



# ABFDE News

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## THE GAVEL

KIRSTEN SINGER, PRESIDENT



### Happy New Year, Diplomates!

While things have been relatively quiet in the QD world, there has been some shuffling around on the Board (with more to come). Jan Masson has resigned due to overwhelming case work obligations, and Andy Szymanski was appointed in her place. Tom Riley has assumed the duties for the ACT Project test updates, with assists from me, Bonnie and Lisa.

And as of July 1, 2015, Lisa Hanson and I are stepping down as Vice President and President. The two of us held these offices for an unprecedented 5 years, and while many would view this as grounds for institutionalization (certifiable?), Lisa and I saw this as a passion and dedication to the profession and the Board. But now it is time for new leaders who can see the current and future issues with a fresh perspective and new ideas.

I also want to inform you that I am transferring to another federal agency, effective February 23. As a result, I must resign from my exalted position as a Daubert "chick". But no worries. The ever-capable Jan Kelly is still the go-to person if you have an upcoming Daubert challenge and need assistance.

Please contact her at [qdwatcdog@aol.com](mailto:qdwatcdog@aol.com).

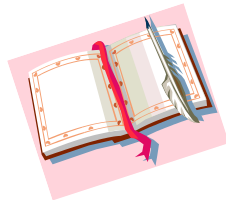


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# THE GAVEL

*Continued from Page 1*

This is the last newsletter before the ABFDE Board of Directors' annual meeting in May, so please send me any questions, suggestions or great jokes to discuss at the meeting.



**These files are available as Downloads from the ABFDE website from the Members Only portal:**

- ABFDE PowerPoint Presentation
- ABFDE Syllabus (MS Access)
- ABFDE Syllabus Instructions (MS Word)
- Conway's Comments to SWAFDE
- Court Cases
- Daubert List
- Daubert Decision - Am. Gen. v. Ward
- 2014 Directory of Diplomates
- Minutes of 2014 BOD Annual Meeting
- QCROSS Typewriter Database (1/97)
- QDTERMS - Questioned Document terminology
- QMUM - Compilation of over 450 QD Articles
- Saks Affidavit on Prime Case
- Saks CV & Affidavit on Saelee Case
- Testimony List- List of the number of times, court, location and type of case FDEs have testified in within the last 5 years. Please contact Ellen Mulcrone Schuetzner with any additions.
- The Daubert Group
- TYPE - Dr Bouffard's classification system (3/99)
- Requirements for Certification in Forensic Documents
- ABFDE brochures in English and French

# A Promotion for, and a Thank You to, Dr. Moshe Kam

*By Kirsten Singer, ABFDE President*

Dr. Moshe Kam, to whom our profession is much indebted, has been appointed as Dean of the Newark College of Engineering. He resigned from his position as a professor and researcher in the College of Engineering at Drexel University in September 2014.

Dr. Kam became involved in the QD profession, as he puts it, “by accident.”

In 1991, he submitted a proposal for an FBI project to computerize handwriting searches. At the time, one of his students suggested that they ask the handwriting experts how they do what they do. Dr. Kam suggested that he just go to the library and bring back all of the papers that describe the proficiency of document examiners. The student returned with only one, the “Exorcism” paper by Risinger, Denbeaux and Saks which detailed how few studies existed in the proficiency of forensic handwriting examination.



As Dr. Kam explains, “...It became quite important for us to do this [conduct proficiency studies]. In other words if we are going to try to code it, at significant expense and time, and if students are going to write thesis on this and so on, we better test to see that we get information from a reliable source.”

Dr. Kam proceeded to conduct the first pilot study in 1992 and 1993 which lead to the large scale study published in 1997, “Writer Identification by Forensic Document Examiners” followed by other peer reviewed studies, all of which showed that the proficiency testing results by FDEs and laypersons are statistically different (therefore an expertise exists); error rates of FDEs are

far smaller than those of laypersons; and monetary incentives to laypersons do not improve their performance.

Dr. Kam’s timing could not have been more fortuitous with the decisions of *Daubert*, *Kumho* and *Joiner*. Dr. Kam’s peer-reviewed, published research and testimonies were undoubtedly pivotal in allowing FDE testimony in numerous Daubert challenges. However, Dr. Kam is no longer available to conduct research or provide testimonies for future Daubert challenges, which makes it imperative that *every* FDE be familiar with his studies, and prepared to testify on their own behalf regarding the Daubert factors. Further, it remains critical that research and published studies be continued to maintain the currency of our profession and support the admission of FDE testimonies for all future Daubert challenges.

