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Abstract Book

16th Global Webinar on Forensic Science

March 18-19, 2026

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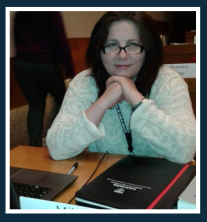

Mihaela Brooks
Criminal investigative analyst/Offender Profiling Canada

+91 9491 456 452
info@forensicguild.com
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Prof. Anthony Schembri
Former Police Commissioner, Westchester, New York, USA

Crime Scene Investigation and Management

This will be a presentation of real crime scenes and the management of efforts bringing together the forensic experts and the investigative personal to solve real cases. Having lead the Homicide Department department unlike CSI and other programs, police fail to collect and properly analysis a crime scene which I will demonstrate. We need to in terpret crime scenes. Sloppy police investigations, lazy forensic personnel team up to reduce the ability to solve cases with solid evidence. The research profession needs to catch up with policing, corrections and juvenile jus tice, and define a role for itself in the problem solving process. The research community needs to find ways to bring its analytical skills, its objectivity, its rigor, its independence, its ability to link theory and practice, into the messy arena of contemporary practice. Although we have made progress, the need is tremendous.

Biography:

Anthony Schembri is a respected law enforcement and academic professional with over four decades' experience in the field. Over the years, he has drawn praise from such varied sources as New York City Mayor, President Jimmy Carter, Florida Governor Jeb Bush, and New York Governor Mario Cuomo. First appointed to the Brooklyn District Attorneys Office he advanced to Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Bureau, then to Director of Training at the District Attorneys Police Academy. Anthony Schembri has served as the city's Deputy Inspector General, investigating cases of major crime and corruption. He was appointed by the Mayor of New York as Corrections Commissioner, a position putting him in charge of 12,000 uniformed officers and 20,000 inmates at 19 separate jail facilities. Today, the Citrus County, Florida, resident serves as a Visiting Professor at Oxford and Sheffield Hallam University and named Outstanding Professor of the Year at the University of Florida.

Prof. Anna Gerecka-Zolynska
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan
Poland

Protection of the rights of a minor witness who is a victim of a crime during questioning in preliminary proceedings. Obligations of procedural authorities

The key objectives of criminal proceedings are to comprehensively clarify all the circumstances surrounding the commission of a crime, to identify the perpetrator and the victim, and to determine the amount of damage caused by the crime. However, the activities of the procedural authorities cannot be conducted in a completely ruthless manner. The need to establish minimum standards of conduct stems, among other things, from the necessity to take into account specific circumstances such as constitutional rights, the protection of state interests, international obligations, family ties, the health and age of the participants in the proceedings. These criteria contribute to the concept of a 'fair criminal trial', which in the countries belonging to the Council of Europe is based on Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and globally on Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. One of the criteria taken into account when determining the catalogue of rights and obligations of participants in a fair criminal trial is their age. In European Union law, the age criterion has been taken into account in relation to the perpetrator of a crime in Directive 2016/800/EU, which sets out procedural safeguards for juvenile suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings. The Directive not only helps minors to understand the proceedings in which they are involved, but also prevents recidivism and promotes the social reintegration of juvenile offenders. With regard to victims of crime, Directive 2012/29/EU sets minimum procedural standards, specifying guaranteed rights and rules for providing support and protection. The rules laid down in the Directive refer to the general context in which victims' rights should be considered and their relationship to the fairness of proceedings. The Directive sets out the conditions for criminal proceedings in a manner that is common to both adults and minors. When applying the Directive to best protect the interests of children in criminal proceedings, it is therefore necessary to take into account

other legal acts, in particular the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted in 1989. Against this background, it is worth considering what obligations rest on the procedural authorities in terms of providing juvenile victims of crime with appropriate procedural guarantees and determining what the purpose is of juvenile victims of crime having appropriate rights. Defining this purpose allows us to compare the rights of victims with other rights, especially those of the accused, and, as a result, to assess their importance for maintaining the principle of a fair trial. In this context, it is also interesting to compare the specific conditions for conducting procedural activities that should be ensured for a minor victim and a juvenile offender.

Biography:

Dr Anna Gerecka-Zolynska – Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law and Administration of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Department of Criminal Procedure (Poland). Author of numerous publications on criminal law, in particular criminal procedural law and international protection of cultural heritage. Former judge and legal advisor. She cooperates with institutions dealing with the protection of human rights and cultural heritage.

Mihaela Brooks
Criminal investigative analyst/Offender Profiling
Canada

From Driver Statement to Expert Conclusion: Neurocognitive Consistency Analysis and Anchoring Bias in Road Accident Investigation

Driver statements frequently serve as the initial basis for road accident investigations and can substantially influence scene documentation, expert reconstruction, and legal interpretation. However, research in cognitive psychology, forensic linguistics, and accident investigation indicates that these statements may reflect reconstructive memory, attentional lapses, or self-protective narrative framing instead of direct perceptual reporting.

This study proposes a methodological framework, termed Neurocognitive Consistency Analysis (NCA), for critically evaluating drivers' statements in road accident investigations. The framework integrates three analytical layers:

1. Linguistic analysis of the statement,
2. Neurocognitive plausibility of the declared perception, and
3. Compatibility between declared perception and observable motor behavior.

The framework focuses on statements where drivers report perceiving a pedestrian hazard but exhibit no corresponding braking, steering, or evasive maneuvers prior to impact. This discrepancy is defined as perception–action incongruence. Additionally, the study examines how uncritical acceptance of driver narratives can produce anchoring bias, influencing the entire investigative process from the initial police report to the expert technical conclusion.

The framework is demonstrated through a fatal pedestrian collision case study where the

driver's statement was included in the scene report and subsequently used as the factual basis for expert reconstruction. The study contends that driver statements should not be considered neutral starting points for reconstruction without critical examination of their linguistic structure, neurocognitive plausibility, and behavioral consistency.

Biography:

Criminal Investigative Analyst Criminal Intelligence Analyst Geographic Profiler GPA I Certified Anti-Terrorism Specialist.

Prof. Marian Swindell
Mississippi State University-College Park, USA

Forensic Science and Wrongful Convictions: The Double Edge Sword of Justice

Forensic science has long been regarded as one of the most objective and reliable forms of evidence within the criminal justice system. However, contemporary research and exoneration data reveal a far more complex reality—one in which forensic science functions as both a mechanism for justice and a contributor to wrongful convictions. This presentation examines the dual role of forensic science as a "double-edged sword," highlighting its capacity to both exonerate the innocent and erroneously convict individuals through flawed application.

