THE IDENTIFIER

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

I hope this message finds you well. As we transition from the heat of summer into the promise of fall, I trust that many of you were able to take time to rest, recharge, and perhaps enjoy a vacation away from the daily stresses of our work.

Earlier this month, August 10–15, 2025, Luke Spratt and I had the privilege of attending the IAI/FDIAI Joint Conference in Orlando, Florida. We were honored not only to represent our chapter but also to present lectures and workshops to our colleagues. Luke conducted two engaging workshops— *Practical Crime Scene Photography: Clear, Quick, and Proper Photos* and *Grouping Fired Cartridge Cases for Investigators*—and delivered a lecture on *Adapting Not Surviving: Embracing and Implementing Change in Your Unit*. I was fortunate to present a new workshop, *Healing Through Humor*, as well as co-present a lecture with Dr. Vince Van Hasselt on *Behavioral Health Training for the CSI*.

All sessions were well attended and received positive feedback. In addition, Luke and I participated in the IAI's 5K run, which was an enjoyable highlight of the week. Our SCIAI table was also a great success—we connected with many collectors and sold a significant number of our chapter's challenge coins. With more than 1,500 participants in attendance, the conference provided a valuable opportunity to learn, network, and foster connections with professionals from around the world. I encourage all of our members to consider attending an IAI conference, as it is truly a rewarding and educational experience.

Your SCIAI officers have also been hard at work developing new training opportunities for our members. Vice President George Potash has been collaborating with the SCAG and the Academy to provide free training sessions beginning in late October. The first class will address evidentiary issues related to interpersonal violence, including domestic violence, homicide, sexual assault, and aggravated assault. VP Potash is also working in partnership with the Sheriff's Association and the Chief's Association to increase awareness of SCIAI and ensure training opportunities are extended to deputies, officers, and civilian support personnel alike. Additionally, we are preparing a survey to collect information on available departmental resources that can be shared across agencies when needed.

(Continued on Page 6)

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

(continued)

Looking ahead, we are excited to begin planning the upcoming joint conference with our colleagues from Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. The event will be held at Harrah's Hotel in Cherokee, NC. During the IAI conference, I had the pleasure of meeting with the current presidents of these chapters to discuss our goals for this collaborative event, and we even captured a photo together to commemorate the occasion.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming training sessions and conferences. Until then, I wish you continued health—both mental and physical. Please remember to take care of yourselves so you can continue to care for others.

Warm regards,
Teresa Bryant
SCIAI President

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SCIAI Officer Meeting Recap

On 07/17/25, President Teresa Bryant, Vice President George Potash, and Secretary Chris Gary attended a Zoom Meeting discussing what future plans the South Carolina Division of the IAI has in store. The meeting focused on discussing various training initiatives and organizational development plans, including the establishment of a civilian track at the Academy and plans for photography and Hazmat crime scene classes. George and Teresa explored ways to improve training quality and accessibility through partnerships with law enforcement agencies, while also discussing financial stability and the creation of a database to track law enforcement capabilities. The conversation concluded with plans to expand their network across South Carolina through regional representatives and vendor partnerships, along with discussions about improving training coordination and conference support.

SCIAI ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALL MEMBERS are encouraged to review the SCIAI constitution and by-laws posted on the website located under the News tab.**
- Renewal for memberships must be submitted by **Wednesday July 1st 2026** for the upcoming years' membership.
- **Submissions for case study features and Member Spotlights are open. We want to highlight our members and interesting or unique cases that you have personally been involved with. If you would like to see yourself, a coworker, or one of your cases featured, please contact the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org**
- **Have a topic you would like to see covered or have an article you would like to submit for future issues of *The Identifier*? Submit your proposals to the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org — guest authors are welcome!**
- **If you've taken a newsletter appropriate forensic related photograph that you would like to see featured in an upcoming issue of The Identifier — Please contact the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org!**

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MEET THE OFFICERS

- **President—Teresa Bryant**
- **Vice President—George Potash**
- **Treasurer—James Kearney**
- **Secretary—Chris Gary**
- **Historian—Brittany Brown**

SCCJA Advanced Forensic Training Opportunities

For additional class information: click here to visit SCCJA 2025-2026 Course Catalog

During multiple SCIAI officer meetings, the topic of spreading awareness of accessible forensic training to agencies within the state of South Carolina has been brought up. The SCCJA offers the below advanced forensic related courses throughout the upcoming 2025-2026 year. This list has been added to the newsletter for member convenience in hope to spread more awareness of these training opportunities for agencies. Please refer to the SCCJA Course Catalog for information about class credits, prices, and further information. All classes are offered at SCCJA. Class 1 and Class 3 should contact their training officer to sign up through the ACADIS portal. Civilians are also welcome to audit the classes, but will need to contact Missy Collins (803) 896-9912 for registration and payment.

2025

Sept 10-11: Basic Detective

Sept 30: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

Oct 6-9: Crime Scene for Investigators

Oct 16: Footwear/Tire

Oct 23: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

Oct 21-22: Basic Detective

Nov 3-6: Fingerprint Recognition and Comparison

Nov 13: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

Nov 19: Latent Print Techniques

Nov 20: Basic Detective

Dec 1-4: Crime Scene for Investigators

Dec 11: Advance Crime Scene for Patrol

2026

Feb 19: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

Feb 26: Basic Detective

Mar 4: Latent Print Techniques

Mar 12: Footwear/Tire

Mar 23-26: Crime Scene for Investigators

Apr 1: Latent Print Techniques

Apr 9: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

Apr 16: Basic Detective

Apr 20-23: Fingerprint Recognition and Comparison

May 13: Footwear/Tire

May 15: Latent Print Techniques

May 21: Basic Detective

June 1-4: Crime Scene for Investigators

June 11: Advanced Crime Scene for Patrol

June 17: Latent Print Techniques

June 25: Basic Detective

Quarterly Book Review

Stay tuned for reviews of Forensic related books in upcoming issues of The Identifier!