**Thank you for all your contributions to our profession, Dr. Kam! It has been a great pleasure to know you and work with you.**

# What's Your Type?

By Karen Nobles

When I began training in the early eighties, forensic document examiners saw questioned typewritten documents on a regular basis. It was not as often as handwritten documents, but often enough that the question "What kind of typewriter was used to produce this document?" created challenges for the examiner. There were so many typewriters available on the market and no matter how many strike-ups and samples you collected you knew you didn't have them all.

Fortunately, in the late 1980's Dr. Philip Bouffard began developing the first computer-based typewriter typestyle classification program which he called "TYPE". This program, based mainly on the manual typewriter classification systems by Joseph Haas and Dr. David Crown, required a DOS-based operating system and used a searchable database in order to limit the number of known type specimens that had to be compared with a questioned typewritten text. Dr. Bouffard paid a computer programmer to assist with development of the search program and then spent thousands of hours collecting and classifying typewriters, type balls and type wheels, in addition to entering the data from each of the type style samples in the Haas Atlas.

Having always been somewhat of a computer nerd, I loved Phil's program and was distressed when, with each new version of Windows it became more and more difficult, then impossible, to run. Something had to be done. After speaking with Dr. Bouffard, I looked into developing a possible solution. Due to the success of the Fax-Font Database, I chose to use Microsoft Access for the searching and sorting functions. I tried to write the programming portion myself, but found it was above my level of expertise. Joe Stephens, of the USSS Forensic Lab, had done the Access work in the Fax-Font program so I

reached out to him and he graciously agreed to help.

Why would I go to all of this trouble for the examination of typewritten documents when nobody uses typewriters anymore? Well, the submission of typewritten documents was fairly non-existent for a while, but in Florida in the last few years we have seen an increase in questioned documents prepared on a typewriter. I believe this is due to the common knowledge by suspects that their computer can be seized and evidence of their crimes documented through an analysis of the hard drive. In a recent news article, it was reported that both Germany and Russia are returning to typewriters for the preparation of their secure documents.

**TYPE-IN VS TYPE-OUT.  
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?  
THE ANSWER MAY BE FOUND AT  
[HTTP://WWW.TYPE-IN.ORG/](http://www.type-in.org/)**

Typewriters have also risen in popularity with the younger, hip crowd as evidenced by the large number of "Type-Ins" which began in Philadelphia in 2010. ([www.type-in.org](http://www.type-in.org)) In the last two years alone, Type-Ins have been held in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, California, North Carolina, Ohio and Michigan. Worldwide, they have appeared in Switzerland, Estonia, the Netherlands, Australia, England, Canada and China. Typewriters have shown up at weddings, in art, and on TV. In May 2013, NBC News did a story called "The Return of the Typewriter" which included an interview with Ryan Adney, a high school teacher who *requires* his students to type their assignments on a typewriter, saying that typing improves concentration, spelling and composition. And have you seen the recently released "The Typewriter in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" movie? If not, you are behind the times!

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# What's Your Type?

*Continued from Page 4*

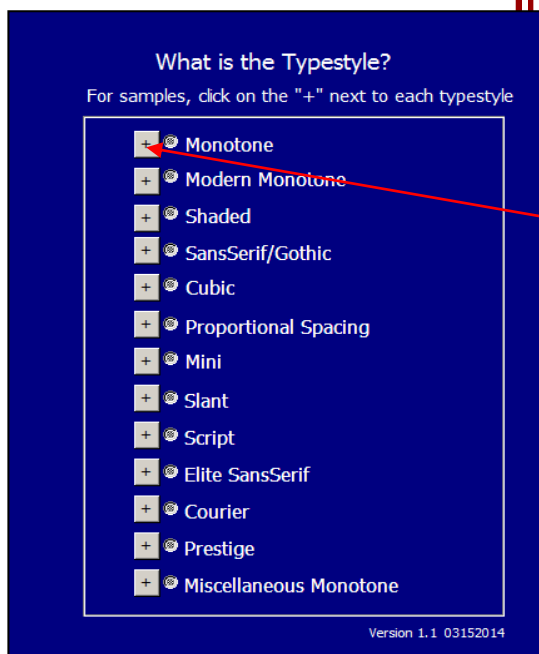
As I am writing this article, it has been reported that The Times Newspaper in the United Kingdom is piping typewriter sounds into its newsroom, in order to increase energy levels and help reporters to hit deadlines. In addition, the popular actor, Tom Hanks (an avid typewriter collector), just released his "HanxWriter", an iPad app that looks and sounds like a manual typewriter. So it appears that the typewriter is not going away just yet. That being said, we are likely to continue to see questioned typewritten (and iPad-produced) documents in the laboratory.

