

The Specialist *Quarterly*

NEWSLETTER OF THE NCAIA
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IAI Certification Boards

Bloodstain
Pattern
Analyst
Certification

Footwear
Certification

Forensic
Photography
Certification

Latent Print
Certification

Crime Scene
Certification

Forensic Art
Certification

Forensic
Video
Certification

Tenprint
Fingerprint
Certification

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

NCIAI Members and Forensic Professionals,

I am humbled and ecstatic to serve as the 2023-2024 NCIAI President! I thank you all for trusting me with this responsibility and privilege and I hope to make you all proud!

The NCIAI has always worked together to enhance and improve the field of forensic science, to educate and train others in the field, and to share struggles and accomplishments. We have just accomplished the Joint Regional IAI Conference with the Georgia and Tennessee Divisions of the IAI with a great turnout and huge success!

We are in the planning phases of the 2024 NCIAI Educational Conference on Wrightsville Beach, NC in October or November. We hope to see you all there!

We have a great membership that spans North Carolina and beyond! I want to thank our past presidents, board members, and officers for continually volunteering their time and energy into making this an amazing association!

**Thank you,
Casson Reynolds
NCIAI President, 2023-2024**



N C I A I 2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4 O F F I C E R S

President: Casson Reynolds

1st Vice President: Adria Gharati

2nd Vice President: Brooke Fail

Secretary: Erin Biggio

Treasurer: Heather Black

Editor: Shannon Smith

Sergeant at Arms: Clint Babb

Historian: Melissa Southern

N C I A I 2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4 B O A R D O F D I R E C T O R S

Chairperson: Doreen Huntington

Member: Brian Dew

Member: Bradley Whitaker

Member: Randy Horton

Member: Lukas Feldbusch

N C I A I 2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4 C O M M I T T E E S

Regional Representative:

Rebecca Heinrich

Auditing Committee:**Chairperson:** Clint Babb**Members:** Tracy Crowther Allison Whitler**Membership Committee:****Co-chairs:** Erin Biggio Christa Leonard**Members:** Gretchen Bartizal Makayla S. Pegg

Lukas Feldbusch

Training Committee:**Co-chairs:** Casson Reynolds Doreen Huntington**Members:** Nicole Meldrum Randy Horton

Bradley Whitaker Rebecca Heinrich

Bryan Brendley Angela Berry

By-Laws Committee:**Chairperson:** Brian Dew**Members:** Mike Summers Steve Williams

Casson Reynolds

Conference Committee:**Co-chairs:** Randy Horton Adria Gharati

Jaclynn McKay Jessica Dennis

Heather Black

Members: Ginger Blake Lukas Feldbusch

Bradley Whitaker Clint Babb

Brooke Fail Andy Parker

Shannon Smith Leslie Popik

Rebecca Heinrich Erin Biggio

N C I A I 2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4 C O M M I T T E E S

Merchandise Committee:

Co-chairs:	Amanda Holowaty	Brooke Fail
Members:	Leslie Popik	Shannon Smith
	Brittany Nosal	Carla Foran
	Allison C. Whitler	Alycia Smentkiewicz

Awards/Goodwill Committee:

Co-chairs:	Beth Williamson	Brooke Fail
Members:	Kim Breeden	Ginger Blake
	Amy Wilde	Leigh Thomas

Legislative Committee:

Co-chairs:	Shannon Smith	Casson Reynolds
Members:	Melissa Southern	Shelly Garis
	Jaclynn McKay	

SAFIS User's Committee:

Co-chairs:	Karen Marrow	Brian Dew
Members:	Rebecca Heinrich	Doreen Huntington

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Merchandise Committee: LOGO CONTEST! Submissions due by April 12th. See contest rules near the end of this newsletter.

Conference Committee: CALL FOR PRESENTERS! See details further in this newsletter.