Drawing on data from the National Registry of Exonerations, the presentation illustrates the scale and impact of forensic error, noting that false or misleading forensic evidence contributed to approximately 29% of exonerations in 2024 . These errors stem from a range of factors, including invalid methodologies, analyst error, cognitive bias, and, in some cases, intentional misconduct. Disciplines such as bite mark analysis and hair microscopy have come under particular scrutiny due to lack of scientific validation and high error rates.

At the same time, advancements in forensic science—particularly DNA analysis—have played a critical role in identifying and overturning wrongful convictions, demonstrating the field's potential when grounded in rigorous scientific standards. This tension underscores the need for systemic reform, including enhanced scientific validation, standardization, and accountability across forensic disciplines.

Importantly, this presentation also situates wrongful convictions within a broader social work framework, emphasizing the long-term psychological, social, and economic consequences experienced by exonerees. It highlights the essential role of social workers in providing trauma-informed care, case management, and policy advocacy.

Ultimately, this presentation calls for a balanced approach—one that neither rejects fo-

rensic science nor accepts it uncritically, but instead demands integrity, accountability, and a renewed commitment to justice.

Biography:

Marian Swindell has completed her PhD and MSW from the University of Alabama. She has been working as a Professor of Social Work at Mississippi State University-Meridian since 2001. She actively advocates for incarceration and recidivism reform.

Dr. James Frizzell
Frizzell Forensics
Canada

Forensic Psychology: Cannabis Effects PART 2

1. New test developed to help police check cannabis impaired motor vehicles. 2. JAMA (Journal of American Medical Association) November 26, 2025. Article: Therapeutic Use of Cannabis and Cannabinoids A Review Michael Hsu, MD1,2; Arya Shah, MD3; Ayana Jordan, MD, PhD. Approximately 27% of adults in the US and Canada report having ever used cannabis for medical purposes. An estimated 10.5% of the US population reports using cannabidiol (CBD), a chemical compound extracted from cannabis that does not have psychoactive effects, for therapeutic purposes. Are there therapeutic uses? We will dive into and discuss this important and timely question. 3. The Donald Trump White House, December 2025, signed an executive order to downgrade cannabis from the most restrictive category Federally. The tremendous negative implications of this will be discussed. 4. Journal of The Frontier Psychiatrists, July 14, 2025, Article Title: Want to Increase Suicide Risk? The increase of risk we have chosen to ignore. We will discuss the details of this excellent resource journal article.

Biography:

Dr. James graduated from a one-year course, McGill University, Dental Forensics Program; part on-campus training with the Surete du Quebec Forensics Team. Dr James is focusing on Child Abuse, Elderly Abuse, Human Trafficking, and Intimate Partner Violence. He also gives educational PowerPoint presentations on these topics. Also, trained at University of Tennessee, Body Farm, and Clandestine Grave Recovery. Dr Frizzell's motto is: "The Power of Observation", in the forensic's world.

Greg Kitsell
Head of Digital Forensics and Analysis,
Harod Associates Limited, UK

Digital Forensics applied in an integrity investigation into a global sport federation

An investigative German television documentary aired in January 2020 exposed a number of allegations at the highest levels within the International Weighlifting Federation, including, systematic corruption, doping cover-ups, athlete confessions, and bribery which led to an independent investigation being undertaken led by Canadian law professor Richard McLaren

This presentation discusses how digital forensics were pivotal in substantiating some of those allegations identified in the documentary including: -

Financial Impropriety
Electoral Corruption
Presidential Meddling in Antidoping.

Biography:

Greg spent 36+ years working within the law enforcement, (Customs / Police / Immigration / Border guards / Coastguard), intelligence, military and security sectors, covering covert investigations, intelligence, data analysis, surveillance, and operational work. Greg has also delivered training on behalf of the British Government the European Union, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime , in the fields of transnational crime, counter narcotics, counter terrorism, criminal intelligence analysis, investigation, human trafficking, profiling, counter piracy, maritime risk, fraud, money laundering, wildlife crime and anti-corruption. Greg has operated throughout Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, the far East, the Caribbean, North, Central and South America , including hostile and post conflict environments. Greg is a subject matter expert in the full suite of i2 analytical tools, having used them since 1991. Greg was also trained on the Detego® Digital Forensic s in 2018 and has been heavily involved in Digital Forensics ever since . Greg is also an experienced OSINT and SOCMINT investigator and makes use of the SeekerXR plat form which he also delivers training on.

Jan LeMay
President, International Association for Identification
USA

The Invisible Injury; Vicarious Trauma Effects and Encouraging Ways to Cope

It is understood that exposure to psychological trauma commonly occurs in law enforcement and forensic investigation. Studies into the psychological effects of these careers reveal a shocking amount of vicarious trauma that law enforcement and forensic science professionals are all exposed to on a regular basis and the negative impacts on their mental health. This presentation will address some of those survey results, the speakers personal experience, and offer encouragement to address these challenges in healthy ways and in partnership with peers.

Biography:

Jan LeMay is a Retired Forensic Scientist from the Denver Police Department Crime Lab, and the Weld County Sheriff's Office in Colorado. In his career spanning over three decades, he has worked as a footwear examiner, latent print examiner, crime scene investigator, and Deputy Sheriff. His research and case studies have been published in the Journal of Forensic Identification and Forensic Science International. His book, CSI for the First Responder, was published by CRC Press in 2010. He has testified in hundreds of cases as a Deputy Sheriff and Forensic Scientist. He is the current President of the IAI and Past President of the RMDIAI.

Dr. Michael Gurley
University of Tennessee at Martin
USA

Episodic Memory Recall Trauma: Victim Episodic Memory Recall Qualitative and Quantitative Statistical Literature Review and Meta-Analysis

Trauma fundamentally alters memory, storing it not as a coherent story but as fragmented sensory bits (smells, sounds, feelings) in the emotional brain (amygdala), bypassing narrative centers (hippocampus), leading to flashbacks, triggers, and difficulty with details (what, when, where). This can manifest as amnesia, intrusions, or intense physical reactions without conscious recall, acting as a protective shield, but the unresolved trauma gets "stuck," causing re-experience symptoms, highlighting that traumatic memories are distinct from regular ones and can be distorted or incomplete.

Method: To investigate the comorbid disorders impacting memory recall statistical literature review and meta-analysis of the reported two reported/studies major contributors are performed and compared to set precedent Court Considerations, Unnecessarily Suggestive Circumstances, and Witness vs. Officer Identification. Meta-Analysis Factors: Reported/Studies Major Contributors

Intrusive Memories: Within the first week of trauma, 40.5% of individuals reported clear distress from intrusive memories, and 16.5% reported extreme distress.

