

Southern Association of Forensic Scientists



Greetings From
**THE FLIP SIDE
OF FLORIDA**
Jacksonville



2025 Annual Meeting



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DONNA DEEGAN
MAYOR

CITY HALL SUITE 400
117 W. DUVAL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

Dear Members of the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists,

On behalf of the City of Jacksonville, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to our beautiful and vibrant riverfront city for the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists.

We are honored that SAFS has chosen Jacksonville as the host city for this important gathering of professionals who dedicate their lives to the pursuit of truth and justice through science. With over 300 members representing laboratories across the country, your collective expertise spans a remarkable range of forensic disciplines—and your work plays a critical role in keeping our communities safe and our legal system fair and evidence-based.



As you convene at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville – Riverfront, I hope you'll find inspiration not only in the knowledge shared during your sessions but also in the natural beauty and energy of our city. From our growing downtown and scenic Riverwalk to our vibrant arts, culinary, and music scenes, Jacksonville offers something for everyone. I encourage you to explore all our city has to offer while you're here.

Thank you for the vital work you do and thank you for choosing Jacksonville as your host city. We're proud to welcome you, and we wish you a productive, enlightening, and enjoyable conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna Deegan".
Donna Deegan

Mayor

Dear members and friends,

On behalf of the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, I would like to welcome you to Jacksonville, the flip side of Florida!

For some of you, this may be your first SAFS meeting; if so, welcome! For others, this may be an annual networking event you have been attending for years; if so, welcome back! No matter under which category you fall, I am grateful that you are here! Over the course of the week, SAFS is pleased to host a variety of workshops dealing with topics in our constantly evolving field. In addition to workshops, there will also be vendor exhibits, the plenary session, and other opportunities to network. The planning committee has worked hard to ensure the SAFS 2025 meeting is full of opportunities for you to develop skills, ask questions, and exchange ideas with your forensic colleagues, and I hope you take advantage of your time away from the bench to do just that.

As my time as SAFS President is coming to an end, I would like to thank the SAFS Board of Directors for their patience and guidance, the Jacksonville SAFS planning committee for their hard work getting this meeting organized, and each of you who help make these meetings possible and continue to prove why the work we do is important. This meeting would also not be possible without the support of our vendors. Please be sure to take time to engage with them and let them know how much they are appreciated.

If you want to learn more about the SAFS organization or are interested in either becoming a member or volunteering, please reach out to me or one of the other board members. In addition, we're always looking for your constructive feedback. We were able to take several recommendations from the 2024 meeting in Chattanooga and implement them at this year's meeting. We hope you like what we've done.

See you in the hospitality suite!

Amanda Venable

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Venable". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

SAFS President (2024 – 2025)



Greetings Forensic Scientists,

Welcome to the flip side of Florida, Jacksonville, and the 2025 Annual Meeting!

We are excited that you are joining us for this meeting. As the planning committee for this event, we have put in a lot of effort to ensure that you have an educational and enjoyable conference. It is our hope that you take full advantage of available workshops, vendor exhibits, plenary sessions, and of course the opportunity to share information with other forensic scientists whether in the evenings at the Nerd Herd Lounge or during our Friday breakout session.

We are excited to offer two “offsite” events for the first time! An informal meet and greet at the local brewery, Ruby Beach Brewing Company, and an evening at the ballpark (which includes dinner) to watch the local triple A affiliate the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp. Both events are an easy walk from the host hotel, the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront.

Again, welcome to Jacksonville. We hope that you have a great meeting and thoroughly enjoy your stay.

Sincerely,

Your SAFS 2025 Planning Committee

Kristen Fripp, Tanja Kopp, Emily Boswell, and Erin Tracy



SAFS Annual Meeting 2025



Meeting information, including the 2025 Annual Meeting Program, can be found on our meeting website safsannualmeeting.com

Inside your swag bag you will find, among other things:

- Ticket(s) for the ball game, our Tuesday evening off site activity – remember it includes dinner buffet in the Shrimp Net
- Informational flyers from some of our exhibitors
- A bingo card to have “dabbed” on Wednesday night by our vendors. Return your card to the SAFS table and you will receive a raffle ticket for our drawings at the banquet – you must be present to win! We have some great prizes to give away including a two-night hotel stay and tickets to the Jacksonville Zoo!
- Goodies from local merchant Sweet Pete’s Candy (it’s within walking distance of the Hyatt)
- Goodies from SAFS: deck of cards, personal umbrella and, as we start a new tradition, a 2025 SAFS Annual Meeting Challenge Coin

Please wear your name badge during all meeting events to ensure entry, including the vendor reception, banquet with cocktail hour and hospitality suite.

If you come to our business meeting on Tuesday afternoon, you will receive a ticket for door prizes – anyone can attend – you do not have to be a member of SAFS.

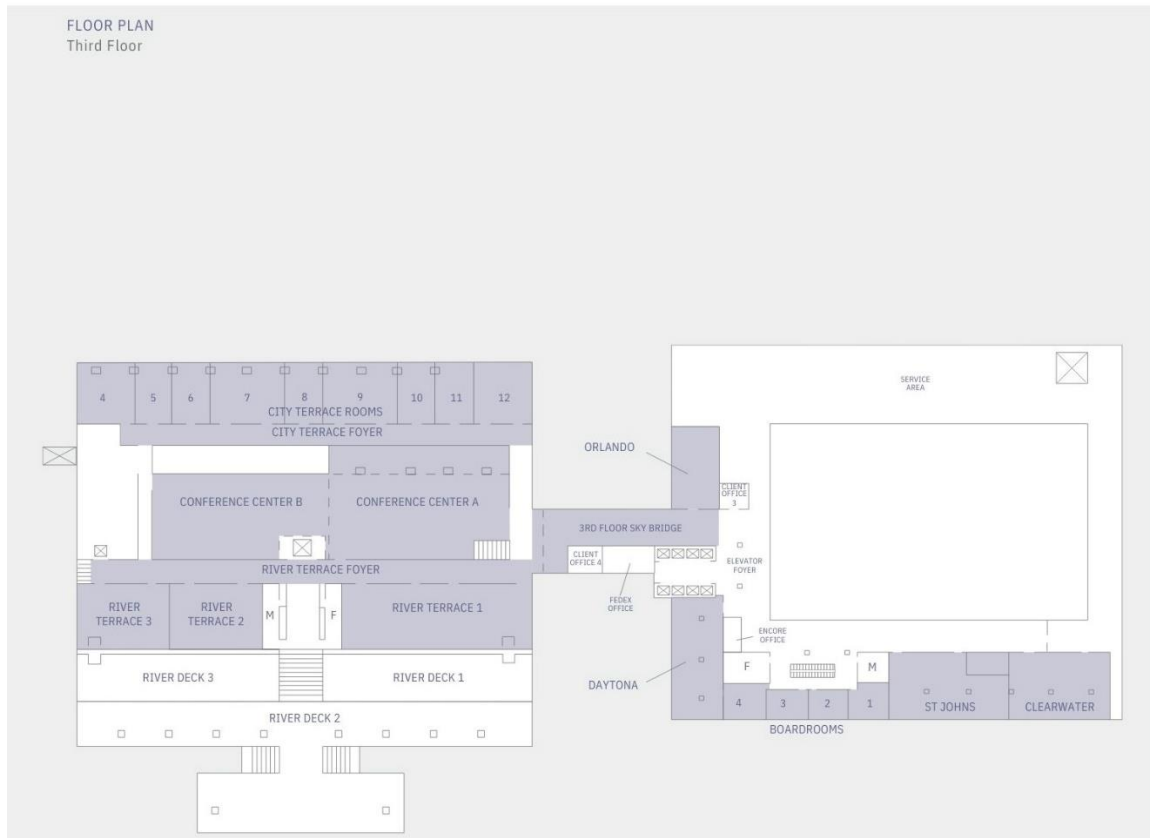
Make sure to stop by our hospitality space – the Nerd Herd Lounge. We will have giveaways both Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Workshop and meeting attendance certificates will be disseminated electronically by June 15th to the emails you provided with your registration or on the workshop sign-in sheets. If you do not receive your certificates by June 16th, please email: kristen.fripp@gbi.ga.gov

