APM*; Gianluca Piras, MD; Benedetta Baldari, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F30**	**Observing United Kingdom Cadaver Dog Performance in Aquatic Environments Through UK-K9: A Basis for Global Search and Recovery Training Comparisons** Ellen Shakeshaft, MSc* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F31**	**One Car, Two Methods for Self-Harm—An Unplanned Complex Suicide: A Case Report** Giovanni Pollice, MD*; Andrea Cioffi, MD; Luigi Cipolloni, MD, PhD; Camilla Cecannecchia, MD; Roberta Bibbò, MD; Chiara Fabrello, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F32**	**Overkill Behind Closed Doors: A Case Series and Review of the Literature of Familiar Homicides** Domenico Abramo, MD*; Cataldo Raffino, MD; Gennaro Baldino, MD, PhD*; Giorgia Burrascano, MD; Elvira Ventura spagnolo, MD; Tindara Biondo, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F33**	**Porcine Decomposition Rates as an Estimate for Human Postmortem Interval in the High Desert Ecosystem of Northern Arizona** Hillary Eaton, PhD*; Makenzi Patterson, BSc; Nina Gowell, BSc; Brooke Holt-Eddington, BSc; Megan Cramer
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F34**	**A Preliminary Analysis on Deaths in the LGBTQ Population in Jefferson County, Alabama** Elizabeth Lee, BA; Brandi McCleskey, MD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F35**	**Regional Poisoning Patterns in Pakistan: A Forensic Study on Organophosphates, Aluminium Phosphide, and Paraphenylenediamine in Suicidal Deaths (2008–2023)** Hafiz Faisal Usman, MS*; Yusra Iqbal, FCPath; Shah Nawaz Shakeeb, LLM
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F36**	**Sample Demographics, Injury Patterns, and the Influence of Ocean Currents on the Movement of Bodies of Golden Gate Bridge Jumper Cases** Samantha Robinson, BS*; Jazmin Borrayo, BA; Eric Bartelink, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F37**	**Sugar Land 95: Ethical Considerations Using Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy to Identify Historic Remains** Samantha Hofland, MA*; Meradeth Snow, PhD; Catrina Whitley, PhD; Helen Graham, EdD; Abigail Fisher, PhD; Rita Simonetta, BA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F38**	**Taphonomic Surface Changes: A New Frontier in Grave Detection?** Mike Walters, MSc*; David Errickson, PhD; Roland Wessling, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F39**	**The Temporal and Environmental DNA (eDNA) Effects on Microbial Composition of Latent Fingerprints** Emily Kenoyer, BS*; Josep De Alcaraz-Fossoul, PhD

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F40**	**The Humanitarian and Human Rights Resource Center (HHRRC): Ten Years of Serving the Academy and the Global Community** Dawnie Steadman, PhD*

Thursday—Session I

Medicolegal Death Scene Investigation

Moderator: Hamidrezac Sharifan, PhD — Co-Moderator: Micaela Ascolese, MS

8:00 am—8:20 am	**F41**	**Medicolegal Death Investigation—Then and Now: Advancements Over the Past 15 Years** David Kintz, BS*
8:20 am—8:40 am	**F42**	**The Basics of Medicolegal Death Investigation Systems Across the United States** Kelly Keyes, BS*
8:40 am—9:00 am	**F43**	**Is the Extent of Decomposition Consistent With Other Scene Observations? A Synthesis of 82 Cases on Oʻahu, Hawaiʻi** David Carter, PhD*; Katherine Bratt, BS; Charlotte Carter, MS; Chelsie Mangca-Valdez, MFS; Alexis Peterson, BS; Philip Verso, BA
9:00 am—9:20 am	**F44**	**Medicolegal Recognition of Autoerotic Deaths in a Ubiquitous Digital Age** Brett Harding, MBA*; Christina Di Loreto, MD; Jessica Macdonald, MA; Carolina Ramos, BS; Shelly Pearlman
9:20 am—9:40 am	**F45**	**A Forensic Analysis of an 820-Foot Fall Into Water: Deceleration Trauma Patterns** Benjamin Charroy, MD*; Camille Launoy, MD; Gilles Tournel, MD, PhD; Idriss-Marly M'bama, MD; Florence Vincent, MD; Erwan Le Garff, PhD
9:40 am—10:00 am	**F46**	**A Multicentric Study on Forensic Investigation of Blunt Force Versus Fall-Induced Head Trauma: A Multidisciplinary Methodological Proposal** Gennaro Baldino, MD, PhD*; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD; Paolo Fais, MD; Elvira Ventura spagnolo, MD; Margherita Neri, PhD; Antonio Oliva, MD
10:00 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**

Death Investigation/Lie Detection

Moderator: Clare Fried, MSFS — Co-Moderator: Tracilyn Nakatsuka, BA

10:20 am—10:40 am	**F47**	**Standards Development Activities in Medicolegal Death Investigation, Including Disaster Victim Identification** Kelly Keyes, BS*; Michelle Rippy, EdD
10:40 am—11:00 am	**F48**	**Suicide Via Sodium Nitrite Ingestion: Trends in Multnomah County, Oregon, 2018–2025** Jessica Crowson, MFS*; Jaxson Haug, MA
11:00 am—11:30 am	**F49**	**Lie Detection, Polygraph Testing, Credibility Assessment: Forensic History, Current Status, and Future Developments** Frank Horvath, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

GENERAL

Case Studies

Moderator: Brett Harding, MBA — Co-Moderator: Brittney Valarezo, CAPM

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**F50**	**A Digital Forensic Phone Download Solves a Homicide Case: "I'll Help You After I Watch You Die!"** Aubrey Bryak, MDI*; Caroline Hanau, MS*; Carrie Costello, MS
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**F51**	**Children of the '70s: Using NCMEC to Identify Unidentified Juvenile Human Remains** Lara Newell, MA*
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**F52**	**Good Ol'-Fashioned Detective Work in a Case of Dismemberment** Tracy Brisendine, BA*
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**F53**	**A Cold Case Critical Review: Overcoming Investigation Errors and Omissions to Prove Homicide by Two Distinct Cranial Gunshots Inflicted by .22LR (Long Rifle) Shotshell and Solid Bullet Ammunition Types** Robert Sigillito, MD*
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**F54**	**Inadequate Injury Documentation in the Emergency Setting: Forensic Implications and Evidence From Italian Cases** Annalisa Sofia, MD*; Giulia Brambilla, MD; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD, PhD; Alessandra Mammana, MD; Federica Trevissoi, MD; Alessia Viero, MD, PhD
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**F55**	**Lessons Learned From Health Care Serial Killers: The Evolution of the British Medical Examiner Service** Claire Power, MSc*; Fiona Wilcox, MD; Sajeel Shah, PhD; Nikolas Lemos, PhD
3:00 pm—3:20 pm		**BREAK**

Radiology/Trauma on Burned Remains/Postmortem Retinal Imaging

Moderator: Rebecca Walter, MFS — Co-Moderator: Krista Troup, MS

3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**F56**	**Fatal and Severe Contrast Media-Related Adverse Effects: A Forensic and Clinical Perspective From Two Cases** Alice Buzzelli, MD*; Chiara Carsana, MD*; Luca Morini, PhD; Valentina Bugelli, MD, PhD; Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD*; Gaetano Pietro Bulfamante, MD
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**F57**	**Fatal Entrapment in an Industrial Concrete Mixer: A Forensic Case Report of Polytrauma and Asphyxiation** Benjamin Charroy, MD*; Camille Launoy, MD; Gilles Tournel, MD, PhD; Florence Vincent, MD; Benjamin Mokdad, MD; Helène Fricker, MD
4:00 pm—4:20 pm	**F58**	**From Scanner to Courtroom: Best Practice Standards for Postmortem Computed Tomography** Jamie Elifritz, MD*; Summer Decker, PhD*; Natalie Adolphi, PhD*
4:20 pm—4:40 pm	**F59**	**The Examination of Blunt, Sharp, and High-Velocity Trauma on Burned Human Remains** Darren Solomon, MS*; Rebecca George, PhD; Kaleigh Best, PhD
4:40 pm—5:00 pm	**F60**	**WITHDRAWN**
5:00 pm—5:30 pm	**F61**	**Homicide or Suicide? An Interdisciplinary Approach to Reconstruction of a Crime Scene** Jennifer McCampbell, MCS*

Thursday—Session II

Wildlife Forensics (Animals/Entomology/Plants)/Filicide/Face and Vocal Characteristics

Moderator: Deadra Caleb, MS — Co-Moderator: Lara Newell, MA

8:00 am—8:20 am	**F62**	**A Novel Method of Preserving Fly-Related Samples at Crime Scenes and in Labs for a Better Demonstration at Trial** John Wang, PhD*
8:20 am—8:40 am	**F63**	**Optimizing a Multi-Biochemical Method for the Taxonomic Identification of Single Pollen Grains: A Forensic Application** Jack Trimble, MS*; Madison Adolfs, BS; Matthieu Baudelet, PhD; Camron Melendez, BS
8:40 am—9:00 am	**F64**	**Termites Turning Point in Crime Detection** S. Venkata Raghava, MD*; Charishma Reddy, MBBS
9:00 am—9:20 am	**F65**	**The Fur Project: Species Identification in Forensic Casework Using Phylogenetic Proteomics** Glendon Parker, PhD*; Nicole McLoughlin, MSc; Kyle Burk, MS; Ashley Spicer, MScFS; Barry Baker, MA
9:20 am—9:40 am	**F66**	**The Killing of Sons and Daughters: An Analysis Beyond the Outcome of Death—Circumstances and Differences Among These Murders and the Necessity of a Filicide's Classification** María Cuadros, MCrim*; Miguel Lorente, PhD; Jose lorente, PhD
9:40 am—10:00 am	**F67**	**WITHDRAWN**
10:00 am—10:20 pm		**BREAK**

Archaelogy/Wildlife Forensics

Moderator: Dayla Rich, PhD — Co-Moderator: Yakubu Magaji Yuguda, MSc

10:20 am—10:40 am	**F68**	**Back to Basics: Stratigraphy in Forensic Archaeology: Principles, Pitfalls, and the Path Forward** Ian Hanson, PhD*; Laura Evis, PhD
10:40 am—11:00 am	**F69**	**The Application of Spectroscopy and Machine Learning for Family-Level Classification of Animal Hair in Wildlife Crime** Vishal Sharma, PhD*; Akanksha Sharma, MSc
11:00 am—11:30 am	**F70**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

GENERAL

Education/Artificial Intelligence/Metaverse

Moderator: Ava Thorpe — Co-Moderator: Jamie Elifritz, MD

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**F71**	**Keeping It Real: Ensuring Students and Trainees Get Realistic Experiences to Prepare Them for Working in Real Laboratories** Stewart Walker, PhD*
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**F72**	**The Use of Mindfulness Practices to Enhance Thinking, Observation, and Problem-Solving Skills for Forensic Science Students and Forensic Practitioners** Douglas Ridolfi, MS*
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**F73**	**Think Like a Scientist, Search Like a Librarian: Information Literacy for Forensic Scientists** Jeff Teitelbaum, MLIS*
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**F74**	**AI-Powered Expert Witness Report Review System: Enhancing Pre-Admissibility Quality Control to Prevent Wrongful Convictions** Melda Yazıcıoğlu, PhD*
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**F75**	**Introducing the Responsible Artificial Intelligence Framework for Forensic Science: Developed and Applied in a New Zealand Forensic Laboratory** Janet Stacey, MSc*; Rachel Fleming, PhD; Niki Osborne, PhD
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**F76**	**The Metaverse and the Basics of Forensic Science: A Framework for Application** Gianmarco Sirago, MD*; Paolo Visci, MD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD; Davide Ferorelli, MD; Alessandro Dell'Erba, MD, PhD; Annachiara Vinci, MD; Gianmarco Sirago, MD
3:00 pm—3:20 pm		**BREAK**

Gangs/Unmanned Aircraft Systems/Virtual Reality

Moderator: Patricia Smith, MSL — Co-Moderator: Cliff Akiyama, MPH, MA

3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**F77**	**Walking into Uncharted Territory: Understanding the Rise of Asian Youth Gangs** Cliff Akiyama, MPH, MA*
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**F78**	**Elevated Insights: The Acquisition and Implementation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in a State Medical Examiner's Office** Micaela Ascolese, MS*; Philip Miller, BS*; Kaylan Peterson, MS
4:00 pm—4:30 pm	**F79**	**VR Forensic: Immersive Virtual Reality Training for Forensic Medical Practitioners—From Scene to Courtroom** Benjamin Mokdad, MD*; Benjamin Charroy, MD*; Giles Tournel, MD, PhD
4:30 pm—5:30 pm	**F80**	**UAS Crime Scene Videography** Gerald Baum, BA*

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F81**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F82**	**The Phenomenon of Suicide Contagion: Examining Trends in Suicide in Harris County, Texas** Amelia Juneau, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F83**	**The Role of the Forensic Anthropologist in "No Body Homicide" Cases: Exploring Case Entry in Two Current Databases** Amy Michael, PhD*; Robert Eckstein, PsyD; Jennifer Bengtson, PhD; Cruz Dellasanta, BA; Kylee Jedraszek, BA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F84**	**The Sound of Gunfire** Andrew Winter, PhD*; Peter Diaczuk, PhD*; Ashley Buchman, BS*; Frank LoSacco, MA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F85**	**A Comparative Analysis of Forensic Audit and Traditional Audit Practices: Implications for Fraud Detection** Tracey Heywood, MBA; Jasmine Drake, PhD; Ashraf Mozayani, PharmD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F86**	**Understanding Time-to-Recovery: A Demographic and Spatial Analysis of Decedents in Las Vegas, Nevada** Elise Adams, MA*; Derek Boyd, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F87**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F88**	**Vanished at Sea: A Geospatial Analysis of Maritime Migrant Deaths in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal** Davette Gadison, MA*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F89**	**A Forensic Inquiry Into Jean-Michel Basquiat's Lost Subway Portfolio** Nicholas Petaco, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F90**	**Falls From Height: Peculiarities of Injuries and Differential Diagnosis Between Accident and Assault** Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Giuseppe Chiaravalloti; Roberto Raffaele, MSc; Chiara Caruso, MD*; Fortunato Vincenzo Nucera, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Pietrantonio Ricci, MD, PhD; Pietro Tarzia, MD; Marta Chieruzzi
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F91**	**Humanizing Forensic Science: Practitioner-Centered STEM Education in Title I Florida High Schools** Jalika Waugh, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F92**	**Injury as a Silent Witness: Forensic Medicine's Role in Charge Determination in an Explosive Case** Francesco Calabrò, MD*; Francesco Saverio Romolo, PhD; Marcello Seligardi, MD*; Valentina Bugelli, MD, PhD; Beatrice Defraia, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F93**	**Judicial Gatekeeping: The Use of Scientific Standards and Forensic Expert Qualification in Oklahoma** Brittlyn Eckerd, BS*; John Mabry, JD

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F94**	**The Sum of All Abbreviated Injury Scale Scores and Total Number of Injuries in Combination: A Tool for Assessing Both Overall Injury Severity and Excessive Injury** Anton Mittendorf, MD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F95**	**The Impact of Finance on the Handling of Forensic Cases: The Case of the Kosovo Agency on Forensics** Herolind Krasniqi, MASc*; Blerim Olluri, PhD*; Sokol Dedaj, MASc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F96**	**Latent Print Evidence and Analysis** Jennifer McCampbell, MCS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**F97**	**Hidden in the Canvas: Isabella of Aragon and the Mona Lisa From a Forensic Perspective** Enrica Macorano, MD*; Angela Colucci, MD: Francesco Introna, MD

Friday – Session I

Unidentified Remains/Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG)/Crime Scene Investigators/ Evidence Management

Moderator: Jennifer Randolph, MSc Co-Moderator: John Wang, PhD

8:00 am—8:20 am	**F98**	**A Complete Unknown: A Multimodal Approach to the Forensic Identification of Unclaimed Human Remains in the Absence of Missing Persons Reports** Matilde Ruju, MD*; Irene Pradelle, MD*; Luca Diani, MD: Giada Rovito, MD; Margherita Neri, PhD; Angelo Montana, PhD
8:20 am—8:40 am	**F99**	**Still Nameless Years Later: The Ongoing Challenge of Investigating Unidentified Remains in the Medical Examiner's Office** Jessica Godoy, BS*; Nicolette Sambucci, BS; Natalia Sanabria, BS
8:40 am—9:00 am	**F100**	**Cold Case Homicide: When All the Information Is Known But the Victim Identity—Solved 50 Years Later Using Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy** Michelle Clark, MS*; James Gill, MD
9:00 am—9:20 am	**F101**	**FIGG or Fingerprints? A Case Study From 1990** Lara Newell, MA*
9:20 am—9:40 am	**F102**	**A Qualitative Study of Crime Scene Investigators and Resiliency** Andrew Winter, PhD*
9:40 am—10:00 am	**F103**	**A Study on Best Practices in Evidence Management: A Preview of the NIST/NIJ Evidence Management Report** Vincent Desiderio, MS*; Katherine Sharpless, PhD; Melissa Taylor, BA
10:00 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**

Tools and Assessment Measures

Moderator: Jessica Crowson, MSFS Co-Moderator: Cydne Holt, PhD

10:20 am—10:40 am **F104** **An Evaluation of Temperature Measurement Errors Due to Conduction of Heat Along Thermocouple Probe Sheaths and Partial Probe-Tissue Contact During Forensic Fire-Death Scenarios**
David Silveira, MS*

10:40 am—11:00 am **F105** **Biomechanical Analysis of an Unusual Cervical Spine Dislocation From a Swinging Metal Cable: Daruma Otoshi?**
Stefano Palumbi, MD*; Yuko Ishida, PhD; Toshikazu Kondo, MD, PhD; Akiko Ishigami, MD; Mizuho Nosaka, PhD; Yumi Kuninaka, MS