Functional Impact: 30.9% of victims reported a moderate impact on daily functioning due to intrusive memories, while 23.5% reported severe, and 9.9% reported extreme impact.

Results in 2025, 40.5% of survivors reported clear distress (Intrusive Memories) and 43.2% having difficulty dismissing these memories (Functional Impact).

Biography:

Dr. Michael Gurley is a Lecturer / Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Tennessee at Martin, Department of Behavioral Sciences / Criminal Justice Full-Time UTM Faculty, Main UTM Campus and 5 UTM Regional Centers: UTM Regional Center Parsons TN. UTM Regional Center Jackson TN. UTM Regional Center Selmer TN. UTM Regional Center Somerville TN. UTM Regional Center Ripley TN. University of Memphis: Professor of Teaching: Full-Time 2016-2023 Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice 329 Browning Hall Memphis TN. Dr. Michael Gurley has 32 years' experience in Law Enforcement and Criminal Investigations.

Michael Graziano
Executive Digital Group
USA

Preparing for the Quantum Era: Forensic Implications of Post-Quantum Cryptography Attacks

Quantum computing advancements pose an existential threat to current encryption standards, enabling adversaries to retroactively decrypt harvested data. As of early 2026, this threat is intensifying for digital investigations involving encrypted communications, stored evidence, and secure protocols, with experts warning of cryptographically relevant quantum computers arriving by 2035. This presentation reviews the forensic challenges of migrating to post-quantum cryptography, including algorithm analysis, key management in legacy systems, and validating quantum-resistant evidence integrity amid growing risks. Emerging tools for detecting quantum-vulnerable data in investigations are discussed, alongside case studies of nation-state exploitation. The integration of AI with quantum threats could accelerate decryption timelines, compounding forensic hurdles like performance overheads in constrained devices and biases in quantum-safe algorithms. Recommendations include proactive auditing frameworks, hybrid encryption adoption (combining classical and PQC methods), interdisciplinary training for forensic teams, and policy advocacy for standardized PQC protocols. By addressing these ahead of widespread quantum breakthroughs, the field can safeguard evidentiary chains, mitigate "Harvest Now, Forge Later" variants, and maintain justice in a post-quantum world.

Biography:

Michael Graziano is a retired Detective who worked at the Suffolk County Police Department. Michael Graziano worked with the Suffolk County Police Department for 25 years. Michael began his career as a Patrol Officer. Due to his extensive computer and programming skills, along with his ability to implement these skills to his police work, he was promoted to work in the department's C.O.P.E Unit and then the department's I.T. Section. During his work in these units, he was responsible for creating programs that tracked gang members, stolen items, and patrol checks. Michael had been awarded several department recognitions for his arrests resulting from his police investigations. Michael was promoted to Detective and assigned to the Computer Crime Unit. During his almost 12 years in the Computer Crimes Unit, Michael was responsible for forensic analysis of digital evidence, including computers, mobile devices, DVRs, and other digital media, in such investigations as homicide, narcotics, white color crimes, and child exploitation. Michael was responsible for starting up and heading forensics investigations in the Megan's Law task force. Michael had been awarded several recognitions for his hard work in child exploitation cases that resulted in protecting children from sexual exploitation. Michael finished his last year with the Suffolk County Police Department as a Detective in Criminal Intel, where he was responsible for forensic investigations involving homeland security and gang investigations. Michael is the co-owner, with his wife, of Executive Digital Group. Executive Digital Group offers services that include Digital Forensics, Cybersecurity along with I.T. Technology strategies and support.

Robert B. Fried

EVP of Forensics and Chief Investigative Officer, Page One Forensics, Inc, USA

Chosing your digital forensic toolkit

In this session we will discuss various factors that need to be considered when assembling an effective digital forensics Toolkit. Some tools are free, others charge per year, and per use. There are many different tools to chose from now, and its important to weigh the pros and potential cons of each one, and how often it will / can be used to perform certain services.

Biography:

Robert B. Fried has over 23 years of experience collecting and investigating electronic evidence. Robert serves on the Board of Advisors for the Masters in Investigations program at the University of New Haven, and the EC-Council Global Advisory Board for the CHFI certification. He maintains certifications, including: CFCE, EnCE, and GCFA. Robert is a licensed PI in Michigan, New York and South Carolina. He is the author of the books, Forensic Data Collections 2.0: The Guide for Defensible & Efficient Processes and Forensic Data Collections 2.0: A Selection of Trusted Digital Forensics Content.

Dr. Paul Yount
Oklahoma State University & Arizona State University, USA

Current Knowledge Gaps and Barriers to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEI-B) in Forensic Science: Advancing Curriculum for Educational and Professional Spaces

Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEI-B) are increasingly recognized as essential to innovation, rigor, and legitimacy in forensic science. Despite growing awareness, substantial gaps persist across forensic science education and professional practice, particularly for LGBTQ+, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), and neurodivergent individuals. Concurrently, limited demographic data, underrepresentation in leadership, microaggressions, and the "leaky pipeline" effect in forensic science have contributed to the inequities faced by underrepresented minority (URM) groups. This prestation aims to synthesizes existing literature, historical context, and workforce data to examine the current state of DEI-B within U.S. forensic science academic programs and crime laboratories, emphasizing the critical role of 'belonging' in retention, performance, and professional advancement. Historical and systemic discrimination—such as the legacy of the Lavender Scare, racial bias, and exclusionary institutional practices—continues to shape policies and workplace culture in forensic science. This presentation argues that DEI-B must move beyond awareness initiatives toward structural integration within forensic science curricula, training, and organizational practices. Incorporating DEI-B into academic programs through inclusive case studies, bias-aware pedagogy, culturally competent training, and attention to neurodiversity can better prepare future practitioners for complex real-world challenges while fostering psychological safety and belonging. Several forensic subdisciplines—including DNA analysis, anthropology, digital forensics, and jurisprudence—demonstrate how inclusive approaches can improve scientific outcomes and community trust. Ultimately, systemic curricular reform and institutional accountability are necessary to ensure forensic science evolves with changing societal demographics and the next generation of forensic professionals.

Biography:

Paul Yount, DFS is a forensic DNA analyst in Phoenix, Arizona and a Faculty Associate Professor at Arizona State University School of Interdisciplinary Forensics. His previous research investigated inaccuracies in bloodstain pattern analysis and DNA recovery in unidentified human remains (UHR) investigations. His doctoral capstone at Oklahoma State University researched diversity, equity, and inclusion practices within forensic science. Paul is a Certified Forensic Manager (CFM-1) and he has served on the Phoenix LGBTQ Employees and Allies Executive Board and the Young Forensic Scientist Forum (YFSF) and Community Connections Committee (CCC) within the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS).

