

South Carolina IAI

2024

Annual Conference

May 6-9, 2024

Rock Hill, SC



FUTURE OF FORENSICS

FORENSCOPE MOBILE MULTISPECTRAL IMAGING SYSTEMS



Forensic Tablet

- IR Capability for Blood & GSR
- Fingerprints & Body Fluids
- Interchangeable Lenses
- 10 Lights & 8 Filters



4K Tablet

- Multiple Types of Evidence & Surfaces
- Most Advanced Forensic Imaging Device Ever
- 10 Lights & 8 Filters



Contactless

- Fingerprints on Glossy Surfaces
- No Contact or Processing
- Easy & Quick to Deploy
- 4 Lights



CSI Pro Smartphone

- Fingerprints & Body Fluids
- Android Operating System
- Multiple Wavelengths
- 6 Lights & 4 Filters



Patrol Smartphone

- Latent Fingerprint Recovery
- Android Operating System
- Multiple Wavelengths
- 3 Lights & 2 Filters

Conference Location

Rock Hill Sports and Events Center

326 Technology Center Way, Rock Hill, SC 29730



Hotel Information

Cambria Hotel Rock Hill-University Center

354 Technology Center Way, Rock Hill, SC, 29730

SCIAI Rate: \$98/night or \$118/night (rate matches government rate: parking is \$5/day)

The Cambria is directly adjacent to the conference location and even share a parking garage!

Booking Link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/ML82P3>

GROUP CODE BTXCYH

Room Rate/Block expires 30 days prior to the event or when block is full

An aerial photograph of a city at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and purple. In the foreground, a large, ornate fountain with multiple tiers and water jets is illuminated with warm lights. The fountain is surrounded by greenery and a paved area. In the background, a large, multi-story building with a prominent tower and spire is visible, along with other city buildings and streets. The overall scene is a mix of natural and urban elements.

Conference Parking Information

Parking for this year's conference is a parking garage attached to the hotel/ adjacent to the conference location.

This parking is city run and is \$7 per day max.

Hospitality Suite

This year's conference will include a hospitality suite for networking events in the evenings. Further details will be provided during the conference.

We want to thank Foray Technologies for being our hospitality sponsor and making sure this can happen!



Vendors and Sponsors

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Key Note Speakers



Dr. Kenny Kinsey- Kenny Kinsey and Associates LLC.

Dr. Kenny Kinsey has been in law enforcement since 1991 when he joined Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office as a reserve Deputy before getting a full time position. He has held numerous ranks up to Chief Deputy. His time in law enforcement has included working for agencies such as SLED, the First Judicial Circuit, and Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office. With over 2000 hours of advanced crime scene training- Kenny's twenty two year crime scene career has found him qualified as an expert witness approximately 80 times in crime scene related disciplines. Dr. Kinsey received an MS in Criminal Justice and a Ph.D. Currently Kenny is the owner and chief operator of Kenny Kinsey and Associates LLC where he offers his expertise of crime scene for civil and criminal matters. Most notably of late- Dr. Kinsey was an expert witness called during the Alex Murdaugh murder trial in South Carolina.

Presentation May 6, 2024 at 1:30pm

Murdaugh Murders:

Alex Murdaugh called 911 on June 7, 2021 to report finding his wife and son dead at their Islandton, SC home. Since then, this now infamous case that has gotten national headlines, documentaries, and curiosity is coming to the SCIAI. We are honored to have Dr. Kenny Kinsey, an expert in Crime Scene and Shooting Reconstruction, provide his inside view of the Murdaugh Murders where he testified as an expert.

Key Note Speakers

Teresa Bryant- Jupiter Police Department



Teresa Bryant has worked in Crime Scene Investigations since 2004 when she joined the Jupiter Police Department in Florida. She holds two Masters degrees in Forensic Psychology and Public Administration.

Additionally she was President of the FDIAl in 2023/2024 and has since moved to become Chairman of the board. She has presented several times for FDIAl and IAl parent bodies.

Presentation May 9, 2024 at 9:00am

Thanksgiving Day Massacre

On Thanksgiving Day in 2009, a Jupiter couple invited a large number of family members for Thanksgiving dinner and to get a sneak preview of their 6 year old daughter's performance in the Nutcracker Suite. 17 people were present, including an estranged family member "Paul." After dinner and performance, the 6 year old was put to bed for the night while the adults wrapped up the night. As the party came to an end and guests were preparing to leave Paul retrieved 2 handguns and open fire on all guests. 3 guests were killed at this time, 1 seriously injured and 1 received a minor injury. Paul then proceeded to execute the 6 year old child. The rest of the family members escaped without injury and alerted police. This presentation goes into the investigation of this case and how Paul planned the crime and alluded police for several weeks.