CHECK BACK HERE FOR MORE COMMITTEE UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

S O U E T H E D O T E !**October 27-30th, 2024****Annual NCIAl Conference**



Holiday Inn Resort Lumina on Wrightsville Beach

**Registration and check-in on Sunday
Three full days of lecture (Monday-Wednesday)**

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2023 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

NC-GA-TN



CONGRATULATIONS! TO OUR NEWLY CERTIFIED MEMBERS:

CCSI:

Jilli-Ann Neeper - Guilford Co. SO
Nicole Hipskind - Union Co. SO
Sarah Bosco - NCSBI
Meredith Narowski - CCBI
Tajanae Green - High Point PD
Anna Garrett - Buncombe Co. SO
Brenna Bissey - CCBI

CCSA:

Garrett Winslow - NCSBI
Arianna Hudson - High Point PD
Mattie Russell

CLPE:

Amanda Holowaty - Durham PD
Bailie Dodd - Durham PD
Adria Gharati - Orlando PD

CSCSA:

Candice Lanham - NCSBI
Jessica Dennis - Buncombe Co. SO

Career Opportunities:

Job Title: Crime Scene Technician
Location: Wilmington Police Department
Closing Date: Continuous
Salary: \$18.24/hour
Job Type: Full Time
Apply here: www.wilmingtonnc.gov/jobs



Do you know a NCAI member who has gone above and beyond on a case/event/for the association?

Let us know and they may be featured in a future newsletter!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LDX875G>

PLAN

AHEAD

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS!

Send us a topic you would like to hear presented or a workshop you would like to attend at an upcoming conference

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N2CHJG2>

INTERESTING NEWS IN FORENSICS

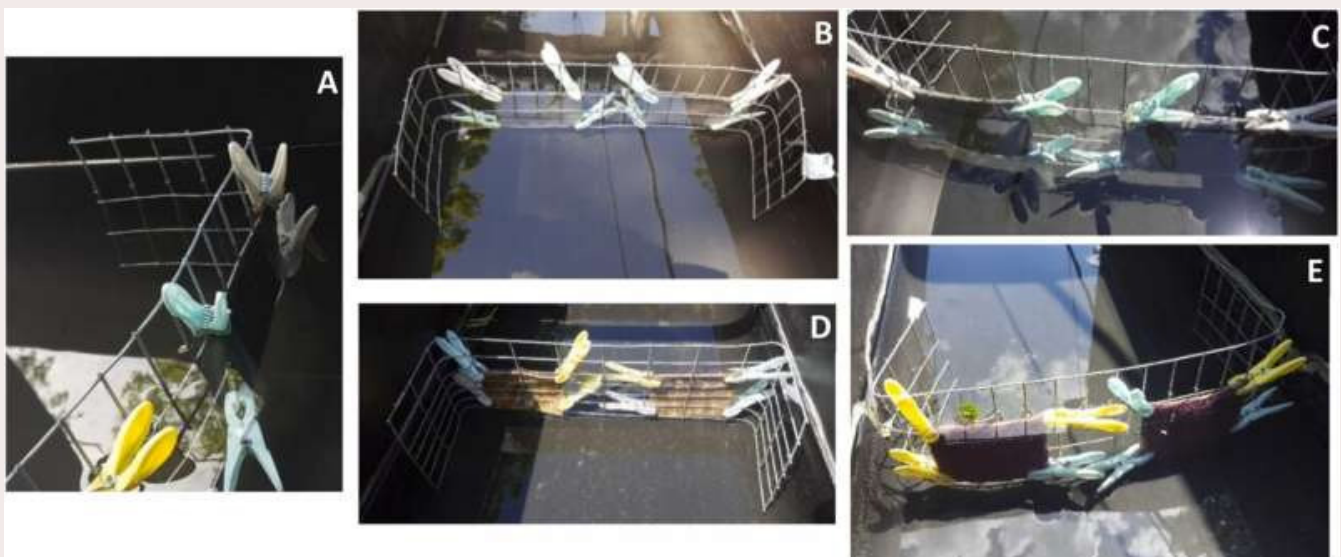
Forensic evidence can survive underwater for weeks.

Research led by Staffordshire University has found that forensic fibers can survive underwater for much longer than previously thought.