Prof. Robert Milne & Ian Oldfield MSc Co Ed

European Forensic Institute / Honorary Editor Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, UK

The Mapping of Forensic Evidence and its uses in Crime Analysis

The presentation is about resolving in the mapping of forensics the classic features seen in environmental criminology as well as in support of dispersed casework over time and distance .The presentation includes classic features in environmental criminology such as corridor theory etc. and includes the use of casework sampling rates and intervention rates, enabling Bayesian techniques supported by the possibility of the physical cross matching of forensics in support of analysis techniques.

Biography:

Professor and Dean of Applied Sciences European Forensic Institute. Between 1969 and 2008, he had a full career as a practitioner with the Directorate of Forensic Services New Scotland Yard, in the roles of Fingerprint expert, Crime scene Investigator, Crime Scene manager and Crime Scene Coordinator. In project management he created modern sequential treatment laboratories designed to deal with the volume crime in London and pioneered the concept of Forensic Intelligence. He set up one of the world's first Forensic Intelligence Units in 2001 and was the Head of Forensic Intelligence Metropolitan Police until 2008. He has the Kings College London University Diploma in Crime Scene Investigation and Fingerprint Expertise. He developed the wireless, three electrode, method of electrostatic dust mark lifting, the Pathfinder' now used worldwide. In 2012 he published the textbook 'Forensic Intelligence' CRC Press. In 2018 he joined the European Forensic Institute as a lecturer and was invited to lecture on Forensic Intelligence at the Istituto Di Scienze Forense, Corporate University, Milan. In 2021 he was awarded a Professorship in Criminology, Forensic Criminology and Forensic Intelligence and awarded the role of President of the Istituto Di Scienze Forense University Milan. In February 2024 the university renewed his professorship. He has been a member of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences (CSFS) since 1983, and in October 2024 was elected as the Honorary Editor of the CSFS.

Christabel Francis
University of Calabar,
Nigeria

Electrochemical Extraction of Latent Fingerprints from Metallic Substrates Submerged in Water, their Retention and Imaging

Fingerprints are unique features containing biochemical and morphological information which serve as means of identification globally and are the most reliable form of evidence in the courtroom. There is need to explore the sustainability of fingerprints extracted through electrochemistry for forensic purposes. The traditional method adopted for developing fingerprints like powder developers are best applied to non-metallic substrates but are not suitable for metallic ones. When fingerprints are deposited on metallic surfaces, the classical methods such as cyanoacrylate fuming, and vacuum metal deposition (VMD) applied to extract such fingerprints work based on the principle of the reagent reacting with the fingerprints. This leads to the formation of positive images of the fingerprints. A limitation with classical methods is that as the fingerprint deposit ages, the possibility of recovering such information decreases. In arson cases, metallic surfaces may cause the fingerprints to be visible on exposure to intense heat. Galvanic corrosion can occur on the metallic surfaces when water act as the electrolyte. Electrochemical deposition aids the extraction of fingerprints from metallic substrates deposited in water for a long period of time. The extraction process involves the use of three electrodes: working, reference and screen-printed electrodes. The main electrochemical methods are electrochemiluminescence, electropolymerization and poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) - PEDOT. The fingerprints are made visible by applying fluorescent dyes like Ardox and Basic Yellow-40 (BY-40). In conclusion, electrochemical extraction of latent fingerprints from metallic surfaces submerged in water through time increases the possibility of recovery unlike the classical methods.

Biography:

Christabel Francis is an Assistant Lecturer at the department of Anatomical Sciences, University of Calabar, Nigeria. She obtained her first degree in Anatomy from the department of Anatomical Sciences in 2018. She proceeded to get a Master's degree in Forensic Science (Forensic Taphonomy) at the University of Kent, United Kingdom in 2023. She is a passionate Forensic Scientist who would like to push the frontiers of the field in Africa. Her short-term goal is to mentor young scientists who are willing to take Forensic Science as a career path in Nigeria. She intends to establish a private Forensic Crime Laboratory in Nigeria in the near future.

Dr. Nigel Bradely Bougard
University of South Africa
South Africa

Causes, needs and risks contributory toward aggression and violence among adult male offenders

Contact crimes entail violent and aggressive criminalities, such as assault with grievous bodily harm, armed robbery, car hijacking and murder. Besides the brutality and callousness often accompanied with these crimes, the fear of being victimised remains a reality for many citizens in South Africa. This qualitative research explores the causes, needs and risks associated with aggression and violence among adult male offenders incarcerated for contact crimes. The objectives for this case-specific article are (a) explicate the family background and functioning prior to incarceration; (b) describe the crime analysis of the offender; and (c) identify sample-specific needs pertaining to the causes, needs and risks, as being causal towards aggression and violence during the execution of contact crimes. The findings propose corresponding causes and risks from onset to incarceration- concomitant with aggressive and violent propensities during the commission of contact crimes. Indicators for the causes of aggression and violence include but not limited to poverty; poor interpersonal relations; childhood trauma and exposure to violence; negative peer and pro-criminal associations; substance abuse; familial criminality; and predisposition to- and- involvement in gang related activities. Risks associated with the tenacity to avert to aggression and violence during the omission of crimes are- but not restricted to- early on-set and history of childhood antisocial aggressive and violent behaviour; detachment and absence of victim empathy; pro-criminal cognitive schemes, poor coping and decision-making skills; and risk-taking behaviour. Against this backdrop, the empirical findings suggest individual-needs-based intervention strategies within the criminal justice system.

Biography:

Dr. Nigel Bradely Bougard holds a MA and PhD in Criminology from the University of Pretoria (UP). He is as an academic and researcher at the University of South Africa (UNISA), Department of Criminology and Security Science. His research interests include violent crimes, political offences, economic crimes, gangsterism, victimology; and criminological assessment and evaluation of offenders. He is actively involved in postgraduate supervision and training of both honours and masters' students. Dr Bougard comes with extensive practical and theoretical experience in both Criminology and Victimology.

Dr. Magdalena Zamroczyńska
University of Szczecin
Poland

Spyware in the Spotlight: What Pegasus Reveals About Digital Freedoms

Recent revelations of Pegasus spyware use for surveillance in Poland have sparked debate over the legality of such operations and the adequacy of oversight. This challenge is not unique to Poland – democracies worldwide struggle to balance national security with human rights and digital freedoms.