If you need any help or have any questions, please do not hesitate to find a member of the Meeting Planning Committee or a Board Member.

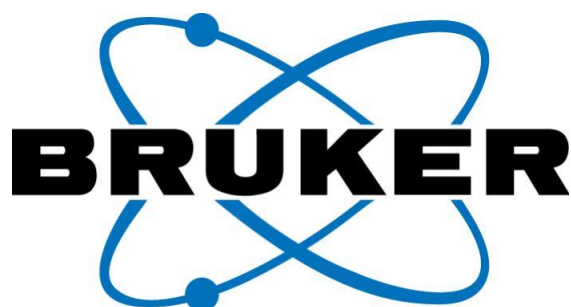
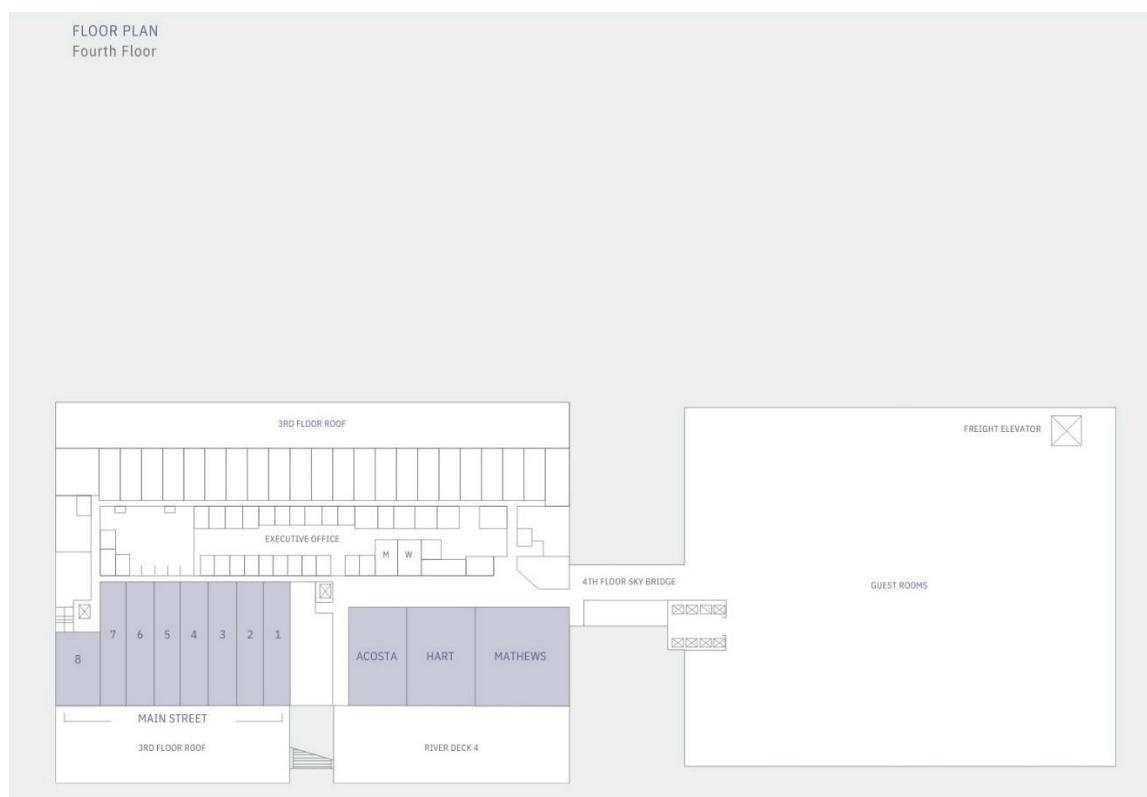
Enjoy and welcome to Jacksonville, the flip side of Florida!

Greetings From
**THE FLIP SIDE
to FLORIDA**
Jacksonville



Tecan specializes in the development, production, and distribution of automated laboratory equipment and solutions. At Tecan, we are driven to improve people's lives and health by empowering our customers to scale innovation. We collaborate with customers from early-stage strategies through project implementation and beyond. We deliver products, services and solutions that make lab workflows precise, reproducible, and compliant. With a strong global presence, Tecan serves customers in over 100 countries. Tecan is dedicated to delivering high-quality, reliable products designed to enhance laboratory productivity while ensuring precision and reproducibility.

<https://diagnostics.tecan.com/sample-preparation-resolvex-positive-pressure-processors>



APPLIED MASS SPECTROMETRY

The new Bruker Applied Mass Spectrometry (BAMS) division is transforming forensic workflows with innovative instrumentation and software designed to streamline every step of the analytical process—from sample submission to final reporting. By utilizing advanced mass spectrometers such as the EVOQ DART-TQ+, compact QTOF, and timsTOF, the BAMS division has developed tailored workflows for forensic chemists, toxicologists, and criminalists, significantly reducing case backlogs. Through a strategic partnership with PinPoint Testing, Bruker is driving innovation and facilitating the seamless implementation of these workflows in forensic laboratories through the first-in-class Lab Accelerator Program. Prioritizing ruggedness, reliability, and efficiency, BAMS is committed to delivering comprehensive solutions that enhance productivity and simplify complex forensic processes.

