

# THE IDENTIFIER



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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members,

Welcome to 2026! I wish you all a Happy New Year, and may this year be the best ever. Let's make this year a year of implementing plans and achieving goals. We will achieve our resolutions, apply all the learning from past years to this year, and move forward toward a better future.



This is what I would like to see for 2026. I would like to focus on growing our organization. I would like to see this organization grow in both membership and conference attendance, and have more members get involved. You do not need to be experienced or a seasoned forensic employee. All that's needed is your willingness to show up and help. One reason people do not achieve their goals is fear. FEAR is false evidence appearing real. The only way you will achieve anything is by taking the first step. Promote the SCIAI to anyone who will listen, write an article for our newsletter, and/or provide free training on a topic you are passionate about. These are just a few ways to build this organization if you just stand up and take the lead.

The next thing I want to do in 2026 is to extend a special thank you to the Officers and board members of this establishment. Without all the hard work behind the scenes, this organization would not exist, and they deserve a standing ovation. These individuals fought their fears and banded together to make this organization great. Do you have someone you would like to recognize? Send us an email or letter letting us know who this person is and why they should be recognized. We will make sure it happens.

Finally, let 2026 shape us into better human beings. Remember, be nice to others, but mostly, be nice to yourself. If you do not take care of yourself both physically and mentally, you will not be able to help others. You are the most important tool in your toolbox! Never forget that.

With God's blessing!

Teresa Bryant, SCIAI President

# TRAINING RECAP

On 02/05/26, VAWA and SCAG presented an 8 hour training explaining the Rules of Court, Prosecuting DV and Assault cases, preparing evidence for SLED, handling digital forensics, and how to prepare files for court. Cases and interviews involving juveniles were also discussed. Presenters included professionals from the South Carolina Attorney General Office, SLED, and Richland County Sheriff's Office.

SLED discussed their protocols and what steps they complete in regards to DNA evidence. It was explained how it is imperative for detectives and investigators to only submit (5) of the most probative items for submission for high priority crimes and (2) of the most probative items for property crimes.

With digital forensics, it was explained how much information can be gathered from deleted items, to include text messages, photographs, websites, and apps. Personnel can determine when apps are deleted, time frames on deleted messages, and more.

Tips and tricks were demonstrated on how to best preserve digital evidence.

Attorneys presented what qualities they look for in individuals when they testify, focusing more on the what and not the why. They prefer short answers rather than the long, asking for explanations or clarity when needed.

Over 50 professionals attended from various disciplines throughout the state. New partnerships were created with the Sheriff's Associations and the Attorney General's Office. The training was a tremendous success! Thank you to all who participated and assisted in the outstanding training!





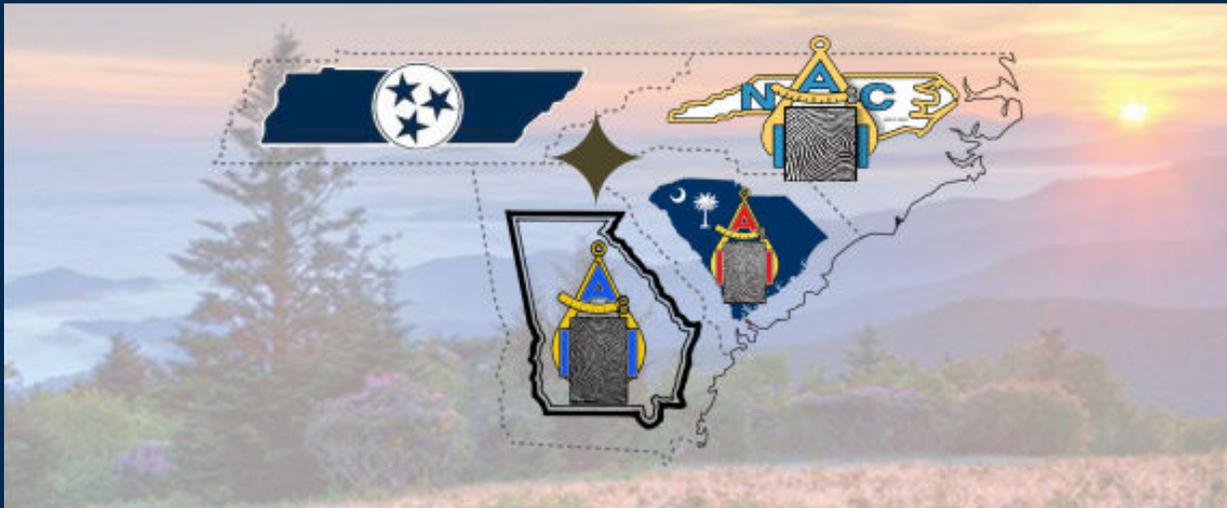
# International Association for Identification

**An SCIAI member recently requested that the division create a resource for fellow members to establish what disciplines are represented throughout the division. It is the goal to create a resource for members that want to connect with other professionals who have recently passed IAI certification exams in the respective disciplines for tips, advice, questions, and/or assistance with professional goals.**