Pegasus provides authorities a broad window into private communications and data, which threatens fundamental rights such as privacy, confidentiality of communications, and the right to a fair trial. Using such technology without robust safeguards could gravely violate these rights. Especially alarming is the targeting of lawyers or journalists with Pegasus, as intercepting attorney–client or journalist–source communications breaches professional privilege and undermines trust in the justice system.

To balance effective law enforcement with citizens' rights, strong procedural safeguards are needed. International standards – reflected in European Court of Human Rights rulings and laws in countries like Canada and the UK – require that surveillance be tightly limited and independently supervised. Key measures include prior judicial authorization for surveillance and subsequent ex post review. Surveillance targets should be notified when appropriate and allowed to challenge the authorities' actions in court. Moreover, if the target is a lawyer or a journalist, many jurisdictions impose extra restrictions or even prohibitions to protect professional secrets. For example, the Constitutional Court of South Africa in 2021 (AmaBhungane case) found that surveillance without special safeguards for privileged communications is unconstitutional. It emphasized that post-surveillance judicial review and similar guarantees reduce the risk of abuse and better protect individual rights.

Under the principle of the rule of law, authorities must act within legal bounds. Polish law formally requires court oversight of surveillance, but practice must uphold these rules. If Pegasus was used without a valid court warrant or through misinforming the court, that would evade the law and violate citizens' rights. Evidence obtained illegally – via unauthorized spying or data tampering – should be inadmissible in court, as its use would compromise a fair trial. Thus, materials gathered with Pegasus in breach of the law should be deemed inadmissible, preventing officials from benefiting from unlawful surveillance.

In sum, the Pegasus affair in Poland underscores an urgent need to reinforce oversight of surveillance and align domestic laws with international standards for human rights. A democratic state must safeguard public security without letting surveillance tools erode fundamental freedoms, professional confidentiality, or public trust in justice..

Biography:

Magdalena Zamroczyńska obtained her PhD degree in law from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland), in the field of criminal procedure in 2016. She currently works as an assistant professor at the University of Szczecin (Poland), where she continues her scientific development in the field of criminal procedure and medical law. She has published over 50 articles in renowned journals and books. She is an active attorney representing parties in court in criminal proceedings.

Angelia Trujillo
University of Alaska Anchorage, USA

Advancing Healthcare in Alaska: Bridging Gaps for Victims of Violence Through a Forensic Lens in Health Professional Training

Purpose:

This presentation introduces the Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy (ACFTA), a statewide healthcare workforce development initiative designed to equip providers with generalist forensic health skills to respond to victims of violence across the lifespan. ACFTA addresses critical gaps in healthcare education by providing foundational and advanced training in trauma-informed care, forensic assessment, and evidence-informed documentation for all forms of violence—not just sexual assault.

Background:

Healthcare professionals receive little to no pre-licensure training in forensic principles, resulting in inequitable care for victims of child abuse, intimate partner violence, elder abuse, human trafficking, and assault. Traditional forensic healthcare has been primarily delivered through specialized Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs, creating access barriers and disparities—particularly in rural and underserved Alaska communities where 1 in 3 Alaska Native women experience sexual violence. ACFTA was developed with Bureau of Justice Assistance funding to democratize forensic healthcare training and embed trauma-informed response capacity within Alaska's existing healthcare workforce.

Core Components:

ACFTA uses a two-part training model grounded in the Academy of Forensic Nursing Training for All (ACFTA) framework:

Part 1 (Online Asynchronous): 21 modules covering foundational forensic principles,

violence recognition across the lifespan, trauma-informed interviewing, documentation, evidence collection, photo-documentation, and vicarious trauma management.

Part 2 (Live Virtual, 3 days): Problem-based learning with real-world case scenarios, advanced documentation techniques, interprofessional collaboration strategies, and cultural humility practices tailored to Alaska's diverse communities.

To date, ACFTA has trained 540 Part 1 completers and 185 Part 2 completers, representing 152 RNs, 2 MDs, 6 NPs, and 12 other healthcare professionals across 24 Alaskan communities and 10 Tribal health organizations. Seventy-five percent of participants practice outside Anchorage, reflecting the program's rural reach and commitment to equity.

Key Content:

Participants will:

Understand the purpose and scope of ACFTA, including its role in building generalist forensic health competencies and its alignment with trauma-informed, patient-centered care principles.

Explore how comprehensive forensic healthcare across the lifespan improves equity in victim response, breaks cycles of violence, and creates multiple intervention opportunities throughout a survivor's life trajectory (illustrated through "Taylor's Story," a composite patient timeline).

Identify at least two current challenges in healthcare's response to victims of violence, including:

Workforce limitations: High turnover, lack of training, provider fear and reluctance to engage traumatized patients, and rural access barriers.

Absence of pre-licensure forensic training: Healthcare curricula do not prepare clinicians to recognize, document, or respond to violence, resulting in missed opportunities for intervention, evidence preservation, and survivor support.

Propose evidence-based strategies to address these challenges within the ACFTA framework, including:

Strategy 1 (Workforce Development): Embed ACFTA Part 1 training into healthcare onboarding systems and continuing education requirements statewide, ensuring baseline forensic competencies for all clinical staff.

Strategy 2 (Educational Pipeline Integration): Partner with nursing, medical, and allied health programs to integrate ACFTA principles into pre-licensure curricula, creating a sustainable pipeline of trauma-informed, forensically competent providers.

Community Voice:

Drawing on feedback from 500+ healthcare providers and community members across Alaska, the presentation highlights expressed needs for trauma-informed training, cultural sensitivity, interprofessional collaboration, and accessible, localized training delivery—particularly for rural and Tribal health systems.

Significance:

ACFTA challenges the traditional model of siloed, time-limited forensic care and replaces it with a sustainable, equitable system in which all healthcare providers can respond to all forms of violence at any point in a survivor's life. This approach not only improves immediate patient outcomes but also strengthens community prevention efforts, reduces secondary traumatization, and advances health equity for Alaska's most vulnerable populations.

Conclusion:

Attendees will leave with a clear understanding of how comprehensive forensic health training can transform healthcare's response to violence, practical strategies for implementation in their own settings, and resources to bring ACFTA training to their communities and organizations.

Learning Objectives:

Describe the purpose, structure, and core components of the Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy (ACFTA).

Explain how comprehensive, trauma-informed forensic healthcare across the lifespan improves equity in victim response and disrupts cycles of violence in urban and rural communities.