Super Bowl Sunday

Super Bowl was in full swing the night this tragedy occurred. While everyone watched the game in their homes, 4 young adults were enjoying a night around the fire pit. Little did they know, this would be the last time they would enjoy each others company. They were gunned down with a high powered rifle and a handgun by those they thought were friends. This case will go into the steps for processing several scenes leading to the conviction of one of the killers.

Conference Schedule

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

Monday May 6, 2024

11:30am-1:00PM: Registration Open

1:00pm: Opening Ceremony-Welcome

1:30pm: **Keynote Presentation: "Murdaugh Murders" -Dr. Kenny Kinsey**

7:00pm: **Welcome Reception- Middle James Brewing Company**
Beer/Cider, Wine, Seltzer provided.

Evening: Hospitality Suite

Tuesday May 7, 2024

All-Day: Vendors Hall

7:30am: Breakfast- Coffee and Pastries.

Sponsored by Duncan and Parnell



8:30am: Presentations/ Workshops

10:00am: Break in Vendor Area

10:30am: Presentations

12:00pm: Lunch on Your Own

1:00pm-5:00pm: Presentations/ Workshops

Evening: Hospitality Suite

Wednesday May 8, 2024

All-Day: Vendors Hall

7:30am: Breakfast- Coffee and Pastries.

Sponsored by Evidence IQ



8:30am: Presentations/ Workshops

10:00am: Break in Vendor Area

10:30am: Presentations/ Workshops

Conference Schedule

Wednesday May 8, 2024 (ctn'd.)

11:30am: SCIAI Business Meeting- Lunch Provided

1:00pm: Presentations/ Workshops

2:30pm: Break in Vendor Area

3:00pm: Presentations/Workshops

6:00pm: Evening Social: **Craft Ax Throwing**- Ax Throwing/Games,
Drinks and Food provided. Sponsored by **Evident**



Thursday May 9, 2024

9:00am: **Keynote Presentation: “Thanksgiving Massacre and “Super Bowl Sunday”**- Teresa Bryant, Jupiter Police Department

12:00pm: Conference Closing/ Travel



Welcome Reception

Monday May 6th @ 7pm-9pm

Middle James Brewing Company-Rock Hill
378 Technology Center Way #1120, Rock Hill, SC
29730

2 Drinks (beer, wine, cider) provided
(add'l drinks for purchase)



Evening Social

Wednesday May 18th @ 6pm

Craft Axe Throwing

274 Columbia Ave, Rock Hill, SC 29730

2 Drinks (beer/wine), Ax Throwing/Games and Food
provided

(add'l drinks for purchase)

Event sponsored by:

Evident

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May 7, 2024—Tuesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

7:30am– 8:30am

“Student and New Hire Roundtable with Hiring Professionals”

Panel Discussion

~ SCIAI ~

Meet with Alycia Smentkiewicz– who will be presenting on tips for those seeking to break into the field– and other hiring professionals for an open discussion about hiring and what you need to do to get noticed! Whether you are a student looking to get into the field or a professional looking to switch agencies come on out!

8:30am-9:30am

“Breaking into the Field-Tips for Students Seeking Employment”

Alycia Smentkiewicz

~ Greensboro Police Department ~

This presentation will discuss various tips for the student seeking to gain employment in the field of forensics. While it will be presented by a practicing Crime Scene Investigator, topics covered could be beneficial for any student looking to gain employment in any branch of the field. Topics being covered will include preparing a portfolio, being prepared for your interview, resume tips for applying, and how to make your skills marketable, even without experience.

8:30am-12:00pm

“Shooting Incident Reconstruction”

Casson Reynolds

~ NC DOJ ~

4 hr workshop-Limit 30 students This workshop will have the students evaluate the details of a bullet hole to determine directionality, measure bullet holes to determine the angle of impact, the directional angle, the horizontal angle, and the vertical angle. Followed by a brief explanation of how to use the angles to mathematically determine the shooter’s location.



