Webinar #5: "Forensic Science Essentials: Challenges in Fire Analysis and Document Examination"

About the Panelists

Linton A. Mohammed, Ph.D., D-ABFDE

Dr. Linton Mohammed has been in the field of Forensic Document Examination for more than 30 years. His PhD thesis was entitled "*Elucidating spatial and dynamic features to discriminate between signature disguise and signature forgery behavior.*" He has testified as an expert witness more than 100 times in the US, England, and the Caribbean. He is the co-author of "*The Neuroscience of Handwriting: Applications for Forensic Document Examination*" and has published several papers in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Mohammed has conducted or co-presented workshops on signature and document examination in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Latvia, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United States. In 2012, he was given the New Horizon Award in Recognition of Exceptional Contributions in Scientific Research for the Advancement of Forensic Document Examination by the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.

Dr. Mohammed is certified by the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc and holds a Diploma in Document Examination from the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences.

He is a member and Past-President of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, Inc and is currently serving as the Chair of the Questioned Documents Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He serves on the Editorial Review Boards of the Journal of Forensic Sciences and Journal of the American Society of Questioned Documents and is a guest reviewer for several other journals. He is an appointed member of the Expert Working Group in Human Factors in Forensic Document Examination sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He also served for two years as an appointed member of the Physics/Pattern Evidence Scientific Area Committee of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) sponsored by NIST.

Dr. Mohammed is in private practice in Burlingame, CA (San Francisco Bay Area).

John Lentini, CFI, D-ABC

John Lentini is one of a handful of people certified to conduct both fire scene investigations and fire debris analysis. He has personally conducted more than 2,000 fire scene inspections and has appeared as an expert witness on more than 200 occasions. He is an active proponent of standards for fire and other forensic investigations. He is a member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Investigations (921), the Technical Committee on Fire Investigator Professional Qualifications (1033) and has served three terms as chair of ASTM Committee E30 on Forensic Science.

John is the past Chairman of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Criminalistics Section. He also serves on the NIST/OSAC Subcommittee on Fire and Explosion Investigations. He received the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) 2015 "Person of the Year Award" in recognition of his work in moving the fire investigation profession forward and in helping to prevent or reverse miscarriages of justice in arson cases.

He is now an independent consultant living in the Florida Keys and doing business as Scientific Fire Analysis. His book, ***Scientific Protocols for Fire Investigation***, now in its second edition, was published by CRC Press in 2013. His website is www.firescientist.com

Eileen Fynan, NCSTL Director of Technology and Distance Education

Eileen Fynan has over 25 years experience in curriculum development, instructional and organizational systems design, and project management. She applied these disciplines while managing multiple forensic-focused training programs for the criminal justice, law enforcement and military communities.

Ms. Fynan served as lead instructional designer for National Institute of Justice (NIJ) web-based training projects, including *Principles of Forensic DNA for Officers of the Court*, *President's DNA Initiative: DNA Analyst Training*, *Firearms Examiner Training*, and *Using and Presenting Digital Evidence in the Courtroom*. In addition, she provided strategic oversight and management for NIJ-sponsored pattern evidence, crime scene investigation and medical examiner training programs, as well as forensic training programs for military personnel.

Her experience includes instructional systems design and delivery for classroom, online and blended learning environments in government, corporate and academic settings. During her nine-year tenure as an adjunct faculty member with St. Petersburg College, Ms. Fynan served as a didactic, clinical and online instructor. Employing adult learning principles and learning management system integration, she transitioned traditional instructor led courses into interactive e-learning environments for St. Petersburg College and University of Florida forensic science online master's program.

Ms. Fynan holds a BA in Business Management from Eckerd College, an Instructional Design certificate from the University of Wisconsin, and a Webmaster certificate from St. Petersburg College.