Identify at least two current challenges in healthcare's response to victims of violence and propose one evidence-based strategy to address each challenge using the ACFTA framework.

Biography:

Angelia Trujillo, DNP, MSN, WHNP-BC, AFN-C, DF-AFN is a Professor with the University of Alaska Anchorage, School of Nursing. Dr. Trujillo has worked in the field of interpersonal violence, sexual assault and public health with a focus on women's health for approximately 20 years. She obtained her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a focus on Forensic Nursing in 2008 from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, and also holds a Master's of Science – Advanced Community Health Nursing from the University of Alaska Anchorage and a Master's of Science Nursing as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner from Frontier Nursing University. Dr. Trujillo is the founder of the Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy and is also a founding board member of the Academy of Forensic Nursing.

Dr. Giada Germele
European Forensic Institute. Malta

Instant Messaging Platforms and Cooperation with Law Enforcement: Telegram as a Paradigmatic Case

Instant messaging applications have become a central component of contemporary communication, transforming social interaction through speed, accessibility, and widespread adoption. Alongside their legitimate use, these platforms are increasingly exploited for illicit activities ranging from petty crime to organized criminal operations. The implementation of advanced encryption protocols, particularly end-to-end encryption (E2EE), has strengthened user privacy while simultaneously posing significant challenges for digital investigations and judicial authorities.

This study examines the role of instant messaging platforms in the context of cyber-enabled crime and forensic investigations, focusing on the tension between privacy protection and investigative effectiveness. A comparative analysis of widely used applications—WhatsApp, Signal, and Session—is conducted, highlighting differences in technical architecture, encryption models, data retention practices, and levels of cooperation with law enforcement authorities.

Particular attention is devoted to Telegram, analyzed as a paradigmatic case due to its hybrid encryption model and cloud-based architecture. The research explores Telegram's security mechanisms, and assesses how these features impact forensic data acquisition. The study also examines the evolution of Telegram's approach to cooperation following the arrest of its founder, which marked a turning point in the platform's stance toward judicial collaboration.

Finally, the research compares the technical capabilities employed by organized criminal groups with the investigative techniques and forensic acquisition methods available

to law enforcement agencies, emphasizing the operational and legal limitations encountered in mobile forensics. The findings highlight the need for balanced strategies that safeguard fundamental privacy rights while ensuring effective investigative tools in the fight against digital crime.

Biography:

Giada Germele obtained her Bachelor's degree in Forensic Sciences and Criminal Investigation from the European Forensic Institute of Malta, graduating in October 2025. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Cyber Security, Digital Forensics and Crime Analysis at the same institution. During her undergraduate studies, she completed a formative internship in mobile forensics in her home city, gaining practical experience in digital evidence analysis. Her academic interests include digital forensics, cybercrime investigation, and the analysis of technology-enabled crime.

Ana Sofia Machado
De Montfort University Leicester, UK

Shaping the Future of Forensic Science: Early Leadership, Professional Engagement, and the Development of Emerging Practitioners

The future of forensic science is shaped not only by technological advancement, but by how effectively the profession prepares individuals to navigate ethical, operational, and societal challenges. This presentation examines how early professional engagement and leadership development contribute to addressing some of the key challenges currently facing the forensic discipline.

Drawing on sustained involvement with the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences and active participation in European professional forums, including the European Academy of Forensic Science (EAFS), this work explores the increasing complexity of forensic practice within modern investigative environments. These experiences highlight ongoing challenges relating to professional standards, interdisciplinary collaboration, accountability, and public trust in forensic processes.

Furthermore, leadership experience as a Cadet Leader within Leicestershire Police has provided practical insight into the realities of decision-making, safeguarding responsibilities, and ethical judgement within applied settings. This perspective demonstrates the gap that can exist between academic training and operational demands, and underscores the importance of early exposure to professional responsibility.

This presentation argues that addressing current challenges in forensic science requires intentional investment in early professional development, leadership cultivation, and ethical awareness. Strengthening these areas is essential to preparing a resilient, competent, and socially responsible forensic workforce capable of meeting the evolving demands of the discipline.

Biography:

Ana Sofia Machado is a second-year Forensic Science student at De Montfort University, United Kingdom. She serves as Course Representative and Treasurer of the Forensic Science Society and is a Cadet Leader with Leicestershire Police. Ana is an active member of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Institute of Information Technology. Her academic and professional interests focus on forensic practice, ethical standards, and the role of leadership in strengthening public trust and scientific integrity. She has participated in national and European forensic initiatives, including the European Academy of Forensic Science, and is committed to advancing evidence-based practice and professional development within the forensic sciences.

Kaylee M Hinds
University of Montana, Research Exchange LLC, USA

Biological Material, Autonomy, and Evidence: Ethical Frameworks in Postmortem DNA and Microbial Forensics

Forensic science increasingly relies on molecular and microbial indicators to estimate the postmortem interval, detect clandestine graves, and interpret biological evidence within complex burial environments. Yet as DNA and microbial signatures persist, diffuse, and integrate into surrounding soils and ecologies, foundational assumptions about ownership, autonomy, and evidentiary boundaries become less clear. When does postmortem DNA remain an extension of the individual, and when does it function as an environmental trace? How should forensic practitioners conceptualize biological material that is simultaneously human, microbial, and ecological?

Drawing on experimental research using pig carcasses as established proxies for human decomposition, this presentation examines the persistence and transformation of DNA and microbial communities across differential burial contexts. Empirical findings from Montana's variable climatic environments demonstrate that molecular signals are not static indicators confined to discrete bodies but dynamic components of broader environmental systems. These patterns have direct implications for postmortem interval estimation, grave detection strategies, and evidentiary interpretation.

Rather than positioning these complexities as purely philosophical dilemmas, this talk proposes ethical frameworks for responsible and standardized practice. By integrating biomolecular data with considerations of autonomy, cultural sovereignty, and environmental integration, it advances a translational pathway for forensic implementation. Such frameworks are essential as the field moves toward scalable detection tools and field-adapted molecular methodologies. Clarifying how biological material is conceptualized, sampled, and interpreted strengthens scientific defensibility while ensuring that innovation proceeds with ethical accountability.

This approach reframes decomposition not solely as a measurable sequence of change, but as a scientifically and ethically situated process requiring both methodological rigor and principled stewardship.s.

