



MAAFS

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8

APRIL 1980

NUMBER 2

The MAAFS Newsletter is the official publication of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists, Inc., and is published at least twice each year. All communications regarding the MAAFS Newsletter should be sent to the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa, at the DEA Special Testing and Research Laboratory, 7704 Old Springhouse Road, McLean, Virginia 22102.

FINAL RESULTS OF CERTIFICATION

The following is the final report of the Criminalistics Certification Study Committee (CCSC) written by the committee chairman, Jack Cadman. While this particular round in the "certification war" is over and decided, do not think that the issue is dead or that certification will totally go away. It is fairly safe to say that there will be new proposals for certification in the future. Also remember that certification may be visited upon the forensic community via a decision of the appellate or superior/supreme court judicial system (and this form of certification will not take into account the desires of the forensic practitioners!) - The Editor

At the San Diego meeting in 1977, the Criminalistics Certification Study Committee (CCSC) received the charge from the Criminalistics Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences to study the "desirability and feasibility" of the certification of persons in the Criminalistics field. An intensive study since that time has attempted to contact as many practitioners as possible. As promised at the outset, we concluded our study by providing the profession nationwide with a certification proposal. A survey was included which took the form of a ballot.

The analysis of the survey revealed that only 38% of the 1396 persons who responded approved of certification as proposed. However, a substantial number of those responding indicated they would apply for certification if it were implemented:

- 80% of those examining controlled substances (649 persons)
- 77% of those in serology (396 persons)
- 73% of those examining firearms (227 persons)

68% of those doing toxicology (209 persons)

On this basis we determined that certification is feasible, but because of the lack of a majority vote in favor of certification the American Board of Criminalistics (ABC) will not be incorporated at the direction of the CCSC.

A great deal of information was developed during the course of our study from the questionnaires, peer group recommendations, and finally from the survey ballot itself. The CCSC believes that some form of certification would be beneficial to the profession of Criminalistics. We also believe certification will be adopted in the future. We strongly recommend that any criminalistics certification program incorporate our fundamental concepts of regional representation and peer group review.

All of the members of the CCSC wish to thank everyone who helped so much in our deliberations.

W. J. Cadman
Chairman, CCSC

I have included some of the data developed from the results of the nationwide Certification Ballot. I hope that you have not been stunned into unconsciousness by long columns of numbers. This data is for the nationwide ballot whereas the numbers in the last issue of the newsletter were for the Mid-Atlantic Region only. - The Editor

Of 1396 Ballots; 526 (38%) voted yes and 870 (62%) voted no.

Percentage of Yes votes by Evidence Examined category:

- Controlled Substances (816) - 32%
- Serology (513) - 38%
- Firearms (309) - 35%

- Toolmarks (347) - 35%
- Toxicology (307) - 35%
- Arson (449) - 32%
- Explosives (311) - 28%
- Hairs (502) - 35%
- Fibers (498) - 35%
- Paint (497) - 32%
- Glass (439) - 33%
- Soil (356) - 32%
- Gunshot (341) - 30%
- Other (210) - 40%

Percentage of Yes votes by Association Membership:

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences (325) - 48%
- Assoc. of Firearms & Toolmarks Examiners (106) - 50%
- A. S. Crime Lab Directors (115) - 49%
- California Assoc. of Criminalists (188) - 38%
- Mid-Atlantic Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (117) - 49%
- Midwestern Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (241) - 43%
- Northeastern Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (138) - 50%
- Northwestern Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (90) - 33%
- Southern Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (186) - 42%
- Southwestern Assoc. of Forensic Scientists (111) - 39%
- Other (110) - 45%

Percentage of Yes votes by Geographic Region:

- Northeast (153) - 42%
- Mid-Atlantic (131) - 38%
- Southeast (236) - 39%
- Midwest (371) - 41%
- Southwest (171) - 32%
- Northwest (79) - 35%
- California (233) - 31%
- Other (13) - 62%

-continued on page two-

Certification Ballot data continued:

Of all respondents who indicated that they examined only one type of evidence:

Controlled Substances - 63 Yes; 186 No
Serology - 38 Yes; 34 No
Firearms - 2 Yes, 11 No
Toolmarks - 1 Yes; 1 No
Toxicology - 17 Yes; 15 No

JOBS

Al Bober is running an Employment Clearing House (under MAAFS auspices) for forensic scientists. He keeps resumes of MAAFS members looking for work for 90 days and provides the information to all potential employers who contact him. Al provides this service free of charge. All members interested in employment possibilities are asked to write Al at:

Al Bober
8430 Allenswood Road
Randallstown, Md 21133

If you should hear of a job opening or receive an employment opportunity notice, please send Al a copy.