The result of the transition of Dr. Bouffard's data into a format that is compatible with current Windows and Mac operating systems is called "WinType" and uses Microsoft Access as its host.

With this program, one can search a limited number of characteristics and significantly narrow down the known samples to be compared.

Using an original questioned typewritten document, one begins by determining the horizontal line spacing. When you open the program, the main menu consists of Phil's original list of general typestyle classifications to choose from.

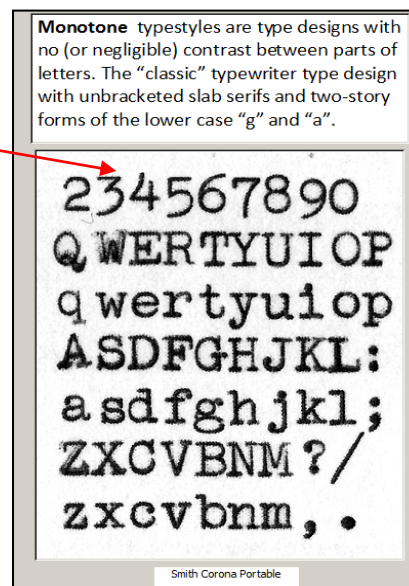
The difference at this point between the original



TYPE and the new WinType is that each of the "+" boxes in the main menu can be clicked to view a definition of the typestyle and an image of a representative sample. Due to the infrequency of questioned typewritten documents, this was something I felt would be useful to the examiner.

Once a general typestyle is chosen, a menu specific to that classification is opened and the entry of specific characteristics can begin. At this point, I also added images of the classifying characteristics to assist with making a correct choice. I would like to note that I have not changed any of Phil's original data, just the method of input and some hopefully helpful images.

Going down the list, one should input the first character that appears on the questioned document



and then search. When the results are obtained, it should be noted which characters provide the most discrimination. If they are present on the questioned document, they should be input next and a new search conducted. This process should be repeated until the smallest

number of typestyles is returned. A report showing the search criteria and the results can be generated and printed to use as case file documentation. These results provide typestyle manufacturer information and the location in the Haas Atlas where that specific typestyle can be found so that a physical comparison can be conducted. This physical comparison often eliminates some of the possible matches, hopefully bringing you to a point of being able to provide some useful classification information to the submitter. It is important to remember not all of the typestyles in the world are in the Haas Atlas, and

# William Duane, FDE Diplomate 1979–2004

## Colleagues:

*I am very sad to report, for those of you who did not already know, that former ASQDE Member Bill Duane passed away. The obituary was kindly provided by Ted Burkes through Farrell Shiver. Bill was a Member of the Society between 1991 and his retirement in 2005 when he resigned from the Society.*

*I knew Bill in my early years as an examiner. He was a wonderful man and we enjoyed several meetings of the Northeastern Association of Forensic Sciences, together, as well as some informal gatherings of New York area examiners. Bill worked for the NYPD, Connecticut State Police and eventually for the FBI as my QD partner.*

*John Sardone*

## OBITUARY



William Duane passed away peacefully at home in North White Plains, NY on October 29, 2014. He was born in Manhattan, NY to William and Mary Duane and raised in the Bronx. He graduated from Visitation Elementary School, Cardinal Hayes High School and John Jay College of Criminal Justice and served in the US Marine Corp. In 1962, he married his beloved wife, Janice (Wargo), at Our Lady of Angels Church in the Bronx. William worked in the NYC Police Department for 21 years: as a Patrolman in the 34th Precinct, as a Sergeant in the 45th Pct and OCCB, as a Lieutenant in the 19th Pct. As a Questioned Document Examiner, he worked in NYC Forensic Lab, Connecticut State Police Lab and FBI Labs in Washington, DC and NYC.

In addition to his wife Janice, he is survived by his son Kevin(Patrice) of Valhalla, NY, his daughters Maureen (Harry) Schuster of Tampa, FL, Karen Duane of NYC and Patty Duane of Tarrytown, NY. "Pop Pop" will be missed by his grandsons Brian and Brendan Duane and Harry Joe and Jacob Schuster. He is survived by his siblings Anne Duane, Kathleen Dillon and James Duane and predeceased by sister Sr. Mary Duane, S.C., Ellen King and brother John Duane.