May 7, 2024—Tuesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

8:30am-12:00pm

“Run it Through the System: Validation and Utilization of an Automated Comparison Software”

“Making Objective Data Driven Decisions”

Statistical Interpretation Software for Friction Ridge Skin Impressions (FRStat)”

Kalisha Gill and Anthony Koertner

~ US Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL)~

The latent print discipline has been subject to much criticism regarding its scientific standards and validity, specifically due to the lack of objective data utilized in decision making to arrive at accurate and reproducible conclusions.

Presentations will demonstrate how USACIL responded to these criticisms through data driven practices for additional quality control measures in casework. Topics include the validation and use of a commercially available automated comparison software, a statistical interpretation software utilized to estimate the likelihood two prints were made by the same source rather than by different sources (FRStat), as well as other policies and procedures utilized at USACIL aimed at limiting the subjective nature of latent print examinations.

9:30am-10:00am

“BPA Terminology Updates”

Jeff Gurvis

~ Visionations ~

Updates to BPA Terminology in response to Black Box study will be presented.



May 7, 2024—Tuesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

10:30am– 12:00pm

"Merlock Murder Case Study"

Chris Gary and Allyson Wright

~ Greenville County Forensics ~

On July 5, 2020 a 93 year old woman was found brutally murdered inside her own bedroom. An arrest was made, and the case was quickly solved – or was it? This case study is filled with many twists and turns and will serve as a cautionary tale to all law enforcement personnel at every level about the dangers of confirmation bias, and the importance of working all evidence available.

1:00pm-5:00pm

"Introduction to Bloodstain Pattern Analysis"

Jeff Gurvis

~ Visionations ~

This workshop will introduce attendees to what BPA is and how it can be used in investigations and crime scene reconstruction. Morphological characteristics of several commonly seen patterns will be presented as well as how to document and collect blood evidence in an efficient and methodical manner.

1:00pm-2:30pm

"Healing Toxic Workplaces in Forensics"

Rob Caceres

~ Broward County Sheriff's Office ~

This lecture will define the characteristics of a toxic work environment, focusing on aspects such as unproductive competition, poor communication, lack of support, and the presence of harassment or discrimination. Real world examples will be discussed in order to understand how these elements can create unhealthy and counterproductive workplace atmosphere. The presentation will also discuss proactive strategies for identifying early warning signs of toxicity, assess workplace culture, identify red flags, and foster open communication channels to address concerns before they escalate. Additionally, this lecture will discuss the role of leadership in setting a positive tone, establishing clear expectations, and promoting a culture of respect and collaboration.



May 7, 2024—Tuesday
Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

1:30pm– 5:30pm

"The Sandra Hernandez Homicide Case: Garbage Bag

Examination"

John Vanderkolk

~ Unique Forensics ~

This presentation will describe the Sandra Hernandez homicide investigation and the significance of garbage bags found in the suspect's house and a garbage bag found covering the victim's head.

1:30pm– 5:30pm

"Fracture Examination" (workshop, Limit 30)

John Vanderkolk

~ Unique Forensics ~

This interactive hands-on workshop will be an introduction to the significance of examining broken, torn, and cut items found at a crime scene and comparisons with known standards. All participants intending to attend this workshop will benefit from attending the presenter's earlier lecture on garbage bags in the Sandra Hernandez homicide investigation.



May 7, 2024—Tuesday
Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

1:30pm– 5:30pm

***"Crime Scene Response to Critical Incidents– Marjory Stoneman
Douglas Shooting"***

Rob Caceres

~ Broward County Sheriff's Office ~

Mass incidents, encompassing large-scale criminal activities or catastrophic events, present unique challenges for crime scene investigators (CSIs) tasked with gathering crucial evidence for law enforcement agencies. This lecture emphasizes on the efficient and well-coordinated response of CSIs to mass incidents, emphasizing the importance of enhanced coordination, specialized training, and response efforts in the aftermath of mass incidents. CSIs must work collaboratively with other agencies to establish clear communication channels and delineate responsibilities. This collaborative approach ensures a seamless integration of efforts and facilitates the swift and effective collection of evidence. The mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida is the case study that will be highlighted in this lecture. CSIs that responded and worked the scene faced many complexities during this mass incident. The management, preservation of evidence, and the utilization of forensic technologies as well as team collaboration enabled the overall effectiveness of the CSI response.