Thank you for your cooperation.

† † † † †

The Crime Laboratory Bureau of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement is recruiting applicants for Crime Laboratory Analyst Positions in the following specialty areas.

Microanalysis
Chemistry
Serology
Toxicology
Latent Prints
Firearms
Documents
Crime Scene Analysis

For further information regarding present vacancies in the areas please contact:

Jeffery Long, Personnel Officer
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Post Office Box 1489
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Phone: (904) 488-4814
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

† † † † †

STATE OF FLORIDA
Department of Law Enforcement

Position Title: Crime Laboratory Analyst,

position number 00707

Job Location: Jacksonville, Division of Staff Services, Crime Laboratory Bureau, Jacksonville Regional Crime Laboratory (Latents)

Salary Range: \$17,059 - \$23,031; pay grade 21.

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in one of the Physical or natural sciences and two years experience in a forensic laboratory;

or

Completion of the Crime Laboratory Analyst Trainee Program.

Four years of experience in the identification and analysis of fingerprints may be substituted for the required college training.

Professional experience in a forensic laboratory may be substituted on a year-for-year basis for the required college training.

Special Requirement: Applicants must be qualified by the Department of Law Enforcement to testify as an expert witness in state or federal courts.

How to apply: Submit a completed State of Florida Employment Application to:

Mr. Jeffrey Long, Personnel Officer
Department of Law Enforcement
Post Office Box 1489
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Application Deadline: April 19, 1980

† † † † †

STATE OF FLORIDA
Department of Law Enforcement

Position Title: Crime Laboratory Analyst Supervisor II, position number 00639

Job Location: Jacksonville, Division of Staff Services, Crime Laboratory Bureau, Jacksonville Regional Crime Laboratory
Salary Range: \$19,356 - \$26,330; pay grade 23.

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in one of the physical or natural sciences and four years of experience in a forensic laboratory.

Four years of experience in the identification and analysis of fingerprints may be substituted for the required college training.

Professional experience in a forensic laboratory may be substituted on a year-for-year basis for the required college training.

Special Requirement: Applicant must be certified to testify as an expert witness in state or federal courts.

How to Apply: Submit a completed

State of Florida Employment Application to:

Mr. Jeffrey Long, Personnel Officer
Department of Law Enforcement
Post Office Box 1489
Tallahassee, Florida 32302

Application Deadline: April 19, 1980

NEW MAAFS MEMBERS

In the last issue of the MAAFS Newsletter, we inadvertently did not print all the new MAAFS members. They are listed below along with the newest members in our association. Do you know someone who should be a MAAFS member? Why not do him and your MAAFS a favor and help him join MAAFS. The more the merrier!

279 Heljend M. McKenney
408 Elmwood Avenue
Feasterville, PA 19047

280 Kathleen E. Beyer
Burlington County Forensic Lab
Woodlane Road
Mount Holly, NJ 08060

281 Patricia Clausen Wojtowicz
Bureau of Forensic Science
P. O. Box 486
Merrifield, VA 22116

282 Frederick E. Webb
6436 Sleepy Ridge Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

283 Carrie M. Parker
US Postal Service Crime Lab
475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW
Washington, DC 20260

284 Edgardo C. Vias
Toxicology; Naval Medical Center
Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20014

305 Robert W. Scanlon
2560 McGinley Road
Monroeville, PA 15146

306 Michael A. Garten
14500 Cool Oak Lane
Centreville, VA 22020

307 T. Paul Sansone
Bureau of Forensic Science
401-A Colley Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23507

308 Harry M. Finley
Bureau of Forensic Science
401-A Colley Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23507

309 Thomas A. Brettell
New Jersey State Police Lab
P. O. Box 126
Hammonton, NJ 08037

NOTICE!

To All Document Examiners

American Board of Forensic Document Examiners

The American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc., is an independent voluntary certification organization for document examiners. Applications for waiver of the written and/or other examinations must be submitted to this Board on or before June 30, 1980. There will be no consideration for waivers after that time.

Further information and applications may be obtained by writing or calling:

The Forensic Sciences Foundation
11400 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20853
(301) 770-2723

Letters to the Editor:

Editor,

Cowards? Indeed! Enclosed is a file copy of a letter posted to Glen McWright before it was fashionable to disagree with anyone regarding certification. Conversations with the recipient indicated that the letter was to have been forwarded to the appropriate authorities and apparently that did not include MAAFS. As can be seen, very few of the points raised were ever opened up for formal or informal discussion, consideration, or resolution.