Wake service will be held at Hawthorne Funeral Home, 21 West Stevens Avenue, Hawthorne, NY, Sunday, November 2, between 4-8 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, November 3rd at 10 a.m. at Church of Holy Name of Jesus, Two Broadway, Valhalla, NY. Burial will be at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 10 West Stevens Avenue, Hawthorne, NY.

Donations can be made to Hospice Care in Westchester & Putnam, 540 White Plains Road, Ste. 300, Tarrytown, NY 10541.

# A Look at the Classical F-Stops

By William J. Flynn, D-ABFDE

*This series of three papers results from research I have done concerning the use of High Dynamic Range Photography in questioned document applications. Along the way it occurred to me that concepts such as focal length, shutter openings, exposure values, and their relationships with HDR Photography and perception might be worthy topics of their own — hence this trilogy of papers has evolved. The first in the series deals with something all of us know something about — f-stops. Then again, do we really...?*

Several years ago I wrote a paper that dealt with light, colors and filters. In fact — that was the title. What triggered that paper was a deposition of another forensic document examiner I happened to read where in the testimony concerning the physics of ink differentiation by infrared examination was, for the most part, totally backward from what was really taking place. I have been contacted by more document examiners about that little paper than anything else I have ever written. In fact, Gerry Richards (retired from the FBI) and I coauthored a follow-up paper about a year later that covered additional topics dealing with infrared ink examinations. After some recent conversations with others in our field I realized that it is time for a similar paper dealing with the physics of photography.

Like most forensic document examiners, I have taken evidence photographs throughout my entire career — a time span of more than forty years. The cameras I have used during that time have evolved from large format 8 x 10 and 4 x 5 monsters through nearly every format of roll film, to (what has now become exclusively) digital. Of course, I'm not alone in this transformation; I expect that cost factors and convenience alone have moved all of us into the digital era. Today's digital cameras are truly amazing little light-gathering computers. They are no longer bound by the old traditional f-stops and shutter speeds we knew so well. Compared to 35mm cameras of yesterday, the new digital models can utilize (what would have been considered in the old days as) fractional f-stops and shutter speeds. For instance, I just looked at the metadata in one of my digital images and saw that the shot was taken at 1/125<sup>th</sup> sec @ f/5.1. The f/5.1 is an

f-stop that would have been impossible on nearly all 35mm cameras just a few years ago. And that brings me to first question in our discussion — what is an f-stop (and why were the traditional values chosen)?

## WHAT IS AN F-STOP?

An f-stop is a ratio. This ratio describes the focal length of a lens divided by the diameter of the shutter at any given setting. For instance, a lens with a 50mm focal length that has a shutter with a 25mm opening would be set at f/2 (50mm / 25mm). Likewise, a shutter would be set at f/4 on a 100mm lens with a 25mm shutter diameter (100mm / 25mm). That part is pretty clear-cut, just divide the lens focal length by the opening diameter of the shutter and that's the f-stop. Every photographer who has been around for a few years will recognize this series: 1.4, 2.0, 2.8, 4.0, 5.6, 8.0, 11.0, 16.0, 22.0, and 32. They are, of course, the classic f-stop values. But why these particular numbers? What do they actually represent? There are some simple reasons why the classic f-stop values are what they are, and some reasons that may not be so obvious. Let's look at why f/2.8 is actually half of f/2.

## Optical Halves:

There are three ways to control the exposure of film or a light-sensing chip: 1) the length of time the shutter remains open (shutter speed); 2) the size of the opening that lets light in (the f-stop); 3) the speed of the film/sensor (what used to be the ASA

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# Classical F-Stops

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rating - now the ISO). It is much easier to see that shutter speed values decrease in duration by a factor of 2 in the progression: 1 sec; ½ sec; ¼ sec; 1/8 sec; 1/15 sec, etc. than it is to see that f-stops also decrease in diameter by a factor of 2 in this progression: 1.4; 2; 2.8; 4.0; 5.6 etc.

