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# The Identifier

## Special Interest Articles:

- Introduction to the New 2011-2012 SCIAI President
- Meet Your New Editors
- 2011-2012 Officer Contact Information

South Carolina International Association for Identification

## Please Welcome Your New SCIAI President, Joe Means

The SCIAI conference took place in historic Charleston this September and amongst the training, there was a change of command. Joe Means took the helm of the organization, replacing the recent SCIAI President Laura Grimes-Gould. If you haven't met Joe, you might be wondering who he is and what can he bring to this organization? Joe retired as the Lieutenant of the Identification Division from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in December, 2008 with 37 years of service. Before his service with SLED, he worked for 2 years with the FBI Identification Division as a fingerprint examiner. Joe currently serves on the IAI Main Body Board of Directors, has been a member of Scientific Working Group on Friction Ridge Analysis, Study, and Technology (SWGFAST) for the past 5 years, and served as the Chair of the IAI Tenprint Certification Committee, 2010-2011 Interim Chair for IAI Tenprint Identification Standing Committee. Recently, Joe was hired on a short term contractual basis for *Ideal Innovations* to test the proposed MorphoTrak AFIS System's latent print searches for accuracy and reliability procured by the Department of Defense for overseas deployment. Joe released the following statement pertaining to his goals for the SCIAI between 2011 and 2012:

*As your new President, I hope that most of the year 2011 was a success for most of you and I will try my best to insure that we have another banner year of educational opportunities for all members.*

*My experience with the IAI began in 2004 in St. Louis, MO. I attended the St. Louis Conference to take the first ever offered IAI Tenprint Certification Examination. I obtained my certification in my forensic field at this conference but more importantly I was overwhelmed with the*

## Statement from SCIAI President Joe Means (cont.)



educational content, great networking opportunities, and the forensic experts in attendance who went out of their way to help and mentor fellow members. As a result of this experience, upon my return to South Carolina, the first item of business was to join the South Carolina IAI. Although, the SC IAI is on a much smaller scale than the main body however I found the same enthusiasm and willingness to assist in South Carolina. I made many new friends and wished that I had become a member earlier in my career.

One of the SC IAI's missions is to provide training, education, and the publication of information in all forensic science disciplines represented by this association. Therefore, I will do my best to insure that we obtain the best and most knowledgeable presenters to our workshops and annual conference.

One of my objectives during my one year term will be to increase membership. An organization needs members in their respective fields who are active and willing to share information. I challenge each one of you to encourage your co-workers to join the SC IAI. I know our country is experiencing a global economic crisis which has slowed revenue and spending which has an impact on the SC IAI Budget. Therefore, it will be up to our members to support the SC IAI during these difficult economic times.

As a result of the National Academy of Science Report being published in February 18, 2009, which was very critical of some of our forensic disciplines. The SC IAI is very cognizant of the need for quality training of our members and to encourage IAI Certification in your respective field.

In conclusion, I will work with our officers to continue the high quality of training which has become our standard for at least the last few years. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any other officers if you have any suggestions for training for the upcoming year.

- Joe Means

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2011-2012 SCIAI  
President Joe Means

## Meet Your New Editors

Yes folks, that's right! You now have three co-editors for the SCIAI newsletter as opposed to one. By having three people working on this newly reformed machine, multiple perspectives, incites, and experiences can be channeled into one information machine. You may have noticed that there has not been a newsletter circulated in almost three years. Last September, three SCIAI members stepped up and volunteered to tackle the challenge involving the rebirth of the quarterly newsletter. Chris Johnson of Aiken County Sheriff's Office, Stephanie Stover of Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, and Derek Sauro of Dorchester County Sheriff's Office were sworn in as Editors for the SCIAI at the recent conference in Charleston. Every SCIAI member has information, experience, and references involving crucial and beneficial information. It is important to understand that you now have three sources to pass this vital information to and in turn, have this information broadcasted and exchanged over distances across the state. Let's get to know your 2011- 2012 editors.