May 8, 2024—Wednesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

8:30am– 2:30pm

“Detect More Evidence” 4 hr. Workshop (limit 20)

Alexis Dodson

~ Foster and Freeman ~

Various types of evidence are often overlooked at a crime scene because they are not visible to the naked eye. When using an alternate light source with the proper corresponding filter, it is still possible to miss items of evidence due to background interference or improper angle of illumination. The purpose of this workshop will be to introduce attendees to various methods utilized in detecting evidence beyond the visible range. An introduction to light theory and techniques utilizing wavelengths of light beyond the visible range on notoriously difficult surfaces will be discussed. This will include ultra-violet and infrared examination to detect the presence of biological fluids, gunshot residue, and fingerprints on difficult backgrounds. Novel oblique lighting techniques will be explored to detect evidence on raised surfaces and footwear impressions. Bandpass filtering techniques will also be explored to aid in the detection of evidence at crime scenes. Attendees will be introduced to non-visible lighting techniques and digital capture of fingerprints developed using various treatment methods including cyanoacrylate fuming and IR fluorescent fingerprint powders.

8:30am– 2:30pm

“Advanced Photography Techniques” 4 hr. Workshop (limit 30)

Casson Reynolds

~ NC DOJ ~

This workshop will begin with a better understanding of the importance of sequential photography, the purpose of various photographs, and how to show a scene with an unbiased approach. Next, the students will use their cameras to photograph various mock scenes and demonstrate their understanding of what was presented. Students are requested to bring a camera, flash, and tripod; however, they are not necessary to attend.



May 8, 2024—Wednesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

8:30am– 2:30pm

“Building a Training Program” 4 hr. Presentation

Ashley Church

~ Gap Science ~

The efficacy of training programs is paramount to ensure forensic professionals are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate complex investigations. This workshop will take you through our 8-step process to design comprehensive training programs that actually work. Drawing from Gap Science's acclaimed eCourse, "Building a Training Program," this workshop distills years of expertise into actionable steps. Whether you're a seasoned training professional or a novice tasked with developing training initiatives, this workshop offers invaluable insights and strategies to elevate your forensic unit's training practices to new heights. Join us for a transformative workshop that empowers you to revolutionize training programs, equipping forensic professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their critical roles!

3:00pm to 5:00pm

“Swipes, Wipes, and Transfer Stains” Limit 24

Jeff Gurvis

~ Visionations ~

This workshop will cover these 3 types of patterns/stains and what can be gleaned from them. Directionality, mechanism of creation, and reconstructive value will be discussed. Hands-on exercises will be utilized.



May 8, 2024—Wednesday Presentations

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

3:00pm– 4:00pm

“Mental Health from a Non-Professional”

Casson Reynolds

~ NC DOJ ~

This presentation will be a dive into stresses and troubles we all face from a perspective of us all having heartbreak, trauma, doubts, fears, and exhaustion.

The presentation is designed to have the attendees think about their own lives, how to identify stress, how to focus on the positives, and how to step back when needed.

4:00pm to 5:00pm

“Advanced Report Writing and Documentation”

Casson Reynolds

~ NC DOJ~

This presentation will discuss several aspects of how we can justify our conclusions in a report based on our observations, experiments, and measurements.

The attendees will evaluate various photographs and videos and determine what features to document, the limitations of the evaluation, and basing our conclusions and opinions on the evidence.

3:00pm to 5:00pm

“Crease and 3rd Level Detail”

John Vanderkolk

~ Unique Forensics ~

This interactive hands-on workshop will be an introduction to the significance of examining crease and 3rd level ridge details in latent print examinations. This workshop is designed to build latent print examiner confidence in using all shapes found in friction skin impressions.



2024 SCIAI Annual Conference

Monday May 6th

All Attendees Together

11:30AM to 1:00PM

Registration Open

1:00 PM

Opening Ceremony - Welcoming Message

1:30 PM to 4:30PM

Dr. Kenny Kisney "Murdaugh Murders"

Evening

Welcome Social

Class Types:

General Studies

Crime Scene

Latent Prints

Tuesday May 7th

Main Hall

Classroom 1

Classroom 2

7:30AM to 8:30AM

Breakfast

7:30AM to 8:30AM

Student and New Hire "Roundtable" with Hiring Professionals- Panel Discussion

8:30AM to 9:30AM

"Breaking into the Field- Tips for Students Seeking Employment" Alycia Smentkiewicz

"Shooting Incident Reconstruction"- Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, 8:30-12pm, Limit 30