- Things to Do
- Food & Drink
- Events



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Jacksonville
and the Beaches

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Learn more at [waters.com/forensics](https://www.waters.com/forensics)



Monday, May 5, 2025

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Elevator Landing 3rd Floor

Registration

4:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
Boardroom #4

SAFS Board Meeting

7:30 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.
Offsite Event

Meet and Greet

Ruby Beach Brewing Company

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

6:30 a.m.-8:00 a.m. **Registration**
Elevator Landing 3rd Floor

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
Orlando

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Plenary Session**
City Terrace 7
Putting a Face on Police Work (Kelly Lawson, Forensic Artist, GBI)
The Science of Emotional Intelligence (Sara R. Lue, SAC, GBI)

12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch**
Orlando

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **SAFS Annual Business Meeting**
City Terrace 7

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Registration**
Elevator Landing 3rd Floor

6:05 p.m.-till **Dinner and Play Ball (Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp)**
VyStar Ballpark

till 11:30 p.m. **Nerd Herd Lounge**
Acosta

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Registration

Elevator Landing 3rd Floor

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

Daytona

8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Workshops

City Terrace 8

Validation and Verification of Analytical Methods

(David Feist, Sr., ANAB)

City Terrace 11

GCMS Troubleshooting Tips, MS Acquisition Parameter Optimization, and What Really Happens When You Tune

(Kirk Lokits, Agilent Technologies)

City Terrace 10

Court Basics, Criminal Procedure, Testimony, and Caselaw

(Audra Thomas-Eh and Lauren Gonzalez, FDLE)

8:00 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.

Do I Really Want to Be a Lab Manager?

City Terrace 12

(Larry Sullivan, GBI)

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Break

Daytona

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

Orlando

1:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Workshop

City Terrace 12

Rapid DNA in the Forensic Crime Lab and GeneMapper ID-X v1.7 Tips

(Lawrence Yoon & Laura Ascroft, Thermo Fisher Scientific)

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Break

Daytona



2025 Annual Meeting Agenda



7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Daytona

Exhibitor Sponsored Reception

9:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Acosta

Nerd Herd Lounge

Thursday, May 8, 2025

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

Orlando

8:00 a.m.- 12:15 p.m. **Workshops**

City Terrace 7

Anatomy of an Unknown: Tips & Tricks for the Structural Elucidation on the most Recent Novel Psychoactive Substances

(Holly Pierzynski & Danielle St. Germaine, Cayman Chemical)

City Terrace 8

Detect More Evidence

(Amanda Silva, Foster +Freeman)

City Terrace 11

Under the Microscope: Managing Psychological Stress in Forensic Science and Mindbase, a New Emotional Wellness Tool from Versaterm

(Jennifer Dillon, Michigan State Police & Kelsie Nugent, Versaterm)

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. **Break**

City Terrace Hallway

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**

Orlando

1:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m. **Workshops**

City Terrace 7

Vaping Unveiled: Cannabis Products and Analytical Insights

(Justin Poklis and Alaina Holt, VCU)

City Terrace 10

Waters RADIANT-ASAP – Overview and Application in Seized Drug Analysis

(Praveen Kumar, Waters Corp. & Karen Lau, Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services)

City Terrace 8

2025 FBI QAS – Everything you need to know about all the upcoming QAS changes effective July 1, 2025

(Doug Hares & Jocelyn Carlson, Federal Bureau of Investigation)

City Terrace 11

Trauma-Informed Leadership in Forensic Science

(Jennifer Dillon, Michigan State Police)

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Break**

City Terrace Hallway

2025 Annual Meeting Agenda



6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

River Terrace 3

Cocktails and Banquet

"Happy Hour" (6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

Dinner (7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

9:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Acosta

Nerd Herd Lounge



Friday, May 9, 2025

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

Orlando

9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Discipline Specific Breakout Session/Posters

City Terrace 7

Chemistry/Toxicology

City Terrace 8

Biology

— RUBY BEACH SMOKE —

starters

Tater Tots	\$5
Loaded Tater Tots – loaded cheese, smokey bacon, ranch drizzle & smoked cherry onions	\$8
Add: Pulled Pork - \$15	Pulled Chicken - \$14
Cheese Curds – beer battered w/ spicy ranch	\$8
Chicken Skins – crispy fried skins tossed in Nashville Hot sauce served w/ pickles & ranch	\$8

mains

Smash Burger – 3oz patty on local brioche bun, topped w/ grilled onions, pickles, cheese & Ruby Sauce	
Single - \$9	Double - \$11
	Triple - \$13
	Add Smokey Bacon - \$2.50
Pulled Sandwich – topped w/ pickled onions & house BBQ sauce	
Chicken - \$8	Pork - \$9
Chicken Salad – lettuce, tomato, onion & pickles	\$8
Azar Sausage – served w/ peppers & onions	\$8
Hot Dog – all beef Nathan's hot dog on a local bun	\$8

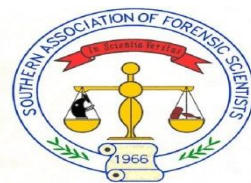
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FORENSIC SCIENCE INNOVATION

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technology, and document authentication tools. foster+freeman USA supports the forensic community with cutting-edge technologies designed to assist in criminal investigations, evidence analysis, and counterfeit detection, ensuring high-quality results and efficient workflows for forensic professionals across North America. [Home | Foster + Freeman](#)



SATF Annual Meeting 2025



Plenary Sessions

Putting a Face on Police Work

"Laughter through tears is my favorite emotion". Violent crime and untimely death make for the most difficult things that someone can encounter, but Kelly has a unique way of presenting the cases of the GBI FAU that will entertain as well as inspire. She will highlight some of her favorite composite drawing cases and showcase drawings of unidentified decedents that will leave you wondering where she keeps her crystal ball. Put your feet up, relax, and know that your forensic art needs are in good hands.



Kelly Lawson is an Atlanta native. She is the daughter of Harry Lawson, retired Battalion Chief with the City of Atlanta Fire Department and Marla Lawson, the highly esteemed, first ever, forensic artist for the state of Georgia. Throughout her childhood, she would accompany her mother while Marla performed her duties as a forensic artist. Kelly had no idea at the time that she was being taught by example the skills and practices of a successful forensic artist. In 2001, Kelly graduated from Northgate High School in Coweta County with a partial scholarship for the study of art at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. At BYU, Kelly pursued a bachelor's degree in the visual arts with an emphasis in drawing, painting, and printmaking. From December 2003 until July 2005, Kelly served in the mission field with her church in eastern Ukraine. When she returned, she came home with a renewed desire to find work helping people. In 2007, Kelly graduated from BYU and returned home to metro Atlanta. After working several jobs in the metro area, she began her employment at the GBI in May of 2012. Kelly has worked, since that time, as the state's only full-time forensic artist.

The Science of Emotional Intelligence

Emotional intelligence (EI) is a critical skill that influences how we understand and manage emotions—both our own and those of others. This presentation explores the five core components of EI: self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. The science behind it draws from several fields: psychology, neuroscience, and behavioral science. Through engaging examples and interactive discussions, we will examine how emotional intelligence enhances communication, strengthens leadership, and improves decision-making in both personal and professional settings. Attendees will gain practical strategies for developing their own EI, fostering healthier relationships, and creating emotionally intelligent environments. Whether you're leading a team, working in a collaborative space, or looking to grow personally, this session offers valuable insights to help you navigate emotions more effectively and build stronger connections.



