



WORKSHOP ABSTRACTS

25TH ANNUAL NEDIAI CONFERENCE

Workshop #1

**“Nighttime Photography Techniques” -Mark Zabinski, Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory
-Bob Gallagher, Sergeant Wellesley Police Department**

*The essential goals of this three-hour interactive workshop are to learn and know your camera settings; and how to properly photograph a scene during daylight hours or nighttime hours. After the PowerPoint and camera review, the student will go out to a designated dark area to practice painting with light for their future crime or traffic scenes. **Note: Students will need a DSLR camera, tripod, flash, and a shutter release cord.***

Mark Zabinski is presently employed as a Criminalist II, Latent Print Examiner for the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory for the past 14 years. He has 12 years of prior crime scene investigation experience with the Cranston Police Department that included latent print examinations in Rhode Island. Mark has also been a professional photographer for the past 26 years and has been teaching photography classes to crime scene investigators for the past 24 years, including digital enhancement. Mark is certified by the IAI as a Senior Crime Scene Analyst and Certified Latent Print Examiner.

Bob Gallagher began his law enforcement career over 20 years ago with the Maynard Police Department (MA) where he served as a patrolman and detective until October 2004. Bob then joined to the Wellesley Police Department (MA) in November 2004. In March 2007, Bob was re-assigned to the department’s Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) and to the Norfolk County Police Anti-Crime (NORPAC) Task Force where he served as a detective and forensic identification specialist. In January 2018, Bob was promoted to sergeant and re-assigned to the Patrol Division.

Bob holds a B.S. in Law Enforcement and a M.S. in Criminal Justice Administration from Western New England College; and a M.S. in Forensic Science from the University of New Haven.

During Bob’s career, he has completed numerous specialized training courses in the areas of criminal investigation, crime scene investigation, latent print processing, latent print examination, AFIS operations, crime scene photography, forensic photography, surveillance photography, and digital imaging.

Bob is a graduate the 37th Session of the University of Rhode Island/Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory BCI School in Kingston, Rhode Island. He is also a distinguished graduate of the 43rd Session of the University of Tennessee’s 10-week in-residence, National Forensic Academy (NFA) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Bob is currently a teaching associate at the NFA where he teaches digital crime scene photography and latent print processing and documentation.

Bob is an active member of the New England Narcotic Enforcement Officers’ Association, the Rhode Island Criminalistics Association, the International Association for Identification (IAI), the New England Division of the International Association for Identification (NEDIAI), and the NFA Alumni Association. He currently serves as the 3rd Vice President for the NEDIAI. Bob is currently recognized by the IAI as a certified forensic photographer, certified latent print examiner and certified senior crime scene analyst.

Workshop #2

“Crease and Third Level Details” –John R. Vanderkolk

Natural patterns are unique, including the crease and ridge texture patterns on friction skin. By examining the sequences and configurations of all types of details of the features of friction skin, the source of a questioned impression can be determined if sufficient quality and quantity of details are present in both the questioned and known images. This workshop will include a discussion of unique natural patterns, the examination process, and then conducting practical exercises emphasizing friction skin creases and third level ridge details.



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John R. Vanderkolk, BA forensic studies and psychology, Indiana University 1979, was an Indiana State Police trooper, crime scene investigator, a forensic comparative scientist and now is the manager at the Indiana State Police Laboratory, Fort Wayne. He was a member of SWGFAST and the NIST/NIJ Expert Working Group on Human Factors in Latent Print Analysis. He is a member of the *Journal of Forensic Identification* editorial board and the Physics/Pattern SAC in OSAC. In the IAI, he was awarded Distinguished Member and is the chair of its Forensic Comparative Examination Committee. He had been a member and chair for the IAI's Forensic Identification Standards Committee. He has authored numerous articles plus the 'Examination Process' chapter in *The Fingerprint Sourcebook* and the book *Forensic Comparative Science - Qualitative Quantitative Source Determination of Unique Impressions, Images, and Objects*. He has been collaborating with Dr. Thomas Busey, Indiana University, Psychological and Brain Sciences, studying latent print examiners since 2002 and with Dr. Ashraf Bastawros, Aeronautical Engineering, and Dr. Barbara Lograsso, Mechanical Engineering, Iowa State University, on fractured metal examinations.