"Run it Through the System: Validation and Utilization of an Automated Comparison Software" Kalisha Gill and Anthony Koertner, Army Crime Lab

9:30 AM to 10:00 AM

"BPA Terminology Updates"- 30 mins, Jeff Gurvis, Visionations

"Shooting Incident Reconstruction"- Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, 8:30-12pm, Limit 30

"Making Objective Data Driven Decisions" Kalisha Gill and Anthony Koertner, Army Crime Lab

10:00 AM to 10:30AM

Break in Vendor Area

10:30AM to 12:00PM

"Merlock Murder Case Study" Chris Gary, Greenville Forensics

"Shooting Incident Reconstruction"- Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, 8:30-12pm, Limit 30

"Statistical Interpretation Software for Friction Ridge Skin Impressions (FRStat)" Kalisha Gill and Anthony Koertner, Army Crime Lab

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Lunch on Your Own

1:00 PM to 1:30 PM

"Healing Toxic Workplaces in Forensics" Rob Caceres, Broward County Sheriff's Office

"Introduction To Bloodstain Pattern Analysis" - 3.5 hours, Limit 24, Jeff Gurvis, Visionations, 1:00pm to 5:00pm

"The Sandra Hernandez Homicide Case: Garbage Bag Examinations" 30 mins, John Vanderkolk

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

"Healing Toxic Workplaces in Forensics" Rob Caceres, Broward County Sheriff's Office

"Introduction To Bloodstain Pattern Analysis" - 3.5 hours, Limit 24, Jeff Gurvis, Visionations, 1:00pm to 5:00pm

"Fracture Examination" Workshop, Limit 30, 3 hours, 1:30pm-5:00pm, John Vanderkolk, Unique Forensics

2:30PM to 3:00PM

Break in Vendor Area

3:00 PM to 5:00PM

"Crime Scene Response to Critical Incidents- Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting" Rob Caceres, Broward County Sheriff's Office

"Introduction To Bloodstain Pattern Analysis" - 3.5 hours, Limit 24, Jeff Gurvis, Visionations, 1:00pm to 5:00pm

"Fracture Examination" Workshop, Limit 30, 3 hours, 1:30pm-5:00pm, John Vanderkolk, Unique Forensics

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

Wednesday May 8th	Main Hall	Classroom 1	Classroom 2
7:30AM to 8:30AM	Breakfast		
8:30 AM	"Building a Training Program"-Ashley Church, Gap Science, 4 hours	"Advanced Photography Techniques", - Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, Limit 30, 4 hours	Alexis Dodson "Detect More Evidence", Limit 20, 4 hours
10:00 AM	Break in Vendor Area		
10:30 AM	"Building a Training Program"-Ashley Church, Gap Science, 4 hours	"Advanced Photography Techniques", - Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, Limit 30, 4 hours	Alexis Dodson "Detect More Evidence", Limit 20, 4 hours
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM	Lunch Provided- SCIAI Business Meeting		
1:00 PM	"Building a Training Program"-Ashley Church, Gap Science, 4 hours	"Advanced Photography Techniques", - Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ, Limit 30, 4 hours	Alexis Dodson "Detect More Evidence", Limit 20, 4 hours
2:30 PM	Break in Vendor Area		
3:00PM to 4:00PM	"Mental Health from a Non-Professional" - Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ	Swipes, Wipes, and Transfer Stains- 2 hours, limit 24, Jeff Gurvis	"Crease and 3rd Level Ridge Detail" Workshop, 2 hours, John Vanderkolk
4:00 PM to 5:00pm	"Advanced Report Writing and Documentation" - Casson Reynolds, NC DOJ		
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Evening Social- Raffles/Door Prize Giveaway		
Thursday May 9th	All Attendees Together		
9:00 AM	Teresa Bryant, Case Studies: "Thanksgiving Massacre" and "Super Bowl Sunday"		
12:00 PM	Conference Closing		

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

SCIAI 2024 Conference Speakers





Jeff Gurvis

Visionations

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th, 9:30am-10:00am : *"BPA Terminology Updates"*