Sara R. Lue currently serves as Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Georgia Cyber Crime Center. The Georgia Cyber Crime Center (G3C) is located on the Nathan Deal Campus for Training and Innovation in Augusta, GA. The mission of G3C is to assist local and state law enforcement agencies with complex investigations involving cyber-related criminal activity. This includes but is not limited to online fraud, computer and network intrusion, and the proliferation of digital media (the Internet of Things/IoT) as they relate to criminal activity and organized crime. G3C is comprised of Special Agents and Digital Forensic Investigators (DFI's) who specialize in investigating Cyber Crime in Georgia. Through advanced training and use of state-of-the-art forensic equipment, the G3C applies specialized investigative techniques to conduct examinations on a variety of digital media to retain and preserve evidence of criminal activity. SAC Lue was previously assigned as a Special Agent and an Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the GBI Region 7 Field Office in Thomson, GA. Prior to becoming a Special Agent with the GBI, SAC Lue was employed by the Richmond County Marshals Office in Augusta, GA as a Deputy Marshal. SAC Lue is a POST Certified Instructor and has taught on various topics such as Conflict Resolution, Cybercrime, Cyber Safety, Emotional Intelligence, and Leadership. SAC Lue attended the East Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Blythe, GA where she received her Georgia P.O.S.T. Certification. She earned a B.A. in Sociology from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA and a M.B.A. with a concentration in Management from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, GA. SAC Lue is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, Session 292, in Quantico, Virginia.



Sorenson Forensics is a leading forensic DNA laboratory based in Draper, Utah. The company specializes in providing advanced DNA analysis services to law enforcement agencies, attorneys, and government laboratories. Their comprehensive suite of services includes STR and Y-STR analysis, biological screening, full serology testing, M-Vac™ collection, touch DNA analysis, bone testing, validation and consulting, and expert witness testimony.

<https://sorensonforensics.com/>

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to Insight

Give names back to the nameless

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- Recover DNA from bone samples in under 20 minutes using the EZ2 Connect Fc® extra large volume protocol
- Perform extended kinship analysis using the ForenSeq® Kinship IQ® and MiSeq® FGc®



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Trade names: ForenSeq®, EZ2 Connect Fc®, Sample to Insight®, Qiagen® (Qiagen), MiSeq® (Illumina), Bag Insect boxes, evidence kits, etc. used in the Qiagen® website, were either not specifically marked as such, or are to be considered sponsored by Qiagen. QIAGEN-4425 03/14 © 2014 Qiagen, all rights reserved.





SATF Annual Meeting 2025



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

BIOLOGY

Title: Detect More Evidence

Presenter: Amanda Silva, Technical Sales Specialist - Foster + Freeman

Abstract: Various types of evidence are often overlooked at a crime scene or on victims because they are not visible to the naked eye. When using an alternate light source with the traditional 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 ultraviolet and infrared examination to detect the presence of biological fluids and gunshot residue on various articles of clothing. 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.

Title: Rapid DNA in the Forensic Crime Lab and GeneMapper ID-X v1.7 Tips

Presenters: Lawrence Yoon, Account Manager and Laura Ascroft, Field Application Scientist- Thermo Fisher Scientific

Abstract: Rapid DNA technology has evolved over the course of the past several years to become a stable platform for use within the forensic crime laboratory and law enforcement environments. This workshop will focus on the crime lab context but acknowledging the growing presence in the law enforcement sector. Attendees will learn about the Thermo Fisher Scientific RapidHIT-ID platform, workflow, software, connectivity, and broad range of potential applications inside and outside of the laboratory. The second part of the workshop will present on GeneMapper ID-X v1.7, the latest version of our forensic data analysis software. Participants will learn about the latest new features, and differences from prior versions of GMID-X, that offer improvements and a better overall user experience. Our FAS, Laura Ascroft, will also offer helpful tips and tricks that will help enhance the analyst's workflow.

Title: 2025 FBI QAS – Everything you need to know about all the upcoming QAS changes effective July 1, 2025

Presenter: Douglas Hares, Rapid DNA Implementation Program Advisor and Jocelyn Carlson, DNA Quality Assurance (QA) Program Manager - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Abstract: The primary goal of this workshop is to conduct a deep dive into all the changes to the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards that will be effective July 1, 2025. Changes include portions of Standards 5 Personnel, 8 Validation, and 15 Audits, as well as edits to allow for the future use of expert systems in the forensic standards, and the new Rapid DNA Standards 18 and 19. These new Rapid Standards will consolidate the current Rapid DNA requirements and include the use of Rapid DNA on forensic samples.

CHEMISTRY/Toxicology

Title: GCMS Troubleshooting Tips, MS Acquisition Parameter Optimization, and What Really Happens When You Tune

Presenter: Kirk Lokits, GCMS Applications Scientist, Agilent Technologies

Abstract: The GCMS workshop will focus on the fundamental aspects of operational theory, troubleshooting, and maintenance of GC (Split/Splitless) inlets and MS EI sources. Column selection and inlet and flow path troubleshooting, maintenance, and ways to speed up your analysis will be discussed. The workshop format will be PowerPoint based but will have hands-on labs involving split/splitless inlets and MS EI sources. The MS workshop will also cover the fundamental aspects of MS operational theory, optimizing acquisition parameters for spectral fidelity and method stability. Attendees will have the opportunity to perform hands-on dis-assembly and reassembly of an EI source, discuss best practices for cleaning the source, and logical troubleshooting and maintenance of MS and vacuum system. An in-depth discussion of the tuning process and what's occurring during the tuning process will be presented.

Title: Vaping Unveiled: Cannabis Products and Analytical Insights

Presenters: Justin Poklis, B.S. and Alaina Holt, Ph.D. – VCU

Abstract: Electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) were first introduced to the United States in 2006. This modern e-cig was intended for use as a nicotine-cessation product but were quickly adopted for use with drugs other than nicotine. Starting in 2008, a new wave of synthetic cannabinoids (SynCans) began to proliferate in the United States "elicit" drug market. The legalization/decriminalization of cannabis in Colorado and passage of the 2018 Farm Bill led to a dramatic rise of "semi-synthetic" analogues related to delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol (Delta 9-THC) and cannabidiol (CBD). Many of the new "semi-synthetic" analogues are initially available in the form of vaping products, and following commercial success are adopted into other consumer forms such as concentrates and edibles. Synthetic THC and CBD derivatives include, but are not limited to, $\Delta 8$ -THC, $\Delta 10$ -THC, $\Delta 6a$ -10a-THC, THC-acetate (THC-O), CBD-di-acetate (CBD-di-O), tetrahydrocannabiphorol (THC-P), exo-THC, hexahydrocannabinol (HHC), tetrahydrocannabutol (THC-B). The rise of these cannabinoids has led to various analytical challenges, deriving from their similarity in structure, often being isobars, and lack of reference material. The incidence of reported adverse effects associated with cannabis products is on the rise. Many of these compounds have limited pharmacological data available. Biomarkers are often not characterized or available. This workshop will present the general history and function of electronic cigarettes, the state of cannabis legalization and regulations, historical and modern case reports involving cannabis and synthetic cannabis products, outcomes of surveillance studies, THC analogue metabolite studies, and testing implications.