11:00 am—11:30 am **F106** **Child Fatality Review as a Quality Improvement Tool: Insights From a Five-Year County Analysis in Context With State and National Trends**
Max Veltman, PhD*; Dylan Evans, MS; Tristen Tate

11:30 am—1:00 pm **BREAK**

Evidence From the Crime Scene

Moderator: Khalid Sajjad Feras, MPhil Co-Moderator: Rachael Schmidt, MSc

1:00 pm—1:20 pm **F107** **From Skid to Signal: The Collection, Isolation, and Analysis of Rubber Particles From Tire Skid Marks**
James McAleer, BS*; John Lucchi, PhD; Matthieu Baudelet, PhD

1:20 pm—1:40 pm **F108** **Enhancing Gunshot Back Spatter With Latent Blood Reagents on Distant Horizontal Surfaces**
Nicole Millis, MFS; Peter Valentin, PhD*

1:40 pm—2:00 pm **F109** **A Fundamental Evaluation of Airgun Muzzle Energy Using Chronography: A Forensic Ballistics Approach to Determining Lethality and Legal Classification in the United Kingdom**
Tolulope Abejide, MSc*; Martin Corcoran, BSc; Kayleigh O'Brien, MSc; Omowole Adeniyi, MFS

2:00 pm—2:20 pm **F110** **Quantifying and Testing the Similarity of Breach Face Impressions**
Hana Lee, PhD*; Alicia Carriquiry, PhD

2:20 pm—2:40 pm **F111** **A Comparison Study of Clothing Severance Damage Resulting From Kitchen Knife Sharp Force Trauma in Stabbing Offense Investigations**
Leisa Nichols-Drew, MSc*

2:40 pm—3:00 pm **F112** **The Evolution of VOC Profiles During Early Animal Decomposition**
Fantasia Whaley, MSFS*; Sandy Dominguez; Lauryn DeGreeff, PhD; Joel Fuentes Carrasco, BS Emily Millan, BS

3:00 pm—3:20 pm **BREAK**

K9/Prone Restraint/Art Authentication

Moderator: Scott Rohde, BS, MBA — Co-Moderator: Tolulope Abejide, MSc

3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**F113**	**Operational K9 Deaths: A Look at the Past 24 Years** Cheryl Nelson, DVM*
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**F114**	**Cadaver Dogs in Deep Water: Evolving Forensic Tools for Aquatic Human Remains Detection** Paul Micah Johnson, PhD*
4:00 pm—4:20 pm	**F115**	**A Comparative Study to Determine Training Aids for Human Remains Detection Dogs** Lorna Irish, PhD*; Sarah Sandle, BSc; Shari Forbes, PhD; Adee Schoon, PhD; Jerushah Mulvany, BSc
4:20 pm—4:40 pm	**F116**	**Prone Restraint Cardiac Arrest: Physiology and Epidemiology** Alon Steinberg, MD*
4:40 pm—5:00 pm	**F117**	**F117 Driving Accountability Through Forensic Integration: A Model for Investigative Transformation in Urban Policing** John R. Herzog, III, MS*; Rana A. DellaRocco, MS*
5:00 pm—5:30 pm	**F118**	**The Use of Forensic Methods for Art Authentication: The Picasso Project** Jennifer McCampbell, MCS*

Friday—Session II

Laboratory Management/Quality Control/Standards/Fingerprints on Leather Surfaces

Moderator: Anna Savrock, MCJ — Co-Moderator: Amanda Alvarez Wright, MPA

8:00 am—8:20 am	**F119**	**WITHDRAWN**
8:20 am—8:40 am	**F120**	**WITHDRAWN**
8:40 am—9:00 am	**F121**	**Forensic Foundations Revisited: Insights From NIST's Foundation Studies Program** Kelly Sauerwein, PhD*; Sandra Koch, PhD*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**F122**	**Standards Synergy: Collaborate to Elevate** Vincent Desiderio, MS*; Allison Getz, MS*
9:20 am—9:40 am	**F123**	**WITHDRAWN**
9:40 am—10:00 am	**F124**	**Hide and Seek: A Pseudo Operational Study of Fingerprint Development and Enhancement on Leather Surfaces to Assist Practitioners** Leisa Nichols-Drew, MSc
10:00 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**

GENERAL

Laboratory Management/Quality Control/Standards

Moderator: Ashley Spicer, MSFS — Co-Moderator: Jalika Waugh, PhD

10:20 am—10:40 am	**F125**	**Assessing the Landscape of Independent Forensic Consultation: A Cross-Disciplinary Survey of Compensation and Practice** Diana Messer, PhD*; Stephanie Cole, PhD; An-Di Yim, PhD; Sara Getz, PhD
10:40 am—11:00 am	**F126**	**From Metrics to Meaning: Assessing Quality Management in a Medical Examiner Office** Cassandra Rock, MFS* Theodore Sanford, BA; Mandy Tinkey, MFS; Lindsay Kotchey, MSFS
11:00 am—11:30 am	**F127**	**Building a Quality Culture at the Laboratory** Rachel Duke, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Mental Health/Microbiology/Victim Typology in Homicide Cases

Moderator: Kimberly Pavlik, PhD — Co-Moderator: Maria Hiott, BS

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**F128**	**From Evidence to Action: Navigating the Complexities of Animal Hoarding Cases** Becky Morrow, DVM*
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**F129**	**The Science on Trial and Forensic Testimony Tune-Up: Testifying With Clarity, Confidence, and Credibility in Adversarial Courtroom** Kathryn Ambeau, PhD*; Jarrett Ambeau, JD*
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**F130**	**Characterizing the Human Decomposition Hotspot: Integrating Soil Biogeochemistry and Microbiology** Lois Taylor, PhD*; Jennifer DeBruyn, PhD
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**F131**	**Decompositional Impact on Soil Microbiomes: Advancing Postmortem Interval Estimation in Petroleum-Impacted Environments** Meiko Thompson, PhD*; Brittney Sylvester; Latavia Williams; Georgia Williams, MS
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**F132**	**Utilizing Honey Bees (*Apis Mellifera*) as a Surveillance and Monitoring Technique for Bacterial Pathogens in Specific Environments** Jordan Walter, MS; James Creecy, PhD*
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**F133**	**Inter-Rater Reliability and Practical Utility of Five Victim Typologies in Homicide Case Analysis** Adriana Graybeal, PhD*; Jason Beaman, DO*; Ashley Keener, PhD*; Reagan Gill, DO
3:00 pm—3:20 pm		**BREAK**

Toxicology/Ethics/Honor Killings

Moderator: Jennifer Jacobi, EdD

Co-Moderator: Patricia Smith, MSL

3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**F134**	**WITHDRAWN**
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**F135**	**WITHDRAWN**
4:00 pm—4:20 pm	**F136**	**Forensic Ethics in Practice: Bridging Global Standards, Skills, and Moral Responsibility** Giuseppina Seppini, MSN*; Ippolito Iolanda, MSc
4:20 pm—4:40 pm	**F137**	**My Report Says What?! A Deep Dive Into Documents Fabricated by Individuals Outside of the Laboratory** Taylor Shafirovich, MS*
4:40 pm—5:00 pm	**F138**	**Autopsy Findings in 45 Cases of Honor Killings in Jordan: A Retrospective Forensic Analysis** Ibrahim Al-Habash, MD*; Asma Alshaeb, MD; Stefano D'Errico, PhD; Davide Radaelli, PhD; Maria Buffon, MBBS

JURISPRUDENCE

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**G1**	**An Injury Causation Analysis in Low-Impact Collisions: A Case-Based Application of Bradford Hill Principles and the Etherton Legal Standard** Alireza Bagherian, DC *
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**G2**	**Standards for Managing Cases of Missing Persons and Unidentified Human Remains in Conflict: The Effects of Human Rights Jurisprudence on International Humanitarian Law** Maria Nektaria Antoniou, LLM*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**G3**	**The Correlation of State-Level Autopsy Laws and Infant Autopsy Rates: A Quality Assessment of the United States Medicolegal Death Investigation Systems** Alexis Orbeta, BS*; Tal Simmons, PhD; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD; Jenise Swall, PhD; Renee Robinson, MD
11:30 am—1:00 am	**G4**	**The Role of the Autopsy in Judicial Investigations—A Source of Evidence and an Essential Guide for the Formulation of Appropriate Charges: An Analysis of Three Cases** Federica Genchi, MD*; Luigi Cipolloni, MD, PhD; Andrea Cioffi, MD; Camilla Cecannecchia, MD; Giovanni Pollice, MD; Donatella Curtotti, PhD

Emerging DNA Technologies

Moderator: Robert Smith, JD — Co-Moderator: Dave Pollock

8:30 am—9:00 am	**G5**	**The Rapid Acceptance of Rapid DNA: The Implications on the Field of Forensic Science, the Practitioner, and the Legal Professional** Lisa Montanez, MSFS*
9:00 am—9:30 am	**G6**	**One State's Approach to Expanded Use of Rapid DNA Technology for CODIS Search of Crime Scene Samples** Leigh Tomlin, JD; Lynn Garcia, JD*; Gary Molina, MS; Brady Mills, MS; Brandon Letts, PhD*
9:30 am—9:50 am	**G7**	**The Successful Development of a DNA Profile From the Quantisal Oral Fluid Collection Device** Jennifer Limoges, MS*; Lola Murray, MS; Kaitlin Fidd, BS; Rebecca Love, MS; Margaret Raydo, BS; Carrie McGinnis, MPA
9:50 am—10:10 am	**G8**	**The Performance and Legal Grounds of DNA Mass Screenings Around the World** Dariusz Wilk, PhD*
10:10 am—10:30 am	**G9**	**Forensic Likelihood Ratios From Low-Coverage Whole Genome Sequencing** Dan Krane, PhD*; Feriel Ouerghi, BS; Doc Edge, PhD
10:30 am—10:45 am		**BREAK**

Statistics and Reporting

Moderator: Maria Nekatria Antoniou, LLM

10:45 am—11:30 am	**G10**	**Likelihood Ratios and Belief Updating** Thomas Busey, PhD*
11:30 am—12:00 pm	**G11**	**A Movement Toward Greater Clarity and Transparency in Firearms Comparison Reporting in Texas: A NIST Collaboration** Lynn Garcia, JD*; Henry Swofford, PhD*; Robert Smith, JD*; Steven Lund, PhD

12:00 pm—1:30 pm **BREAK**

Activity Level Propositions

Moderator: Maria Nekataria Antoniou, LLM

1:30 pm—2:00 pm **G12** **"U Can't Touch This!"**
Allison Lewis, JD*

2:00 pm—2:45 pm **G13** **Activity Level Testimony in United States Courts: The Problem of Proof**
Ted Hunt, JD*

2:45 pm—3:15 pm **G14** **Help vs. Harm: What Should Be the Role of Activity-Level Evaluations in United States Courts?**
J.D. Schmid, JD*

3:15 pm—3:30 pm **BREAK**

Problems in the Digital Age

Moderator: Allison Lewis, JD

3:30 pm—3:50 pm **G15** **The Perilous Use of GenAI in Legal Briefs, Non-Expert Analysis, and Police Reports**
Carole Chaski, PhD*; Gil Sapir, JD

3:50 pm—4:10 pm **G16** **AI in Police Reports: Due Process and Disclosure Obligations**
Gil Sapir, JD*; Jay Zager

4:10 pm—4:30 pm **G17** **Scientific Support for DNA "Probabilistic Genotyping" Evidence Depends on Testing Lab-Created Mixtures, Although Inadequate**
Charles H. Brenner, PhD*

4:30 pm—5:00 pm **G18** **New FRE 707: AI Meets *Daubert***
Donald Shelton, PhD*

Ethics, Peer Review, and Expert Testimony

Moderator: Paul Messner, JD

5:00 pm—6:00 pm **G19** **You Be the Judge: Admitting Expert Testimony When Ethics Conflict With Peer Review**
William Nuzum, JD*; Stephanie Domitrovich, PhD*

JURISPRUDENCE

Friday

Drug Chemistry, Toxicology, and the Importance of Independence

Moderator: Michelle Vaira, JD — Co-Moderator: Natasha Jean-Baptiste

8:30 am—9:00 am	**G20**	**Understanding the Use and Challenges of GC/MS in Fentanyl Testing in Drug Cases in New York Criminal Courts (With Discovery, Trial, and Policy Implications)** Molly Kalmus, JD*; Michelle Miranda, PhD; Sarah Chu, PhD
9:00 am—9:45 am	**G21**	**Errors in Toxicology Testing and the Need for Full Discovery** Aaron Olson, BS*
9:45 am—10:05 am	**G22**	**An Autopsy of the UIC-AFTL Crime Lab THC Marijuana Cover-Up** Donald Ramsell, JD*; Gil Sapir, JD
10:05 am—10:25 am	**G23**	**An Off-Duty Officer Fatal Traffic Collision Leads to Misdemeanor Negligent Manslaughter Charges** Kurt Weiss, MSME*
10:25 pm—10:40 am		**BREAK**

Ethics, Justice and Postconviction Relief

Moderator: Sean Harrington, JD

10:40 am—11:10 am	**G24**	**An Argentine Prosecutor's Death: Ten Years of Impunity—The Prosecutor's Report 2025** Maria Ciruzzi, PhD*
11:10 am—11:30 am	**G25**	**Eyewitness Identification in Civil and Common Law Countries in the Perspective of Standardization and Internationalization of Criminal Proceedings** Dariusz Wilk, PhD*
11:30 am—12:00 pm	**G26**	**Practical Recommendations for Investigating Shifting Science in Post-Conviction Relief Cases** Terry-Dawn Hewitt, LLM*
12:00 pm—1:30 pm		**BREAK**

Reviewing Past Practices

Moderator: Gail Groy, JD

1:30 pm—2:15 pm	**G27**	**Forensic Testimony Errors in a Death Penalty Case: Lessons for Science, Law, and Justice** Tiffany Roy, JD, MSFS*
2:15 pm—3:00 pm	**G28**	**The Future Involves Going Back to the Basics: Post-Conviction Cases That Recognize Wrongful Convictions Arise From Subsequently Discredited Science Also Suggest a Need to Examine Fundamentals** Jane Eggers, JD, MSSW*; Christen Chipman, MSc

3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**G29**	**The "Past" Under Investigation: New Investigative Methodologies at Crime Scenes and Their Impact on "Definitive" Criminal Trials in Italy** Wanda Nocerino, PhD*; Angela Procaccino, PhD; Stefania De Simone, PhD; Christian Pallante; Guido Colaiacovo, PhD; Alessandro Valenti, PhD

Disclosure and Discovery

Moderator: Ashfaq Ahmed Kharal, PhD

Co-Moderator: Clinton Hughes, JD

3:20 pm—3:50 pm	**G30**	**Borrowing From Bioethics: Lessons for Forensic Science on Disclosure, Correction, and Privacy** Sarah Chu, PhD*
3:50 pm—4:10 pm	**G31**	**The Anatomy of a Forensic Trace Evidence Case Review** Christopher Palenik, PhD*
4:10 pm—4:40 pm	**G32**	**Beyond the Lab Coat: Understanding ISO 21043's Reach** Dana Delger, JD*; John Paul Jones, MBA*
4:40 pm—5:15 pm	**G33**	**Back to Basics: *Daubert*, Abusive Head Trauma, and Pediatric Short Falls** Kathleen Pakes, APM*

ODONTOLOGY

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**H1**	**3D Palatal Rugae Superimposition for Human Identification** Andrea Pase, DDS; Zecca Piero Antonio, DDS; Emanuele Paoletto; Mario Torreggianti, MSc; Marco Brady Bucci, DDS; Emilio Nuzzolese, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**H2**	**The Cayor Atlas: A Black Senegalese Dental Atlas for Permanent Tooth Formation** Sankoung Soumboundou, MD, PhD*; Christophe Bou, PhD; Mamadou Lamine Ndiaye, PhD; Papa Abdou Lecor, PhD; Babacar Toure, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**H3**	**The Effects of Orthodontic Treatments on Palatoscopy** Mehmet Ali Kılıçarslan, PhD*; Ersungül Er, PhD; Merve Berika Kadıoğlu, PhD; Kaan Orhan, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**H4**	**The Tooth, the Whole Tooth, and Nothing But the Tooth: Forensic Odontology in Car Fire Victim Identification** Howard Cooper, DDS*

Thursday—Session I

From Case Resolution to Future Standards

Moderator: Aaron Jolivet — Co-Moderator: Mariko McCall, DDS

8:30 am—9:00 am	**H5**	**The Maura Murray Cold Case: Revisiting Dental Charting for New Leads** Grace Chung, DDS*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**H6**	**The 2007 Murder Case of Riley Ann Sawyers: A Forensic Triumph in Identification** Jeanne Geer, DDS*
9:20 am—9:40 am	**H7**	**Bitemarks—Vital Reaction, Permanent Injury, and Position of Biter** Richard Souviron, DDS*
9:40 am—9:50 am		**BREAK**
9:50 am—11:00 am	**H8**	**Shaping the Future of Forensic Odontology Through Standardization** Kenneth Aschheim, DDS*; Cristiana Palmela Pereira, PhD*; Kathleen Kasper, DDS*; Lindsay Spears, DDS*; Raymond Miller, DDS*; Phyllis Ho, DDS*; Richard Fixott, DDS*

Modernizing Methods in Forensic Odontology

Moderator: Aaron Jolivet — Co-Moderator: Mariko McCall, DDS

11:00 am—11:30 am	**H9**	**Revisiting the Demirjian Legacy: A Comparative Analysis of Original and ISO Tooth Development Staging Using the Historic Demirjian Radiographic Collection** Wei Wu, DMD*; Corinne D'Anjou, DMD*; Derek Draft, DDS*; Normand Bach, MSc; Pierre Rompré, MSc; Katrina Kontaxis, DMD
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