Tuesday May 7th, 1:00pm-5:00pm : *"Introduction to BPA"*

Wednesday May 8th, 3:00pm-5:00pm: *"Swipes, Wipes, and Transfers"*

Biography

For more than 25 years, Jeff Gurvis has been entrenched in the forensic and law enforcement community by providing forensic analyses in the fields of latent print comparisons and bloodstain pattern analysis. He has also served as a project manager for over a decade with the leading laboratory information management systems company, Porter Lee, implementing the BEAST in scores of forensic laboratories and police departments across the US and tailoring the product for each lab's specific needs. He has extensive experience with configuring systems into all accredited forensic disciplines and thus has a very deep understanding of operations in all facets of forensic science. A recognized veteran in the forensic community, Jeff has played a variety of roles and has garnered recognition within the law enforcement community including being a founding member of Scientific Working Group on Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (SWGSTAIN). He has served as the Vice Chair of the OSAC BPA Subcommittee and is currently the Chair of the AAFS ASB Bloodstain Pattern Consensus Body. Jeff also served as Chair of the Bloodstain Pattern Certification Board at the International Association for Identification (IAI) where he currently serves on the Board of Directors. In addition, Jeff has an extensive forensic background, having trained hundreds of forensic scientists, crime scene personnel, and criminal investigators. He taught for the FBI for over six years and at the University of Tennessee National Forensic Academy for over 10 years. Other organizations where Jeff has been an instructor include the Illinois State Police, Baltimore Police Department, IAI, and the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts. Jeff's career began at the Northern Illinois Police Crime Laboratory where he served as a Latent Print Examiner, Crime Scene Response Coordinator, and Bloodstain Pattern Analyst. He is still actively performing forensic examinations as a consultant in the areas of crime scene, latent, and bloodstain evidence for law enforcement departments across the nation. Jeff is also a founder of Visionations, the developers of CrimePad. He has a BS degree in both Forensic Science and Criminal Justice from Michigan State University as well as an MBA from DePaul University.



Casson Reynolds

North Carolina Justice Academy

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th, 8:30am-12:00pm : *"Shooting Incident Reconstruction"*

Wednesday May 8th, 8:30am-2:30pm (4 hr) : *"Advanced Photography Techniques"*

Wednesday May 8th, 3:00pm-4:00pm: *"Mental Health from a Non-Professional"*

Wednesday May 8th, 4:00pm-5:00pm: *"Advanced Report Writing and Documentation"*

Biography

Since 2017, Casson Reynolds has been the Instructor Developer in Crime Scene Investigations and Reconstruction for the North Carolina Justice Academy. He is a Certified Senior Crime Scene Analyst through the International Association for Identification, President of the North Carolina International Association for Identification, President of the Association for Crime Scene Reconstruction, and Board Member of the Bloodstain Pattern Analysis of the AAFS Standards Board. Casson has a Master of Science from Boston University and was a sworn law enforcement officer from 2003 to 2017. Most of that time was spent in a crime scene or forensic unit. Casson is a recognized subject matter expert in Crime Scene Reconstruction, Shooting Incident Reconstruction, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, and Latent Print Development and Identification. He regularly teaches classes throughout North Carolina, provides technical assistance to local and state agencies, and presents on crime scene reconstruction at conferences across the country.



Alycia Smentkiewicz

Greensboro Police Department (NC)

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th, 7:30am-8:30am : *"Student and New Hire Roundtable"*

Tuesday May 7th, 8:30am-9:30am : *"Breaking into the Field-Tips for Students Seeking Employment"*

Biography

Alycia Smentkiewicz is a Certified Crime Scene Investigator (CCSI) with the IAI, and has been employed as a Crime Scene Investigator with the Greensboro Police Department for four years. She graduated from Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC with a B.S. in Applied Forensic Science. She is currently attending University of North Carolina at Wilmington obtaining her Master's in Public Administration. Alycia has been a part of several research projects that have been presented at the American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS), and the Global Forensic and Justice Center (GFJC) Symposium, and is on the merchandise committee of her local, North Carolina division of the IAI.



Alexis Dodson

Foster and Freeman

Presentations

Wednesday May 8th, 8:30am-2:30pm: *"Detect More Evidence"*

Biography

Alexis Dodson has been working with Foster + Freeman as a Technical Sales Specialist since June 2021, whose duties require to be knowledgeable in crime scene, fingerprinting, trace evidence, and questioned document forensic equipment. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic and Investigative Sciences with a minor in Psychology at West Virginia University in May 2021. She also received formal certificates from West Virginia University including a 40-Hour Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Course and 40-Hours of Science & Technology of Fingerprinting. Her role at Foster + Freeman includes sales for various company products. She has presented workshops and lectures on both crime scene and fingerprint topics at the IAI and local IAI divisions.



