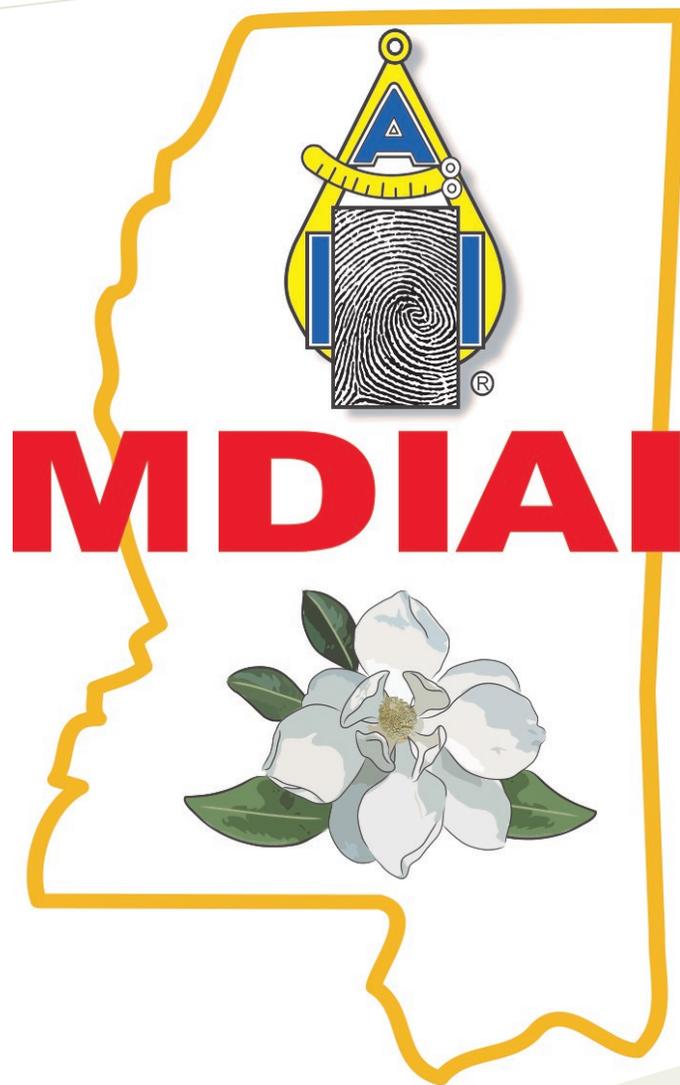


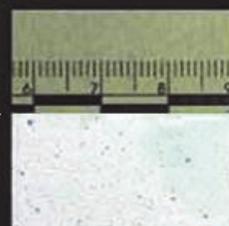
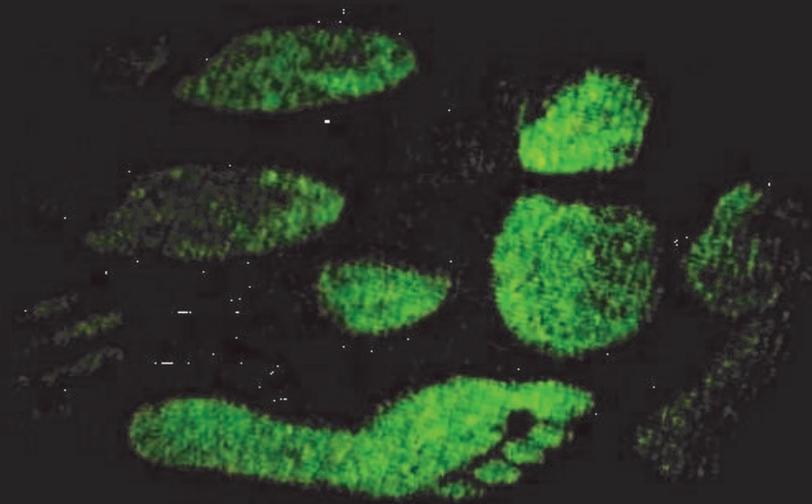
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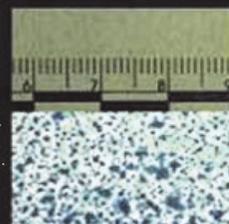
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From the President



As your newly elected President for 2013-14, I would like to thank all of you for making this Division one of the best divisions in the International Association for Identification. Thanks to support from the membership, the forensic community, the law enforcement community, and the hard work of many dedicated individuals, the 2013 Training Conference held in Hattiesburg, MS was a great success. Workshops and lectures on many current topics in the crime scene investigation and latent print disciplines were offered, and the conference was a diverse and well-rounded training opportunity for all attendees. Photos from the conference are included in this newsletter and are posted on the website at www.mdiai.com.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am a latent print examiner with the Mississippi Crime Laboratory located on the Gulfcoast. One of my goals as President is ensuring that we can provide applicable, yet affordable, training for our community. So if you have any ideas for future conferences (speakers, workshops, vendors, etc.), please share them with me or any member of the board of directors. Please mark your calendars and check the website for updates as conference details are finalized. If you have any ideas or input for the board of directors as the year progresses, do not hesitate to let us know. I look forward to seeing you all in Pearl, MS next Spring!