ODONTOLOGY

The Spectrum of Age Assessment

Moderator: Sarah Canty, DMD — Co-Moderator: Megan Lenahan, DDS

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**H10**	**WITHDRAWN**
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**H11**	**Integrated Forensic Age Estimation in Subadults Through a Machine Learning Combination of Dental and Skeletal Data** Ilenia Bianchi, PhD*; Giorgio Oliva, DMD; Giulia Vitale, DMD; Francesco Pradella, DMD; Martina Focardi, MD; Vilma Pinchi, PhD
1:40 pm—2:25 pm	**H12**	**Dental Age Assessment for Victim Stratification in Closed Population, Multiple-Fatality Incidents** John Nase, DDS*
2:25 pm—2:45 pm	**H13**	**Artificial Intelligence Methods for Estimating the Age of Unaccompanied Minors** Javier Venema, MSc; Stefano De Luca, PhD; Pablo Mesejo, PhD; Oscar Ibáñez, PhD; David Navega, PhD*
2:45 pm—3:00 pm		**BREAK**

Technological and Historical Perspectives in Forensic Dentistry

Moderator: Sarah Canty, DMD — Co-Moderator: Megan Lenahan, DDS

3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**H14**	**Victim Identification of a Mass Fatality Event** Howard Cooper, DDS*
3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**H15**	**Paul Revere: Silversmith, Spy, Dentist, Coroner** Denise Murmann, DDS*
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**H16**	**Forensic Odontology in Battlefield Archaeology: An Analysis of Revolutionary War Remains From Red Bank Battlefield in New Jersey** Stuart Alexander, DMD*; Anna Delaney, DCrim
4:00 pm—4:30 pm	**H17**	**An Illinois Missing Person Cold Case—A Resolve After 42 Years: The Case of Karen Schepers** David Wold, DDS*

Thursday—Session II

The Residue of Case Work: Psychological and Toxicological Traces in Forensic Odontology

Moderator: Victoria McGowen, DMD — Co-Moderator: Matthew Merfeld, DDS

8:30 am—9:45 am	**H18**	**The Unseen Burden: When Evidence Leaves Its Mark on the Forensic Odontologist** Kathryn Seigfried-Spellar, PhD*; John Kenney, DDS*; Raymond Miller, DDS*; Emilio Nuzzolese, PhD*
9:45 am—10:05 am	**H19**	**Unveiling Drug Traces in Teeth: A Forensic Study on Methadone, Cocaine, and THC Orally Assumed** Ilenia Bianchi, PhD*; Emma Croce, MSc; Alexandra Dimitrova, MSc; Martina Focardi, MD; Fabio Vaiano, PhD; Vilma Pinchi, PhD
10:05 am—10:30 am		**BREAK**

*Presenting Author

ODONTOLOGY

Forensic Odontology: A Spectrum

Moderator: Victoria McGowen, DMD — Co-Moderator: Matthew Merfeld, DDS

10:30 am—10:50 am	**H20**	**DAE QuickSheets—The Next Generation** Derek Draft, DDS*
10:50 am—11:10 am	**H21**	**The Identification of German Nurses Captured by the Viet Cong** Richard Fixott, DDS*
11:10 am—11:30 am	**H22**	**Canine Injuries: A Forensic Analysis of Bitemarks in a Fatal Dog Attack** James Goodrich, FFOMP*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Beyond the Legacy: Modern Methodology In Forensic Odontology

Moderator: Adrian Avram, DDS — Co-Moderator: Jeremy Thompson, DDS

1:00 pm—1:45 pm	**H23**	**Dental Autopsy Incision and Resection Techniques: A Review** John Nase, DDS*
1:45 pm—2:05 pm	**H24**	**Advancements in Forensic Odontology: Anatomage Table and Metaverse Innovations** Corrado Cali', PhD; Claudia Viteritti, MD*; Emilio Nuzzolese, PhD*
2:05 pm—2:25 pm	**H25**	**Artificial Intelligence: Elevating Forensic Odontology Beyond Traditional Boundaries** Kenneth Aschheim, DDS*; Guy Kaplan, MSc; Ben Cohen, BSc
2:25 pm—2:45 pm	**H26**	**Machine Learning Models for Sex Estimation From Morphological Characteristics of Teeth** Damini Siwan, MSc*; Arun Garg, MDS; Vishal Sharma, PhD; Kewal Krishan, PhD

Friday

Quantitative Methods In Bitemark and Dental Identification

Moderator: Jeremy Thompson, DDS — Co-Moderator: Adrian Avram, DDS

8:30 am—9:00 am	**H27**	**Forensic Odontology Identification: Cases That "Left a Lasting Impression"** Walter Zoller, DMD*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**H28**	**A Tri-Dimensional Pattern Analysis of Foodstuff Bite impressions A Quantitative Method of Comparison** Enrica Macorano, MD*; Valeria Santoro, MD, PhD; Mariagrazia Guerra, PhD; Luigi Maria Galantucci; Francesco Introna, MD
9:20 am—9:40 am	**H29**	**Shark Tales: A Fatal Animal Bite Case Presentation** James Goodrich, FFOMP*
9:40 am—10:00 am	**H30**	**A Scientific Mathematical Model to Define the Class Characteristics of the Human Anterior Maxilla** Kenneth Aschheim, DDS*; Botond Simon, PhD; János Vág, DSc

10:00 am—10:20 am **H31** **Identification in Multiple Comparison Scenarios Guided by Automatic 3D-2D Dental Image Superimposition**
Oscar Ibáñez, PhD*; Antonio D. Villegas, MSc; Guillermo Ramírez-García, MASc; Oscar Cordón, PhD; Daniel Pérez-Mongiovi, PhD; Teresa Pinho, PhD

10:20 am—10:30 am **BREAK**

Advances in Comparative Analysis for Forensic Odontology

Moderator: Matthew Merfeld, DDS Co-Moderator: Sarah Canty, DMD

10:30 am—11:00 am **H32** **Digital Mandibles: The Role of 3D Printing in Personalized Jaw Reconstruction**
Shalini Gupta, PhD*

11:00 am—11:20 am **H33** **The Identification of Bodies Using the Automated Search Notice in Forensic Odontology in France**
Gwenola Drogou Saout, DDS*

11:20 am—1:00 pm **BREAK**

Forensic Odontology Metrology

Moderator: Aaron Jolivet Co-Moderator: Megan Lenahan, DDS

1:00 pm—1:20 pm **H34** **When Time Is of the Essence: Establishing DVI Facilities During Warfare**
Esi Sharon, DMD*; Tzipi Kahana, PhD

1:20 pm—1:40 pm **H35** **How a CT Screen Capture Assisted in the Identification of an Individual**
Mark Porco, DDS*

1:40 pm—2:00 pm **H36** **Statistical Basis for Forensic Dental Identification Using Independent Feature Probability**
James Fancher, DDS, MA, PhD*

2:00 pm—2:20 pm **H37** **Unlocking Identity Through Proteomics: A Review of Protein Biomarkers in Forensic Science**
Shria Sharma, MSc*; Shubham Thakur, MSc; Sanya Gaur, PhD

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I1**	**A Forensic Insight Into a Peculiar Case of Autoerotic Asphyxiation** Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Maria Cristina Verrina, MD*; Maria Daniela Monterossi, MD; Gioele Grimaldi, MD; Mattia Solano, MD*; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Giuseppe Chiaravalloti; Santo Gratteri, MD, PhD; Marco Cisa;
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I2**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I3**	**Drowning in Big Data: An Evidence-Based Forensic Assessment of Lung Weights in Drowning Cases, Modeled on a Database of Over 22,500 Autopsies** Johannes Busch, PhD*; Carl Johan Wingren, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I4**	**Incidental Central Pontine Myelinolysis in Chronic Ethanolism: A Case Report** Shera Wanner, MD*; Marcus Conley, BS; Jordan Taylor, MD; Christopher Liverman, MD, PhD; Marcus Conley, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I5**	**Unexpected Fatal Hemoperitoneum: A Case of Spontaneous Non-Traumatic Omental Hemorrhage** Kaylee Fox, DO*; Patrick Lantz, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I6**	**Living With the Dead: Harris County's Investigations Into Life Alongside the Deceased** Bethany Bless, MSc*; Hannah Jarvis, MRCS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I7**	**Maternal Deaths Associated With Hyperemesis Gravidarum** Titash Biswas, BS*; Tatiana Bihun, MD; Joseph Prahlow, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I8**	**Nothing Is as It Seems: A Differential Diagnosis Between Postmortem Animal Predation and Caustic Ingestion in a Case of Complex Suicide** Cristina Elia, MD*; Elena de Laurentiis, MD*; Tommaso Livieri, MD; Calogero Cuttaia, MD; Francesco Orsini, MD; Raffaele Cirillo, MD*; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD*; Roberta Bibbò, MD; Chiara Fabrello, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I9**	**Opioid-Induced Constipation With Massive Colonic Dilation and Stercoral Colitis: A Rare Autopsy Finding in Fentanyl Overdose** Afifa Bhutta, MD*; John Hu, MD, PhD; Andrea Oeinck, DO
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I10**	**Tracing the Ear to the Heart: Frank's Sign as a Forensic Marker in 14 Years of Autopsy-Based Cardiac Deaths** Enrica Macorano, MD*; Francesco Introna, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I11**	**CDT and Alcohol Abuse: A Metabolomic Perspective** Alberto Chighine, MD, PhD*; Emanuela Locci, PhD; Giacomo Musile, PhD; Franco Tagliaro, MD, PhD; Ernesto d'Aloja, MD, PhD; Nadia Porpiglia, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I12**	**On Thin Ice: The Frozen Facts** Jacob Teigen, BA*; Grace Blair, BS; Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD; Wai Szeto, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I13**	**Estimating the Minimum Postmortem Interval: The Role of Forensic Entomology in Outdoor Cases in Central Italy** Luca Manelli, PhD; Marcello Seligardi, MD*; Valentina Bugelli, MD, PhD; Sara Bortolini, PhD

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I14**	**Identifying the Transition From Antemortem to Postmortem Odor in Cadavers in an Outdoor Environment** Darshil Patel, PhD*; Wesley Burr, PhD; Shari Forbes, PhD; Benoit Daoust, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I15**	**The Diagnostic Value of Tissue Detection of Aquatic Bacteria (Aeromonas and Vibrio) in Death by Drowning by PCR and the Metagenomic Approach** Claire Villard, MD*; Mylène Toubiana, PhD; Estelle Jumas-Bilak, MD, PhD; Pierre-Antoine Peyron, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I16**	**The Impact of Substance Use Disorders on Postmortem Microbiome Signatures** Christina Harris, BS*; Olivia Willoughby, BS; Gulnaz Javan, PhD; Silvia Visonà, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I17**	**Tissue-Specific Protein Degradation in Human Autopsy Cases: A Comparative Study for Postmortem Interval Estimation** Laura Flachberger, MSc; Stefan Pittner, PhD; Fabio Monticelli, PhD; Peter Steinbacher, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I18**	**A Novel Approach to Estimate the Postmortem Submersion Interval Using Barnacles and Drift Trajectories: A Mediterranean Study** Beatrice Spadaro, MD*; Anna Messina, MD; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Elvira Ventura Spagnolo, MD; Roberta Somma, PhD; Salvatore Giacobbe, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I19**	**Body Fluid Proteomics of DNA Extraction Waste Products** Daniella Corene Luistro, MSFS*; Glendon Parker, PhD; Kyle Burk, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I20**	**Forensic Botany in Postmortem Interval Estimation: The Current State and Future Perspectives** Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Maria Cristina Verrina, MD*; Luca Calanna, MD; Jasmine Calafiore, MD; Chiara Caruso, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Aida Iaconetta
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I21**	**Determining the Utility of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology for Disaster Victim Identification (DVI)** Makena McLean; Vienna Lam, MA; Megan Bassendale, MSc*; Gail Anderson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I22**	**Lucilia Coeruleiviridis (*Diptera: Calliphoridae*) as a Primary Blow Fly on Carrion in East Alabama** Kianna Harris, BSc; Gulnaz Javan, PhD; Jonathan Parrott, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I23**	**Resource Quality and Its Effects on the Developmental Stages in Dermestes Maculatus: Implications for Postmortem Interval Estimations** Maria Zamora*; Jennifer Rosati, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I24**	**Shifting Sands: A Longitudinal Study of Changes in Soil Microbial DNA in Relocated Remains in a Desert Environment** Katelyn Bolhofner, PhD; Pamela Marshall, PhD*

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I25**	**Dissecting Disparity: Jurisdictional Challenges to Sudden Cardiac Death Surveillance in the Balkans** Djordje Alempijevic, PhD*; Davide Radaelli, PhD; Stefano D'Errico, PhD; Tijana Petrovic, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I26**	**Pancarditis With Concurrent Metastatic Adenocarcinoma of the Colon: A Case Report and Review of the Literature** Mira Basuino, DO*; Neil Haycocks, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I27**	**Sudden Death Due to Arrhythmogenic Mitral Valve Prolapse: A Case-Based Study From a Large Urban Medical Examiner's Office** Abdel Rahman Qabaja, MBBS*; Lorenzo Gitto*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I28**	**A Case of Multiple Silent Steam Pops During Radiofrequency Ablation Leading to Cardiac Rupture** Marco Parenti, MD*; Greta Seveso, MD*; Gulnaz Javan, PhD; Silvia Visonà, MD, PhD; Luca Tajana, MD; Giovanni Cecchetto, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I29**	**A Hemorrhage in the Atrioventricular Septum Caused by Infective Endocarditis** Mio Okada, MD*; Shigeki Tsuneya, MD, PhD; Yohsuke Makino, MD, PhD; Taka-Aki Matsuyama, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I30**	**Lethal Parvovirus B19 Myocarditis in a 9-Month-Old Infant: Crucial Insights From the Autopsy in a Challenging Diagnosis** Michela Gabelloni, APM; Margherita Sgroi, MD; Ilaria marcacci, APM; Matteo Leoni, MD*; Rebecca Maggi, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I31**	**Not Everything Is What it Seems: A Case Report of Developmental Cardiac Defects Masquerading as Neglect** Christian Perez-Torres, MD*; Amy Tharp, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I32**	**Not Just Drowning: Malignant Arrhythmia and Involuntary Submersion in a Young Male** Alessandro Nicolosi, MD*; Simona Calabrese, MD*; Alessio Asmundo, PhD; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Vincenzo Cianci, MD; Cristina Mondello, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I33**	**A Postmortem Diagnosis of PAU Rupture in the Ascending Aorta** Vincenzo Cianci, MD*; Beatrice Spadaro, MD; Alessio Asmundo, PhD; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Lorenzo Tornese, MD; Cristina Mondello, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I34**	**Sudden Cardiac Death in Undiagnosed Late Stage Pompe Disease** Kenna Saiidi, BS*; Tracy Wadsworth, MD; Lorenzo Gitto
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I35**	**Sudden Death in a Two-Year-Old Child With Suspected Abuse: The Key Role of Forensic Pathology in the Differential Diagnosis** Irene Pradelle, MD*; Matilde Ruju, MD*; Luca Diani, MD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD; Giada Rovito, MD; Letizia Alfieri, MD, PhD; Margherita Neri, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I36**	**The Correlation of Biomarkers and Cardiac Dimensions in Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD)** Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Valerio Riccardo Aquila, PsyD; Alessandro Schettini; Aurora Princi, MD*; Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Maria Eugenia Caligiuri, PhD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Santo Gratteri, MD, PhD; Federica Riillo, MD

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I37**	**Understanding Cause and Manner of Death in the Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender-Incongruent Community** Sonia Kominek, MA*; Rhonda Mittenzwei, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I38**	**DNA on a Deadline: Interagency Cooperation for Genetic Testing of Unidentified Human Remains** Kiana Miller, BS*; Andrew Seidel, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I39**	**A Study on Time-Dependent Changes in the Degradation Index (DI) of DNA From Postmortem Blood** Chong Min Choung, PhD*; Ho Jun Lee, MS; Heywon Hong, MS; Joo-Young Kim, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I40**	**A Comparison of Sample Pretreatment and DNA Extraction Methods From Human Ribs** Daniel Arend, BS*; Ethan Smith, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I41**	**Pre-Analytical Barriers to Postmortem Invitae Testing: A Retrospective Review of Genetic Test Failures and Successes** Manisha Bastola, MD*; Patrick Hansma, DO; Victoria Roby, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I42**	**A Comparison of DNA Quality in Gray and White Matter of the Brain** Dong Yeon Lee, BS; Ga Eun Kim, MS*; Moon-Young Kim, MD, PhD; Eun-Byoul Jung, BS; Eugene Choi, MD; Chae Min Lee, BS; Im Soyoun, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I43**	**Elder Abuse and Long-Term Health Outcomes: A Comprehensive Meta-Analytic Review** Antonietta Porzio, MD*; Maria Grazia Violante; Carlo Pietro Campobasso, MD, PhD; Paola Ciamarra, MD; Ignazio Grattagliano, PhD; Graziamaria Corbi, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I44**	**Beyond the Bullet: A Histopathological Evaluation of Gunshot Injuries Enhanced by Experimental Animal Models** Federica Cascone, MD*; Alessandro Feola, MD, PhD; Paolo Palermo, MD; Pasquale Mascolo, MD; Orlando Paciello, PhD; Giuseppe Piegari, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I45**	**A Preliminary Discussion on the Effects of Clothing on Soot Deposition at Varied Ranges of Fire and on Cylinder Gap Marks** Barbara Herfel, MD*; Gregory Schmunk, MD; Christopher Poulos, MD; Matthew Cain, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I46**	**Beware: BB Guns Can Kill** Whitney Carriveau, BA*; Selly Strauch, MD; Susan Roe, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I47**	**Considerations and Implications of Homemade Firearm Sound Suppressors: A Case Series** Megan Schwietert, MD*; Carolina McEnnan, MD; Henry Giraldo Jimenez
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I48**	**A Fatal Gunshot Wound From a Test Shot: A Forensic Case Report** Paolo Visci*; Annachiara Vinci, MD; Davide Ferorelli, MD; Natalia Sebastiani, MD; Gianmarco Sirago, MD; Francesco Calò, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I49**	**How the Misinterpretation of Formalin Pigment Artifacts in Postmortem Histology Can Influence the Forensic Diagnosis** Stefano Tambuzzi, MD*; Guendalina Gentile, BSc; Riccardo Zoia, MD, PhD; Lorena Ferraroli, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I50**	**γ-H2AX—A Useful Tool to Detect DNA Damage in Sudden Cardiac Death Heart Tissues: An Experimental Study** Angelo Montana, PhD*; Francesca Licitra, PhD; Francesco Paolo Busardò, MD, PhD; Sonia Fantone, PhD; Rosanna Zamparese, PhD; Giovanni Tossetta, PhD