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*Derek Sauro, Diane Sauro (Wife), and Cody Sauro (Son) –  
Dorchester County Sheriff's Office*

### **Derek Sauro- Co-Editor**

Derek Sauro was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and began working at the age of fourteen at an Italian restaurant until 1999. Derek then joined the United States Marine Corps and after completing boot camp and infantry school, worked in the Military Police field until 2003. Derek was honorably discharged as a Sergeant, and worked for Federal Express (FedEx) from 2004-2008. Derek began his civilian career in law enforcement in 2008, when he was hired by Dorchester County Sheriff's Office. He is currently assigned as a Detective in the Dorchester County Crime Scene Unit. Derek has extensive training in Information Systems Security and Forensics, and has recently switched his major to Criminal Justice. If all goes as planned, he will complete his Bachelor's in Criminal Justice at Anderson University at the end of 2012. Derek is happily married to his wife; Diane Sauro, with whom they share a son, Cody. Derek and Diane are expecting their second child; Alexander, in January, 2012.



*Chris Johnson -  
Aiken County Sheriff's Office*

## **Chris Johnson- Co-Editor**

Sgt. Chris Johnson started his Law Enforcement Career in 1998 with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office in Greenville, South Carolina he was assigned to the Patrol Division for a little over two years. In July of 2000 he then transferred to the Greenville County Department of Public Safety and was assigned as a Forensic Technician. During his time with the Greenville County Department of Public Safety, he answered over 1,744 crime scene calls. His Father-in-law was diagnosed with colon cancer in early 2003. He took the opportunity to move his family to Aiken, South Carolina to allow his wife to be closer to her father. He was hired on with the Aiken County Sheriff's Officer in December of 2003. He was assigned to the Road Patrol Division and later became a K-9 handler. In June of 2006 he was promoted to the Forensic Crime Scene Investigation Division where he is currently serving the citizens of Aiken County as a Forensic Investigator. In 2009 he authored an article titled "Easy Lifting" that was published in the SC IAI newsletter. It was later published in the publications of the Chesapeake Bay Division of the IAI and the Arizona Division of the IAI.



*Stephanie Stover –  
Dorchester County  
Sheriff's Office*

## **Stephanie Stover- Co-Editor**

Stephanie Stover was raised as a military brat and is currently living in Dorchester County, SC. She received her Associate of the Arts degree; concentration in behavioral science, in 1998. Stephanie was enrolled at Charleston Southern University while working on a dual Bachelors degree in the areas of Psychology and Criminal Justice. Stephanie is currently taking an academic break due to time constraints. Stephanie began her law enforcement career in 2006 when she was hired by the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office. She began working as a road deputy and in 2010, was assigned as a Detective with the Crime Scene Unit. She has been a member of the IAI since then. Stephanie is married to Michael Stover and they have three children together.

## 2011-2012 Officer Contact Information

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.sciai.org](http://www.sciai.org)

Greetings SCIAI Members!

This is the first SCIAI newsletter in nearly three years. Some of you might not have known that there was a newsletter. As of today, that is going to change. We need all members' input for material that can be published and shared throughout the SCIAI community. This letter is to reach out to all of you and let you know that we are welcome to any ideas, suggestions, and new or old information that might be helpful to others in the field of forensics and identification. We want to hear from all of you investigators, forensic personnel, coroners, and medical examiners, and WANT you to get involved.

If you had an interesting case recently, we want to hear about it! If you have made a new discovery in the field, we want to hear about it! If you know a vendor that might be interested in advertising in our newsletter, we want to hear about it! If you are aware of any upcoming training opportunities that members and non-members would be interested in attending, we DEFINITELY want to hear about it! SCIAI membership and attendance is declining, and we are relying on you to pass the word about the organization so that we can get prospective members and future instructors interested and involved.

Please forward any of your ideas to one of your three editors; Derek Sauro ([dsauro@dorchestercounty.net](mailto:dsauro@dorchestercounty.net)), Stephanie Stover ([sstover@dorchestercounty.net](mailto:sstover@dorchestercounty.net)), or Chris Johnson ([chjohnson@aikencountysc.gov](mailto:chjohnson@aikencountysc.gov)). We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank You,  
Derek Sauro, Co-Editor SCIAI  
Stephanie Stover, Co-Editor SCIAI  
Chris Johnson, Co-Editor SCIAI

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