This may not be a publishable missive with respect to MAAFS editorial philosophy, but, the indication is clear that at least one peer group member did express a collective, written opinion and it was put through channels. Perhaps certification would have progressed more naturally and to a more desirable end if the National Study Group would have considered and addressed themselves to the points that were raised. The selling of the final package was either unsuccessful or inarticulately done; peer pressure and snow jobs seemed to have replaced a good salesmanship effort. Communication between the study groups and the membership was poor, publishing minutes of a meeting A after meeting B took place is hardly adequate communication. The application of peer pressure to pass a certification vote did not help either.

This writer was labeled "paranoid" more than once when questions such as the ones sent to McWright were asked of other peer group members and National committee members; that sort of an attitude went far in assuring "No" votes or just plain silence when it came time to vote on the package.

If certification failed only at the MAAFS regional level and it survives the National vote, I don't think there will be a rush to sign up for certification unless some of the mentioned problems are worked out. Certification may still be a good idea, but it will have to undergo some basic changes in purpose and philosophy to be popular and useful.

There you have it, one person's answer to the challenge, you may publish for effect or not publish — in any case it might be nice to exclude my name; rocking the bureaucratic boat isn't yet fashionable on my block.

Name withheld

Sir,

An interesting letter. How much better for all of us if you had sent these letters to me in mid 1979? I would have gladly published them as soon as possible. And other persons who felt as you did (and still do) may have been emboldened to speak up also; the end result being much more input to the process of drawing up the certification documents we all recently voted upon.

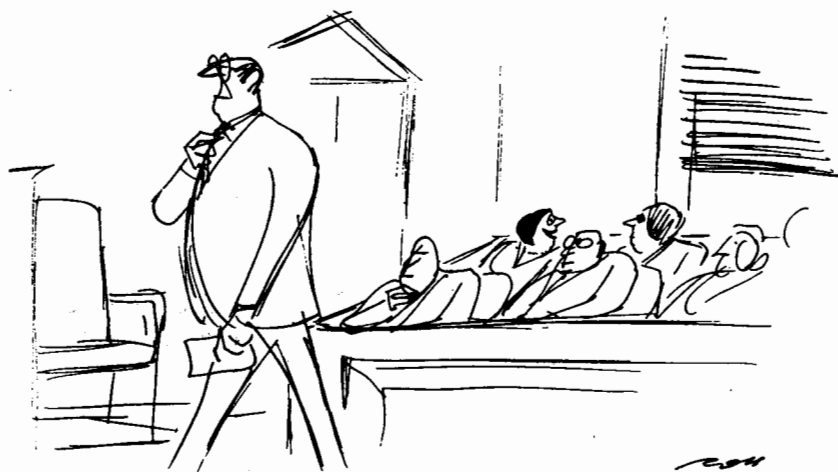
For right or wrong, it has been my policy NOT to publish either hearsay opinions or my own views. I can never be certain of printing someone's conversation just as they would want it to appear and I feel that an editor should only rarely publish his own views. Hence I wait [in vain till now] for letters and articles to be sent to me. When none were forthcoming after more than one year of certification work, a natural result [at least in my view] was my recent article entitled "Cowards?"

† † †

And some additional thoughts to points raised by your letter:

(1) as a member of the MAAFS Regional Peer Group for Drugs and coworker of the Mid-Atlantic representative to the National Peer Group, I never saw any written suggestions from MAAFS members, yet the drug chemists are the largest single forensic speciality within the MAAFS membership. I cannot speak for the other specialities nor the letters, etc., that they did or did not write.

(2) there was NO attempt at "salesmanship" or "selling" of certification by any



DRAWING BY ROSS; © 1986 THE NEW YORKER MAGAZINE, INC.

"I enjoyed that. He was very, very illogical."

Letters to Editor continued:

MAAFS officials. We tried to report fully on all that was happening, but none of us were trying to "sell the program." I tried to publish everything connected with certification that I could lay my hot little hands on. AND I would have been glad to publish ANY dissenting opinions IF ANY HAD BEEN SENT TO ME. That is the principle point I was trying to make with my article entitled "Cowards?"
(3) anyone who refused to vote on the

certification issue justly deserved having an unsatisfactory result (to him) imposed upon him. Voting is more than a privilege; it is a duty. [This is a personal opinion - not MAAFS policy - but one that I feel very strongly about!] The number of MAAFS members voting on certification when there was even free postage included is a striking commentary on the apathy within MAAFS.
(4) Thank you very much for your letter!