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I51**	**Beyond the Cold: Re-Establishing Wound Vitality in Frozen-Thawed Bodies With Glycophorin A Immunohistochemistry** Giulia Berneschi, MD*; Pietro Ciulli, MD; Marco Di Paolo, MD, PhD; Naomi Iacoponi, MD*; Andrea Scatena, MD; Michela Gabelloni, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I52**	**A Comparative Evaluation of Four Histological Stains for Skeletal Fracture Time Since Injury Estimation** Alexis VanBaarle, APM*; Carolyn Isaac, PhD; Joseph Prahlow, MD; Amanda Fisher-Hubbard, MD; Jered Cornelison, PhD'; Joyce deJong, DO; Brandy Shattuck, MD; Theodore Brown, MD; Wendy Lackey-Cornelison, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I53**	**A Case of Homicidal Necrophilia** Joseph Prahlow, MD*; Susan Zuiderveen, JD; Jay Blair, JD; David Walker
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I54**	**The Forensic Face of Vampirism: A Singular Case of Manual Cardiac Removal in a Homicide** Angela Colucci, MD*; Enrica Macorano, MD; Francesco Introna, MD, PhD; Giovanni de Gabriele, MD; Andrea Marzullo, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I55**	**Double Homicide or Complex Accident? Forensic Challenges in a Case of Filicide, Matricide, and Dismemberment** Isabella Caristo, MEd*; Rosario Barranco, PhD; Francesco Ventura, PhD; Giulio Fraternali Orcioni, MEd; Domenico Coviello, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I56**	**Hack and Slash: Machete Homicides in Harris County, Texas** Marianne Beynon, MD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I57**	**Homicide by Heart Attack: A Case Series** Michelle Kao, BS*; Joseph Prahlow, MD; Kanayo Tatsumi, MD; Tatiana Bihun, MD; Katie Hanson, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I58**	**Fratricide With Overkilling and Afterkilling by a Woman With Schizophrenia: A Forensic Case** Lucilla De Luca, MD*; Laura Donato; Michele Treglia, MD; Luigi Tonino Marsella, MD; Margherita Pallocci, MD; Pierluigi Passalacqua, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I59**	**Asthma-Related Deaths in Los Angeles County, CA: Forensic Insights Into an Alarming Trend** Sarah Edminster, DO*; Andrew Nguyen, PhD; Robyn Parks, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I60**	**Comparing Standard Clinical Laboratory Beta-Hydroxybutyrate Testing of Vitreous Fluid Against Standard Toxicological Blood Analyses in Ketoacidosis Deaths** Quinn Basso, MD*; Betty Chow, MSc; Christopher Milroy, MD; Jacqueline Parai, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I62**	**Cerebral Vasculitis Associated With SARS-CoV-2 Infection: The Role of the Autopsy in the Postmortem Diagnosis and Preventive Insight** Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Maria Daniela Monterossi, MD*; Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Eugenio Garofalo, MD, PhD; Andrea Bruni, MD; Pino Pasqua, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Federica Riillo, MD; Alessandro Di Cello
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I63**	**Diagnostic Challenges in Post-Transplant Acute Liver Failure: A Case of Suspected Large-for-Size Syndrome** Jayalakshmi Alagar, MPhil*; Julius Nani, MD; Duy Doan, MD; Jared Hassler, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I64**	**Endocrine Enigmas** Morgan Mastrud, BS, BA*; Alexus Meduna, BS; Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD; Wai Szeto, MD

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I65**	**A Fatal Airway Obstruction Due to Laryngeal Papillomatosis: A Clinically Occult Complication** Mariana Voudouri, MD*; Amber Wang, MD; Katherine Kenerson, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I66**	**Sweet But Deadly: Pyogenic Hepatic Abscesses in Diabetes** Claire Westby, BA*; McKenzie Burian, BS; Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD; Wai Szeto, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I140**	**A Fatal Invasive Candidiasis Diagnosed at Autopsy in a Long-Term Hospitalized Patient: A Case Report** Geon Kim; Eugene Choi, MD; Ga Eun Kim, MS; Dong Yeon Lee, BS; Moon-Young Kim, MD, PhD*; Eun-Byoul Jung, BS; Im Soyoun, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I123**	**Fascinating and Mesmerizing: The Deadlier Side of Fireworks** Ami Jackson, DO*

Thursday – Session I

Morning Session

Moderator: Sterling McLaren, MD — Co-Moderator: Vincenzo Cianci, MD

8:30 am—8:50 am	**I67**	**Medicolegal Patterns in Homicide-Suicide Cases Related to Crimes of Passion, Altruistic Motives, or Psychiatric Disorders: A Retrospective Autopsy-Based Study** Eugenia Marta Leonzio, MD*; Gianmarco Argentiero, MD; Gennaro Baldino, MD, PhD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD; Laura Secco, MD; Filippo Pirani, PhD
8:50 am—9:10 am	**I68**	**Law Enforcement Ballistic Fatalities: What Can We Gain From Autopsy Reviews?** Andrew Davis, MPH*; Cynthia Bir, PhD
9:10 am—9:30 am	**I69**	**Autoerotic Deaths: A Review and Examination of Investigative and Autopsy Findings** Nichole Miller, BS*; Hannah Jarvis, MRCS
9:30 am—9:50 am	**I70**	**Racehorse Fatality Investigation: The Roles of the Pathologist and Regulatory Veterinarian** Alina Vale, DVM*
9:50 am—10:10 am	**I71**	**Neglect in the Pediatric and Elderly Population: A Nine-Year Retrospective Review From the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office** Antonietta Porzio, MD*; Maria Rosaria Forte, APM*; Lorenzo Gitto; Carlo Pietro Campobasso, MD, PhD
10:10 am—10:30 am	**I72**	**Work-Related Suicide: 25 Years of Forensic Cases in a European Province** Bianca Beltrame, MD*; Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD; Sofia Bodini, MD; Andrea Verzeletti, MD, PhD
10:30 am—10:50 am	**I73**	**Patterns of Heat-Related Mortality in Southern Nevada: Forensic and Public Health Implications** Liam Johnson, MA*; Katherine Gaddis, MA; Lisa Gavin, MD; Stephanie Yagi, DO
10:50 am—11:10 am		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**
11:10 am—2:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Siddhartha Das, MD — Co-Moderator: Jacqueline Parai, MD

2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**I74**	**Homeless Deaths Investigated by a State-Wide Medical Examiner System** Maura DeJoseph, DO; Katherine Kenyon, MD*; James Gill, MD
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**I75**	**Invisible Deaths: A Forensic Window Into Homeless Mortality in Milan (2014–2024)** Chiara Carsana, MD*; Stefano Tambuzzi, MD*; Cristina Cattaneo, MD, PhD; Devis Valleriani, MD
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**I76**	**Evaluating Quality in Hospitalized Patients: Using a Retrospective Review of Hospital Autopsies at a Single Institution** Omid Golestanian, MD*; Bushra Sayeed, MD; Shahrier Amin, MD, PhD; Erona Reza, MD
3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**I77**	**Standards Development Activities in Medicolegal Death Investigation and Forensic Pathology** J. Keith Pinckard, MD, PhD*
3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**I78**	**Conrad-30 Waiver Program for Forensic Pathologists: An Overview** Mario Rascon, MD*
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**I79**	**Pseudo-Gunpowder Stippling: A Case Series and Review of the Literature** Kori Mecklenburg, MD*; Lauren Moshea, DO*; Joseph Prahlow, MD; Kanayo Tatsumi, MD; Robyn Parks, MD
4:00 pm—4:20 pm	**I80**	**Beneath the Surface: Exploring Aquatic Decomposition in Sweden** Clara Alfsdotter, PhD; Anja Petaros, PhD*
4:20 pm—4:40 pm		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**

Thursday – Session II

Morning Session

Moderator: Noemi Procopio, MD — Co-Moderator: Nicole Jackson, MD, MPH

9:00 am—9:20 am	**I81**	**An Examination of the Potential for Fly Transfer of Blood to a Suspect's Clothing** David Rivers, PhD*
9:20 am—9:40 am	**I82**	**Environmental Forensic Entomology: What Can the Basic Biology of Flies Reveal About Environmental and Wildlife Crimes?** Charity Owings, PhD*
9:40 am—10:00 am	**I83**	**How to Combine the Exigencies of Histopathological and Forensic-Genetic Investigation: Critical Issues in the Use of Medicolegal FFPE Samples for DNA Analysis** Giulia Soldati, PhD*; Rebecca Rigosa, MS; Nicola Pigaiani, MD, PhD; Federica Bortolotti, MD, PhD; Francesco Ausania, MD, PhD
10:00 am—10:20 am	**I84**	**The Effect of Soil Particle Size and Depth on Dogs' Detection of a Buried Odor** Glenna Cupp, MSc*; Madalyn Bower, BS; Paola Tiedemann, PhD; Daniel Hirmas, PhD; Nathaniel Hall, PhD; Edgar Aviles-Rosa, PhD

10:20 am—10:40 am	**I85**	**Winter Taphonomy and Vertebrate Scavengers in the Northern Plains** Lavinia Iancu, PhD*; Piper O'dell, BS*; Thomas Sikorski*; Ranna Dawlaty, BAS
10:40 am—11:00 am		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**
11:00 am—2:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Alberto Chighine, PhD Co-Moderator: Charity Owings, PhD

2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**I86**	**The Impact of Opioids and Benzodiazepines and Their Metabolites on Black Blow Fly (*Phormia Regina*) Larval Length** Linnea Briley*; Cambria Jansen, BS; Hayden McKee-Zech, PhD
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**I87**	**Tiny Traces, Big Impact: Fingertip Microbiomes in Forensic and Pathology Research** Michele Di Nunzio, MCS*; Sarah Gino, MD; Noemi Procopio, PhD; Nengi Ogbanga, PhD; Anna Franzoni, MSc; Miquel Serra-Forteza, BSc
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**I88**	**Front End Separation of Biological Mixtures Based on Time-Since-Deposition of Contributor Cell Populations** Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD; Arianna DeCorte, MS*; Gabrielle Wolfe, BS
3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**I89**	**Integrating NGS-Based DNA Workflows Into the Postmortem Toolkit for Kinship and Identification** Mayra Eduardoff, PhD*; Sheree Hughes, PhD*
3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**I90**	**That's Some Pig: Protocol Optimization for the Analysis of DNA in Unpulverized Cremated Remains** Kendall Kroha, MS*; Stephanie Gladyck, PhD; Austin Wickham, MS
3:40 pm—4:00 pm		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**

Thursday – Session III

Jay Dix Memorial Lecture Series

Moderator: James Gill, MD

8:30 am — 8:40 am		**Introduction** James Gill, MD
8:40 am —9:30 am	**I91**	**Firearm Injuries** Andrew Baker, MD*
9:30 am — 9:45 am		**BREAK**
9:45 am—10:35 am	**I91**	**Postmortem Changes** Joseph Prahlow, MD*
10:35 am—11:25 am	**I91**	**Chronic Alcohol Use** Melissa Pasquale-Styles, MD*
11:25 am—2:00 pm		**BREAK**

*Presenting Author

2:00 pm—2:50 pm	**I91**	**Blunt Force Trauma** Katherine Maloney, MD*
2:50 pm—3:05 pm		**BREAK**
3:05 pm—3:55 pm	**I91**	**Asphyxia** Susan Ely, MD*
3:55 pm—4:45 pm	**I91**	**Hyperactive Delirium** James Gill, MD*

Multidisciplinary Session: Pathology/Biology and Toxicology

Moderator: Ponni Arunkumar, MD Co-Moderator: Laura Labay, PhD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**L45**	**Postmortem Hair Testing for Fentanyl and Analogs: Experimental, Forensic, and Interpretative Aspects** Nicola Pigaiani, MD, PhD* Marco Ballotari, PhD; Federica Bortolotti, MD, PhD; Gregory Davis, MD; Rossella Gottardo, PhD; Karen Scott, PhD
1:15 pm—1:35 pm	**I92**	**A Forensic Investigation of Kratom-Related Fatalities: The Mitragynine Paradox** Giulia Bambagiotti, MD*; Diletta Berardinelli, PhD*; Eva Montanari, PhD; Prentiss Jones, PhD; Gary W. Kunsman, PhD; Francesco Paolo Busardò, MD, PhD; Marilyn A. Huestis, PhD
1:35 pm—1:50 pm	**L46**	**MDMA Toxicity: A Fatal Case of Ayus-Arieff Syndrome** Chiara Carsana, MD*; Bianca Beltrame, MD*; Andrea Verzeletti, MD, PhD; Mauro Minoli, BPharm; Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD
1:50 pm—2:05 pm	**L47**	**Positivity of Clonazepam and 7-Aminoclonazepam in DUID Versus Postmortem Casework: Microbial Biotransformation as a Pre-analytical Factor** Haley Bibey, MSFS*; Donna Papsun, MS; Brittany Casey, PhD; Shayna Kasher, MSFS
2:05 pm—2:20 pm	**L48**	**"The Matrix": Is the Brain Suitable to Overcome PM Redistribution in Cocaine Overdoses?** Pascale Basilicata, PhD; Mariagrazia Marisei, MD*; Maria Pieri, PhD*; Angela Silvestre, PhD; Angela Simonelli, PhD; Rossella Guadagni, PhD
2:20 pm—2:35 pm	**L49**	**Unintentional Fentanyl Overdoses Among Cocaine Users: Investigating "Powder and Rock Confusion" Through a Scene-Integrated Toxicological Model** Emily Dalgo, MA; Alana Golding, BS*; Maria Esquivel, BA*; Rhonda Mittenzwei, MD*
2:35 pm—2:55 pm	**I93**	**Trends in Cannabinoid Positivity in Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions: A Retrospective Toxicological Analysis in Connecticut (2018–2024)** Stacy Thomas, MD, PhD*; James Gill, MD; Amanda Mohr, MS; Michelle Clark, MS
2:55 pm—3:10 pm	**L50**	**Ketamine-Induced Nephritis and Cystitis: A Forensic Autopsy Case Report** Kanokphun Chaisaksiri, MD*; Peerayuht Phuangphung, MD, PhD; Ngoentra Tantranont, MD; Sakda Sathirareuangchai, MD

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I61**	**An Unusual Suspect: Group B Strep Strikes in Spontaneous Peritonitis** Paloma Johnson, BS*; Emma Weisner, BS; Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I94**	**A Fatal Mimicker of Gastroenteritis: Pediatric Midgut Volvulus** Isaiah Germolus, BS*; Hannah Rathgeber, BS; Selly Strauch, MD; Susan Roe, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I95**	**A Rare Pediatric Case of Concomitant Gorham-Stout Disease, Symptomatic Tarlov Cysts, and Undiagnosed Chiari I Malformation: Clinical and Medicolegal Implications** Sharon Duzioni, MD*; Francesca Buffelli, MD, PhD; Alessandro Bonsignore, MD, PhD; Francesco Lupariello, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I96**	**Bacillus Cereus Pneumonia Causing Death in Infants** Daniel Nguyen, MD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I97**	**The Hazards of Hydranencephaly** Jake O'Hearn, BS*; Lily Johnson, BA; Jared Ahrendsen, MD, PhD; Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I98**	**Mitochondrial Disorders Mimicking Child Abuse: A Case of Misdiagnosed Munchausen by Proxy** Lina De Paola, MD; Miriam Ottaviani, MD*; Gabriele Napoletano, PhD; Alessandro Ghamlouch, MD; Gaia De Angelis, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I99**	**Problems With Popcorn: The Dangers of Pediatric Foreign Body Aspirations** Hunter Olstad, BS*; Mya Winjum, BS: Susan Roe, MD; Selly Strauch, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I100**	**The Postmortem Microbiology (PMM) and Its Role in Decoding Sudden Childhood Deaths** Federica Cascone, MD*; Mariavictoria De Simone, MD; Carlo Pietro Campobasso, MD, PhD; Alessandro Feola, MD, PhD; Vittorio Panetta, BSc; Andrea Ronchi, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I101**	**Thirty Years of Forensic Analysis on Child and Adolescent Deaths in Taiwan: Trends, Risk Factors, and Homicide Characteristics** Szu-Yu Lin, MMed*; Hsiao-Ting Chen, BASc; Kai-Ping Shaw, PharmD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I102**	**What to Expect When You Don't Know You're Expecting: A Cryptic Pregnancy With Fatal Consequences** Anna Claudia Caruso, MD*; Monica La Greca, APM*; Benedetta Baldari, PhD; Anna Maria Manta, MD; Marida Imbriani, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I103**	**A Case of Complex Suicide by Captive-Bolt Gunshot and Hanging** Irene Pradelle, MD*; Matilde Ruju, MD*; Luca Diani, MD; Margherita Neri, PhD; Giada Rovito, MD; Alessandra Bergonzini, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I104**	**Back to Basics: Defining the Histology of Suicidal Ligature Furrows** Caroline Durham, MD*; Dwayne Wolf, MD, PhD; Nicole Dominiak, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I105**	**Diagnostic Challenge in Forensic Autopsy: Possible Hydrogen Peroxide Ingestion in Caffeine Overdose Suicide** Casem Ballouk, MD*; Amber Silva, MS; Wendy Gunther, MD; Nicole Masian, APM