If you have a book that you would like featured, please contact the editor!

Book Title: Déjà Dead

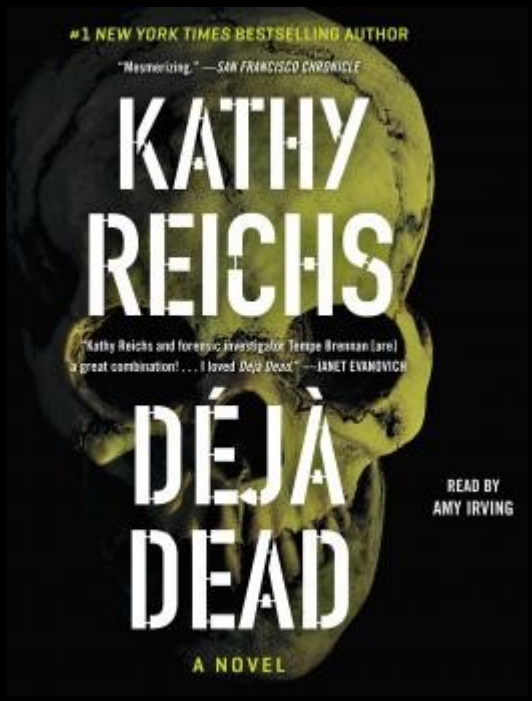
Author: Kathy Reichs

Genre: Crime Fiction/Mystery

Published: 1997

Pages: 420

Reviewed By: J. Anderson/Greenville County Forensics



Review: Déjà Dead is a strong crime thriller and the first in a 24-book series that inspired the TV show *Bones*. Kathy Reichs draws on her experience as a forensic anthropologist, which adds a lot of realism and depth to the story. The book stands out for it's scientific detail and slow-building suspense. The pacing can be a bit uneven at times, with some slower sections, but overall it's a solid pick for fans of forensic mysteries.

Happy National Forensic Science Week

(September 14th-20th, 2025)

This week recognizes the contribution that Forensic Science makes to the criminal justice system. This is the 13th annual year of National Forensic Science Week. It is an opportunity to celebrate academic programs, forensic professionals, and scientific research in the various forensic disciplines.

Thank you to all members of the SCIAI! Forensic Science in South Carolina would not be successful without the hard work you perform each day in your agencies!

Fun with Forensics

In honor of National Forensic Science Week, this issue will feature forensic science related trivia!

1. What primary element is not found in gunshot residue?

A. Lead B. Copper C. Barium D. Antimony

2. How long does gunshot residue stay present on live hands?

A. 4-8 hours B. 30 minutes C. 12 hours D. 1-3 hours

3. Which insect is most commonly associated with estimating time of death?

A. Carrion Wasp B. Flesh Beetle C. Blow Fly D. Death's Head Moth

4. Blood typing was an early form of forensic science. How many human blood types are there?

A. Three B. Four C. Eight D. Ten

5. Modern DNA analysis, known as the PCR-STR process, has been around since the _____.

A. 1940s B. 1970s C. 1980s D. 2000s

6. Which of these is NOT a field within forensic science?

A. IQ Testing B. Ballistics C. Fingerprints D. Blood Spatter analysis

7. A test result that is not certain enough to be useful to an investigation is called

A. Unfortunate B. Invalid C. Semi-valid D. Inconclusive

8. An "exemplar" would be requested by an expert in what?

A. Handwriting B. Explosives C. Fingerprints D. Blood Spatter

9. Which of these prefixes mean "relating to blood"?

A. Allo- B. Naturo- C. Hema- D. Soma-

10. The mixing up of other material (genetic, biological, or otherwise) with an evidence sample is called _____.

A. Contamination B. Involvement C. Machination D. Tampering

Fun with Forensics

Frequently in the field of Forensics, we, as a whole, deal with a variety of difficult and demanding scenes, tough scenarios, and are often placed in stressful situations. This panel is designed for you to have the opportunity take a quick mental break, refresh your mind, and also to have a little fun. ☺

Answers from NYT inspired Connections from the Summer Issue:

Blood: Irregular Margins, Cast Off, Area of Origin, Angle of Impact

Fingerprints: ACE-V, Minutiae, Powder, Ninhydrin

Photography: ABFO No. 2 Scale, Tripod, Exposure Triangle, Close-Up

Firearms: Antimony, Trajectory, Ricochet, Rifling

UPCOMING TRAINING/EVENTS

2025-2026 SCCJA Advanced Forensic Training Opportunities (see page 8)

Sept 1-5, 2025, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis I

$745—Bevel, Gardner & Associates Inc, 40 hours, SLED Forensics Laboratory, Columbia, SC

Oct 13-17, 2025, The Fluid Dynamic of Bloodstain Pattern Formation

$1650/$1750 (Member/Non-IABPA Member Price)-IABPA, 40 hours, Meridian ID

Nov 4-6, 2025, Crime Scene Evidence and Photography

$400—Black and White Forensics, 25 hours, Pickens County Sheriff's Office, Pickens, SC

Feb 2-6 2026, Fingerprint Evidence Processing, Collection & Photography

$736—TriTech Forensics, 40 hours, Charleston County Sheriff's Office, North Charleston, SC

October 2026, SCIAI Joint Conference—Cherokee, NC

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

City of Charleston: Crime Scene Investigator

Richland County: DNA Technical Leader

Editor: Brittany Brown bribrown@greenvillecounty.org