It was good to see that at least one MAAFS member can actually write a letter [and yours was typed too - 4 bonus points = extra drink at my expense.] Only one other person (the director at my lab) indicated that he would write a letter and that one hasn't gotten around to it yet. So cheers and I'll see you at Louisville and buy you two drinks of your choice.

- The Editor

From The New Yorker 1979



"Is this really necessary, Your Honor? I'm an expert."

Have you paid your 1980 Dues?

MEMBERSHIP APPLIATION

Print in ink or type application; obtain signatures of two current MAAFS members and then mail form to Secretary-Treasurer. Application fee is \$2.50 (non-refundable) and must accompany this application form. Yearly dues at \$7.50. By-Laws require applicant to attend one MAAFS meeting before application can be accepted.

Name:

Occupation/Job Title:

Employer:

Business Address & Phone:

Home Address & Phone:

(Please circle or check your preferred mailing address.)

Education and Experience (include all past employment relating to the forensic sciences):

Circle MAAFS Meetings that you have attended (By-Laws require attendance at one meeting before application can be accepted):

Spring 1977 Fall 1977 Spring 1978 Fall 1978 Spring 1979 Fall 1979 Spring 1980 Fall 1980 Spring 1981 Fall 1981 Spring 1981 Fall 1981

Membership in Professional or Scientific organizations:

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

President:
Peter M. Marone
Bureau of Forensic Science
Post Office Box 999
Richmond, Virginia 23208
(804) 786-4706

Secretary-Treasurer
Michael McGee
Bureau of Forensic Science
Post Office Box 999
Richmond, Virginia 23208
(804) 786-4706

President-Elect:
Gerald B. Richards
FBI Laboratory, Room 3218
9th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535
(202) 324-4450

Newsletter Editor
Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa
DEA Special Testing & Research Lab
7704 Old Springhouse Road
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 557-1495

FORENSIC SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

For the Forensic Scientist of the Year Award I hereby nominate:

Name:

Address:

Give a brief summary of the nominee's background and reasons for the nomination:

Submitted by Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Nominations by ten (10) members will be required in support of each nominee for the award. All nominations will be submitted to the Awards Committee for authentication and review by two (2) month before the semi-annual Spring Meeting. The nominations will then be forwarded to the Executive Committee who determines a final choice of one or none before the Spring Meeting.

Submit this form to: Rose Marie Lanzetta
Maryland State Police Headquarters
Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, Maryland 21208

COMBINED MEETING

LOUISVILLE, KY

MAY 7-10, 1980

Tentative Program

MAY 7th, WEDNESDAY

8 AM to 8 PM – Registration
9 PM to 12 Midnight – Hospitality Room

MAY 8th, THURSDAY

Exhibits open all day.

8:30 AM to 6 PM – Registration

First Session – Archibald Room

1 PM – Introductions
2 PM – The FBI Laboratory – Assistant Director James W. Greenleaf
2:30 PM – Courtroom Research in Forensic Sciences – Richard Tanton, Forensic Serologist, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Crime Lab
3 PM – Collaboratively Studied Methods in Forensic Sciences – David MacLean, AOAC
3:30 PM to 4 PM – Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall
4 PM – Fractured Forensic Sciences; Goofs and gaffs by the Courts and Scientists in Them – James E. Starrs, Professor of Law & Forensic Sciences, The George Washington University
4:30 PM – Forensic Laboratory Safety, Where Do We Start? – no speaker given
6:30 PM to 10 PM – River cruise on the Belle of Louisville & Dinner (all included in Registration)

MAY 9th, FRIDAY

SECTION MEETINGS:

TOXICOLOGY SECTION – Old River

Room

8:30 AM – Panel Discussion moderated by Mike McGee of Virginia Bureau of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA
9:30 AM – The Effects of Freezing and Thawing on Barbiturates in Physiological Fluids and Tissues – Maureen P. Hogan, Mid-Hudson Regional Lab
10 AM – Coffee Break
10:30 AM – PCP Analysis in Biological Fluids – Syva Corporation
11:00 AM – High Blood Alcohol Levels – Alan Barfield and D. T. Stafford, University of Tennessee
11:30 AM – Gas Chromatographic Determination of Meprobamate and Glutathimide Serum Levels – Maury Phillips, University of Tennessee