Workshop #3

“Back to Basics-Crime Scene Documentation” – Det. James E. Clift, Providence PD

When responding to any incident major or minor the motivation, knowledge, skill, and organization of the crime scene investigator is crucial to the recognition and ultimate presentation of significant facts of that incident. He or she is vitally responsible for the critical duty of assessing, managing, and documenting the scene and its contents so that others in the field may easily examine and interpret all the information collected. This workshop has been designed with these facts in mind. Our examination will highlight these key elements and strive to improve the ability of the investigator to manage these important tasks. Discussions, examples and mock scenes will assist the student in understanding the importance of scene documentation by providing detailed examples and hands on experience.

James E. Clift is a 25-year veteran of the Providence Police Department and has held the rank of detective in the Bureau of Criminal Identification for the past 18 years. Jim has extensive experience in crime scene documentation, evidence collection and examination, and latent print comparison. He holds a Bachelor degree in Criminal Justice from Rhode Island College and a Master of Science degree from Salve Regina University. Jim is currently a lead instructor for the RI State Crime Lab course in Scientific Evidence and has testified at the Federal, Superior, District, and Municipal court levels in Rhode Island. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Rhode Island College and Johnson and Wales University and has presented various workshops on crime scene documentation and latent print recovery in conjunction with the RI State Crime Lab, the 2015, 2017 NEDIAI conference, and at the 2014, 2015, 2016 IAI conferences in Minnesota, Sacramento and Cincinnati.

Workshop #4

“Post Blast Investigations” –Deputy Bruce Quinn, Bomb Technician RI State Fire Marshal Bomb Squad

This course teaches a systematic method of investigating the scene of an explosion. The course includes an introduction to explosives and explosives effects, IED components and evidence collection. Participants will be tasked with sifting through collected debris, identifying components, and reconstruction of the device culminating with a short presentation of how their team believes the device functioned.

Bruce Quinn has been a bomb technician with the Rhode Island Office of State Fire Marshal Bomb Squad for 10 years. In addition to his regular duties he also serves as a tactical breacher for state and local SWAT teams. Bruce is also an adjunct instructor for Louisiana State University's National Center for Biomedical Research and Training program (NCBRT).



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Workshop #5

“Credit Card Skimming” –Mike McCutcheon, Patrol Sergeant Londonderry Police Department, NH

Dr. Mike McCutcheon is a Patrol Sergeant in Londonderry, NH. Mike has been working at the Londonderry Police Department since 2000. He began as a patrolman and served in that position for 4 years. In 2004 Mike was promoted to Detective. He worked as a detective for 3 years until he was promoted to Sergeant in 2007. Mike had the pleasure to serve in his most rewarding capacity, Detective Sergeant.

Mike’s experience in policing has been diverse. He worked in an undercover capacity and as an investigator. His time in detectives allowed him to learn and create numerous techniques to process crime scenes. Mike has investigated almost every type of crime out there, and in turn, has created or modified techniques to investigate them. When it comes to crime scene processing, there isn’t an object that Mike won’t try to develop fingerprints on! In addition to his expertise in crime scenes, Mike is an experienced and expert interviewer and interrogator. His “Talk nice, Think mean” style of interviewing is almost a guarantee for confessions.

Mike is a criminal justice professor at Southern New Hampshire University and Rivier University. His focus at the collegiate level is to introduce new students to criminal justice. Introduction to Criminal Justice, American Policing, and Crime Scene Investigations are his most popular classes.

Mike is a crime scene consultant and instructor for the Lynn Peavey Company and Laura Pettler and Associates. Mike is the Vice President of the New England Division of the International Association for Identification.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Anna Maria College and a Master of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Western New England University. He earned his Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership at Rivier University in Nashua, NH.

Workshop #6

**“Making Optimal Decisions in Latent Print Examinations” -John R. Vanderkolk
-Thomas Busey, PhD (via video)**

In this workshop, participants will work through a variety of examples to improve their perceptual and decision making abilities in latent print examinations. As part of their jobs, examiners must construct their own internal thresholds in relation to their peers for what constitutes an identification or exclusion. However, as an examiner improves his or her abilities, these thresholds will need to be updated. The exercises in this workshop will help each participant develop a principled technique to discover where the thresholds need to be to match their current and improving abilities. The workshop will present examples of how to avoid erroneous exclusions, which may occur in casework more often than is realized, and erroneous identifications. Finally, we will discuss how fatigue can affect both the perceptual and decision making abilities, as well as how an examiner can recognize and mitigate fatigue.