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I106**	**Engineered Exit: A Multidisciplinary Reconstruction in a Loader Blade Self-Inflicted Death** Damiano Marchesini, MD; Anna Claudia Caruso, MD*; Flavia Sciuttini, MD*; Benedetta Baldari, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I107**	**Suicide by Evisceration: A Presentation of Three Cases and a Review of the Relevant Literature** Raffaella Campagna, MD*; Maria Antonella Bosco, MD; Christian Pallante; Wanda Nocerino, PhD; Angela Procaccino, PhD; Federica Genchi, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I108**	**The Ear as a Clue to Asphyxiation: A Rare Case of Otorrhagia in Hanging** Anna Messina, MD*; Vincenzo Cianci, MD*; Daniela Sapienza, PhD; Cristina Mondello, PhD; Beatrice Spadaro, MD; Maria Manno, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I109**	**Troubles With Dying? Plan Your Suicide** Niccolo' Melloni, MD*; Enrico Gerace, BS; Roberto Testi, MD; Silvia Boca, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I110**	**The Application of Postmortem Micro-Computed Tomography (PM-microCT) in the Analysis of Fatal Neck Compression in Advanced Decomposed Bodies** Matteo Scopetti, MD, PhD*; Martina Padovano, MD*; Maria Chiara David, PhD; Chantal Milani, PhD; Francesca Consalvo, MD; Stefano Vanin, PhD; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD*; Vittorio Fineschi, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I111**	**From Suicide to Homicide: About One Charred Body and the Contribution of Postmortem Computed Tomography Coupled With Scanning Electron Microscopy Coupled With Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectroscopy** Fabrice Dedouit, MD, PhD*; Lise Pestourie, MD; Frederic Savall, MD, PhD; Norbert Telmon, MD, PhD; Marion Vergnault, MD; Celine Guilbeau Frugier, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I112**	**The Legal and Investigative Impact of Postmortem CT Imaging in Forensic Deaths** Ilayda Sam, MD*; Bedirhan Sezer Oner, MD; Savas Gorgulu, MD; Burcu Akman, MD; Selcuk Cetin, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I113**	**EyePhone: Ocular Pathology Imaging at Your Fingertips** Ashley Smith, MD*; Patrick Lantz, MD; Mark Giffen, DO; Joseph Fortin, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I114**	**The Postmortem Application of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis (BIA): Correlations Between Electrical Parameters, BMI, and PMI in a Series of 29 Cases** Maria Cristina Verrina, MD*; Ennio Avolio, PhD; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Sabrina Raffaele, MSc; Ludovico Abenavoli, MD, PhD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Wandamaria Mazzuca
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I115**	**Rare Fatal Complications of Hemorrhoidal Banding: A Case Series** David Behrman, MD*; Bernadette DeRussy, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I116**	**The Fragility of Fistulas: Two Cases of Exsanguination Via AV Fistula** Mikale Kuntz, BS*; Ally Feland, BS; Dr. Selly Strauch, MD; Susan Roe, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I117**	**Benzimidazole OpioidAssociated Fatalities Observed at the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences: A Case Series** Karan Goel, MD*; Si Gao, MS; Hannah Jarvis, MRCS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I118**	**A Forensic Diagnosis of Acute and Fatal Phosphine Exposure: Environmental, Toxicological, and Histopathological Findings** Carmen Sementa, MD; Elena de Laurentiis, MD*; Vittorio Fineschi, MD, PhD; Francesca Consalvo, MD; Cristina Elia, MD*; Raffaele Cirillo, MD*; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD

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11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I119**	**It's Lit: A Case of Accidental Fire and Inhalant Abuse** Luca Tomassini, MD*; Piergiorgio Fedeli; Anna Maria Manta, MD*; Massimo Lancia, MD, PhD; Flavia Sciuttini, MD*; Daniele Paolini, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I120**	**Neuromuscular Death: A Histological and Toxicological Approach to a Rare Strychnine Fatality** Raffaella Vetrini, MD*; Calogero Cuttaia, MD; Riccardo Addobbati, PhD; Emiliana Giacomello, PhD; Filippo Bolzan, MD; Tommaso Bruscagin, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I121**	**A 14-Year Retrospective Analysis of Crash Characteristics in Accidental Motor Vehicle Deaths** Donald Turbiville, MD*; D. Kimberley Molina, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I122**	**Deaths by Drowning: A Ten-Year Overview in Western Michigan** Jordan Roberson, BS*; Christopher Nwoke, BA; Abigail Grande, MPH; Amanda Fisher-Hubbard, MD; Nicolas Kostelecky, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I124**	**Pediatric Perpetrators and Unusual Weapons: Investigation, Injury Biomechanics, and Manner Determination** Danielle Mack, MD*; Melissa Blessing, DO; Maura Thurber, MHS; Zeel Naik, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I125**	**"Seventy Years of Forensic Experience (1943-2016): Evolution of Forensic Management in Mass Disasters"** Enrica Macorano, MD*; Fabrizio Calabrese, MD; Francesco Introna, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I126**	**A Rare Death Caused by a Falling Taxidermy Elk Head and an Injury Pattern Analysis** John Hu, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I127**	**The Advantages and Limits of Postmortem Computed Tomography (PMCT) and 3D Reconstruction in Characterization of Fatal Injuries by Hammers** Carmen Sementa, MD; Raffaele Cirillo, MD*; Stefania De Simone, PhD; Vittorio Fineschi, MD, PhD; Cristina Elia, MD*; Elena de Laurentiis, MD*; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I128**	**Airbag: Lifesaving Device or Lethal Mechanism? A Forensic Analysis of an Emblematic Case** Lucia Tarda, MD; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Roberto Raffaele, MSc*; Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Roberto Arcadia, MSc; Gerardo Perozziello, PhD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Claudia Catia De Pasquale, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I129**	**The Analysis of a Sudden Death Case Related to a Wild Boar Trap Injury** Saverio Gualtieri, MD*; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Massimo Musardo, LLB; Aurora Princi, MD; Pietro Tarzia, MD*; Stefano Lombardo, MD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I130**	**Beneath the Surface: What a Burned Body Still Reveals** Biancamaria Treves, MD*; Alessandro Ghamlouch, MD; Gabriele Napoletano, PhD; Gaia De Angelis, MD; Maura Racciatti, MD; Fabio Del Duca, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I131**	**Complete Lumbar Spine Transection in an Unrestrained Motor Vehicle Fatality: A Case Study in Biomechanical Failure** Afifa Bhutta, MD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**I132**	**Electricity and Home Safety: The Role of Collaboration Between Forensic Pathologists and Engineers in Investigating a Fatal Incident** Raffaele Cirillo, MD*; Elena de Laurentiis, MD*; Davide Radaelli, PhD; Raffaella Vetrini, MD; Cristina Elia, MD*; Maria Buffon, MD; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD; Carmen Sementa, MD

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I133** **A Fatal Fall From Flight: A Forensic Case Study**
Jerielle Cartales, MSc*; Carolyn Isaac, PhD; Joseph Hefner, PhD
(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I134** **Homicide by Vehicle Escape: Death From a Leap From a Car in Motion to Escape Sharp Force Injury Inflicted by the Driver**
Christian Perez-Torres, MD*; Wendy Gunther, MD

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I135** **Justice Across Jurisdictions: An Integrated Analysis of Domestic Violence in the United States and Italy**
Cheli Calderon, BS*; Micki Besse, MS; Heather Walsh-Haney, PhD; Melodie Eichbauer, PhD; Joanna Salapska-Gelleri, PhD; Roshni Ladny, PhD

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I136** **Silent Danger: A Companion Case of Carbon Dioxide Asphyxiation in a Wine Cellar Due to Dry Ice Exposure**
Josue Fonseca, BS*; Emma Henrie, MD

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I137** **A Work-Related Death in an Olive Oil Processing Plant: A Case Report of a Complex Forensic Analysis**
Bianca Beltrame, MD*; Angela Colucci, MD*; Antonio Marzaioli, MD; Alessandro Cristalli, MD; Riccardo Amirante, MD, PhD; Francesco Introna, MD, PhD

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I138** **Corpse Recovery in Extreme Environments: A Forensic Case Study From a Manure Pit**
Elena de Laurentiis, MD*; Raffaele Cirillo, MD*; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD*
Cristina Elia, MD*; Donato Morena, MD, PhD; Gabriele Casaburi, MD*

11:30 am—1:00 pm **I139** **When Words Cut Deep: A Rare Accidental Sharp Force Death During a Domestic Altercation**
Marida Imbriani, MD*; Gianluca Piras, MD; Benedetta Baldari, PhD

Friday – Session I

Morning Session

Moderator: Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD Co-Moderator: Lorenzo Gitto, MD

9:00 am—9:20 am **I141** **3D Technologies in Forensic Medicine: From Complexity Perception to Practical Integration**
Federica Amirante, MD*; Gianmarco Argentiero, MD; Marcello Benevento, MD;
Laura Ambrosi, MD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD

9:20 am—9:40 am **I142** **Micro-CT and Histopathology of the Hyoid-Larynx Complex in Cases of Fatal Trauma to the Neck**
Sofia Goia, PhD*; Angela Colucci, MD; Charlotte Primeau, PhD; Mark Williams, PhD

9:40 am—10:00 am **I143** **The Past, Present, and Future of Bone Fracture Age Estimation: A Technological Perspective**
Charlotte Lawrence, MSc*; Mark Williams, PhD; Charlotte Primeau, PhD

10:00 am—10:20 am **I144** **Using Micro-CT Scanning for Criminal Investigations of Suspicious Child Deaths: A Decade of Experience From the United Kingdom**
Charlotte Primeau, PhD*; Sofia Goia, PhD; Mark Williams, PhD; Charlotte Lawrence, MSc

10:20 am—10:40 am **I145** **Postmortem Evaluation of Anomalous Aortic Origin of the Right Coronary Artery Using CT and MRI: A Retrospective Case Study**
Yukiko Uemura, MD*; Shigeki Tsuneya, MD, PhD; Yohsuke Makino, MD, PhD;
Hirotaro Iwase, MD, PhD; Masatoshi Kojima, MA; Go Inokuchi, MD, PhD

10:40 am—11:00 am	**I146**	**Beyond the Scalpel: Integrating Virtopsy and Traditional Autopsy in Mass Disaster Victim Identification** Enrica Macorano, MD*; Angela Colucci, MD*; Francesco Introna, MD
11:00 am—11:20 am		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**
11:20 am—2:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Simone Grassi, MD — Co-Moderator: Tatyana Zinger, DO

2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**I147**	**A Case-Based Analysis to Assess the Validity of the Hat Brim Line Rule in Cranial Trauma** Kiti Doci, MD* Alberto Amadasi, MD, PhD; Marcello Seligardi, MD*; Valentina Bugelli, MD, PhD; Federica Poli, MD; Sara Dagoli, PhD
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**I148**	**A Unique Case and 25-Year Retrospective of Trash Chute and/or Compactor Death in Miami-Dade County** Mariana Voudouri, MD*; Alexander Blank, MD; Alexander Giachetti, PSM; Nicholas Barna, MD
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**I149**	**Understanding Blunt Force Injuries: A Biomechanical and Forensic Comparison of Vertical and Horizontal Forces** Alejandro Partida, MD*; Mario Rascon, MD
3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**I150**	**Unusual/Atypical Deaths With Sharp Force Injuries** Priyanka Kaushal, BS*; Joseph Prahlow, MD; Kanayo Tatsumi, MD; Tatiana Bihun, MD; Katie Hanson, MD
3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**I151**	**Electrocutions Right or Wrong** Helmut Brosz, BASc*; Renee Knight, BASc
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**I152**	**SHOCK AND AWE! A Review of Electrocution Deaths at the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner/Coroner (2010–2023)** Logan Ritter, MD*; Meredith Frank, MD; James Caruso, MD; Ian Puffenberger, MD; Sterling McLaren, MD
4:00 pm—4:20 pm		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**

Friday – Session II

Morning Session

Moderator: Paul Uribe, MD — Co-Moderator: Carlo Campobasso, MD, PhD

8:40 am—9:00 am	**I153**	**When Science Isn't Independent: Fire Investigators, Medical Examiners, and Circular Logic** John Lentini, BA*
9:00 am—9:20 am	**I154**	**The Undying Dilemma of Time Since Death in Court: A Critical Analysis of Traditional and Innovative Methods for PMI Estimation** Simone Grassi, MD, PhD*; Hannah Jarvis, MRCS; Noemi Procopio, PhD; Andrea Costantino, MD

9:20 am—9:40 am	**I155**	**A Deep Learning-Based Evaluation of Coronary Artery Stenosis in Forensic Autopsies Using Whole Slide Imaging** Nicola Pigaiani, MD, PhD*; Shakiba Sharifi, MEng; Matteo Brunelli, MD, PhD; Marianna Garavello, MD; Alberto Chighine, MD, PhD; Stefano Gobbo, MD, PhD
9:40 am—10:00 am	**I156**	**An Interpretation of Myocardial Injuries in Natural and Unnatural Deaths** Katarzyna Michaud, MD*
10:00 am—10:20 am	**I157**	**Postmortem Diagnosis of Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Revisiting Fundamentals Through a Systematic Review** Simona Calabrese, MD*; Vincenzo Cianci, MD*; Alessio Asmundo, PhD: Cristina Mondello, PhD; Alessandro Nicolosi, MD; Anna Messina, MD
10:20 am—10:40 am	**I158**	**From Arteriosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease to Aortic Dissection: The Impact of Postmortem Imaging in Cause-of-Death Determinations** Carissa Longo, MD*; J. Jun Guan, MD
10:40 am—11:00 am	**I159**	**A 17-Year Review of Myocarditis Cases From the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Alexandria Anderson, BA*; Ibrahim Ortanca, MD
11:00 am—11:20 am		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**
11:20 am—2:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Melissa Blessing, D) Co-Moderator: Gregory Schmunk, MD

2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**I160**	**Pediatric Drug-Related Deaths and Toxicological Findings From the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office: A Five-Year Retrospective Study** Santina Alessandra Severino, PharmD*; Anna Carfora, PhD; Lorenzo Gitto; Carlo Pietro Campobasso; Federica Migliaccio, MD
2:20 pm—2:40 pm	**I161**	**Delayed Death Resulting From Child Abuse: An Analysis of an Uncommon Phenomenon in a Large Metropolitan Area** Ilaria Fracassi, MD*; Valentina Mormile, MD; Lorenzo Gitto, MD; Carlo Pietro Campobasso, MD, PhD
2:40 pm—3:00 pm	**I162**	**Reading Between the Scars: Recognizing Intent in Pediatric Burn Injuries** Alice Buzzelli, MD*; Valentina Bugelli, MD, PhD; Alberto Amadasi, PhD; Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD
3:00 pm—3:20 pm	**I163**	**Investigating the Phenomenon of Lesion Vitality on Human Ribs: From Untargeted Proteomics to the Application of Immunostainings for Specific Proteins** Nicola Galante, MD*; Daniele Capitanio, PhD; Riccardo Zoia, MD, PhD; Alessandro Del Gobbo, MD; Alessio Battistini, MD, PhD
3:20 pm—3:40 pm	**I164**	**Systemic Calcium Dysregulation and Neuropathological Aging: A Retrospective Hospital Autopsy Study** Stacy Thomas, MD, PhD*; Hannah Sage, MD; Declan McGuone, MBBch
3:40 pm—4:00 pm	**I165**	**The Applications of Humanitarian Principles in Forensic Death Investigations for Indigenous Communities** Steff King, MA*; Gail Anderson, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*

4:00 pm—4:20 pm	**I166**	**UMID: A National Initiative for DNA-Based Identification of Unidentified Dead Bodies in India** Chittaranjan Behera, MD*
4:20 pm—4:40 pm		**DISCUSSION AND Q&A**

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J1**	**The Evaluation of Malpractice in Psychiatry That Was Discussed in High Health Council During 2000–2008** Safa Celik, MD, PhD*; Nermin Celik, MD, PhD; Ahmet Hakan Celik, MBBS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J2**	**The Influence of Traumatic Life Events and Subsequent Psychopathology on Recidivism: A Critical Review** Sanya Gaur, PhD; Jagmahender Singh Sehrawat, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J3**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J4**	**Zoanthropic Delusions Resulting From Acute Fentanyl and Methamphetamine Intoxication** Nidhi Checka, BS*; Tatiana Bihun, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J5**	**Measuring Factors Associated With Identification Thresholds in Fingerprint Analysts** Nada Aggadi, BA*; Thomas Busey, PhD; Meredith Coon, MFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J6**	**Electronic Health Records, Artificial Intelligence, and the Forensic Psychiatric Examiner: Pitfalls and Implications** Vivian Chern Shnaidman, MD*

Morning Session

Moderator: Jessica Morel, DO — Co-Moderator: Corina Freitas, MD, MSc, MBA

8:00 am—8:35 am	**J7**	**Out With the Old, in With the New: An Alternative Approach to Evaluating Personality Disorder in Competency to Stand Trial** William Provosty, MD*
8:35 am—9:10 am	**J8**	**Misdemeanor Incompetent to Stand Trial (MIST) Reform: Lessons From Los Angeles County and Future Directions** Michael Dodge, MD*
9:10 am—9:45 am	**J9**	**Considerations for Conducting Competency to Self-Represent Evaluations in Immigration Court** Kieu-Yen Luu, MD*
9:45 am—10:00 am		**BREAK**
10:00 am—10:45 am	**J10**	**WITHDRAWN**
10:45 am—11:30 am	**J11**	**A Forensic-Psychiatric Reconstruction of the Historical Case of Peter Kürten: "The Vampire of Düsseldorf"** Lucia Tarda, MD; Matteo Antonio Sacco, MD*; Valerio Riccardo Aquila, PsyD; Maria Cristina Verrina, MD*; Alessandro Pasquale Tarallo, MD; Maria Eugenia Caligiuri, PhD; Isabella Aquila, MD, PhD*; Francesca Lobello
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Klaus Neudecker, MD — Co-Moderator: Corina Freitas, MD, MSc, MBA

1:00 pm—2:05 pm	**J12**	**Enhanced Trauma-Informed Policing: Neurocognitive Impacts of Trauma and the Role of Leadership, Emotional Intelligence, and Organizational Justice** Gregory Mack, PhD*; Monica Brooker, PhD*
2:05 pm—3:25 pm	**J13**	**Understanding the Role of Moral Injury in Police Officer Suicide and Trauma Reactions** Stephanie Tacopina, PhD*; Marisol Habrahamshon, PsyD*; Gregory Mack, PhD*; Christina Gille, PsyD*
3:25 pm—3:40 pm		**BREAK**
3:40 pm—5:00 pm	**J14**	**Wars and Natural Disasters: Vicarious Trauma Through Media Manipulation and Promotion or Suppression of Current Events** Jessica Morel, DO*; Vivian Chern Shnaidman, MD

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J15**	**A Forensic Psychiatric Analysis of Paternal Filicide: A Narrative Literature Review** Andrea Cioffi, MD*; Camilla Cecannecchia, MD*; Luigi Cipolloni, MD, PhD; Stefania De Simone, PhD; Francesco Orsini, MD
11:30 am—1:00 am	**J16**	**Capable or Circumvented? Challenges in the Forensic Assessment of Mental Infirmity and Psychic Deficiency in a Case of Circumvention of a Vulnerable Person** Rebecca Maggi, MD*; Carla Occhipinti, MD; Marco Di Paolo, MD, PhD; Ilaria Zampieri, PhD; Pietro Pietrini, MD, PhD; Pietro Ciulli, MD
11:30 am—1:00 am	**J17**	**Detecting Malingered mTBI Using the Neurobehavioral Symptom Inventory** Joseph Preckajlo, MA; Erica Baer, PhD*; Richard Conti, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 am	**J18**	**Eros and Thanatos of the New Millennium: Reflections on the Relationship Between a Young Man With Asperger's Syndrome and an AI Chatbot From the Italian Forensic Medical Perspective** Giancarlo Di Vella, MMed*; Cristiano Barbieri, MD, PhD; Ignazio Grattagliano, MSc;0 Anna Cassano, MSc; Roberta Risola, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J19**	**From Analog To Digital: The Fatal Evolution of Sexual Perversion of the Technological Age** Giancarlo Di Vella, MMed*; Cristiano Barbieri, MD, PhD; Ignazio Grattagliano, MSc; Kimberly Pagani, LLB; Maria Grazia Violante, MSc; Andrea De Leo, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**J20**	**Suicide Methods by Sex in a State With Limited Firearm Regulations** Erin Tarnoff, BA*; Taylor M. Bain, BS*; Brandi McCleskey, MD

Morning Session

Moderator: Alan Felthous, MD — Co-Moderator: David Annas, MD, MPH

8:00 am—8:35 am	**J21**	**Likes, Dopamine, and Crime: The Challenge of Psychiatric Forensics in the Face of a Stimulus-Addicted Brain** Anna Beatriz Rodrigues Geranio*; Cristiane Viana Barbosa, MA*; Dineusa Amaral, MBA*; Bruno Da Silveira Pataro Moreira, APM

8:35 am—9:10 am	**J22**	**Intimate Partner Violence Against Women Murders: Forensic Features and Differences With Domestic Violence** Miguel Lorente, PhD*; María Cuadros, MCrim
9:10 am—9:45 am	**J23**	**Behind the Emergency Room Doors: Revealing Hidden Gender-Based Violence Through Clinical Forensic Medicine** Annachiara Vinci, MD*; Gianmarco Sirago, MD; Alessandro Dell'Erba, MD, PhD; Davide Ferorelli, MD; Paolo Visci; Susanna Sabato, MD; Gianmarco Sirago, MD
9:45 am—10:00 am		**BREAK**
10:00 am—10:35 am	**J24**	**The True Crime Effect: Examining True Crime Consumers' Beliefs About Forensic Science, Evidentiary Expectations, and Attitudes Toward the Criminal Justice System** Brianne Suldovsky, PhD*
10:35 am—11:10 am	**J25**	**Disparities in Disappearances: Public Perception of Missing Persons Cases and the Influence of Missing White Woman Syndrome** Erica Baer, PhD*; Jaedan Carnahan, BS; Richard Conti, PhD; Dante McKinnell, MA
11:10 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Vivian Shnaidman, MD Co-Moderator: David Annas, MD, MPH

1:00 pm—1:35 pm	**J26**	**A Fatal Case of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy in the Father–Daughter Dyad** Federica Amirante, MD*; Anna Margari, MD; Roberto Catanesi, MD, PhD; Biagio Solarino, MD, PhD
1:35 pm—2:10 pm	**J27**	**Reining in Juvenile Impulsive Aggression: A Novel Pharmacologic Treatment Algorithm in Forensic Psychiatric Settings** Maureen Cranley, BS*; Alan Felthous, MD; Felicia Johnson, PhD
2:10 pm—2:45 pm	**J28**	**WITHDRAWN**
2:45 pm—3:00 pm		**BREAK**
3:00 pm—3:30 pm	**J29**	**The Development of the Willingness to Malinger Scale** Richard Conti, PhD*; Erica Baer, PhD; Joseph Preckajlo, MA
3:45 pm—4:15 pm	**J30**	**Psychiatric Patients Institutionalized During World War II: The Forgotten Deaths** Ilaria Rossetto, MD*; Stefano Tambuzzi, MD*; Mirko Mattia, PhD*; Cristina Cattaneo, MD, PhD*
4:15 pm—5:00 pm	**J31**	**"Our Hands Were Tied": Fatal Interactions Between Law Enforcement and Individuals With Behavioral Health Histories** Michael Staley, PhD*; Deirdre Amaro, MD*; Barrett Humble, BS

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**K1**	**A Forensic Analysis of 2-Phenoxyethanol in Ballpoint Pen Strokes on Paper Under Natural Aging Conditions** Veronika Marinović, PhD*; Ivana Bolanča Mirković, PhD; Andrea Ledić, MSc; Stjepan Brzica, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**K2**	**Network Graphs for Visualizing Handwriting Individuality** Clarissa Giefer, MS*; Cami Fuglsby, PhD; JoAnn Buscaglia, PhD; Christopher Saunders, PhD; Jack Hietpas, PhD; Janean Hanka, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**K3**	**A Support System for Document Analysis Through Detection and Recognition of Handwritten Documents** Enrique Bermejo, PhD; Alejandro Manzanares, MSc; Oscar Ibáñez, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**K4**	**A Case Study on the Reliability of Electronic Signatures Across Varying Security Levels** Cristiane Barbosa, MA*; Dineusa Amaral, MBA*; Anna Beatriz Rodrigues Geranio

Morning Session

Moderator: Stephanie Kingsbury, MFS — Co-Moderator: Mark Goff, BA

8:30 am—9:00 am	**K5**	**Decoding Handwriting After Stroke: A Forensic Perspective on Memory Impairment** Vishal Sharma, PhD*
9:00 am—9:30 am	**K6**	**Forensic Document Examination and AI: A Brave New World** Stephanie Kingsbury, MSFS*
9:30 am—10:00 am	**K7**	**DIY AI for Forensic Document Examiners** Mark Goff, BA*
10:00 am—10:20 am		**BREAK**
10:20 am—10:40 am	K8	**I Had a Case . . . Hiding in Plain Sight** Kate Butler, BS*
10:40 am—11:00 am	**K9**	**The Utility of Familial Linking of Counterfeit Identity Documents by Questioned Document Examination and Materials Analysis** Luther Schaeffer, MS*; Savanah Allinson, BSc*
11:00 am—11:20 am	**K10**	**I Had a Case—Document Obliterations in a Homicide Investigation and a Return to Classic Forensic Techniques** Sarah Pryor, BS*; Angela Roe, MSc*
11:20 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Afternoon Session

Moderator: Meredith DeKalb Miller, MFS — Co-Moderator: Zain Bhaloo, MSc

1:00 pm—1:20 pm	**K11**	**Automating Toner-Based Sequence Determination in Forensic Document Examination: New Tools and Next Steps** Zain Bhaloo, MS*; Mathieu Arès, BS; Brent Ostrum, BS
1:20 pm—1:40 pm	**K12**	**An Update on Standards Development Activities Related to Forensic Document Examination** Kevin Kulbacki, MSFS*
1:40 pm—2:00 pm	**K13**	**Training for Success in Questioned Documents** Meredith Miller, MFS*
2:00 pm—2:20 pm	**K14**	**A Proposal for a Forensic Signature Examination Standard** Linton Mohammed, PhD*
2:20 pm—3:00 pm	**K15**	**Note Taking Requirements for New FDE Standards . . . That Seems Like a Lot** Mark Goff, BA*
3:00 pm—3:10 pm		**BREAK**
3:10 pm—3:30 pm	**K16**	**Graphoscopy in the Digital Age: Revisiting Classical Principles in Light of Emerging Signature Technologies** Dineusa Amaral, MBA*; Cristiane Barbosa, MA*; Anna Beatriz Rodrigues Geranio
3:30 pm—3:50 pm	**K17**	**A Study of Baseline Alignment and Slant Within Various Handwriting Elements** Carl McClary, MS*; Linton Mohammed, PhD
3:50 pm—4:20 pm	**K18**	**The Forensic Document Examiner Forum** Carl McClary, MS*; Samiah Ibrahim, BSc

Friday

Morning Session

Moderator: Carolyn Bayer-Broring, MFS — Co-Moderator: Kate Butler, BS

9:00 am—9:20 am	**K19**	**Forensic Intelligence "Profiling" of Counterfeit Pharmaceutical Packaging Components** Vincent Salvatore, BS, MBA*; Geoffrey Albert-Bolinski, BA; Christopher Hopkins, MS; Roy Ford, MBA; Anthony Zook, PhD
9:20 am—10:00 am	**K20**	**Document Date Evidence From the Aptos Font, and Kerning in Microsoft Word** Thomas Phinney, MSc*
10:00 am—10:20 am	**K21**	**The Use of Civil Service Handwriting in Foreign Identity Documents** Carolyn Bayer-Broring, MFS*
10:20 am—10:40 am	**K22**	**An Overview of the Voluntary Licensure Program for Forensic Document Examiners in the State of Texas: Updates and Eligibility Requirements** Keelie Johnson, BASc*
10:40 am—11:00 am	**K23**	**Forensic Differentiation of Ink Age: A Study on the Temporal Reflectance Shifts in Blue Gel and Ballpoint Pens** Kanica Chugh, PhD*; Hemani Kamboj, MScFS
11:00 am—11:20 am	**K24**	**An Analysis of Stroke Order in Digitized Handwritten Intersections** Cristiane Barbosa, MA*; Dineusa Amaral, MBA*; Anna Beatriz Rodrigues Geranio

TOXICOLOGY

Wednesday

Poster Session

7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L1**	**A Complete and Optimized Toxicological Database Solution for Investigative and Routine Testing on GC/MS** Jeremy Smith, MSc*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L2**	**WITHDRAWN**
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L3**	**A Toxic Relationship: Advanced Analytical Screening Techniques for Decomposed Specimens** Rachel Lindenberger, PhD*; Paul Crowley, BS; Sandra Bishop-Freeman, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L4**	**Advancing Forensic Sample Preparation: Capsule Phase Microextraction (CPME) as an Efficient Tool for Trace Evidence Analysis** Abuzar Kabir, PhD*; Kenneth Furton, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L5**	**Analytical Challenges in the Detection of Δ8-Tetrahydrocannabinol and Its Metabolites in Dried Urine Spots** R. Deanna Brambila, MSFS; Eduardo Geraldo de Campos, PhD*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L6**	**Benzodope and Beyond: The Detection of Benzodiazepine and Opioid Mixtures in Blood and Alternative Matrices Using LC/MS/MS** Elizabeth Greco, BS*; Meredith Robbins, MS; Britni Skillman, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L7**	**Can Lucilia Sericata Larvae Produce Ethyl Glucuronide? An Experimental Study for Forensic Implications** Erika Buratti, PhD*; Giulia Ricchezze; Alice Cerioni, PhD; Marta Cippitelli, PhD; Roberto Scendoni, MD, PhD; Gianmario Mietti, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L8**	**The Classification of Mitragynine and 7-Hydroxymitragynine of Commercial Online Kratom Products, Local Kratom Bars, and Smoke Shops Via LC/MS/MS** Michaela Clarke, MS*; Anthony DeCaprio, PhD; Leonardo Maya, PhD; Kenneth Furton, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L9**	**Designing an Analytical Method to Screen for Contaminants in Amanita Muscaria Gummies Using Triple Quadrupole LC/MS/MS** Abigail Van de Water, BS*; Marisia Fikiet, PhD; Robert Powers, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L10**	**The Development and Validation of a Method for the Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Psychedelic Compounds in Antemortem and Postmortem Blood Using Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry** Paige Riley-Carrier, MS*; Rebecca Wagner, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L11**	**Dissociation by Design: LC/MS/MS Detection and Validation of Phencyclidine, Ketamine, Netabolites, and Novel Structural Analogs in Blood and Urine** Andrea Bernal, BS*; Britni Skillman, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L12**	**Ethanol Inhibition of Morphine Glucuronidation** Supraja Regunathan, BS*; Na Liu, PhD; Robert Powers, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

TOXICOLOGY

7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L13**	**The Extraction of Novel and Traditional Stimulants From Blood Using Protein Precipitation and Dispersive Pipette XTRaction for Liquid Chromatography/Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometry Analysis** Alexus Ceasar-Walker, BS*; Eduardo Geraldo de Campos, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L14**	**Fluorescent Detection of Heroin Using a Molecularly Imprinted Chitosan–UiO66 Metal Organic Framework (MOF)–Carbon Dot Hybrid Sensor** Somayeh Mohammadi, PhD* Hamidreza Sharifan, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L15**	**Forensic Toxicology on a Pre-Skeletonized Body: A Case Report on the Use of Multiple Biological Matrices** Anna Antonia Capurso, MD*; Domenico Urso, MD; Valeria Santoro, MD, PhD; Francesco Introna, MD, PhD; Francesco Paolo Busardò, MD, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L16**	**The Identification of the Novel Non-Opioid Analgesic Suzetrigine in Whole Blood and Urine using Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS)** Isabelle Parry, BS*; Britni Skillman, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L17**	**An LC/MS/MS Analysis of Nitazenes** Hannah Kruse, MPS*; William Campbell, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L18**	**A Lethal Intake of Cocaine: Accidental or Suicide? The Presentation of a Case After a Review of the Literature** Giulia Ricchezze*; Alice Cerioni, PhD; Erika Buratti, PhD; Rino Froldi, MS; Roberto Scendoni, MD, PhD; Gianmario Mietti, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L19**	**Lethal Sodium Nitrite Intoxication: The Contribution of Immunoistochemical Markers** Roberta Bibbò, MD*; Stefania De Simone, PhD; Alessandro Santurro, MD, PhD; Giovanni Pollice, MD; Maria Antonella Bosco, MD; Francesco Orsini, MD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L20**	**Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry Analysis of Natural and Semi-Synthetic Cannabinoids in Authentic Postmortem Blood Samples** Marco Ballotari, PhD*; Michael T. Truver, PhD; Jennifer Hoyer, MS; Chris Chronister, PhD; Bruce Goldberger, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L21**	**Methods of Separating Isomers of Fentanyl Analogs Via High-Performance Liquid Chromatography** David Cirota, MPS*; William Campbell, PhD; Margaret Frohnhoefer, BSc
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L22**	**WITHDRAWN**
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L23**	**Postmortem Electrolyte Profiling as a Forensic Biomarker: Differentiating Causes of Death** Ji Eun Jung, PhD*; Songhie An, PhD; Wooyong Park, MSc; Geum Mun Nam, PhD; Eunhui Park, MSc
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L24**	**Potency Testing for 24 Cannabinoids in Hemp and Cannabis-Infused Products** Mingjing Sun, PhD*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L25**	**Quadrupole Time-Of-Flight vs. Orbitrap: Scoring High Resolution Mass Spectrometry Performance for New Psychoactive Substance Screening in Human Matrices** Akshita Verma, MS*; Anthony DeCaprio, PhD; Natalia Soares Quinete, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