Title: Anatomy of an Unknown: Tips and Tricks for the Structural Elucidation of the most Recent Novel Psychoactive Substances

Presenters: Holly Pierzynski, Manager of Forensic Novel Psychoactive Substance Research and Danielle St. Germaine, Scientist Forensic Chemistry Department - Cayman Chemical

Abstract: The proliferation of novel psychoactive substances continues to pose challenges to forensic scientists and the use of GC-MS remains a gold standard for seized drug chemists. This workshop will review resources, tips, tricks and strategies to identify newly emerging designer drugs across several structural classes such as nitazenes, synthetic cannabinoids, and cathinones. We will discuss relevant synthetic routes as they relate to structural feasibility and utilize EI-MS fragmentation patterns to elucidate practical examples.

Title: Waters RADIANT-ASAP - Overview and Application in Seized Drug Analysis

Presenters: Praveen Kumar, PhD, Application Specialist, Waters Corporation and Karen Lau, Forensic Chemist, Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services

Abstract: Forensic laboratories that analyze seized drugs face ongoing challenges, including an increase in the number of drugs and the need for faster analysis turnaround times. The RADIANT Atmospheric Solids Analysis Probe-Mass Spectrometry (ASAP-MS) is a benchtop instrument that offers a chromatography-free, rapid screening workflow for seized drug analysis. The first portion of the workshop will cover an overview of the ASAP-MS instrument, site preparation guidelines to ensure optimal performance and safe use, and maintenance tips and tricks. The second portion of the workshop aims to demonstrate how the RADIANT ASAP was incorporated into the seized drug analysis scheme of one forensic drug lab. A variety of case samples will be introduced to show how the RADIANT ASAP has become a valuable part of seized drug analysis. An overview of the LiveID software and spectral library will also be covered.

GENERAL

Title: Validation and Verification of Analytical Methods

Presenter: David Feist, Sr. Manager, Training Business - ANAB

Abstract: This course provides an introduction to validation and verification of analytical methods. The common elements of a validation/verification plan and a general approach to performing a validation or verification are presented. The pertinent requirements in ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17020 for method validation and verification are also reviewed. Validation and/or verification of methods enables us to demonstrate that the analytical methods are suitable for use and helps ensure that results are accurate, valid and reliable. Validation is the process of performing a set of experiments to establish the performance characteristics of a method to determine if the method meets the specified requirements for the intended use. In addition, method validation establishes the efficacy, reliability, and limitations of the method. Verification on the other hand, confirms that the lab can properly perform the method and that the method meets the performance characteristics as specified.

Title: Court Basics, Criminal Procedure, Testimony, and Caselaw

Presenters: Audra Thomas-Eth and Lauren Lauren Gonzalez, FDLE Regional Legal Advisors

Abstract: Audra and Lauren will present a wide variety of legal material as well as engage the attendees with interactive courtroom scenarios. Topics covered will include basic criminal procedure (AKA why is everything always an emergency), Deposition and Testimony, Discussion on Arizona v. Smith and what we can do going forward and Daubert Hearings.

Title: Do I Really Want to Be a Lab Manager?

Presenter: Larry Sullivan, Laboratory Manager, Eastern Regional Crime Lab - GBI

Abstract: Managing a laboratory is not easy. Many new managers can be lost or unsure how to handle the staff and situations that arise. Most managers within scientific organizations are promoted from within but management training opportunities vary among organizations. In this presentation, Larry will share what he has learned in his 20 plus years in management. The presentation is designed to be fun and interactive, where he will explore such questions as "What is life like behind the desk?" and "What does a manager need to do to be effective?" The presentation is aimed toward new managers and those looking to go into management, however the topics and exercises will benefit employees at all levels.

Title: Under the Microscope: Managing Psychological Stress in Forensic Science and Mindbase, A New Emotional Wellness Tool from Versaterm

Presenters: Jennifer Dillon, State Administrative Manager Wellness and Resiliency Section – Michigan State Police and Kelsie Nugent, Sale Representative, Versaterm

Abstract: This workshop delves into the psychological stressors unique to forensic science professionals, providing a trauma-informed approach to understanding and addressing these challenges. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the physiological response to stress, including how prolonged cortisol activation impacts cognitive function and emotional regulation. Forensic science professionals often face significant stressors, such as exposure to traumatic evidence, high-pressure deadlines, and ethical dilemmas, all of which can negatively affect mental and physical well-being. Drawing on the latest research, this session will present evidence-based strategies for stress recovery, resilience-building, and fostering psychological safety in the workplace. Through interactive activities, including mindfulness exercises, grounding techniques, and scenario-based problem-solving, attendees will develop practical tools to manage stress effectively and support both personal and team wellness. This workshop aims to empower forensic professionals to thrive in their demanding roles while cultivating a culture of resilience and well-being.

Mindbase delivers a trusted, data-driven wellness solution that emphasizes preventative and proactive care while maintaining confidentiality, fostering employee well-being, and empowering peer support leaders with advanced monitoring tools. Paired with the groundbreaking Checkpoints program, developed by former Assistant Chief Reuben Ramirez of the Dallas Police Department, Mindbase+Checkpoints is setting a new standard for public safety wellness programs. Instead of waiting for employees to seek out mental health resources, Versaterm Mindbase provides your agency with a forward-thinking strategy to ensure employees feel supported and receive help when they may need it most.

Title: Trauma-Informed Leadership in Forensic Science: Building Psychological Safety for Wellness and Resilience

Presenter: Jennifer Dillon, State Administrative Manager Wellness and Resiliency Section – Michigan State Police

Abstract: Forensic science professionals operate in high-pressure environments where exposure to trauma and workplace stress can take a significant toll on their well-being and performance. This workshop introduces trauma-informed leadership approaches to address these challenges and cultivate a workplace culture of psychological safety. Participants will explore the principles of trauma-informed care, the role of leadership in mitigating secondary trauma, and practical strategies to enhance resilience and wellness within their teams. By creating a psychologically safe environment, leaders can empower employees to navigate challenges with greater confidence and sustain their health and effectiveness in the long term. This interactive session combines evidence-based practices, real-world applications, and group activities tailored to the unique demands of forensic science. Attendees will leave with actionable tools to foster a supportive workplace that promotes both individual and organizational resilience.