2013 Training Conference

Taking Tactics and Forensic to the Top at the University of Southern Mississippi

Law enforcement officers, forensic experts, and students gathered on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi for a week of fun and learning at the 2013 Annual Training Conference.

This year's conference offered both Tactical Training and Crime Scene related training. This combination of training ensured that all attendees gained valuable information on how to approach and combat the issues that arise when processing a crime scene through additional tactical training for Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers in conjunction with our regularly scheduled Crime Scene related conference.



The University of Southern Mississippi ROTC Color Guard presented colors during opening ceremonies. Outgoing president Mike Hood, Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny DuPree, University President Dr. Rodney D. Bennett, University Police Chief Bob Hopkins, and Byron E. Thompson of Homeland Security Mississippi spoke at the opening ceremonies.



Law enforcement officers participate in Rapid Response to Active Shooter Level I Refresher and First Responders Operating in Low-Light Conditions training provided by [MS ALERRT](#) instructors.



Attendees attend lectures and receive practical hands on training in the areas of latent print development and recovery, footwear analysis and recovery, use of alternative light sources, crime scene processing techniques, crime scene photography and documentation, and much more.



Attendees apply documentation and processing techniques to mock crime scenes located on campus.



Attendees and instructors participate in discussions of the methods and techniques they applied at the mock crime scenes, and share ideas on how to approach and process a crime scene more effectively.



Attendees tailgate before catching a USM baseball game.



Door prizes and awards were given out during the closing ceremonies.

To view more picture from this year's training conference visit our website at MDIAI.com

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2014 Training Conference

We are excited to announce that the 2014 MDIAI Training Conference will be held on the week of April 14 in Pearl, MS. Stay tuned to MDIAI.com for more information.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following sponsors of the 2013 MDIAI Conference:



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IAI Centennial Tree



We are proud to announce that the MDIAI will be represented with a brick in the [IAI Centennial Tree](#). “The IAI Centennial Tree reminds us of the tremendous legacy that our Association has built over the past 100 years. The IAI Centennial Tree will travel with us over the next four years and will be on display at each Conference.”

More Information on the IAI Centennial Tree can be found on the [IAI’s website](#).

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2013 MDIAI Forensic Challenge Winner



Leanna Gray (first row, second from left) with MDIAI members at the 2013 IAI Education Conference in Providence, RI.

Congratulations Leanna Gray, winner of this year’s MDIAI Forensic Challenge!

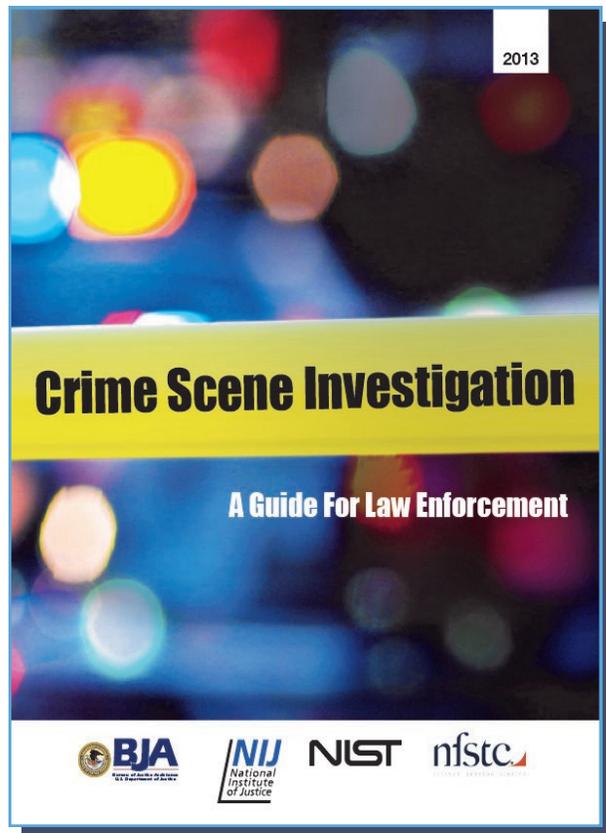
Each year, attendees of the annual IAI Educational Conference are given a series of fun and challenging forensic puzzles. At the end of the conference, participants who correctly answered each question are entered into a drawing for a \$500 cash prize.

National Forensic Science Technology Center Expanded CSI Guide

[Crime Scene Investigation, a Guide for Law Enforcement](#), is now available for download from NFSTC.

The new crime scene investigation guide covers key CSI practices in detail. Developed by noted experts, this 180-page, vastly expanded edition provides step-by-step recommendations to lead law enforcement through this crucial, first phase of the justice process.

“This guide now gives first responders, crime scene technicians and even military service members guidance to appropriately handle everything from initial response to collecting, documenting and packaging evidence,” said Kevin Lothridge, NFSTC CEO. “Without this necessary awareness, evidence could be over looked that might prove crucial to an investigation.”



Thoroughly reviewed by more than a dozen subject matter experts, [Crime Scene Investigation, A Guide for Law Enforcement](#) was funded by a cooperative agreement from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and is the result of a partnership of the National Institute of Justice, National Institute of Standards and Technology, BJA and NFSTC.

[Download the guide now](#) as a pdf or for your favorite e-reader.

The following article was obtained from Forensic Magazine

<http://tinyurl.com/qjbjqard>

For more information visit ForensicMag.com.

Money Matters: Making the Most of your CSI Budget

Author: Dick Warrington

With today's challenging economy, we all need to figure out the most cost effective ways to do our jobs. The good news is that we actually have plenty of excellent, affordable options available. In some cases, these options may require extra time and effort on your part. But by doing your research and planning accordingly, you'll stretch your department's dollars without sacrificing quality. In this issue, I'll provide an overview of some key areas where you can save money.

Light Sources

Having the right light sources can make all the difference when you're investigating crime scenes. You can easily spend thousands of dollars on just one light. But you don't have to. These days, portable light sources are much improved. In some cases, they're even brighter than what you would find in the lab. With prices ranging from around \$35 for the Micro Blue light, up to a high of about \$1,500 for an ultra light, you can afford the right combination of lights for your department.

Crime Scene Kits

Every CSI needs a good crime scene kit. And there are plenty of companies out there selling pre-packaged kits. But why pay extra for a kit dictated by these companies? Take the time to build your own kit. Yes, it will involve more effort on your part, but you'll save a lot of money and end up with only the things you really need. Let's look at some specifics:

Blood Testing

As you build your kit, think about what things you should do and what things you can leave for the lab. For example, you should always determine whether a stain is blood or simply spilled paint or ketchup. But why not let the lab determine if the blood is human or animal? By leaving that question for the lab, you can simplify what you need in your kit. Instead of spending more for premixed chemicals that have a short shelf life, you can go with less expensive ampules that will stay fresh until you need them. These ampules will quickly show you if you have blood that you need to collect.

Fingerprinting Powders and Brushes

Some of the most essential tools in your kit are your fingerprinting powders and brushes. These days, there are a multitude of colors out there. But just because they exist doesn't mean you have to have every one of them. All you need is one color that will work on dark surfaces and one color that will work on light, and a fluorescent. Once you decide on the kinds of powders you need, instead of buying individual jars, buy one large container and fill containers for each officer as needed.

When it comes to brushes, you could easily spend a fortune. Think about your needs and what you'll be doing. You'll need one brush for fluorescent powders and one for standard powders. If you use magnetic powders, you'll need a brush for them. Disposable brushes are usually your best option. A standard fingerprint brush costs about \$9, while a disposable brush packaged for single use is about \$4-\$5. But as I mentioned in previous articles, when you're dealing with a major crime and working with smudges that might contain DNA, you have to replace your brushes. Better to have the less expensive disposable brushes when you may be replacing them frequently.

Casting Materials

While there are some new materials on the market, the only material you really need for casting is dental stone. Again, plan ahead to save yourself some money. Buy a 25 pound bag and then divide it up into separate plastic bags. When you need it, you'll just have to add water.

Evidence Packaging

Here is another area where you can find ways to save. Use clean, standard plastic bags and craft paper bags. If you use a lot of bags, purchase them in lots of 500, which will save you money. Using plain paper bags will save you money; labels to put on the bag are cheap. Just remember that you should never use grocery store bags that have already been used. If you do, you risk contaminating your evidence with whatever was left in the bag. Nothing you save by re-using a bag will be worth having your case fall apart because of sloppy work.

Evidence Markers

Evidence markers are essential for your work, but that doesn't mean you have to spend a fortune on them. As I've mentioned before, evidence markers often become contaminated at scenes. If you're not going to be able to clean them properly, you need disposable markers. You can save money by making your own. You can find free evidence marker templates on my Web site (<http://csigizmos.com/products/evidencemarkers.html>).

These are just some of the places where you can save money. Each one may seem like a little thing, but taken together, they can add up to a significant savings.

Dick Warrington is in research and development and a crime scene consultant and training instructor for the Lynn Peavey Company. dwarrington@peaveycorp.com



Forensic Magazine is the leading source of information on all aspects of forensic science technology, trends, equipment, services, and laboratory design. In every issue, Forensic Magazine provides professionals working in forensic laboratories and crime scene investigation with the news and technical information they need — both in the lab and in the field.

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The MDIAI strives to bring you the latest training and employment opportunities.

We would also like to receive your input on training topics for our next conference.

If your agency or organization has a training event or job opening, or if you would like to leave a suggestion or comment, please e-mail us at pr@mdiai.com or visit us at MDIAI.com.