Dr. Thomas Busey is a Cognitive Psychologist at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. He has studied perceptual expertise in latent print examiners since 2002, using behavioral, eye gaze, and electrophysiological methods. He has a PhD in Experimental Psychology from the University of Washington in Seattle, and a B.A. in Psychology from Cornell University.



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Workshop #7

**“Recovery of 2D-Footwear Impression Evidence” -Jason Cole, Foster + Freeman
-Marie Bross, CSI Draper City Police Department**

Documentation and Recovery of 2D Impression Evidence Footwear impressions can reveal, in many cases, the type, make, design and approximate or precise size of the footwear that made them. This can be done through class and individual characteristics that are visible in the impression. The information can often assist in identifying a suspect. In addition, the location of footwear impressions at the scene can often help to reconstruct the crime. The presence, characteristics and condition of the impression can assist in determining the number of suspects involved, their path through and away from the crime scene, their involvement in the crime, and the events that occurred during the crime. Footwear impressions at crime scenes can also be used to corroborate or refute information provided by other witnesses. This hands-on workshop is designed to help the student learn the best methods for recovering 2D footwear impression evidence. The collection of exemplar prints will also be discussed and new technology/methods demonstrated.

Jason Cole is a Technical Sales Specialist for Foster + Freeman. Jason began his Law Enforcement career as a police officer for the Sandy City (Utah) Police Department. Later he was reassigned to the Investigations Division as the detective over juvenile crime and domestic violence crime. He also began receiving training in crime scene investigation and began to process major crime scenes for the department. In 2001 Jason left the Sandy City Police Department and began working as a Forensic Investigator for the West Valley City (Utah) Police Department. In 2007 he was promoted to be the Forensic Director of the West Valley City Police Department Forensic Services Unit. In 2010 Jason left the West Valley City Police Department and accepted a position as a Latent Print Examiner with the Henderson (Nevada) Police Department. Jason served on the Board of Directors for the Utah Division of the IAI for over 10 years, including serving as President. He was awarded the Utah Division of IAI Outstanding Achievement Award in 2005. Jason has served on the Board of Directors for the Nevada State Division of the IAI since 2010. Jason serves on the Board of Directors for the International Association for Identification. Jason is a member of DMORT region IX.

Marie Bross is the sole Crime Scene Investigator for the Draper City Police Department in Utah. She has been with the agency since February of 2017 and recently became recognized as a Certified Crime Scene Investigator by the IAI. She also manages the evidence room and ensures that proper procedures are in place for evidence collection. Marie received her BS in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in law enforcement and a Minor in Forensic Science from Utah Valley University in 2015.

Workshop #8

“Fracture Match Examinations” - John Vanderkolk

After an introductory lecture about patterns and the examination process, the participants and instructor will break, tear, or cut a variety of objects that could be found at crime scenes and then reassemble pieces of those objects. Then, the participants will examine pieces of objects that the instructor had previously broken, torn, or cut. The comparative scientist participants will study the features of the separated pieces to ascertain whether they had once been connected to and part of each other. Thus, participants will develop a better understanding of making judgments regarding whether items had ever formed a continuous object.



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Workshop #9

“Using Drones for Law Enforcement” –David Price

Workshop #10

*“Adobe Photoshop Techniques -Mark Zabinski, Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory
-Eric Zabinski, Sharpshooters Photography*

Eric Zabinski was formerly employed by Ron Smith and Associates for 2 years. He has over 10 years of experience with digital photography and Photoshop software.

Workshop #11

*“Latent Print Recovery from Troublesome Surfaces - Jason Cole, Foster + Freeman
-JoDon Edwards, RI State Crime Laboratory
-Marie Bross, CSI Draper City PD*

This hands-on workshop is designed to give experience to the workshop attendee by using various powder applications and lifting techniques. The best way to become proficient is by doing it! After attending this class attendees will be able to lift latent prints off almost any surface; such as tape, feathers, wet, textured, multi-contoured and unusual surfaces that an impression has been developed on. Workshop attendees will also be introduced to IR fluorescent fingerprint powders and quick, efficient ways to digitally capture them. The proper way to fill out a latent lift card will also be discussed, along with items every fingerprint kit should contain!

JoDon Edwards is presently employed as a Criminalist II, Latent Print Examiner for the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory for the past 3 years. He has 10 years of prior crime scene experience with the Tempe Police Department in Arizona which includes latent print processing, documentation, photography and examinations. JD is certified by the IAI as a Certified Latent Print Examiner.