John Vanderkolk

Unique Forensics

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th, 1:00pm-1:30pm : "*Sandra Hernandez Homicide Case: Garbage Bag Examinations*"

Tuesday May 7th, 1:30pm-5:00pm : "*Fracture Examination*"

Wednesday May 8th 3:00pm-5:00pm: "*Crease and 3rd Level Ridge Detail*"

Biography

John R. Vanderkolk graduated from Indiana University in 1979 with a BA in forensic studies and psychology. He became an Indiana State Police (ISP) trooper in 1979 and a crime scene technician in 1983. In 1984 he was trained in the disciplines of latent print, shoe/tire print, firearm/tool mark, and fracture/physical comparative examinations. He was promoted to laboratory manager in 1996, retired as a police officer in 2005, was rehired as a civilian, and retired in 2020 as the manager at the ISP Lab, Fort Wayne. He then worked as a Senior Forensics Advisor within the U.S. Department of State-INL from 2020-2022. John has provided many lectures and workshops related to forensic comparative science for many international or regional seminars, criminal justice agencies, and universities in the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, China, Slovakia, India, Singapore, and Panama. Some of his other professional activities include having been a member of the Scientific Working Group on Friction Ridge Analysis, Study and Technology (SWGFAST), the NIST/NIJ Expert Working Group on Human Factors in Latent Print Analysis, and the Physics/Pattern Scientific Area Committee for the NIST Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC). Vanderkolk was awarded 'Distinguished Member' in the International Association for Identification (IAI) and was a member of its Standardization II committee. He is currently a member of the editorial board for the IAI's Journal of Forensic Identification. Vanderkolk has authored or co-authored numerous journal articles on topics related to forensic comparative science, plus he authored the 'Examination Process' chapter of The Fingerprint Sourcebook and the book, Forensic Comparative Science – Qualitative Quantitative Source Determination of Unique Impressions, Images, and Objects. He has been collaborating with Dr. Tom Busey of Indiana University Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences since 2002 studying expertise in latent print examiners. He has been collaborating with Dr. Ashraf Bastawros of Iowa State University on fractured metal examinations. Plus, he was a consultant for the US Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, reference the erroneous determination that Brandon Mayfield was the source of a finger print in the 2004 Madrid terrorist train bombing case.



Ashley Church

Gap Science

Presentations

Wednesday May 8th 8:30am-2:30pm (4 hrs): *“Building a Training Program*

Biography

Ashley Church is a passionate forensic scientist who pursued her dream job as a crime scene investigator. She completed an internship at the Orange County Sheriff’s Office during her undergraduate studies and later specialized in entomology, studying the impact of invasive species. Ashley began her career as a Crime Scene Investigator for the Orange County Sheriff’s Office in Orlando, Florida, where she became a field training officer after a year. In 2017, she joined the Osceola County Sheriff’s Office as a Forensic Technician and was promoted to Forensic Supervisor in 2018, overseeing the Forensic Unit and Pre-Screening DNA Laboratory. Ashley holds a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science with a Minor in Chemistry and a Certificate in Crime Scene Investigations from the University of Central Florida, as well as a Master of Science in Entomology from the University of Florida. She is a Certified Crime Scene Analyst through the International Association for Identification (IAI). Currently, Ashley works full-time for Gap Science, blending her scientific passion with an energetic instructing style to inspire leaders in similar fields.



Roberto Caceres

Broward Sheriff's Office

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th 1:00pm-2:30pm: *"Healing Toxic Workplaces in Forensics"*

Tuesday May 7th 3:00pm-5:00pm: *"Crime Scene Response to Critical Incidents-Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting"*