Biography:

Kaylee M Hinds is a biomolecular and forensic anthropologist whose research examines postmortem DNA degradation, microbial succession, and environmental influences on decomposition. Her work integrates experimental burial models with molecular analysis to evaluate the reliability and regional variability of postmortem interval estimation and grave detection methodologies. She has presented her work at national and international scientific meetings, including the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and Harvard University, examining interdisciplinary approaches in anthropology and microbiology. As the founder of Research Exchange LLC, she works to promote collaboration across fields, advancing accessible, evidence-based research that supports both scientific rigor and responsible innovation.

Sarah Lambert
CSI Field Guide LLC, USA

Enhancing touch DNA collection results on a crime scene

Touch DNA analysis from crime scene samples frequently yields inconsistent results, with profile recovery rates ranging from 25% to 65%. In the United Kingdom, for instance, less than 1% of 612,000 processed burglary scenes resulted in usable DNA evidence. Moreover, brief contact with an object does not always guarantee a DNA deposit; in over half of cases studied, no touch DNA may be left behind, making the choice of collection technique crucial. DNA loss is a significant concern and can occur at various stages, including collection, storage, and laboratory extraction. During extraction alone, studies report that 20-76% of collected DNA can be lost. Material selection for swabs-including flocked, rayon, nylon, or cotton-and fiber and core design can greatly impact DNA recovery and sample extraction. Partnering with forensic laboratories and evaluating swab choices are essential steps to improving touch DNA collection outcomes in forensic investigations.

Biography:

Sarah Lambert has a master's degree in forensic science from Nebraska Wesleyan University. She worked as a Crime Scene Investigator for 12 years in the United States. Sarah recently published Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) Field Guide, a reference guide for use in the field by crime scene investigators which includes a variety of documented methods for processing crime scenes and collecting evidence.

Sandra Ramsey
Couples Connect Coaching LLC, USA

Love Under Pressure: Protecting Relationships in Forensic, Mililtary, & Emergency Response Careers

Forensic scientists, military, and emergency responders work in environments that require emotional control, precision, and repeated exposure to trauma. While these skills are essential on the job, they often create strain in intimate relationships. Many couples experience emotional distance, communication breakdowns, and changes in intimacy that are not due to lack of commitment, but because chronic stress alters how the responder functions at home.

This presentation provides a practical, trauma-informed framework for understanding relationship stress in high-pressure professions without blame or pathologizing. Participants will learn how shutdown, irritability, and conflict emerge as survival responses, and how partners often respond differently to stress. The session offers realistic tools for communication, repair, and low-demand connection that support relationship sustainability alongside demanding careers.

Biography:

Sandra Ramsey, MA, LMFT is a licensed therapist and couples coach with over 30 years of experience supporting individuals and couples impacted by high-stress professions, trauma exposure, and emotional disconnection. She works closely with emergency responders, forensic professionals, and service members, helping couples understand how chronic stress and nervous system overload affect communication, intimacy, and repair. Sandra's approach is practical, trauma-informed, and culturally attuned to responder realities, offering tools that protect both relationships and long-term professional sustainability.

Julie Mattson

Forensic Nurse Death Investigator at American Forensics and True crime podcaster "Pushing Up Lilies", USA

The Forensic Nurse Death Investigator. Bridging Medicine and the Medicolegal Death Investigation System

Forensic nurse death investigators bring clinical precision to death investigation. This presentation examines the role of the registered nurse within the medicolegal system and its impact on cause and manner of death determinations.

You will learn how nursing assessment skills strengthen scene evaluation, injury interpretation, and medical record analysis. The session reviews real investigative workflows from scene response through certification of death. Emphasis remains on sudden, unexpected, and violent deaths.

Key topics include

- Scene assessment using a medical lens
- Injury pattern recognition and differentiation
- Medical history reconstruction and risk factor analysis
- Collaboration with law enforcement, pathologists, and prosecutors
- Family communication during traumatic loss
- Ethical challenges and professional boundaries

Case examples illustrate how nursing judgment improves accuracy, documentation, and courtroom defensibility. The talk also addresses gaps in traditional death investigation training and how forensic nurses close those gaps through clinical reasoning and trauma informed practice.

Attendees gain practical insight into integrating forensic nursing expertise into death in-

vestigation offices. This presentation supports agencies seeking improved investigative outcomes, reduced diagnostic error, and stronger public trust.

Target audience includes forensic scientists, death investigators, nurses, medical examiners, and allied professionals working in medicolegal death investigation systems worldwide.

Biography:

Julie Mattson, RN, BSN, is a registered nurse, forensic nurse death investigator, and former Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner with extensive experience in medicolegal death investigation. She works at the intersection of clinical medicine, forensic science, and public service, bringing medical accuracy to complex death determinations. Julie is also the host of the true crime podcast Pushing Up Lilies, where she educates the public through real investigative insight. Her YouTube channel is Brains, Body Bags, and Bedside Manner, which is also the title of her upcoming book. Her work focuses on improving investigative quality, ethical practice, and collaboration across forensic disciplines. She is a member of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators, the National Association of Medical Examiners and Coroners, the Internation Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners, the Internation Homicide Investigators Association, International Association of Forensic Nurses, and is secretary of the Forensic Nursing Board of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Sophia Giampieri
Institute of Forensic Science of Milan, Italy

From Impact to Interpretation: Principles of Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

- Introduction: BPA definition and classification;
- physical properties of blood;
- blood within the crime scene: preliminary operations and procedures;
- inside the spot: diagnosis of blood type diagnosis of species chronological diagnosis; morphological terminology: classification of different types of stains: from definition to physical explanation of the pattern;
- interpreting the patterns;
- why and when is bloodstain pattern analysis used?
- the reading of blood patterns in a fire scene: analysis of a practical case
- what kind of results can be expected from bloodstain pattern analysis?
- what are the limitations of the analysis?.

Biography:

Sophia Giampieri-Criminalist--Expert in Forensic Science, investigative criminology and criminal Profiling. She is currently majoring in criminology and Scientific Investigations from the institute of forensic science of Milan and is also a law student from University of Genoa. She holds a master's degree in Forensic Science and Crime Scene Investigation from the CSI Academy of Rome. Since 2023, she has been a member of the Crimeline Academy, where she also collaborates on writing articles, webinars and seminars related to forensic science.

Thomas Coyle

Director, Forensic Insight - Independent Forensic Expert, New Zealand

Forensic Science in Disaster Victim Identification: Methodology, Integration, and Ethics

In this presentation, Thomas Coyle draws on more than three decades of frontline forensic practice to provide an in-depth and practical overview of Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) operations. Grounded in real-world experience from both domestic and international deployments, the address explores the structured, methodical processes used to identify victims following mass fatality incidents, while emphasising the human responsibility that underpins every decision made.