"Even after four weeks, the lowest percentage of remaining fibers was 33.4%. This clearly indicates that it is extremely valuable to search for fiber evidence even after a long exposure time."

Professor Gwinnett said, "Our findings could change how police direct investigations and help to uncover forensic evidence that was previously thought to be lost. We hope this will help investigators to identify more suspects and ultimately lead to more convictions."

The findings are published in the journal *Forensic Science International*.



N C I A I 2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4 C O M M I T T E E S

MENTAL HEALTH CORNER

**It's important to
take care of yourself!**



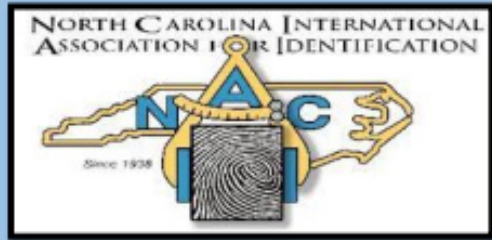
Check out this article:

The Impact of Stress, Trauma, and Burnout on Forensic Scientists

Forensic scientists often encounter traumatic and distressing scenes, leading to acute and chronic stress reactions. The incessant exposure to violence, death and suffering can gradually erode their mental resilience. The mere act of witnessing and processing disturbing images, such as victims of violent crimes, takes a heavy toll on their psychological well-being. Moreover, forensic scientists are often required to testify in court, subjecting them to intense cross-examinations that can trigger anxiety and further exacerbate trauma-related symptoms.

To mitigate these issues, it is essential that organizations employing forensic scientists recognize the unique challenges they face and implement comprehensive support systems. By acknowledging these difficulties and providing scientists with the necessary resources, these organizations can help ease the psychological toll of forensic work and help scientists successfully navigate the demanding and often traumatizing world of forensic science.

Call for Presenters!



NCIAI 2024 Conference

Holiday Inn Resort Lumina on
Wrightsville Beach | October 27 - 30, 2024

Presentation submissions are due by
June 3, 2024.

Please submit your workshop or
lecture proposals here:

<https://shorturl.at/mprBE>

Or by scanning this QR code 



If you have any questions or would like to submit via email,
please contact Jaclynn McKay at jmckay@rti.org.

Submission information will include your name, email, agency/company,
biography (50-200 words), and abstract (200-500 words).

Topic Suggestions: Crime Scene Investigations, Fingerprint Examinations,
Forensic Technology, Forensic Case Studies, Leadership, Emotional Wellness

Additional conference information will be forthcoming! Check out the
NCIAI conference website here: <https://www.nciai.com/conference.html>

Scan here for the
NCIAI conference website!





2024 NCIAl Conference Logo Design Contest Rules

We are looking for original, fun, and exciting forensic-related conference logo designs.

The theme for the 2024 NCIAl Conference logo design contest is:
HALLOWEEN!



SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, April 12th [2024](#) at 5:00 pm. Entry is free of charge. See contest rules for details. Questions should be directed to one of the merchandise committee co-chairs:

Amanda Holowaty Amanda.Holowaty@durhamnc.gov

Brooke Fail marie.fail@wake.gov

Submit your entries to: Amanda.Holowaty@durhamnc.gov

CONTEST RULES:

1) ELIGIBILITY

- A) The contest is open to all members of the NCIAl – with the exception of members of the merchandise committee.
- B) Maximum of 2 (two) entries per participant. If you wish to submit two entries, each entry must have its own “release, waiver and entry form”.
- C) Individual entries only. Collaborations or group art are not eligible.

2) DESIGN

- A) The design must incorporate the Halloween theme either visually or with words and address FORENSICS/NCIAl in some manner.
- B) The design must be completely original. Images that have been submitted to other contests or artwork that has been previously exhibited or sold are not acceptable. We reserve the right to request proof that an entry is the original artwork of the participant and created solely by the participant for this contest. Non-compliance to this rule will result in disqualification of the entry.
- C) Design and artwork must be the participant’s original concept – no plagiarism or “sampling” of any kind. Upon submitting an entry to this competition, the participants are solely responsible for any infringement of copyrighted materials.
- D) Artwork deemed inappropriate will be disqualified.
- E) We reserve the right to make adjustments to the winning design for purposes of reproduction.

3) DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

- A) Size: 10” wide X 8” high (maximum).

4) SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A) Artwork must be submitted in digital media.
- B) Size – resolution 600 dpi minimum (higher resolution is recommended).
- C) File types accepted for the logo contest decision phase include: .gif, .jpg, .png, .tiff; other file types may be considered. *Participants should be prepared to submit the original adobe illustrator, photoshop, or other file type at higher resolution in the case the artwork is chosen.*
- D) File names should follow format: last name, first name _ agency, title.
- E) Artwork must be created at final imprint size. Artwork submitted at smaller imprint sizes may result in disqualification if enlarging the artwork results in low resolution/quality.
- F) Include ink colors and provide t-shirt color recommendations for your design.
- G) Each entry must include a completed “release, waiver and entry form”.
- H) Entries that do not adhere to these rules will be disqualified.

5) JUDGING

- A) The winning design will be chosen based on:
 - 1) Adherence to the theme and rules of the contest
 - 2) Interpretation of the theme
 - 3) Concept
 - 4) Creativity
 - 5) Composition
 - 6) Originality
- B) The decision is final.
- C) The merchandise committee and/or merchandise co-chairs will choose the winning design.
- D) We reserve the right to NOT select a winner if, in our discretion, no suitable entries are received.

6) PRIZES

- A) Winning design will receive a \$100 cash prize (may be in the form of a visa gift card).
- B) The winning design will be available for sale on t-shirts and possible additional merchandise at the NCIAl Conference in October 2024.
- C) All participants will receive a Certification of Participation.

7) DATES

- A) Forms and design files must be sent to Amanda Holowaty by Friday, April 12th [2024](#) by 5:00pm.
- B) Winner will be announced by Monday, April 25th 2024 by 5:00 pm.

8) DISCLAIMER

By entering this competition, the participant is granting the NCIAl a non-exclusive perpetual license to reproduce images of the submitted artwork for other purposes/projects including, but not limited to, printed materials, public display, websites, social media, and/or publications. We reserve the right to modify the artwork for these purposes. The winning design will be reviewed for trademark violations.

2024 NCIAl Conference Logo Design Contest Release, Waiver and Entry Form

Participant's Full Name:

Agency:

Phone Number and Email Address:

I, the above-named participant, have voluntarily registered to participate in the NCIAl Conference 2024 logo design contest.

I hereby give permission to the NCIAl to use the original art work that I am now submitting to the above mentioned contest in print or electronic materials for news, educational, marketing, and/or publicity purposes. I understand that the image/s shall remain the sole property of the NCIAl or those acting pursuant to its authority.

By signing below I agree:

- 1) To be bound by these rules and regulations.
- 2) That your name and/or likeness may be disclosed to and used by the news media and may otherwise be used for publicity purposes in area newspapers or other media including other print venues, television, radio, and online, and,
- 3) To indemnify, release, and hold harmless the NCIAl and each of their respective directors, officers, employees, and agents from any and all losses, damages, costs, expenses, rights, claims, and actions of any kind arising in connection with the prize or resulting from acceptance, possession, use, or misuse of the prize.

The NCIAl does not provide any guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, in connection with the prize, and the NCIAl accepts for no liability or responsibility regarding the prize.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT TO BE A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION FOR MY INJURY OR DAMAGE TO MY PROPERTY THAT OCCURS WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE DESCRIBED ACTIVITY AND IT OBLIGATES ME TO HOLD HARMLESS THE JOINT REGIONAL IAI CONFERENCE AND MEMBER DIVISIONS (TNAI, GAIAI, NCIAl) FOR ANY LIABILITY FOR INJURY OF ANY PERSON AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CAUSED BY MY NEGLIGENT OR INTENTIONAL ACT OR OMISSION.

Participant's name (clearly legible, all caps):

Participant signature and date: