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### **W15 Considerations for Crime Scene Analysis When Utilizing Forensic Science Experts for Post-Scene Analysis**

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After attending this presentation, attendees will understand how forensic science experts collaborate with crime scene personnel in evaluating physical evidence present and will be able to render expert opinions and testimony for the successful outcome of the investigation. Attendees will be better able to assess which items of physical evidence could generate more probative value from expert analysis. Methods to minimize evidence contamination prior to expert analysis will also be addressed.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by challenging law enforcement personnel, crime scene investigators (death investigators), and forensic science specialists (entomologists and anthropologists) to recognize and increase their knowledge base on how a collaborative effort with experts can and will increase the successful outcome of a criminal investigation.

Our past tells us that we need to utilize an interdisciplinary approach to solving crimes to launch ourselves into the future of forensic science in post scene analysis. This workshop will present issues that have been present on crime scenes, difficulties in rendering expert testimony due to crime scene related issues, and discuss how to overcome such obstacles in hopes of assisting in such cases in the future.

Crime scene investigators know that in many situations, only one opportunity exists to completely document and collect all pertinent physical evidence relating to the crime being investigated. This workshop will focus on the importance of documenting crime scenes and collecting physical evidence in anticipation of utilizing forensic experts such as, entomologists and anthropologists in the successful prosecution of a crime. Most agencies cannot afford to have anthropologists, entomologists, and other such forensic experts on staff. With this in mind, many times these experts may be called in at a later date to assist in the investigation. Many times after a scene is processed, events that may or may not have occurred in the crime scene may prevent future analysis from forensic science experts to be able to provide valuable information. This could be a result of improper documentation, improper handling of the evidence, lack of experience and training, and/or an unwillingness to share information. We must keep in mind that our own knowledge base may be limited and the use of experts can provide a broader, better-educated outcome of an investigation, remembering that collectively this is a joint effort of multiple individuals from multi-disciplines to accomplish the ultimate goal.

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#### **Crime Scene, Forensic Entomology, Forensic Anthropology**