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Presenters' Biographies

Laura Ascroft is a Senior Application Scientist at Thermo Fisher Scientific supporting Human Identification customers. She provides specialized technical applications support and training to ensure customers are successful with the Forensic HID products, services, and workflows. She also has experience working on the Global HID Professional Services team where she performed technical project management and oversight of global HPS validation projects. Prior to joining Thermo Fisher, Laura held positions as a Forensic Biologist, Validation Manager, and Supervisor during her 12-year tenure in the Biology Section of the Monroe County Crime Laboratory.

Jocelyn Carlson is currently the DNA Quality Assurance (QA) Program Manager in the DNA Support Unit (DSU) of the FBI Laboratory. The DSU QA program supports the FBI Lab's DNA casework and databasing operations by facilitating the DNA units' document control, corrective action, proficiency testing, audits, and other DNA QA related activities. Mrs. Carlson has served as the chair of the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM) QA Committee since 2014. The SWGDM QA committee is tasked with facilitating SWGDM updates to the Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories and DNA Databasing Laboratories for recommendation to the FBI in addition to maintaining the QAS Guidance Document. Mrs. Carlson was previously qualified as a Forensic Examiner in serology and nuclear DNA testing.

Jennifer Dillon is the State Administrative Manager for the Wellness and Resiliency Section of the Michigan State Police, overseeing wellness programming for over 3,000 members statewide, including both civilian and enforcement personnel. She has been with the Michigan State Police since 2005, initially as a forensic scientist specializing in DNA, trace evidence, bloodstain pattern analysis, and crime scene response. With 17 years in the field, Jennifer developed a deep interest in mental strength training and stress mitigation as it relates to first responders and support personnel. Jennifer holds a bachelor's degree in forensic science from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and an MBA in Leadership from Cleary University. She is also a certified Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Qualified Level 1 Instructor, 200-HR Registered Yoga Teacher, 300-HR Yoga Psychology, RAD Yoga Mobility Specialist, FLETC Fitness Coordinator, Resiliency Instructor, and Struggle Well Instructor. In 2019, Jennifer launched a mental agility program for the Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, delivering workshops and hosting a podcast to promote mental resilience. She has been a regular instructor for law enforcement, legal professionals, and forensic scientists, and is actively involved in the International Association of Chiefs of Police Officer Safety and Occupational Wellness Section. Jennifer was the Keynote Speaker at the 2023 International Association for Identification Annual Education Conference, where she presented on "Building Resilient Responders." She is currently expanding her wellness expertise with a coaching certificate in sleep, stress, and recovery from Precision Nutrition.

David Feist is an accomplished Quality Professional, experienced in multiple disciplines of International Business, manufacturing, process mapping, organizational effectiveness, Emergency management planning for business continuity, Six Sigma Quality Improvement Methodologies and Total Quality Management and software development. He is the former owner of China Sourcing, Inc, an Asia-Pacific manufacturer of Industrial Products sold throughout US industry, with over 20 years of experience in Project Management and large-scale project implementation. He has served as adjunct professor of industrial engineering, and on the Boards of \$1B+ organizations. He is active in the American Society for Quality (ASQ) and is a six-sigma master black belt.

Lauren Gonzalez currently serves as the Regional Legal Advisor for Tallahassee and the Pensacola Regional Operations Centers, as well as the Capitol Police and the DNA Database, for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Lauren hails from Panama City, Florida. Lauren earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Florida State University and went on to earn her juris doctor at Barry University's Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 2009 and began her legal career as a prosecutor in the 14th Judicial Circuit. She then moved to Tallahassee to become an Assistant Attorney General handling criminal appeals until 2015, at which time she joined FDLE. Lauren's husband, whom she met while a prosecutor and he was a sergeant at the Panama City Police Department, is a Special Agent Supervisor over an FDLE organized crime unit. They have a bright and precocious eight-year-old son.

Douglas R. Hares, PhD, is the Rapid DNA Implementation Program Advisor for the FBI's Biometric Analysis Section. He joined the DNA Analysis Unit II of the FBI Laboratory in 2000 as a Forensic Examiner. In 2006, he transferred to the CODIS Unit where he served as the NDIS Custodian until November 2019. He is an invited guest and participant for the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM) and the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI). He also has served as a member and advisor to Interpol's DNA Monitoring Expert Group.

Alaina K. Holt completed her PhD in Forensic Toxicology from Virginia Commonwealth University and is now an Associate Research Faculty member in the Department of Forensic Science at Virginia Commonwealth University. Alaina works with her long-term mentor, Dr. Michelle Peace, studying the efficacy of electronic cigarettes, particularly as they pertain to substance use and abuse. Current projects include a clinical study to assess the impact of vaping on roadside impairment evaluations; developing testing strategies for emerging synthetic and semi-synthetic cannabinoids; and characterizing vaping products confiscated from Virginia school students. Alaina's interests include emerging toxicology issues; providing support for science-based legislation, regulation, and policies; and educating the public and key stakeholders about research findings that impact public health and safety.

Praveen Kumar, PhD, is an Application Specialist at Waters Corporation, working within the Clinical Business unit. He obtained his PhD with honors in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Barcelona in 2014, under the mentorship of Prof. Ramon Compañó Beltran. With over 14+ years of applied research experience in mass spectrometry, he has collaborated with peers and junior researchers on various projects utilizing different mass spectrometry technologies to develop analytical methods, answer key research questions and discover biomarkers of clinical utility. Before joining Waters, he was a Research Manager/Research Scientist at the Mass Spectrometry Research Center, University of Maryland, and held postdoctoral positions at the University of Michigan and Beaumont Health. He has authored or co-authored over 35 peer-reviewed publications, served as a reviewer for journal articles, and has an h-index of 18. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and two kids, playing chess, and engaging in outdoor activities.

Karen Lau is a Forensic Chemist in the Drug Chemistry section at the Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services (formerly known as CCBI) in Raleigh, North Carolina. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Science (Chemistry track) from the Pennsylvania State University in 2012 and her Master of Science degree in Forensic Science from Cedar Crest College in 2014. Karen started her career in drug analysis in 2015 as a forensic scientist at the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory. In 2022, Karen joined the team at Wake County where she continues to perform analyses on seized drug evidence. She is certified by the American Board of Criminalistics (ABC) in Drug Analysis. She has over nine years of experience performing controlled substance analysis and has completed over six thousand cases to date.

Kirk Lokits received his B.S. in Forensic Science and Chemistry from ECU and began his forensic tenure at the Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory in Dayton, Ohio and FDLE in the Orlando and Pensacola laboratories. Kirk left the forensic realm and began his career with HP/Agilent, working as a service engineer supporting the LC, GC, LCMS, GCMS, and ICPMS products. While working for HP Kirk earned his M.S. in Analytical Chemistry from MTSU. In 2005 Kirk left Agilent to attend the University of Cincinnati and earned his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry. Afterwards, he worked for the Midwest Research Institute (MRIGlobal) in Kansas City, as a Principal Chemist and Sr. Program Manager on DoD projects, staffing, designing, and building remote laboratories for placement throughout the world. In 2014, Kirk re-joined Agilent as a GCMS Applications Scientist focusing on forensic applications within the GCMS product line.