One thing that is always confusing is that the f-stop **openings** get smaller as the numerical **value** gets larger due to the fact that the values are actually fractional denominators in a ratio. This is the same logic that makes 1/8 smaller in value than 1/5. As mentioned earlier, the f-stop numerical values are chosen because they represent the previous value by a factor of 2 (either twice as large or ½ as large depending on the direction). So why is it that f5.6 is twice as large as f8? The reason is that lens “area” is a two-dimensional calculation involving the radius of a circle whereas shutter speeds represent a linear progression of time duration. As everyone remembers from Jr. High School, calculations that solve for the area of a circle involve those messy square roots and the even messier irrational value, *pi*.

What the f-stops do is provide a series of optical halves, wherein each successive value allows ½ (or twice) as much light to pass through the lens. I have talked to many photographers over the years and read quite a few photographic texts but the following fact is almost never mentioned. ***The classic f-stop values are all based on the irrational value, 1.4142135623 etc. — which is the square root of 2.***

With some slight fudging, each f-stop can be derived by multiplying the previous f-stop by the square root of 2. For example, here is a series wherein each new value is the product of the previous multiplied by the square root of 2:

1; 1.41; 2.0; 2.82; 4.0; 5.66; 8.0; 11.3; 16.0; 22.6; etc.

These are, of course, the classic f-stop values. But why use the square root of 2 as a multiplier? And why do

these numbers represent optical halves? Let’s take a look.

**A=pi\*r<sup>2</sup>** This formula tells us that the area of a circle is equal to the product of the square of the radius times pi. Using this formula a circle with a radius (r) of 10mm has an area (A) of 314.15 sq. mm.

$$A=3.1415*10^2;$$

$$A=3.1415*100;$$

$$A=314.15$$

In the above example the circle has a radius (r) of 10mm or a diameter (D) of 20mm. So another way of looking at the problem is that a circle with a 20mm diameter will have an area of 314.15 sq mm. Suppose I want a circle that has twice the area (628.30 sq mm)? This could represent a lens opening that will let in twice as much light? The question is, how much does the iris in the shutter have to open in order to make the circle have twice as much area? We can use the same formula, but this time solve for the radius, “r”.

$$A=pi*r^2$$

$$628.30=3.1415*r^2$$

$$628.30/3.1415=r^2$$

$$200=r^2$$

$$r=\text{square root of } 200$$

$$r=14.14$$

$$\text{Or a diameter of } 14.14*2 = 28.28$$

Now you could go through all of this algebra every time you want to calculate the next doubling of the lens opening **or** you can use a much simpler method by simply multiplying the smaller diameter (20mm) by the square root of 2 (1.41421). This will also come up with the larger diameter (28.28mm). In other words you can double the area of a circle by multiplying the previous diameter by the square root of 2. This little quirk obviously made a big impression on early camera makers.

Although it would have been just as easy to call the smallest f-stop on a camera “1” and the largest f-stop “8” (with 2,3,4,5,6, and 7 in between) those

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# Classical F-Stops

Continued from Page 8

rascally optical scientists decided to use values starting with some integer over the square root of 2. Therefore, confusing generations of photographers who have to keep reminding themselves that larger numbers represent smaller openings and the number "4" printed on the aperture ring is actually double the opening of 5.6.

