



## Jurisprudence Section – 2004

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### **E16 Yet Another Hat: Forensic Investigator as Public Administrator**

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After attending this presentation, attendees will become familiar with a unique perspective on the responsibilities of forensic investigators as political actor accountable, as public administrators, to the public sphere.

During an average work-day, a forensic scientist may have to don several different hats in order to complete their work. One of these many roles is that of a servant to the public. While forensic scientists may or may not have official credentials as a civil servant to either a local, state or federal government, inevitably their work will touch sections of the public in a dramatic way. It is the intent of this paper to explore the work of forensic scientists, particularly forensic anthropologists, through the lens of contemporary theories of public administration. Particular attention will be paid to the nature of the work of forensic scientists and the inevitable tensions that arise between their scientific work, their public work, and their public lives.

**Public, Politics, Public Administration**