Kelsie Nugent began her education at Wheaton College (MA), graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology with minors in both chemistry and psychology. Following her long-lasting interest in forensic science, she entered the forensic community in 2017 when she enrolled at Boston University School of Medicine to obtain her Master of Science degree in Biomedical Forensic Sciences. Her experience spans a variety of disciplines, including NIH toxicology grant research, interning and collecting thesis research with the Massachusetts State Police Trace, Arson, and Explosives Lab, and a four-year career at Collaborative Testing Services (CTS) as a Forensics Coordinator where she managed proficiency testing of controlled substances, DNA analysis, and crime scene processing. She now works as a Sales Representative at Versaterm (formerly JusticeTrax) assisting crime labs with streamlining their workflows and enhancing their operations with a variety of forensic-focused software solutions.

Holly Pierzynski is the Manager of the Forensic NPS Research Department at Cayman Chemical. Holly is an experienced synthetic organic chemist with a BS in Biochemistry from Central Michigan University and a MS in Chemistry from Eastern Michigan University. Holly has been with Cayman since 2010 and the department she manages is tasked with the synthesis of novel psychoactive substance (NPS) reference standards. A main focus of Holly's work is tracking emerging NPS trends and the use of EI-MS fragmentation analysis in collaboration with the forensic community toward the discovery of novel substances. She has presented her work at several forensic conferences.

Justin Poklis received a Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1996. Mr. Poklis is presently the manager of the Pharmacology & Toxicology Mass Spectrometer Laboratory at Virginia Commonwealth University and is a Diplomat of American Board of Forensic Toxicology. Mr. Poklis has is an author on over 150 peer review publication and over 200 scientific meeting abstracts. Prior to accepting his present position he was a Toxicologist at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in North Carolina, work for the Aerosol Research Group at Virginia Commonwealth University, the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals Toxicology Laboratories and Scientific Test Laboratory, a SAMSHA certified drug testing Laboratory.

Danielle St. Germaine is a synthetic organic chemist in the Forensic Chemistry Division at Cayman Chemical. She earned her undergraduate degree in biochemistry and toxicology as well as her MS degree in chemistry at Eastern Michigan University. She has worked in both the medicinal chemistry and forensic chemistry departments and developed expertise in synthetic opioids and naturally occurring psychotropic substances. Danielle has co-authored several peer-reviewed scientific papers and shared her expertise through various posters, presentations, and workshops.

Amanda Silva obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic and Investigative Science, with a minor in Anthropology from West Virginia University in May of 2021. She joined foster+freeman USA in August of 2022 as a Technical Sales Specialist and enjoys traveling and meeting new people. Aside from her education, she is bilingual, as Spanish was her first language, and she's an avid Disney lover. In her spare time, she spends time going on runs with her Golden Retriever, Mia and reads mystery/thriller books.

Larry Sullivan is the manager of the Eastern Regional Crime Lab for the GBI's Division of Forensic Sciences. He has been with the GBI for over 29 years, starting out as drug chemist, then assistant manager, and finally lab manager. He earned a BA in chemistry from Connecticut College, a MS in chemistry from Florida State University, and most recently, a Masters of Business - Professional Leadership from Middle Georgia State University. Larry enjoys writing and teaching about his experiences in forensics, management, and leadership. He is also a guest POST instructor and a writer for LabManager.com.

Audra Thomas-Eth is an attorney for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement where she reviews investigative legal process, handles forfeiture cases, provides in house legal guidance to sworn law enforcement and laboratory personnel, conducts in-house trainings, and appears on behalf of FDLE in court. Audra has been with FDLE since September of 2021. Prior to her employment with FDLE, Audra was a prosecutor in the State of Florida for 11 years. She served in the 20th Judicial Circuit, 11TH Judicial Circuit and for the Florida Office of Statewide Prosecution. Audra is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law and Stetson University. Audra provides legal instruction for the Southwest Florida Public Service Academy, the Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy, and the FDLE Special Agent Training Academy. Audra is a member of the National Association of Forensic Laboratory Counsel, and the Florida Association of Police Attorneys.

Lawrence Yoon is an Account Manager at Thermo Fisher Scientific supporting the southeast US region. Lawrence has been with Thermo Fisher for 10 years, starting with their Technical Sales Specialist team supporting research and clinical customers across the qPCR, CE, next-gen sequencing, and microarray workflows, and then joining the Human Identification team last March. Prior to Thermo Fisher Scientific, Lawrence was a scientist at a pharmaceutical company for 16 years working within the drug development and safety division.



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- **Tox Chat Box vodcast** Tune into this vodcast series highlighting how thought leaders leverage LC-MS/MS for cutting-edge forensic workflows.
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Versaterm, formerly JusticeTrax, has been providing software to forensic science and law

enforcement professionals since 1995. Our products allow for efficient, effective and quality management of analytical and administrative data that staff can rely on for sound decision making. The applications are designed by forensic scientists and are the most comprehensive case management tools available. We have installations ranging from single-site laboratories of five users to large multi-site organizations with 500+ users at some of the most sophisticated crime laboratories in North America, Australia, the Caribbean and Middle East.

Versaterm, a global public safety solutions company, empowers agencies to transform their organizations by providing innovative technology, expertise and an unwavering dedication to service. Our ecosystem supports community safety through purposeful integrations across the public safety spectrum that improve workflows, customer service and just outcomes.

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Who We Are

The ABC Board of Directors is composed of representatives from regional and national forensic organizations. Each Member Organization is entitled to one Director on the ABC Board of Directors. The Directors can answer any questions about the ABC, certification examinations, and related issues.

Certification

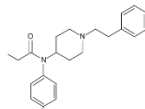
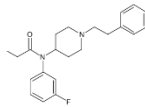
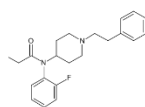
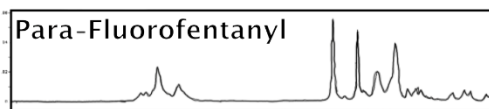
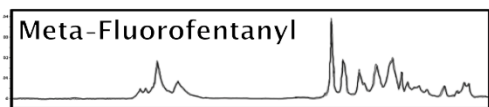
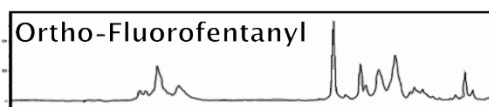
Certification is a voluntary process of peer review by which a practitioner is recognized as having attained the professional qualifications necessary to practice in one or more disciplines of criminalistics. The ABC offers a certifications in biological evidence screening, forensic DNA, foundational knowledge, and drug chemistry

Our Purpose

The Forensic Science community has an obligation to:

- Establish professional levels of knowledge, skills and abilities;
- Define a mechanism for achieving these levels;
- Recognize those who have demonstrated attainment of these levels;
- Promote growth within the profession.

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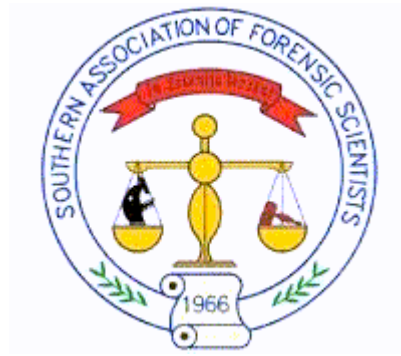
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INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

On September 9, 1966, forensic scientists from the southern region of the United States met in Atlanta, Georgia and adopted the first constitution of the organization known as the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists. This was not the first meeting of this group, which had met previously in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Auburn, Alabama. There were 47 original or charter members. As of this writing, there are approximately 300 SAFS members.

SAFS is the oldest of the regional forensic scientist associations with the exception of the California Association of Criminalistics.

SAFS is an organization of practicing forensic scientists and forensic science college and university educators. There are four types of membership offered: Student Affiliate, Associate Member, Member, and Retired Member. To gain voting membership in SAFS it is essential that a prospective member has given expert testimony in some court of the criminal justice system or has advanced the cause of forensic science in some significant manner. Associate membership allows newer scientist to start participating while they work towards the requirements for regular membership. Regular membership requires attendance at one or more of the annual meetings. Student Affiliate membership is renewable on an annual basis and the applicant must be engaged in science studies with a forensic science career goal. Membership applications of all types are considered at the Business Meeting of the SAFS. The Annual SAFS Training and Business Meeting is held at various locations in the southern region of the United States. Meeting locations are selected about two years in advance.

If you are interested in applying for any of the membership types, please visit safs1966.org or use the QR code below:





Officers and Board of Directors

Amanda Venable: President (2024-2025) In 2010, Amanda Venable earned a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science with a concentration in Chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University. She began employment with the NC State Crime Lab in July 2012, as a Forensic Scientist I in the Drug Chemistry Section. She currently serves as the Forensic Scientist Manager of the Triad Regional Crime Lab in Greensboro, NC. Amanda held the position of Technical Leader for the Drug Chemistry Section from 2018 to 2023. She joined the *Southern Association of Forensic Scientists* in 2016. In addition, she is also a member of the *Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists* and the *American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors*. Amanda obtained her General Instructor certification through the NC Justice Academy, as well as a certification with the American Board of Criminalistics in Drug Analysis. In her free time, she enjoys golfing with her husband, Clem, and spending time with their two dogs, Huck and Sydney.

Tanja Kopp: President-Elect (2024-2025) Tanja earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with a minor in Physics from Armstrong Atlantic State University. In 1999, Tanja began her professional journey as a Forensic Drug Chemist with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). Over the course of her career, she has analyzed approximately 25,000 drug chemistry cases. Her expertise has earned her recognition as a qualified expert in Forensic Drug Chemistry in numerous Superior Courts in Georgia, as well as Federal Court. Certified in Clandestine Laboratory Response, she previously played a key role in training officers and agents, ensuring proper safety procedures in handling drug labs. Additionally, she taught the Marijuana Identification Course to officers within the state. Tanja has been an active member of the Southeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (SAFS) since 2002. In 2014, she was elected Treasurer, a position she held until 2024, when she was nominated as President-Elect. During her time with SAFS, she also served as Social Chair for several Annual Meetings, fostering networking and collaboration within the forensic science community. Currently, Tanja serves as an Assistant Lab Manager at the Coastal Lab, where she oversees the Forensic Biology Section.

Laura Lawrence: Treasurer (2024-2027) Laura Lawrence is a Forensic Chemist with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in the Division of Forensic Sciences. After receiving a B.S. in Forensic and Investigative Science and a B.A. in Chemistry from West Virginia University Laura started her career with GBI and has 14 years of experience working drug identification cases for 30 counties in the state of Georgia. Laura is certified through the American Board of Criminalistics and has been a member of SAFS for nine years and has been serving on the board for six of those years. When not at work Laura enjoys going to the beach and on adventures with her husband and two young children.

Karlie McManaman: Secretary (2024-2027) Karlie received her bachelor's degree in chemistry and biology from Olivet College, and her master's degree in forensic science (chemistry) from Michigan State University. She spent the first 10 years of her career at the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Headquarters Lab. She held various positions in the GBI's Drug Chemistry section, including Scientist, Technical Leader, and Assistant Manager. She moved back to Michigan in 2022 and now works for the Michigan State Police as Manager of the Seized Drug Unit in the Lansing Lab. She has been a member of SAFS since 2014 and has served on the Board as a Member-at-Large (2016-2020) and now as Secretary (since 2021). She is also a member of CLIC and MAFS, and is ABC certified in Drug Analysis. Karlie lives with her husband and two young sons, who always keep her on her toes.

Board of Directors:

Sara Roper, Member-at-Large (2023-2025)

April Brown, Member-at-Large (2024-2026)

Erin Tracy, Member-at-Large (2024-2026)

Collin Shuford, Member-at-Large (2024-2025)

Allison Galassie, Immediate Past President (2024-2025)



SAFS Annual Meeting 2025



As program chair, I could not have done without the assistance, support, and endless work the 2025 planning committee social chair Tanja Kopp and workshop co-chairs Emily Boswell and Erin Tracy. This meeting would not have happened without the three of you. Tanja, from finding incredible donations for our raffles to planning our offsite events, along with your encouragement to keep at it, despite the obstacles, I thank you. Emily and Erin, thank you both for jumping into the deep end as first time SAFS workshop chairs. You secured a great lineup of relevant and informative workshops. I appreciate you!

Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Division of Forensic Sciences for their continued support of my now 20+ years of participation in SAFS, including the planning of numerous meetings. Thank you for allowing me the time to continue to support this wonderful organization.

Marissa Bono and April Brown thank you for all your assistance with our vendors, from soliciting participation to answering their questions.

Larry Sullivan thank you for maintaining and updating the meeting website.

Dawn Jones and Christine Meehan of the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville for your patience and assistance – planning a meeting is not something I do on a regular basis!

Joni Adams and Cheryl Schreiner of HelmsBriscoe for all the support. SAFS (and myself in particular) could not have put on this meeting without you!

I'd like to express appreciation to all our plenary speakers and workshop presenters.

Again, thank you to our exhibitors and those greater Jacksonville area merchants, attractions, and sports teams who made donations.

Finally, thank you to my husband, Jay, for all the patience during the long hours of planning and executing this meeting. Your support means the world to me.

Kristen Fripp, Program Chair