## What's Your Type?

Continued from Page 5

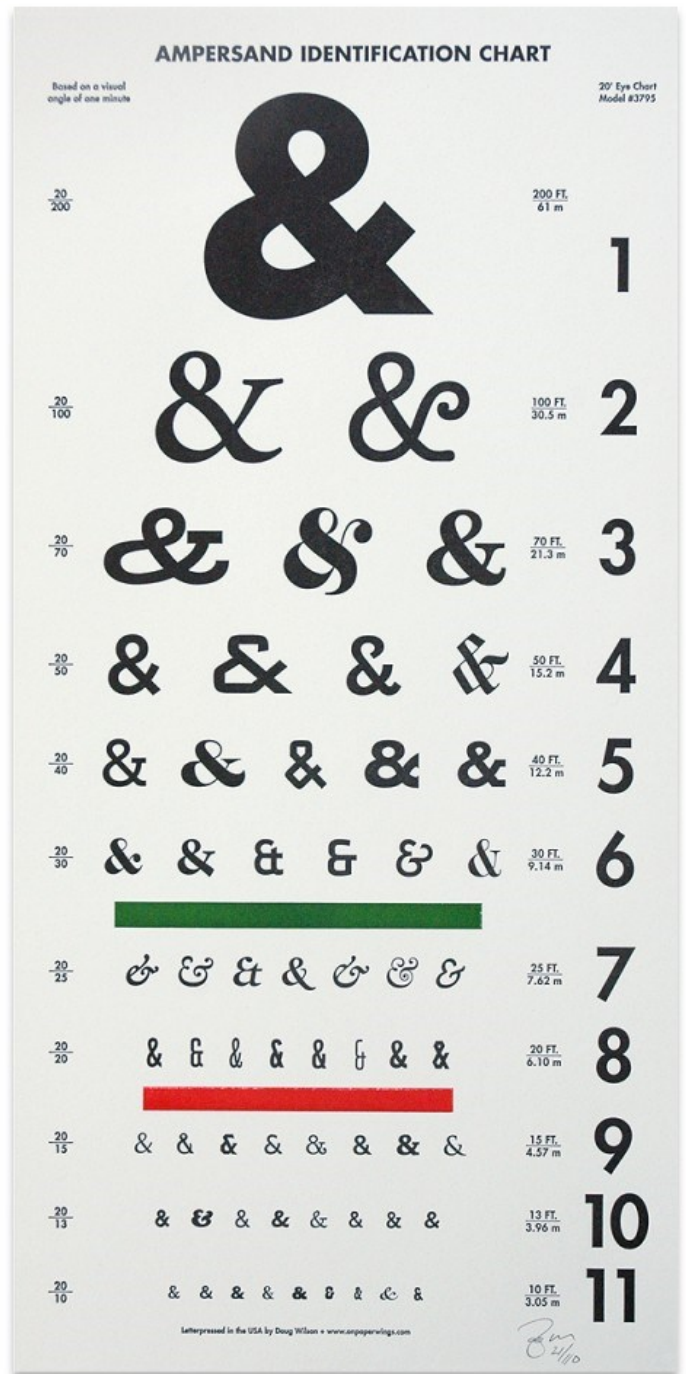
other reference files may need to be used, such as the Interpol cards, manufacturer pamphlets, and any other typestyle samples available.

A proposal for a workshop by Peter Tytell and me, to be conducted at the 2015 AAFS Meeting in Orlando, has been submitted and if approved, further instruction in the classification of typewritten texts will be provided. In addition, the WinType Program is available for free download via the "FDE Only" pages on the ASQDE website, [www.asqde.org](http://www.asqde.org).



Grungy, retro typography design element. Macro shot of the word TYPE on vintage typewriter type-bars.

From: <http://www.dreamstime.com/royalty-free-stock-image-word-type-old-typewriter-typebar-letters-isolated-white-grungy-retro-typography-design-element-macro-shot-vintage-image33698026>



### The Ampersand Identification Chart

From:

<http://blogs.wayne.edu/ciccarelli/2013/04/03/the-ampersand/>

# Continuing Education

## February 2015

**16-21**     **AAFS 67th Annual Meeting**  
Hyatt Regency Orlando  
Orlando, FL  
<http://aafs.org/meetings/2015>



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
FORENSIC SCIENCES

*See the detailed article about workshops being offered!*

## May 2015

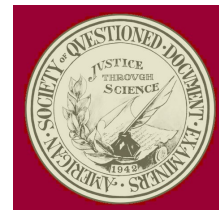
**18-22**     **MAAFS Annual Meeting**  
Hyatt Regency  
Chesapeake Bay, MD  
[www.maafs.org](http://www.maafs.org)



## August 2015

**2-8**         **IAI Annual Meeting and 100th Anniversary**  
Sacramento, CA  
[www.theiai.org/conference/index.php](http://www.theiai.org/conference/index.php)

**8-13**       **ASQDE 73rd Annual Meeting**  
Toronto, Canada  
Bonnie Beal, Program Chair  
Diane Kruger, Site Chair  
<http://www.asqde.org/AGM/agm2015.html>



## September 2015

**20-25**     **MAFS 44th Annual Meeting**  
Mackinac Island, MI  
Mark Goff, Site Chair  
Courtney L. Baird, QD Section Chair  
<http://www.mafs.net/>