TOXICOLOGY

7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L26**	**A Rapid LC/MS/MS Analysis of EtG and EtS in Urine** Samantha Herbick, MFS*; Jamie York, PhD; Jared Burkhart, BSc
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L27**	**Real-Time Intelligent Tools for Mitigating Carryover in LC/MS-Based Targeted Drug Quantification** Jingshu Guo, PhD*; Courtney Patterson, MS; Kerry Hassell, PhD; lauren Bishop, PhD; Kimy Young, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L28**	**A Review of Xylazine-Related Deaths Over a Two-Year Period at the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center** Anfisa Baiandurova, MD*; Danielle Harrell, DO
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L29**	**Screening for Nitazene Analogs Using Neutral Losses and Common Fragments by Liquid Chromatography/Quadrupole Time-of-Flight/Mass Spectrometry** Angelique McDowell, BS*; Barry Logan, PhD; Alex Krotulski, PhD; Joshua DeBord, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L30**	**Semi-Synthetic Cannabinoids: The Newest Challenge in Analyzing THC Isomers** Jared Burkhart, BSc; Haley Berkland, MSFS*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L31**	**A Stability Assessment of Nitazenes in Aqueous Solutions for the Development of Sample Preparation Procedures** Sara Kuberski, BS*; Britni Skillman, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L32**	**Substance Consumption Informative Research (SCIRe): Testing Hair From Electronic Music Festivals** Ana Pego, PhD*; Bruno Pereira dos Santos, MSc; Marta Concheiro-Guisan, PhD; Joao Pedro Matias, MS; Sarah Eller, PhD; Tiago Franco de Oliveira, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L33**	**Teaching Undergraduates Toxicology Skills Via a Mock Urinalysis LC/MS/MS Protocol** George Cattan*; Nina Ratusznik, BS; Anna Duggar, PhD; CJ Stephenson, PhD; Michael Sosin, MSc
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L34**	**The Chiral Separation of Hexahydrocannabinol (HHC) Metabolites Reveals 9S-4'OH-HHC as Major Urinary Side-Chain Hydroxylation** Markus Roman, BSc; Wu Xiongyu, PhD; Robert Kronstrand, PhD*; Henrik Gréen, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L35**	**Tracking Toxicity: A Preliminary Forensic-Epidemiological Overview of Drug-Related Deaths in Northwestern Italy (2012–2024)** Federica Trevissoi, MD*; Valentina Martini, MSc; Guido Viel, MD, PhD; Luca Morini, PhD; Camilla Torriani, MSc; Maria Cristina Monti, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L36**	**Urine Drug Testing in a Few Drops: Assessing Dried Urine Spots for the Detection of Synthetic Cathinones Using Liquid Chromatography/Triple Quadrupole/Mass Spectrometry** Julia Hintermeister, BA*; Eduardo Geraldo de Campos, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L37**	**Using the New Stellar Mass Spectrometer and Automated Extraction for Drugs of Abuse Testing in Whole Blood** Courtney Patterson, MS*; Jingshu Guo, PhD; Kerry Hassell, PhD
7:30 pm—9:00 pm	**L38**	**Δ9-THCP and Δ9-THCH Biomarkers Formed by Human Liver Microsomes** Kathryn James, BS*; Alaina Holt, PhD; Michelle Peace, PhD; Justin Poklis, BS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*

TOXICOLOGY

Thursday

Annual Lectureship in Toxicology

Moderator: Svante Vikingsson, PhD — Co-Moderator: Curt Harper, PhD

8:30 am—8:35 am		**Welcome & Introductions**
8:35 am—9:45 am		**Invited Lectureship: Cannabis and Cannabinoids Landscape in Recent Years**
9:45 am—10:15 am	**L39**	**An Update on Standards Development Activities in Forensic Toxicology** Marc LeBeau, PhD*
	L40	**WITHDRAWN**
10:15 am—10:30 am		**BREAK**

Drugs and Driving

Moderator: Kayla Neuman, MS — Co-Moderator: Curt Harper, PhD

10:30 am—10:45 am	**L41**	**Expiration, Collection, and Storage: A Multi-Factor Investigation of Blood Alcohol Testing** Sarah Douglas, MS; Roth Woolley, BS* *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
10:45 am—11:00 am	**L42**	**Behind the Calm: Benzodiazepines in Blood and Oral Fluid Samples in Alabama** Kristin Umstead, BS*; Curt Harper, PhD
11:00 am—11:15 am	**L43**	**Bromazolam in Driving Investigations: An Update** Jolene Bierly, MSFS*; Donna Papsun, MS; Barry Logan, PhD
11:15 am—11:30 am	**L44**	**The Detection of Fluorofentanyl in Urine Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Cases** Kenson Jean, BS*; Kristin Kahl, MS; Lisa Reidy, PhD
11:30 am—1:15 pm		**BREAK**

Multidisciplinary Session: Pathology/Biology and Toxicology

Moderator: Laura Labay, PhD — Co-Moderator: Ponni Arunkumar, MD

1:00 pm—1:15 pm	**L45**	**Postmortem Hair Testing for Fentanyl and Analogs: Experimental, Forensic, and Interpretative Aspects** Nicola Pigaiani, MD, PhD* Marco Ballotari, PhD; Federica Bortolotti, MD, PhD; Gregory Davis, MD; Rossella Gottardo, PhD; Karen Scott, PhD
1:15 pm—1:35 pm	**I92**	**A Forensic Investigation of Kratom-Related Fatalities: The Mitragynine Paradox** Giulia Bambagiotti, MD*; Diletta Berardinelli, PhD*; Eva Montanari, PhD; Prentiss Jones, PhD; Gary W. Kunsman, PhD; Francesco Paolo Busardò, MD, PhD; Marilyn A. Huestis, PhD
1:35 pm—1:50 pm	**L46**	**MDMA Toxicity: A Fatal Case of Ayus-Arieff Syndrome** Chiara Carsana, MD*; Bianca Beltrame, MD*; Andrea Verzeletti, MD, PhD; Mauro Minoli, BPharm; Lorenzo Franceschetti, MD, PhD

1:50 pm—2:05 pm	**L47**	**Positivity of Clonazepam and 7-Aminoclonazepam in DUID Versus Postmortem Casework: Microbial Biotransformation as a Pre-analytical Factor** Haley Bibey, MSFS*; Donna Papsun, MS; Brittany Casey, PhD; Shayna Kasher, MSFS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
2:05 pm—2:20 pm	**L48**	**"The Matrix": Is the Brain Suitable to Overcome PM Redistribution in Cocaine Overdoses?** Pascale Basilicata, PhD; Mariagrazia Marisei, MD*; Maria Pieri, PhD*; Angela Silvestre, PhD; Angela Simonelli, PhD; Rossella Guadagni, PhD
2:20 pm—2:35 pm	**L49**	**Unintentional Fentanyl Overdoses Among Cocaine Users: Investigating "Powder and Rock Confusion" Through a Scene-Integrated Toxicological Model** Emily Dalgo, MA; Alana Golding, BS*; Maria Esquivel, BA*; Rhonda Mittenzwei, MD*
2:35 pm—2:55 pm	**I93**	**Trends in Cannabinoid Positivity in Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions: A Retrospective Toxicological Analysis in Connecticut (2018–2024)** Stacy Thomas, MD, PhD*; James Gill, MD; Amanda Mohr, MS; Michelle Clark, MS
2:55 pm—3:10 pm	**L50**	**Ketamine-Induced Nephritis and Cystitis: A Forensic Autopsy Case Report** Kanokphun Chaisaksiri, MD*; Peerayuht Phuangphung, MD, PhD; Ngoentra Tantranont, MD; Sakda Sathirareuangchai, MD
3:10 pm—3:30 pm		**BREAK**

Cannibinoids

Moderator: Jennifer Limoges, MS — Co-Moderator: Jessemia Meekins, BS

3:30 pm—3:45 pm	**L51**	**The Fog of Regulation: Adverse Events and Cannabinoid Products** Kelsey Moss, BS*; Alaina Holt, PhD; Michelle Peace, PhD; Justin Poklis, BS
3:45 pm—4:00 pm	**L52**	**Exploring the Prevalence of Delta-8 THC in the United States: A Comprehensive Review Across Multiple Matrices and Casework Populations** Jennifer Swatek, MS*; Samantha Curran, BS; Ayako Chan-Hosokawa, MS
4:00 pm—4:15 pm	**L53**	**High Hopes: Assessing Label Accuracy and Microbiological Contamination of Cannabis E-Liquids** Logan Peters, BS*; Ankita Gola, BS; Michelle Peace, PhD; Alaina Holt, PhD; Justin Poklis, BS *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Oral Presentation)*
4:15 pm—4:30 pm	**L54**	**Chemical Roulette: The Safety Gamble of Over-the-Counter Nutraceuticals** Lillie Thomas, MS*; Justin Poklis, BS; Michelle Peace, PhD
4:30 pm—4:45 pm	**L55**	**Analysis of Δ8-Tetrahydrocannabinol, Δ9-Tetrahydrocannabinol, and Cannabidiol Metabolites in Meconium Samples** Marco Ballotari, PhD*; Michael T. Truver, PhD: Bruce Goldberger, PhD; Sarah Bartock, PhD; Wen Dui, PhD; Kay Roussos-Ross, MD
4:45 pm—5:00 pm	**L56**	**The Laboratory Impact of a Paradigm Shift in Reporting Postmortem Cannabinoids** Shayna Kasher, MSFS*; Daniel Isenschmid, PhD; Donna Papsun, MS; Sherri Kacinko, PhD; Haley Bibey, MSFS

TOXICOLOGY

Friday

Novel Psychoactive Substances

Moderator: Michele Crosby, PhD — Co-Moderator: Muhammad Taimoor Chaudhary, MPhil

8:30 am—8:45 am	**L57**	**A Comparison of Selectivity and Peak Shape of Forensically Relevant Compounds Between Four Column Types** Margaret Frohnhoefer, BSc*; William Campbell, PhD
8:45 am—9:00 am	**L58**	**Tiny Samples, Big Impact: Detecting Prenatal Alcohol Exposure Using PEth in Dried Blood Spots and LC/MSMS** Stephanie Rodriguez, BS*; Baylee Clore, BS; Marta Concheiro-Guisan, PhD
9:00 am—9:15 am	**L59**	**Sealed Syringe Rotation Saturation Improves Safety and Efficiency in Postmortem CO-Hb Measurement** Songhie An, PhD*; Yujeong Kim, PhD; Wooyong Park, MSc
9:15 am—9:30 am	**L60**	**Strategies for Mitigating the Effects of High Gabapentin Concentrations in Urine Specimens** Haley Berkland, MSFS*
9:30 am—9:45 am	**L61**	**The Optimization and Validation of a Method for Detecting Single Doses of Diphenhydramine in Hair From a Controlled Dosing Study** Kaylyn Keith, MS*; Anthony DeCaprio, PhD
9:45 am—10:00 am	**L62**	**Analyzing the Impact of Centrifugation and Sample Preparation on Drugs of Abuse in Oral Fluids** Samantha Herbick, MFS*; Jared Burkhart, BSc
10:00 am—10:15 am	**L63**	**The Critical Role of Ascorbic Acid and Sodium Fluoride Preservative in the Stability of 4-PrO-DMT in Blood** Christopher McGrowder, BS*; Marta Concheiro-Guisan, PhD
10:15 am—10:30 am		**BREAK**

Analytical Advancements

Moderator: Amanda Jenkins, PhD — Co-Moderator: Madison Schackmuth, PhD

10:30 am—10:45 am	**L64**	**Nitazene Analogs Placed Under Generic Control in China: Understanding the Framework and Preparing for the Next Novel Synthetic Opioid Wave** Alex Krotulski, PhD*; Sara Walton, MS; Donna Papsun, MS; Joshua DeBord, PhD; Barry Logan, PhD
10:45 am—11:00 am	**L65**	**Pharmacodynamic Effects and Plasma Pharmacokinetics of N,N-Dimethyltryptamine (DMT) After Intranasal Versus Subcutaneous Administration in Male Rats** Sara Walton, MS*; Michael Baumann, PhD; Alex Krotulski, PhD; Grant Glatfelter, PhD; Christopher Witowski, PhD; Jacqueline von Salm, PhD
11:00 am—11:15 am	**L66**	**The Prevalence of Other Additive Novel Psychoactive Substances and Polydrug Positivity in Clinical Urine Specimens** Jillian Neifeld, MS*; Theresa Meli, MS; Sarah Bartock, PhD; Alicia Bland, MS; Michael Smith, PhD

11:15 am—11:30 am	**L67**	**The Emergence of Synthetic Cannabinoids in Maryland Correctional Facilities: 2023–2025** Stephanie Dean, MD*; Jack Titus, MD; Rebecca Phipps, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm		**BREAK**

Pediatric Toxicology

Moderator: Nikolas Lemos, PhD

Co-Moderator: Timothy Rohrig, PhD

1:00 pm—3:00 pm	**L68**	**Pediatric Postmortem Forensic Toxicology: Children Are Not Small Adults** Nikolas Lemos, PhD*; Timothy Rohrig, PhD; Kari Midthun, PhD; Carl Schmidt, MD; D. Kimberley Molina, MD; Sarah Riley, PhD

LAST WORD SOCIETY

Thursday

Moderator: Kenneth Melson, JD

8:00 pm—8:20 pm	**LW1**	**Olof: Ancestors Heir or Disney Snowman? Solving Something Cold** Cathryn Fahey, BS; Daren Boyd, BS*; Tamara Mick, MS; Katherine White, BSc; Janey Dunn, MScFS; Jerrie Northrup, BS
8:20 pm—8:40 pm	**LW2**	**America 250: Forensic Science and the Hessian Soldiers' Remains "Intrenched" in a Mass Grave at Red Bank Battlefield, Gloucester County, New Jersey** Thomas Crist, PhD*; Anna Delaney, DCrim; Stuart Alexander, DMD
8:40 pm—9:00 pm	**LW3**	**Many Minds or Many Frauds? The Insane Case of Billy Milligan** George Annas, MD, MPH*
9:00 pm—9:20 pm	**LW4**	**The Loaded Case of the Banned Bullet** Maria Nektaria Antoniou, LLM, MSt*; Nicholas Marquez-Grant, PhD; Rick Schulting, PhD
9:20 pm—9:40 pm	**LW5**	**The (Not Always) Good Old Times: The Inquisition as the Basis of Modern Forensic Investigation** Matteo Borrini, PhD*; Vincenzo Lusa, JD
9:40 pm—10:00 pm	**LW6**	**Where in the World Are All These Skeletons From? Anthropology, Odontology, Stable Isotopes, and Ethics** Wolf Bueschgen, DMD*; Suzanne Abel, PhD

YFSF POSTER SESSION

Wednesday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y1**	**The Feasibility of Using ATR/FTIR for the Differentiation of Different Brands of Brown Eyeliners** Urja Desai, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y2**	**Intimate Partner Violence Against Women Murders: Forensic Features and Differences With Domestic Violence** Miguel Lorente, PhD*; María Cuadros, MCrim
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y3**	**A Comparative Analysis of Textile Damage Caused by Canines vs. Firearms and Knives** Tabitha Hammond, BS*; Sandra Koch, PhD; Lawrence Quarino, PhD; Andra Lewis, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y4**	**Investigating the Patterning of Postmortem Fractures in Human Dentition** Bec Krolczyk, BS*; Danny Wescott, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y5**	**The Differentiation and Identification of Fentanyl Analogs Using Portable Ion Trap Mass Spectrometry** Mei Yuan, BS*; Ella M. Galvan, BS; Jeffery D. Johnson, Jr., PhD; Seth Fisher, BS; Pauline E. Leary, PhD ; Brooke W. Kammrath, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y6**	**Comparative Evaluation of Machine Learning Models for Criminal Attribute Estimation: Explainable AI Perspectives** Daisuke Imoto, PhD*; Kazuki Hirama, PhD; Kengo Furuhashi, PhD; Yusuke Otsuka, MPhil; Kaeko Yokota, PhD; Masakatsu Honma, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y7**	**A Bloody Window to the Past: STR Analysis of DNA From a Bloodstained Civil War Surgical Table** Nadia Walter*; Alyssa Spillar, BS; J. Thomas McClintock, PhD; Kristin Mossé, MScFS;
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y8**	**Direct Analysis of Ink on Documents and Other Substrates Using Attenuated Total Reflectance Fourier Transform Infrared Microscopy** Sophie Krumhansl, APM*; Cadence Manning, APM*; Boluwatife Olubusoye, BS; James Cizdziel, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y9**	**Understanding Sleep-Related Infant Deaths: A Forensic Perspective on SIDS, SUID, and Safe Sleep Practices** Sandra Shapiro, DNP*; Rachel Thomas, PhD; Orli Grinstein-Cohen, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y10**	**Utilizing Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy for Age-at-Death Estimations in Human Skeletal Remains: A Pilot Study** Anna K. Maier, MSc*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y11**	**A Field-Ready Method for Wildlife Identification Using Noninvasive Genetic Sampling** Rosemary van der Net, BS*; Pamela Marshall, PhD; Jan Janecka, PhD; Joshua Robinson, MS; Andrea Kautz, MS; Joseph Saxfield, BS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y12**	**A New Spin on DNA Extraction: Validating SpermX™ GenSpin Differential Extraction for Sexual Assault Evidence Processing** Tori Tyree, BS; Amy McGuckian, MFS; Julie Sikorsky, MSc; Kelly Beatty, MSFS

*Presenting Author

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y13**	**Integrating Spectroscopy and Machine Learning for Forensic Discrimination of Wood Species and Sustainable Timber Trade** Akanksha Sharma, MSc*; Vishal Sharma, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y14**	**Revisiting the Resolution and Accuracy of Year-of-Birth Estimations Based on Bomb Pulse Radiocarbon (14C) Dating of Human Enamel** Camille Martin, BA*; Rhonda Quinn, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y15**	**Fungal Succession During Decomposition: A DNA-Based Analysis of Forensic Significance** Lewis Burnett*; Brittney Sylvester; Latavia Williams; Alyssa Lavasseur; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y16**	**Exposing Forgery: Ink Analysis via Raman Spectroscopy** Alex Potter, MSFS*; Ellen Hondrogiannis, PhD; Mary Devadas, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y17**	**Enhancing Nuclear DNA Recovery From Soil: A Comparative Analysis of Resin, Silica Membrane, and Silica Bead Extraction Methods** Ashley Espinoza, MS*; Todd Disotell, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y18**	**Accuracy of the Transition Analysis 3 (TA3) Method for Age Estimation in the John A. Williams Human Skeletal Collection** Blue Wonhof, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y19**	**Visual Examination of Physical Properties of Blood as a Result of Ignitable Liquid and High Heat Affect From an Arson Scene** Victoria Bascou, BS*;
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y20**	**The Quantitation of Organic Compounds in Smokeless Powder Using High-Performance Liquid Chromatography** Kayla South, BS*; Ellen Hondrogiannis, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y21**	**Network Graphs for Visualizing Handwriting Individuality** Clarissa Giefer, MS*; Cami Fuglsby, PhD; Janean Hanka, MS; Jack Hietpas, PhD; JoAnn Buscaglia, PhD; Christopher Saunders, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y22**	**Direct Analysis in Real Time Tandem Mass Spectrometry (DART-MS/MS) for the Characterization and Profiling of Street-Level Fentanyl Samples** Joel Moss*; Alexis Quinter, MASc; Heather Harris, MFS; Nicholas Khorozov, MS; Joshua DeBord, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y23**	**Investigating the Effects of Soil pH and Fluoride Content on Hydroxyapatite Degradation Using pXRF Technology** Madeline June Leeah, BA*;
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y24**	**When Experts Lie: Fraudulent Forensics, Wrongful Convictions, and the Call for Basics and Reform** Megan Cramer*; Jordan Stephens*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y25**	**Analysis of Smokeless Powder Using Infrared and Uv-Visible Spectroscopy With a Focus on Nitrated Derivatives of Diphenylamine** Meredith Elko*; Ellen Hondrogiannis, PhD; Mary Devadas, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y26**	**Suicide by Sodium Nitrite/Nitrate: A 10-Year Retrospective Review** Rachel Guest, MD*; John Powell, MD