Biography

Roberto has been a Deputy Sheriff for the Broward Sheriff's Office for 21 years. He started his law enforcement career in the Broward County Police Academy in November 2002 and then as a Road Patrol Deputy in May 2003. In May 2008, he was transferred to the Broward Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit as a forensic investigator. After being involved in over 1,300 death and shooting related cases, and approximately 180 homicides, Roberto has gained the knowledge and experience to lead and instruct forensic investigators on how to properly document a scene and/or victim. He has been a Field Training Detective since 2014 and since then has been involved in the full year long training of five Detectives and one Technician. In 2018, he was assigned as the Lead Field Training Detective in the unit to oversee the training and development of new detectives. In August 2015, Roberto was selected by the U.S. Department of Defense to travel to Kingston, Jamaica to teach an introductory Shooting Reconstruction course to INDECOM; the Jamaican state agency responsible for use of force investigations of their multiple law enforcement agencies. In January 2017, Roberto took a leadership role in the Broward Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit's portion of the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport mass shooting investigation. He led 12 Forensic Detectives with various on-scene investigative tasks in collaboration with various agencies such as the FBI and ATF. In February 2018, he was also tasked as one of the lead forensic investigators during the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School mass shooting. His leadership role in conjunction with the on-scene supervisors allowed Roberto to coordinate, task, and take command of various forensic investigators from within his unit and various agencies. In October 2018, he was awarded "Detective of the Year" from the Broward County Crime Commission for his exemplary service in the field of forensics. He became an Adjunct Instructor for the Police Academy section of Broward College teaching the State of Florida crime scene curriculum to police recruits and service aides. In November 2022, he was elected as the Region 5 Director for Florida Division of the International Association for Identification whose responsibilities were to create and organize trainings for Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties in Florida. In November 2023, he ascended to the position of 3rd Vice-President of the association. Roberto earned his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Florida Atlantic University in January 2006.



Chris Gary

Greenville County Forensics

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th 10:30am-12:00pm: *“Merlock Murder Case Study”*

Biography

Chris Gary began his forensics career in 2006 as a college intern in the Latent Print Section of Greenville County Forensics. Chris quickly fell in love with the latent print discipline and never left. Upon graduating with a degree in biology from The College of Charleston in 2009, Chris started full-time in the Latent Print Section in July 2009. After beginning full-time work, Chris was selected to participate in the ten-week, NIJ sponsored NFSTC Latent Print Training Program in Largo, Florida. Chris was promoted to Principal Criminalist in 2023, and now manages the Latent Print Section of Greenville County Forensics. Chris is a Former SCIAI President and the current SCIAI Secretary.



Allyson Wright

Greenville County Forensics

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th 10:30am-12:00pm: *“Merlock Murder Case Study”*

Biography

Allyson Wright is a Sergeant in the Crime Scene Section for Greenville County Forensics. She is from Northwest Indiana and went to school at Saint Joseph’s College in Rensselaer, Indiana. She earned a Bachelors in biology (forensics track) with a minor in chemistry in 2016. She earned a Master’s Degree in Forensic Science in 2017. She joined the Crime Scene Unit in Greenville County in October of 2017. After 3 years Allyson was promoted to Field Training Officer and a year later (2021) she was promoted again to a Sergeant. Sgt. Wright has responded to over 2,000 crime scene calls, and has been the primary Forensic Officer on 25 homicides.



Kalisha Gill

US Army Criminal Investigation Lab

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th 8:30am-12:00pm: *“Run it Through the System: Validation and Utilization of an Automated Comparison Software”*, *“Making Objective Data Driven Decisions”*, *“Statistical Interpretation Software for Friction Ridge Skin Impressions (FRStat)”*

Biography

Kalisha Gill is a Physical Scientist with the United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL). Kalisha holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the University of Arizona. She started her career as a Latent Print Examiner in 2002 with the Charleston Police Department in South Carolina. Kalisha has testified in Magistrate, General Sessions, Federal, and Military courts. She has been a certified Latent Print Examiner with the International Association for Identification (IAI) since 2007. Kalisha is also actively engaged in the forensic community through her participation as a voting member of the Friction Ridge subcommittee of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC).



Anthony Koertner

US Army Criminal Investigation Lab

Presentations

Tuesday May 7th 8:30am-12:00pm: *“Run it Through the System: Validation and Utilization of an Automated Comparison Software”*, *“Making Objective Data Driven Decisions”*, *“Statistical Interpretation Software for Friction Ridge Skin Impressions (FRStat)”*

Biography

Anthony Koertner is a Latent Print Examiner at the United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) located in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Koertner is an Active Member of the International Association for Identification and is certified in both latent print examination and footwear examination. Mr Koertner graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2006 and began his career in latent print and footwear/tire tread examination at the USACIL in 2007. In 2016 he was selected to be a Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Scholar where he completed his Master of Science in Forensic Science from the University of Florida. Mr. Koertner contributed to the validation of FRStat which was one of the first statistical models to provide statistical support for reported latent print examination conclusions in the United States. Mr. Koertner has conducted several domestic and international lectures and workshops to various stakeholders in the forensic community. Currently he serves as a member of the Footwear and Tire Subcommittee within the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science.