# Forensic Document Examiners Seminar

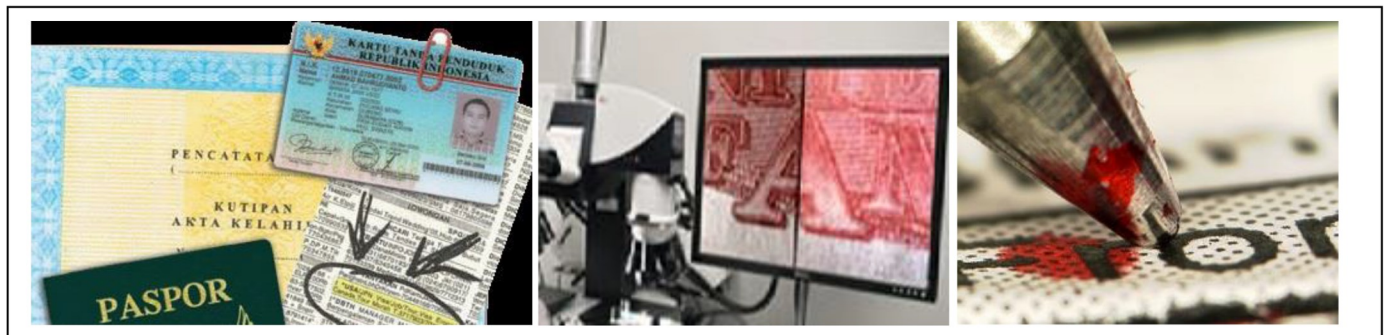
This specialized professional-level seminar – designed for both new examiners as well as experienced analysts who desire a comprehensive technology update – explores the full range of image, ink, and substrate variables that are key to determining the authenticity of currency, stamps, passports, and other legal documents.

This four-day course will provide you with valuable forensic document information in a hands-on experiential learning environment. Seminar subjects include:

- Imaging characteristics of traditional and non-impact printing systems, including the newest digital technologies.
- The interrelationship of the imaging process, ink, and substrate, and how to evaluate all three.
- Technical knowledge to help you differentiate between an authentic document and a fraudulent replica.

**Do you need to:**

- Differentiate between fraudulent and authorized documents?
- Understand the new imaging technologies being used to validate authorized documents?



<b>Seminar Date</b>	<b>April 21-24, 2015</b>
<b>Who Should Attend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questioned document examiners</li> <li>• Forensic document examiners</li> <li>• Forensic scientists</li> <li>• Criminologists</li> <li>• Fraud investigators</li> <li>• Government employees who work in or with crime labs</li> </ul>
<b>Program Fee</b>	\$1,495

To register, or for more information, contact:  
**Barbara Giordano**  
**RIT-PAL**  
 66 Lomb Memorial Dr.  
 Rochester, NY 14623  
 Phone: (585) 475-2687  
 Email: [bagter@rit.edu](mailto:bagter@rit.edu)

<http://printlab.rit.edu/>

# Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Update

Dear ABFDE Diplomates,

For those who may not be aware the Federal Bureau of Investigation is no longer the administering agency for the Scientific Working Groups (SWGs). After more than two decades (the oldest SWG was formed in 1992) the creation of forensic standards and guidelines will now fall under the purview of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This change is a direct result of the NAS report and its many recommendations for change in the forensic community. In order to continue the legacy instituted by the SWGs and to improve on their work, NIST established the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC). The former SWGs have been divided into 5 Scientific Area Committees: Digital Multimedia, Biology/DNA, Crime Scene/Death Investigation, Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis, and Physic/Pattern.

The Questioned Document subcommittee resides in the Physic/Pattern committee along with Firearms and Toolmarks, Footwear and Tire Tread, Friction Ridge, and Blood Stain Pattern Analysis.

An organizational chart can be found at: <http://www.nist.gov/forensics/osac/index.cfm>