CRIMINALISTICS SECTION – Water Poet Room

8:30 AM – Arson Panel Discussion moderated by Bill Dietz of BATEF, Cincinnati, Ohio
10 AM – Coffee Break
10:30 AM – An Experiment in House Burning – Blair Schultz, Illinois Bureau of Scientific Services
11:00 AM – Identification and Forensic Significance of Alkyl Lead Compounds in Fire Debris – Jerome Pihlaja and Robert Mooney, BCA Lab, St. Paul, Minnesota
11:30 AM – A Systemwide Method of Identification of Petroleum Distillates in Arson Cases – Thomas J. Hopen

SEROLOGY SECTION – Queen Room

8:30 AM – Panel Discussion moderated by Pete Marone of Virginia Bureau of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA
9:30 AM – Differentiation Between Human Seminal Acid Phosphate and other Naturally Occuring Acid Phosphatases by Use of Specific Activity –

James L. Mudd, Research Unit, FBI Lab, Washington, DC

10 AM – Coffee Break
10:30 AM – The Use of Thin Layer Immunoassay in Forensic Serology – Nicholas T. Lappas, The George Washington University
11 AM – The Storage of Sperm Smears – Michael Van Sant, Tennessee Crime Lab

DRUG SECTION – Kings Head Room

8:30 AM – Panel Discussion moderated by Richard Gelsomino of DEA Lab, Chicago
9:30 AM – Application of High Performance Liquid Chromatography of Forensic Drug Analysis – Ira Lurie, DEA Lab, New York, NY
10 AM – Coffee Break
10:30 AM – LSD Blotter Acid – Edward Franzosa, DEA Lab, McLean, VA
11 AM – Applications of Circular Thin Layer Chromatography to Forensic Drug Analysis – J. H. Bidanset, St. John's University, Jamaica, NY

ALL SECTIONS – Luncheon from 12 Noon till 1:30 PM (included in Registration.)

SEROLOGY SECTION

Moderator: Robert Briner
1:30 PM – Phosphoglucomutase Subtyping by Conventional Electrophoresis – Brian Wraxall and Joan Provost, Serological Research Institute
2 PM to 4 PM – Electrofocusing – Discussion – Dry Workshop, LKB Instruments

CRIMINALISTICS SECTION

Moderator: Robin Porter of Virginia

Bureau of Forensic Science, Richmond, Virginia

- 1:30 AM - Determination of Arsenic, Mercury, Lead, Barium and Antimony by Furnace Atomizer Atomic Absorption - Herbert L. Kahn, John J. Sotera and Gerald R. Dulude, Instrumentation Laboratory
- 2 PM - Gunshot Residue by Absorption Spectroscopy - Kent A. Oakes and Barbara Oakley, Regional Crime Lab
- 3 PM - Determination of Gunshot Residue Using Anodic Stripping Voltammetry - Lowell W. Shank, Dept. of Chemistry, Western Kentucky University, KY
- 4:30 PM - Spring Business Meetings for Regional Associations of Forensic Scientists
- 7 PM - Evening Program

MAY 10th, SATURDAY

CRIMINALISTICS SECTION

- Moderator: Dan Cappy
- 8:30 AM - Forensic Dust Analysis - Skip Palenik, Walter C. McCrone Associates
- 9:00 AM - Do You Know What You Had to Drink Last Night? - Leroy Steward and Frank Feeny, BATF, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 9:30 AM - The Determination of Inorganic and Organo-Lead Compounds in Lubrication Oils - W. Bress, St. John's University, Jamaica, NY
- 10 AM - Coffee Break
- 10:30 AM - The Characterization of Automobile Engine Lubricants by Spectrofluorometric Measurements - Thomas A. Kubic, Nassau County PD Scientific Investigation Bureau, NY
- 11 AM - A Study of Shotgun Pellet

Ricochet - Michael P. McConnell, Gary M. Triplett and Walter F. Rowe, The George Washington University

- 11:30 AM - Dequenching of Infra-Red Luminescence in Ball Point Ink - S. McKasson, Illinois Bureau of Scientific Services

TOXICOLOGY SECTION

- 8:30 AM - Workshop on Emit Drugs of Abuse in Urine - Ron Thompson, Syva Corporation

DRUG SECTION

- 8:30 AM - Workshop on Seizure of Clandestine Laboratory - Chicago and Miami DEA Laboratories

SEROLOGY SECTION

- 8:30 AM - Workshop on Bloodstain Analysis System - Discussion of Problems, Solutions and Court Testimony - Brian Wraxall and Mark Stolorow

NOTES: