The 70th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) will be held February 19-24, 2018, in Seattle, Washington.

The Program Committee solicits the submission of abstracts on topics of interest to the forensic science community. August 1, 2017, is the deadline for the submission of abstracts.

Scientific papers selected for presentation will be divided into two groups:
- Platform Presentation (standard scientific session)
- Poster Session

The Program Committee will select appropriate abstracts from those submitted by the August 1, 2017, deadline.

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

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

Notification of Acceptance

Notification of Acceptance will be mailed to all presenting authors by November 15, 2017. Meeting registration materials will be sent to presenting authors.

Oral Presentations

Time

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

Poster Presentations

Preparation

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

General Information

Abstract Length

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

Key Words

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

General Information cont.

Oral Presentation

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

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

Poster Presentation

Each author selected for poster presentation will be provided with a 4’ x 8’ tack board on which to display material related to his/her presentation. Thumb tacks will be provided.

Meeting Registration

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

Commercial & Conflict of Interest

Commercial Interest

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

Conflict of Interest

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

Journal of Forensic Sciences

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

AAFS Abstract Policy

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

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

General Instructions

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

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

Specific Instructions

1. Complete attached form.
2. Follow instructions provided in typing abstract.
3. Proofread all information provided.
4. Attach one current electronic copy of presenting author’s curriculum vitae to original abstract form. Return the original abstract, with attached c.v., and a copy on disk, by August 1, to:
   Mailing Address:  AAFS
   410 North 21st Street
   Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Sample Abstract

Injury Pattern Analysis in Fatal Traffic Crash Investigation

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

After attending this presentation, attendees will understand some principles of crash investigation, the necessary elements for the application of Injury Pattern Analysis, characteristic injury patterns of certain types of crashes, and an example of a practical application of Injury Pattern Analysis. This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by serving as a key aspect of fatal crash investigation as it can augment traditional means of investigation in a systematized format via interdisciplinary communication and collaboration.

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

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

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

NOTE: In order for your paper to be considered for presentation you are required to complete ALL areas of this form. Incomplete information will be returned to the author for completion. To submit his/her abstract online, go to the AAFS website at: www.aafs.org.

1. Presentation Choice: ☐ Oral ☐ Poster ☐ Breakfast Seminar ☐ Luncheon

2. Section Selection: Please circle the session in which you desire to present a paper: Anthropology, Criminalistics, Digital & Multimedia Sciences, Engineering Sciences, General, Jurisprudence, Odontology, Pathology/Biology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Questioned Documents, Toxicology, Last Word Society.

3. Presenting Author, Name, & Mailing Address:

4. Amount of Time Required:

5. Is the presenting author an AAFS member/affiliate or applicant? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, AAFS ID # __________________________

6. Co-Author(s) Name(s), Address(es), and Business Affiliation:

7. Has this paper been presented or published before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Audio/Visual Requirements: Each room will be equipped with a screen, electronic pointer, lectern microphone, and an LCD projector. All additional equipment must be requested and is subject to approval by the Section Chair.

9. AAFS Policy on Full Disclosure of Faculty Financial Interests or Relationships

   i. Will your presentation include any discussion of commercial products or services? ☐ Yes ☐ No

   Description: ____________________________

   II. Is this activity/presentation financially supported? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, by whom? ____________________________

   Description: ____________________________

   III. Does this presentation include the discussion or use of unapproved (unlabeled) pharmaceuticals/medical devices and/or ongoing research? ☐ Yes ☐ No

   Description: ____________________________

   Disclosed information will be made available to participants in the Final Program provided to all registrants.

10. Complete the following:

   a. Representatives of the media are allowed to record my presentation. ☐ Yes ☐ No

   b. I hereby acknowledge that my abstract will be published in the AAFS Proceedings if accepted for presentation. (Please initial) ______________

   c. I acknowledge that I am required to comply with the AAFS guidelines for legible LCD projection and that structured abstracts are required. (Please initial) ______________

   d. I acknowledge that all authors contributing on this paper have been properly cited. I understand that only the authors listed on this form and in the online system will appear in the printed materials (e.g., Programs, Proceedings). (Please initial) ______________

   e. I acknowledge that any images to be presented will be accurate and will not misrepresent the outcome of treatment. (Please initial) ______________

   f. I hereby acknowledge that if the paper described by the abstract is accepted for presentation, AAFS will prepare a non-exclusive copyright of the abstract. (Please initial) ______________

   g. I understand that submission of this abstract is made with the commitment of the author(s) to present the paper at the AAFS Annual Meeting. Failure to present the paper without a valid excuse may result in its removal from the Proceedings, preclusion from future submissions, or both. (Please initial) ______________

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and comply with the requirements noted herein and that the information provided is true and correct.

Signature ____________________________ (Abstract Form on Next Page) Date ____________
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| THREE KEY WORDS | Attach Additional Pages as Needed |