**Please contact the editor if you have recently passed one of the IAI Certification exams (or recertification) and are willing to provide your contact information in the newsletter.**

**\*\*We encourage any members to participate in the poll even if you have not personally taken an IAI Certification test.\*\***

**[Click here to participate in the poll](#)**



# 2026 REGIONAL IAI CONFERENCE

## HARRAH'S CHEROKEE CASINO RESORT

### CHEROKEE, NC

### SEPTEMBER 14-18, 2026

GEORGIA IAI

NORTH CAROLINA  
IAI

SOUTH CAROLINA  
IAI

TENNESSEE IAI

 **FOUR CLASSROOMS EACH DAY**

 **16000 SQ FT VENDOR HALL, 50+ VENDORS**

 **300+ ATTENDEES EXPECTED**

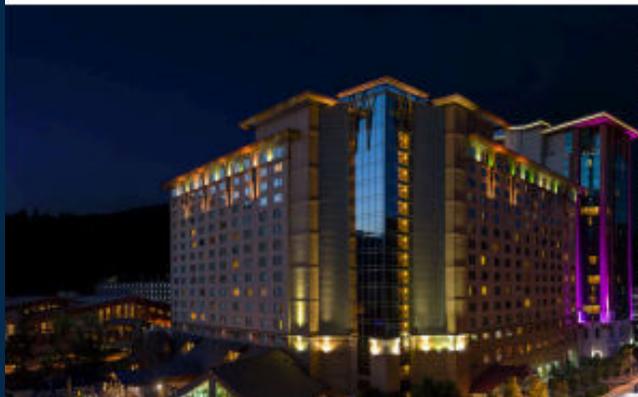
 **PRESIDENT'S/ VENDOR RECEPTION**

 **EVENING SOCIALS:**

**BOWLING/VIDEO GAMES/ DINNER**

 **EVENING INSTALLATION BANQUET**

 **ROOMS ONLY \$99 PER NIGHT**



# 2026 REGIONAL IAI CONFERENCE

2026 Regional Conference Agenda Overview					
	MON SEPT 14	TUES SEPT 15	WED SEPT 16	THURS SEPT 17	FRI SEPT 18
7:30am - 8:00am		Vendor Sponsored Breakfast	Vendor Sponsored Breakfast	Vendor Sponsored Breakfast	
8:00am - 9:00am		Presentations	Keynote Speaker	Presentations	Keynote Speaker & Closing Remarks
9:00am - 10:00am	Conference Check-In (Vendor Set-Up 12pm - 5pm)				
10:00am - 10:30am		Break in Vendor Area	Break in Vendor Area	Break in Vendor Area	
10:30am - 11:30am		Presentations	Keynote Speaker	Presentations	
11:30am - 12:00pm	Lunch on Your Own (Concessions in Vendor Area)	Lunch on Your Own (Concessions in Vendor Area)	Lunch on Your Own (No Concessions)		
12:00pm - 1:00pm		Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Opening Ceremony & Keynote Speaker	Vendor Sponsored Snack Break	Vendor Sponsored Snack Break	Vendor Sponsored Snack Break	
2:00pm - 2:30pm		Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
2:30pm - 3:30pm		<i>Board Meetings</i>	<i>Nominations Meetings</i>	<i>Business Meetings</i>	
3:30pm - 4:30pm		Break	(Vendor Breakdown 3pm)	Break	
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Vendor Reception	Bowling/Arcade Social Event	Explore Cherokee / Casino on Your Own	Banquet	
5:00pm - 5:30pm					
5:30pm - 6:00pm					
6:00pm - 7:00pm					
7:00pm - 8:00pm					
8:00pm - 9:00pm					

## CALL FOR PRESENTERS!



**2026 REGIONAL IAI CONFERENCE**  
**HARRAH'S CHEROKEE CASINO RESORT**  
**CHEROKEE, NC**  
**SEPTEMBER 14-18, 2026**

**SCAN ME TO SUBMIT**

**Presentation submissions are due by April 30, 2026.**

- Please submit proposals for lectures and hands-on workshops using the QR code.
- Submission information will include your name, email, agency/company, headshot, biography (150 words), and abstract (200 words).
- Suggested topics: Beginner & Advanced Crime Scene Investigation, Beginner & Advanced Latent Print Examination, Forensic Technology, Case Studies, Leadership, Emotional Wellness, Student Interest



Additional conference information will be forthcoming!

If you have any questions, please contact Jaclynn McKay at [jmckay@rti.org](mailto:jmckay@rti.org).