The first OSAC meetings took place a few weeks ago

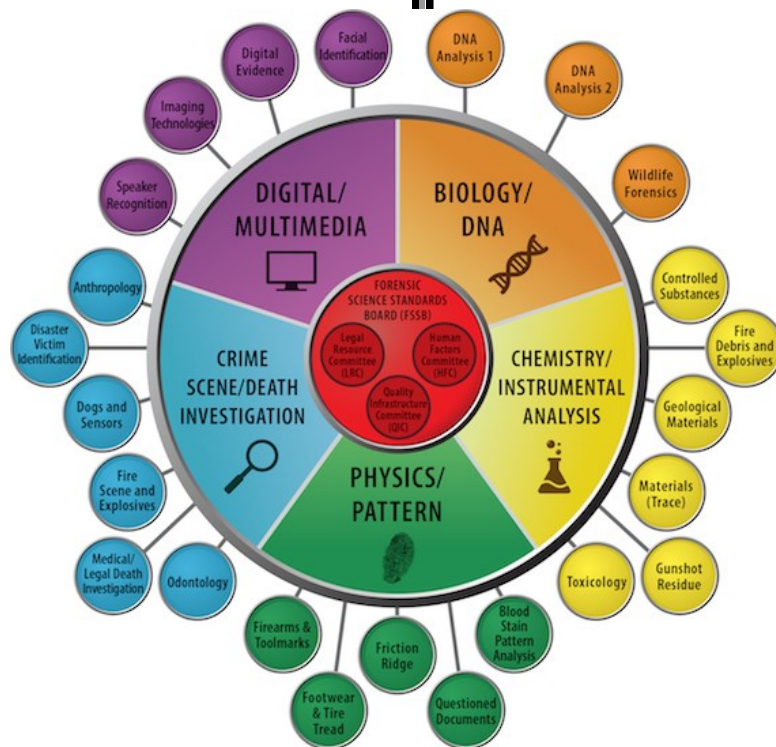
in Norman, OK. The QD subcommittee hit the ground running by 1) choosing it's executive officers, 2) compiling a list of former ASTM standards that should instantly become OSAC standards, and 3) creating task groups to address necessary revisions to the conclusion terminology guide, the handwriting guide, the terminology guide, the training guide, and the scope of work.

The first public OSAC meetings will be held February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the AAFS meeting in Orlando. I recommend all those interested to attend as I'll be fielding questions from the audience after I give a brief PowerPoint presentation.

Lastly, with the creation of this new organization many examiners have asked if SWGDOC has been disbanded. At the moment it has not been disbanded. Those of us at SWGDOC felt it would be premature to disassemble before we knew if OSAC was going to be a functioning and productive entity. For example the OSAC QD subcommittee has just over 20 members while the SWGDOC group has over 40, if the work load gets too heavy SWGDOC members may be used to supply new standards and revisions to OSAC.

Regards,

Rigo Vargas



## Tom Vastrick Advises of AAFS Workshops Scheduled for Next Month in Orlando, FL

It is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that our Section will be sponsoring not 1; not 2; but 3 workshops at the 2015 **America Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)** annual meeting in beautiful, sunny, warm, Orlando, FL.

The schedule is as follows:

Monday, February 16, 2015 Workshop #3: Classification of Typewritten Documents by **Peter Tytell** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday, February 16, 2015 Workshop #13: The Examination of Skillfully Simulated Signatures by **Dr. Linton Mohammed** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 Workshop #19: Automating Image Production for Forensic Document Examination by **Mark Goff** and **Todd Welch** from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For people in need of recertification points, this is a golden opportunity to score a significant cache of points in one sunny week. This is our opportunity to step up and show how we participate when given the opportunity. Pre-registration should be available via the AAFS website at the end of the first week of November.

I am sending you this information now so you can make advance plans for hotel rooms, airline tickets, and Disney tickets around the program. Also **Jim Lee** has put together a tremendous program that will go two full days so do not plan on leaving early on Friday as you may have done in the past. Thank you Jim! My thanks to **Kevin Kulbacki** who is serving as Questioned Document Section Workshop Chair for landing us this golden opportunity. While I am at it, thanks also to **Jane Lewis**, who served as AAFS Workshops Co-Chair.

Also, a reminder that on Wednesday, February 18, 2015, will be the section business meeting from 2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. and the Section Reception from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. which will, in part, be financially supported by **Foster and Freeman** along with a very generous donation from **AAFS**. You can expect a very nice selection at the reception. See y'all in February.

*Tom Vastrick*

*October 24, 2014, E-mail communication to AAFS Members*

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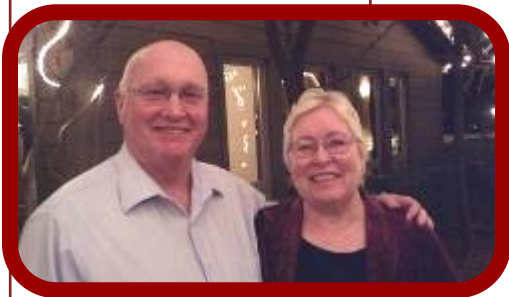
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***Thinking of going through the ABFDE Certification process?***

***Come to the 101 Basics of Certification course at the next meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Scientists.***

***Contact: Lisa Hanson, ABFDE Vice President and Testing Committee Chair***

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Send contributions by  
May 20 to:

**Diane K. Tolliver, Editor  
ABFDE News**



***Diane  
Tolliver***