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y27**	**DNA Extraction From Bone: A Novel Workflow Using Theralin™ and Magnetic Beads** Marguerite Godwin, BS*; Mark Wilson, PhD; Charla Marshall, PhD; Joseph DiZinno, DDS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y28**	**The Application of ATR-FTIR Spectroscopy for the Identification of Cosmetic Foundations Versus Environmental Materials Such as Food or Soil on Cloth** Jaden Force, BS*; Kelly Elkins, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y29**	**Optimizing DNA Extraction and Communicating PhenoTrivium Panel Results for Cold Case Skeletal Samples** Madison Townsend, BS*; Brittania Bintz, MS; Maureen Hickman, MS; Tiffany Fracchia, PhD; Alice Gooding, PhD; Frankie West, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y30**	**The Development of Recombinase Polymerase Amplification (RPA) to Augment mini STR Amplification of 'Touch' DNA Samples for Human Identification (HID) Workflows** Joseph Rahm, MSFS*; DeEtta Mills, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y31**	**Investigating the Correlation Between Body Mass and Hip Joint Measurements in a Taiwanese Non-Adult Sample** Rachel Riddell, BA; An-Di Yim, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y32**	**Basic Tools, New Approaches: Using Mandibular Canine Index and 3D Imaging for Subadult Sex Determination** Jorja Hill*; Satu Valoriani, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y33**	**Differentiating Blunt Force Trauma Fractures From Thermal Fractures in Fleshed and Skeletal Deer Crania** Alyssa Ranney, MS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y34**	**Evaluating IR Spectra Variation of Pepper Based Defense Products** Jocelyn Polanco, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y35**	**Enhancing Forensic Toxicology Through Postmortem Applications: Evaluating the Viability of Skin Swabbing as a Drug Testing Matrix** Hannah Schaeffer, BS*; Abigail Burke, MS; Rebecca Wagner, PhD; Jennifer Hammers, DO; Stephanie Wetzel, PhD

Thursday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y36**	**Color Spectrophotometer as a Powerful Tool to Evaluate Human Fluid Stains on Denim Fabrics** Shelby Barrager*; Mazeyar Parvinzadeh Gashti, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y37**	**Determination of Assembly Time of 80% Firearms and Subsequent Operability** Elisabeth Smith, BS*; Caitlin Baker, MS; Anita Lorenz, MS; John Viator, PhD; Matthew Regentin, MS; Pamela Marshall, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y38**	**Towards Mass Spectrometry Imaging of Latent Prints Using Visible Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Electrospray Ionization** Julia Morelli*; Kenyon Evans-Nguyen, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y39**	**Assessing the Prevalence of p-Phenylenediamine in Henna Tattoo Inks Purchased in Northern Delaware** Laell Sands*; Muhammed Taimoor Chaundry, MPhil; Tom Gluodenis, PhD; John Stallworth, BS

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y40**	**Petroleum-Utilizing and Hemolytic Soil Microbes: Environmental Impacts on Decomposition in Forensic Contexts** Tristen Howell*; Lewis Burnett; Brittney Sylvester; Latavia Williams; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y41**	**The Evaluation and Comparison of Portable FTIR/Raman Instruments for Field Testing of Illicit Drugs** Sydney Ma, BS*; Alexandra Evans, MFS; Ya-Chih (Jessica) Cheng, PhD; Ira Lurie, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y42**	**Microbial Succession in Uncovered Remains: Establishing a Baseline for Postmortem Interval Estimation** Diamon Raymond*; Brittney Sylvester; Latavia Williams; Alyssa Lavasseur; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y43**	**The Determination of Neurotransmitter Levels in Rat Brain Following Opioid-Sedative Exposure Using Liquid-Chromatography Quadrupole-Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry** Laerissa Reveil, MS*; Maria Lasaosa, PhD; Amanda Furman, MS; Alia Marie Iqbal O'Meara, MD; Matthew Halquist, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y44**	**Using Positive and Negative Image Overlap for Image Forensics: Examples From Taiwan** Teng-Kai Shih, BASc*; Min-Neng Hsu, PhD; Wen-Chao Yang, DSc; Wen Chung Chen, LLM; YI Fang, MSc
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y45**	**Vitreous Fluid as a Stable Matrix for Postmortem Toxicology** Miriam Fisher, MD*; Ben Murie, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y46**	**The Effects of Latent Print Development Techniques on Over-the-Counter Drug Detection by Liquid Chromatography Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometry** Jessica Pichat, BS*; Ashley Ebert, PhD; Lyndsie Ferrara, PhD; Stephanie Wetzel, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y47**	**Lying Labels? An Analysis of Caffeine Content in Common United Kingdom Caffeinated Products** Noah Cannon*; John Paul Planchet*; Carolina Sartori*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y48**	**An Assessment of the FARO Freestyle 2 Handheld Scanner on Skeletal Analyses in the Estimation of the Biological Profile** Chloe R. Cummings, BS*; An-Di Yim, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y49**	**Vicarious Trauma and its Effects on Public Safety Professional's Ability to Complete Unbiased Investigations** Madison Turner*; Kelly Crockett, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y50**	**An Evaluation of Immunoassay Test Strips for Detection of Medetomidine in Urine and Drug Products** Liliane Audet, APM*; Alex Krotulski, PhD; Heather Harris, MFS; Alyssa Reyes, MS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y51**	**An Evaluation of Alternative Solvents for Forensic Fire Debris Analysis** Tessa Monroe*; Jenna Leppek, BS; Hannah LaVoie, BS; Ruth Waddell Smith, PhD; Kenyon Evans-Nguyen, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y52**	**An Evaluation of Vapor Pressures of Ignitable Liquids, Water and Fire Debris Analysis, and the Effects on Extraction** Carson Kleider, BS*

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y53**	**A Quick Method of Measuring Bullet Angles on Auto Metal Surface at Crime Scenes: A Novel Method Using a Digital Angle Measurer** Heather Armistead, BS; John Wang, PhD*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y54**	**Developmental Changes in Frontal Sinus Morphology: Significance in a Forensic Context** Allison L. Deemter, MA*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y55**	**Single Step Fingerprint Fumigation With Common Dyes** Abigail Proffitt*; Jared Filegar*; Kristin Mossé, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y56**	**When Cleanliness Obscures: How Can Common Disinfecting Cleaners Hinder Forensic Investigations?** Shaifer Goalen, BS*; Kristin Ornelas
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y57**	**A Comparison of Genetic Analysis Methodologies on Spermatozoa DNA Recovered From the Orifices of Burned Human Remains** Andrew Brown*; Brittania Bintz, MS; Darren Solomon, MS; David Schuable, BS; Charles Giblin, PE; Rebecca George, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y58**	**The Impact of Firearm Type and Orientation on Gunshot Residue Distribution Patterns on a Shooter** Emily Miller, BS*; Peter Valentin, PhD; Virginia Maxwell, DPhil, BSc; Virginia Maxwell, DPhil
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y59**	**Effects on Skeletonization and Skeletal Weathering Across Contrasting Annual Seasonal Cycles** Maeghan Fisher, BS*; Kristy Henson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y60**	**Investigating the Postmortem Degradation of Identifiable Fingerprint Minutiae Over Time** Emma L. Scheidt, BA; Sahar Rahman, BA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y61**	**An Evaluation of DNA Recovery From Fingernails Post-Hair Washing** Alexia A. Cassman, BS*; Tyra Volney, MS; Tim Kalafut, PhD *(FSF Emerging Forensic Scientist Award Poster Presentation)*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y62**	**Evaluating the Efficiency of Laundry Sanitizers on the Removal and Transfer of DNA in a Washing Machine** Nicole Agre, BS*; Rhonda Williams, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y63**	**An Expanded Evaluation of XRD and SEM-EDS for the Characterization of Inorganic Particles in Eyeshadows** Taylin Naquin*; Anna Duggar, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y64**	**An Analysis of Changes in Fingerprints Before and After Recent Death on Paper Documents Using Statistical and Technical Methods** Khalid Aldaoud, BA*; Zainab almansoor, MS; Sara Alsubaie, MA
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y65**	**The Development and Validation of an Analytical Method for the Determination of Stress Biomarkers in Hair** Brooke Fontaine, BS*; Alexis Palma*; Marta Concheiro-Guisan, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y66**	**A Forensic Approach to the Identification and Interpretation of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Human Skeletal Remains** Catarina Vazquez*

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y67**	**Postmortem Predators: Identifying and Tracking Scavengers of Remains in a Northwest European Context** Sarina Riechmann, MSc*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y68**	**Attempting More Detailed Discrimination of Plants Using Next-Generation Sequencing** Ryuta Nakamura, MS*; Hitomi Kikkawa, PhD; Koichiro Tsuge, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y69**	**Unveiling the Interference of Alcohol Intoxication on Salivary Detection of Codeine: A UV/Vis Spectroscopic Insight** Danae Alvarez*; Madison Carrillo*; Hamidreza Sharifan, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y70**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y71**	**Homicide by Hot Dog: Choking in the Setting of Blunt Force Trauma of the Jaw by Another** Reece Foehr, BS*; Kayden Hadlock, BS; Katie Hanson, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y72**	**Deadlining: Gentrification and the Spatial Forensics of Missing and Murdered Black Women in Washington, DC** Avery Bernard Johns*

Friday

Poster Session

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y73**	**Identification of Ignitable Liquids in the Post-Fire Carpet Debris by Complementary GC-MS and DART-MS Methods** Mikayla Miles, BS*; Shruthi Perna, PhD; Ngee Chong, PhD; Mengliang Zhang, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y74**	**A Preliminary Study on How Shooting Distance and Lens Focal Length at Crime Scenes Affect Footwear Impression Examination** Wen Chung Chen, LLM*; Kuo Lan Liu, PhD; Min-Neng Hsu, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y75**	**Would You Like Fries With That? A Case of Fatal Asphyxia Due to Food Bolus Airway Obstruction in the Setting of Xylazine and Fentanyl Intoxication** Kayden Hadlock, BS*; Reece Foehr, BS; Katie Hanson, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y76**	**Microbial Succession in Clothed Remains: Forensic Insights into Postmortem Interval ' Estimation** Brittney Sylvester8; Latavia Williams; Lewis Burnett; Alyssa Lavasseur; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y77**	**The Development of a Psilocybin-Selective Molecularly Imprinted Polymer for the Analysis of Unregulated Psilocybin Drug Products** Hannah Peterson, BS*; Balaji Nagarajan, APM; Matthew Halquist, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y78**	**Back to Basics: Approaching Cold Cases With Open-Source Intelligence: An Undergraduate Perspective** Maylynn Burns*; Kelly Crockett, MSFS; Maylynn Burns*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y79**	**A Comparative Analysis of Volatile Memory Analysis Tools in Digital Forensics** Jaden McIntosh, BS*

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y80**	**Bone and Tooth: Elemental Analysis of Cremated Remains** Ella Mitchell*; Dustin Holland*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y81**	**ATR/FTIR Characterization of Pressure Sensitive Adhesives: Before and After Chemical Fingerprint Processing** Meagan MiguelPablo*; Khanh-Hoa Tran-Ba, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y82**	**Investigation of Gas Chromatography (GC) Coupled With Mass Spectrometry (MS) and Vacuum Ultraviolet (VUV) Spectroscopy for Analysis of Ignitable Liquid Samples** Bryn Boznanski, BS*; Ira Lurie, PhD; Walter Rowe, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y83**	**Protective and Risk Factors in Sex Trafficking** Sophia Thompson*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y84**	**Determining the Feasibility of UV/Vis and ATR/FTIR in Identifying Neat Analytes in Smokeless Powders** Rorie Anderson, BS*; Ellen Hondrogiannis, PhD; Mary Devadas, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y85**	**Transfer of Material Derived From Polymer-Jacketed Bullets During Cycling and Discharge** Ethan Frazer, MS*; Peter Diaczuk, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y86**	**Microbes in the Mist: Microbiological Analysis of E-liquids and Aerosols** Ankita Gola, BS*; Jessemia Meekins, BS; Alaina Holt, PhD; Justin Poklis, BS; Christopher Ehrhardt, PhD; Michelle Peace, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y87**	**Microbial Succession in Buried Remains: A Controlled Pig Study at Three Feet Depth** Latavia Williams*; Brittney Sylvester; Alyssa Lavasseur; Lewis Burnett; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y88**	**Various Animal Species Microscopic Hair Analysis** Bryanna Smith*; Kristin Mossé, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y89**	**An Investigation of Water Effect on Ignitable Liquid Residue Analysis by Coupling Solid-Phase Microextraction With Direct Analysis in Real Time Mass Spectrometry** Victoria Bascou, BS*
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y90**	**WITHDRAWN**
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y91**	**Time Since Intercourse and Serological Testing in Sexual Assault Homicides: A Case Report and Brief Review of the Literature** Peyton Byers, BS*; Pamela Marshall, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y92**	**The Development of Preprocessing Workflow for Computed Tomography Images for Artificial Intelligence Applications in Forensic Anthropological Research** Gargi Jani, MSc*; Smit Patel, BEng; Mohendra Roy, PhD; Bhoomika Patel, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y93**	**Recalibrating Forensic Science: DNA, Microbial Signatures, and Methodological Equity in Montana's Differential Burial Contexts** Kaylee M. Hinds, MA*; Meradeth H. Snow, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y94**	**Microbial Succession in Carpet-Wrapped Remains: Implications for Postmortem Interval Estimation** Alyssa Lavasseur*; Brittney Sylvester; Latavia Williams; Lewis Burnett; Georgia Williams, MS; Meiko Thompson, PhD

YFSF POSTER SESSION

11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y95**	**A Reevaluation of a Mandibular Tori Scoring Method: Limitations and Revisions** Amanda Jokela, BA*; Danny J. Wescott, PhD; Michele M. Bleuze, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y96**	**Optimizing Trace DNA Recovery: A Comparative Evaluation of Swab Types on Various Substrates** Mara Dominguez, BA*; Anna Franzoni, MSc; Nicole Novroski, PhD; Fabio Oldoni, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y97**	**Characterization of Microsatellite Markers for Forensic Identification of Gypsophila** Laila Mansour*; Nathan Lents, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y98**	**The Correlation of the Dimensions of Hands and Feet With Height in an Indigenous Population of the Tribal District of Himachal Pradesh, India** Yatiraj Singi, MD*; Dipen Dabhi, MD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y99**	**Ear Lobe Crease as a Coronary Artery Disease Risk Stratification Tool in Autopsies of Asian Populations** Minjung Hong, MD*; Seong Ho Yoo, MD, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y100**	**Dermestid (Flesh-Eating) Beetle Effect on Skeletal Remains Study** Gabriella Ramm*; Kristy Henson, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y101**	**Sick as a Dog: A Case of a Missing Face** Maura Thurber, MHS*; Alexis Kollasch-McGarvey, MD; Eric Bracken, MS;; Dennis Firchau, MD; Robert Weis, MD; Melissa Blessing, DO
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y102**	**Forensic Differentiation of Canine Hair** Allison Kelley*; Kristin Mossé, MSFS
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y103**	**Taphonomic Processes Etch Bones: An Experimental Look at Plant Root Etching on Bovine Bones** Emily Caudill, BS*; Shannon Hodge, PhD; Thomas Holland, PhD
11:30 am—1:00 pm	**Y104**	**Surveillance Shopping of Unregulated Dual Chamber E-Cigarette Devices Assessing Accessibility and Consumer Risk** Kevin Lester*; Michelle Peace, PhD; Alaina Holt, PhD; Justin Poklis, BAS

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Wednesday Evening: 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

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- Presentations must be in PowerPoint® format.
- Proposals must be submitted on this form accompanied by a "6-slides-per-page" printout of the presentation and an electronic copy on CD or flash drive.
- BYOS is not intended as a forum to present scientific papers. It is designed as a means to present interesting information and/or unusual case(s) that may be educational and blended with humor.
- Speakers should plan on 10 minutes in which to present their material.
- Material being presented in other parts of the AAFS scientific program will not be accepted.
- Tables, charts, and graphs should be avoided, making every effort to use slides of scenes, bodily findings, and evidence.

This completed form, a 6-slides-per-page printout, and the electronic presentation copy should be delivered to the on-site AAFS Registration Desk by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. Presentations will be selected and scheduled based on perceived interest to the audience and in the order in which the completed submissions are received. This form and required printout are needed to organize the BYOS.ppt program and to allow appropriate allocation of continuing education credit.

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The presentation is being offered primarily to:

- ☐ Solicit input/advice on a challenging case
- ☐ Present interesting information or case(s) for education purposes
- ☐ Entertainment

Presentation is:

- ☐ A single case
- ☐ A series of cases with a common topic
- ☐ Multiple cases with unrelated topics
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Briefly describe the material to be presented: _____

_____

What are the major points to be emphasized?: _____

_____

How will the attendees benefit from this presentation?: _____

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Is there commercial interest in the material being discussed?": ☐ No ☐ Yes (if yes, please describe): _____

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How much presentation time is required?: _____ minutes How many PowerPoint® slides will be shown?: _____

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