# SCIAI ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALL MEMBERS** are encouraged to review the SCIAI constitution and by-laws posted on the website located under the News tab.
- Renewal for memberships must be submitted by **Wednesday July 1st 2026** for the upcoming years' membership.
- Submissions for case study features and Member Spotlights are open. We want to highlight our members and interesting or unique cases that you have personally been involved with. If you would like to see yourself, a coworker, or one of your cases featured, please contact the Editor at [bribrown@greenvillecounty.org](mailto:bribrown@greenvillecounty.org)
- Have a topic you would like to see covered or have an article you would like to submit for future issues of *The Identifier*? Submit your proposals to the Editor at [bribrown@greenvillecounty.org](mailto:bribrown@greenvillecounty.org) — guest authors are welcome!
- If you've taken a newsletter appropriate forensic related photograph that you would like to see featured in an upcoming issue of The Identifier — Please contact the Editor at [bribrown@greenvillecounty.org](mailto:bribrown@greenvillecounty.org)!

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## MEET THE OFFICERS

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- **President—Teresa Bryant**
- **Vice President—George Potash**
- **Treasurer—James Kearney**
- **Secretary—Chris Gary**
- **Historian—Brittany Brown**



# SCCJA Advanced Forensic Training Opportunities

For additional class information: [click here to visit SCCJA 2025-2026 Course Catalog](#)

During multiple SCIAI officer meetings, the topic of spreading awareness of accessible forensic training to agencies within the state of South Carolina has been brought up. The SCCJA offers the below advanced forensic related courses throughout the upcoming 2025-2026 year. This list has been added to the newsletter for member convenience in hope to spread more awareness of these training opportunities for agencies. Please refer to the SCCJA Course Catalog for information about class credits, prices, and further information. All classes are offered at SCCJA. Class 1 and Class 3 should contact their training officer to sign up through the ACADIS portal. Civilians are also welcome to audit the classes, but will need to contact Missy Collins (803) 896-9912 for registration and payment.

## **2026**

**Mar 4: Latent Print Techniques**

**Mar 12: Footwear/Tire**

**Mar 23-26: Crime Scene for Investigators**

**Apr 1: Latent Print Techniques**

**Apr 9: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol**

**Apr 16: Basic Detective**

**Apr 20-23: Fingerprint Recognition and Comparison**

**May 13: Footwear/Tire**

**May 15: Latent Print Techniques**

**May 21: Basic Detective**

**June 1-4: Crime Scene for Investigators**

**June 11: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol**

**June 17: Latent Print Techniques**

**June 25: Basic Detective**

# Fun in Forensics

Frequently in the field of Forensics, we, as a whole, deal with a variety of difficult and demanding scenes, tough scenarios, and are often placed in stressful situations. This panel is designed for you to have the opportunity take a quick mental break, refresh your mind, and also to have a little fun. 😊

## CRIME RHYMES

Each clue leads to a 2-word answer that rhymes, such as **BIG PIG** or **STABLE TABLE**. The numbers in parentheses after the clue give the number of letters in each word. For example, “cookware taken from the over (3,3)” would be “hot pot”.

1. A sharp murder weapon hidden behind a DVD case for a romantic movie (3,4; 5,5): \_\_\_\_\_ behind the \_\_\_\_\_
2. A poisonous murder weapon left near the mantelpiece (7, 8):  
\_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_
3. A projectile murder weapon hidden in the cabinet behind the fancy stemware (6, 7): \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_
4. A blunt murder weapon found in an automobile (7, 3): \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_
5. An explosive murder weapon left in a tree (4, 4): \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_
6. A projectile murder weapon discarded in a device used to push small loads (5, 11): \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_



Above puzzle taken from: “Brain Games: Mini Mysteries” by Publications International Ltd.

Answers from the Fallen Phrase Puzzle from Winter Issue:  
“Support your local crime lab. Leave your prints.”

Answers from “Ways to Beat the Rap” from Winter Issue:

*Alibi, Frame Someone, Flee the Country, Legal Technicality, Get a Lawyer, Hide the Body, Toss the Weapon, Use a Hitman*



# UPCOMING TRAINING/EVENTS

## 2026 SCCJA Advanced Forensic Training Opportunities (see page 10)

Mar 16–Mar 18, 2026, [Wound Pattern Injury Course](#),  
\$300—Southeastern Investigative Group, Aiken County SO, 214 Park Ave SW, Aiken, SC

Apr 13–Apr 17, 2026, [Homicide Investigation Course](#),  
\$450—Southeastern Investigative Group, York County SO, 92 Stoneybrook Dr, York, SC

Apr 27–May 1, 2026, [Major Crime Scene Investigations](#)  
\$689—TriTech Forensics, North Myrtle Beach PD, 1016 2nd Ave North, N Myrtle Beach SC

May 11–May 13, 2026, [Wound Pattern Injury Course](#)  
\$300—Southeastern Investigative Group, Spartanburg County SO, 100 Bob Holt Rd, Duncan, SC

August 17–21, 2026, [Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis](#)  
\$749—TriTech Forensics, 3370 Presson Road, Monroe, NC 28112

2026 Regional IAI Conference [SCIAI, TNIAI, NCIAI, GAIAI]  
Sept 14-18 2026—Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, Cherokee, NC

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Greenville County: [Criminalist \(Firearms Examiner\)](#)



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