The presentation will outline the internationally recognised DVI framework, including scene examination, post-mortem data collection, ante-mortem reconciliation, and formal identification, highlighting how forensic science disciplines work collectively under intense operational, emotional, and time pressures. Particular focus is placed on fingerprints, dental evidence, DNA, and personal effects, and how these are assessed within strict quality assurance and evidential standards.

Beyond technical processes, this address examines the ethical, cultural, and emotional dimensions of DVI work. Attendees will gain insight into the importance of dignity, respect, and accuracy, not only for the deceased but for families and communities seeking certainty and closure.

This presentation is designed to inform, educate, and provide professional reflection for forensic practitioners, emergency responders offering a realistic and respectful perspective on how science, discipline, and humanity converge when speaking for those who no longer can.

Biography:

Thomas Coyle MNZM is a senior forensic practitioner with over 35 years' experience in forensic science, specialising in fingerprint examination, crime scene investigation, and Disaster Victim Identification (DVI). He has served in senior operational and advisory roles at New Scotland Yard UK and within New Zealand Police and has contributed to numerous domestic and international DVI deployments involving complex, large-scale fatality incidents. Appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to forensic science, Thomas's presentation will examine the principles and practical application of Disaster Victim Identification, including internationally recognised DVI protocols, interdisciplinary coordination, and the ethical responsibilities inherent in victim identification processes.

Prof. Ian Freckelton

University of Melbourne, Australia Supreme Court, Nauru

Reliability, Transparency and Accountability as Conditions Precedent to the Admissibility of Scientific Evidence

An ongoing challenge for the courts is to identify criteria by which to differentiate between evidence that it is safe for them to rely upon and evidence that is unsafe and/or incapable of being effectively evaluated by triers of fact. Countries vary in the mechanisms that they deploy to minimise the potential for miscarriages of criminal and civil justice arising from the problematic reception of expert scientific and medical evidence. Some, such as the United States, overtly utilise a reliability precondition to the admissibility of such evidence; some, like England and Wales, utilise indirect requirements of reliability, validation or general acceptance of theories and techniques. Others, like Australia, mandate codes of conduct for expert witnesses and report-writers, while some require transparency of reasoning and identification of the bases of expert evidence, mandating clarification of reasoning processes as well as of assumptions made and the material upon which scientists and medical practitioners have relied in arriving at their professional opinions. This paper compares and contrasts the diverse international approaches and argues that explicit incorporation of reliability indicia as a precondiotion to the admissibility of expert evidence is advantageous in excluding dangerous forms of scientific and medical opinion evidence.

Biography:

Ian Freckelton is a King's Counsel (senior counsel) at the Australian Bar with a broad national practice in criminal law, personal injury law and disciplinary law. He is also a Judge of the Supreme Court of Nauru; a Professor of Law and Professorial Fellow in Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne; and an Honorary Professor of Forensic Medicine at Monash University. He is an elected Fellow of the Australian Academies of Law, Social Sciences, and Health and Medical Sciences and is the Editor of the Journal of Law and Medicine. He is the author of over 50 books and more than 800 articles and chapters of books. In 2021 he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for "distinguished service to the law, and to the legal profession, across fields including health, medicine and technology".

Teresa Devitt-Lynch
INTREPID Forensic Healthcare Consulting, USA

The Clinical Foundation of Forensic Evidence: The Role of Sexual Assault Forensic Nurses in Scientific Analysis

Forensic scientists depend on the integrity and context of evidence collected during sexual assault examinations, yet that foundation is established at the point of care. Sexual Assault Forensic Nurses (SANEs) serve as the critical interface between clinical assessment and forensic science, directly influencing the quality, interpretability, and limitations of laboratory analysis.

This presentation examines how forensic scientists rely on SANEs for accurate evidence recognition, collection, and documentation. It explores how nursing assessments impact downstream forensic processes, including DNA analysis, forensic evidence analysis, toxicology considerations, and timeline reconstruction. -

By clarifying the forensic decision-making processes of SANEs and highlighting points of interdisciplinary dependency, this session underscores the importance of collaboration between forensic nursing and forensic science in preserving evidentiary integrity and supporting scientifically defensible conclusions.

Biography:

Teresa Devitt-Lynch completed her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Wisconsin Madison, US. She is also a board-certified adult/adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner and Advanced Forensic Nurse. She is currently a legal nurse consultant with a focus on criminal cases that involve injury or medical issues. Active in professional organizations she is a member of the Academy of Forensic Nurses Board of Directors and has provided numerous forensic healthcare trainings to medical, law enforcement and legal professionals who come into contact with victims and suspects of violence.

Dr. Javier Tapia-Chinchòn
Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences of Las Palmas, Spain

Sudden cardiac death in anabolic androgenic steroids abuse: case report and literature review

Anabolic androgenic steroids (AAS) have several adverse effects on the cardiovascular sys- tem that may lead to a sudden cardiac death (SCD). We herein report a case involving a 24- year-old male, AAS abuser with intramuscular delivery in the 6 months before, who suffered a cardiorespiratory arrest at home's bathtub when returning from New Year's party. A foren- sic autopsy was performed according to the guidelines of the Association for European Cardiovascular Pathology (AECVP). The body showed hypertrophy of skeletal musculature, with low amount of subcutaneous fat and no signs of injury (body mass index, BMI: 26.8 kg/m2).

On internal examination, there were multiorgan congestion, acute pulmonary edema, and cardiomegaly (420 g) with severe coronary atherosclerosis and superimposed acute occlusive thrombosis at the left main trunk and left anterior descendant. Areas of scarring were located at the intersection between the posterior wall and the posterior third of the septum (postero-septal). At histology, acute myocardial infarction at the anterior third of the septum and the anterior wall, and subacute myocardial infarction at apical septum and apical poster- ior wall were detected. Other findings were small intramyocardial vessel disease and myo- cytes hypertrophy. Chemicotoxicological analysis in blood showed ethanol ((0.90 ± 0.05) g/L), stanazolol (11.31 mg/L), nandrolone (2.05 mg/L) and testosterone (<1.00 mg/L). When con- fronted with a sudden death in a young athlete we must pay attention to the physical phenotype that may suggest AAS abuse and perform a detailed examination of the hear Chemicotoxicological analysis is a key to establish the relationship between SCD and AAS abuse.

Biography:

Dr. Javier Tapia-Chinchòn has Degree in Medicine and Surgery from the Complutense University of Madrid.

Forensic Doctor of the Ministry of Justice of Spain since 2004.Head of the Forensic Pathology Section of the Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences of Las Palmas. PhD student in Medicine from the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

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