

International Association for Identification



June, 2010 – IAI Monthly Update

FYI, this update is sent each month to all IAI board members, officers, committee chairs, regional representatives, division secretaries, certification board chairs and secretaries, division editors and IAI staff. This update contains information that is of particular interest to these groups. It is also available on the “Members’ Area” of the IAI’s website. Please see the last page of *Identification News* for login and password information.

Hello again from the IAI office.

Spokane Conference General Information

Each year many IAI divisions set up a display to sell merchandise, advertise upcoming division conferences etc. at the annual IAI conference. Please contact the IAI Exhibit Coordinator, Jim Murray if your division is interested in obtaining display space at the Spokane Conference. Jim can be reached at (407) 568-7436 or by e-mail at conference@theiai.org

As in previous years, a meeting of all certification board chairs and secretaries will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesday morning, July 13, of the conference week. It is important that all certification board leadership attend this meeting to hear an update on accreditation of IAI certification programs by the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB). In the past there have been conflicts between that meeting and certification board activities. Please ensure that either the chair or secretary of each board is in attendance. Certification Quality Assurance Committee Chair Bob Garrett and I will moderate the meeting.

On Wednesday morning, August 19th, a breakfast meeting will be held for all division presidents, secretaries and regional representatives in attendance at the conference. This annual event is an excellent opportunity for division leadership to discuss pertinent issues with IAI leadership and network with leaders of other divisions. A sign-up sheet for this breakfast will be posted in the conference registration area. Please sign up if planning to attend.

Spokane Conference Hotel Information

Complete information about hotel registration can be found on the 2010 Conference web page at:

<http://www.theiai.org/conference/2010/hotel.php>

Division Secretaries Please Note

It is not unusual after a division holds a conference to change leadership positions. It is particularly important that the IAI office be notified if there is a change in the division secretary, editor, or any certification committee chair. In addition, divisions often make a recommendation for a new IAI regional representative from their division. Please keep in mind that all regional representative appointments are made by the IAI president who almost always appoints the person recommended by the division. Because the secretary of the division is the main point of contact between the IAI and division, it is vitally important that any change in that position, in particular, be promptly communicated to the IAI office.

Thanks for your assistance.

Certification Information

Just a reminder that the one-year grace period to renew certifications after expiration has been eliminated. For many years all IAI certification programs have had a one-year grace period for renewal following the expiration of certification. During that time, certification could be renewed without retesting or penalty. That one-year grace period will be eliminated on September 1, 2010. From that time on, there will be a 90-day grace period during which certification can be renewed for an additional fee of \$50. If certification is not renewed within that 90-day period, the individual will need to take the test required of new applicants in order to reinstate certification.

Also, many years ago some individuals were grandfathered into certification programs. Those individuals were not tested but were awarded certification based on experience, recommendations of peers, etc. Effective immediately, any grandfathered certificant who wishes to renew certification will be required to take the test currently in place for that certification. That is not a proficiency test but the test required of any new applicant to the program.

FBI CJIS Division Training

The FBI's CJIS Division conducts a great amount of training. Some of it is restricted for internal use but many classes are available to those employed in public agencies and doing fingerprint work. For a listing of classes, please visit the below website:

http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/bss_trtt_classes.pdf

2010 IAI Membership Dues

Per IAI by-laws, those who have not paid dues for 2010 have now be dropped from membership. Postcards have been sent to those who have not renewed membership notifying them that their IAI membership has lapsed. Those who were dropped can reactivate their membership by paying 2010 dues. If there are any questions regarding 2010 dues, please call or e-mail the IAI office.

NIST/NIJ Human Factors in Latent Fingerprint Identification Expert Working Group

This expert Working Group that deals with the latent fingerprint identification process, errors and potential errors in that process, held another meeting May 19-21, 2010 in Chicago, Illinois. During that meeting, the group reviewed draft documents submitted since the last meeting and that are now being collated and consolidated by Kathi Hanna, a primary writer of the NAS report concerning forensic science. Kathi is taking the drafts of the various committees and editing them for style, appropriate footnotes etc.

The final report of this working group will include a number of recommendations regarding certification, accreditation, management issues, education and training, work environment, testimony and reporting and will have a significant impact on the latent fingerprint community.

In previous *Identification News* columns I listed the members of this working group, many of whom are also IAI members.

The goal is to complete the final report during the two remaining meetings of the group.

As always, don't hesitate to contact the IAI office if there is anything we can do to assist you.

Joe Polski