

NEIAI Newsletter

NEBRASKA DIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION

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NEIAI 39th Annual Conference Recap



The 39th Annual Educational Conference for the Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification was held on April 4-5, 2023, at the Crete Carrier Riverview Lodge; which is located inside Eugene T. Mahoney State Park, in Ashland, Nebraska. One hundred and eighty-eight attendees ranging from forensic scientists, crime scene responders, evidence technicians, law enforcement officers, AFIS operators, and educators from Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri were in attendance. Terry Wagner, Lancaster County Sheriff, provided the welcoming ceremony. This year's conference encompassed a broad range of lectures and workshops; the following were provided during the two-day conference:

- » **Facial Reconstruction** (Presented by Joe Courtesis, Retired NYPD)
- » **Mobile AFIS** (Presented by Mark Lester, FBI; Tyler Ford, Nebraska State Patrol, & Gary Newlin, IDEMIA)
- » **Courtroom Testimony** (Presented by Shelly Haight, TriTech Forensics)
- » **The Exclusion Problem and AFIS Solutions Workshop** (Presented by Eric Ray, IDEMIA)
- » **Drone Usage for Crime Scenes** (Presented by Matthew Maus, Nebraska State Patrol)
- » **FARO Shooting Reconstruction Workshop** (Presented by Brenda Butler, FARO)
- » **NIBIN/Firearms Processing** (Presented by Michael Parker, ATF & Kent Weber, Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory)
- » **Jessica Brandon Homicide Case Study** (Presented by Jared Minary & Wendi Ground, Lincoln Police Department)
- » **Latent Print Close Non-Matches Workshop** (Presented by Eric Ray, IDEMIA)
- » **Cell Phone Photography** (Presented by Sgt. Stacie Lundgren, Nebraska State Patrol)
- » **Adult and Child Sexual Assault Investigations** (Presented by Sgt. Dee Toupin & Inv. Lynette Russell, Lincoln Police Department)
- » **Mock Crash Scene Drone Demo** (Presented by Danny Palumbo, Skydio)
- » **Detect More Evidence: Extend Your Search Beyond the Visible Workshop** (Presented by Alexis Dodson, Foster & Freeman USA)

During the NEIAI Business Meeting held on April 5, 2023, three board members were elected and the Harold Moon Scholarship recipient was named. Membership attendees present during the 2023 NEIAI Business Meeting elected/re-elected the following individuals to the Board of Directors:



- ✓ **Chris Weber (LPD) was elected to the post of Vice President**
- ✓ **Amy Douglas-Homolka (NSP) was elected to the post of Board Member at Large**
- ✓ **Sarah Zarnick (NSP) was re-elected to the post of Newsletter Editor**

Congratulations and welcome to the NEIAI BOD!

There will be **four positions** on the NEIAI Board of Directors open for election/re-election during the 2024 conference. These positions include: **President, Board Member at Large, Historian, and Webmaster**. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please contact the current NEIAI Board of Directors President, Josh Connelly at Joshua.connelly@douglascounty-ne.gov or visit our website at www.neiai.org to obtain more details regarding the Board of Directors position duties.

Also, during the NEIAI Business Meeting, the 2023 Harold Moon Scholarship winner was announced. The Harold Moon Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship that is awarded to one active member of the NEIAI each year. This scholarship is to be used by the recipient to attend the International Association for Identification's (IAI) Annual Educational Conference. This year, the IAI's Annual Educational Conference is being held August 20-26, 2023, at the Gaylord National Resort in National Harbor, Maryland. The NEIAI started awarding the Harold Moon



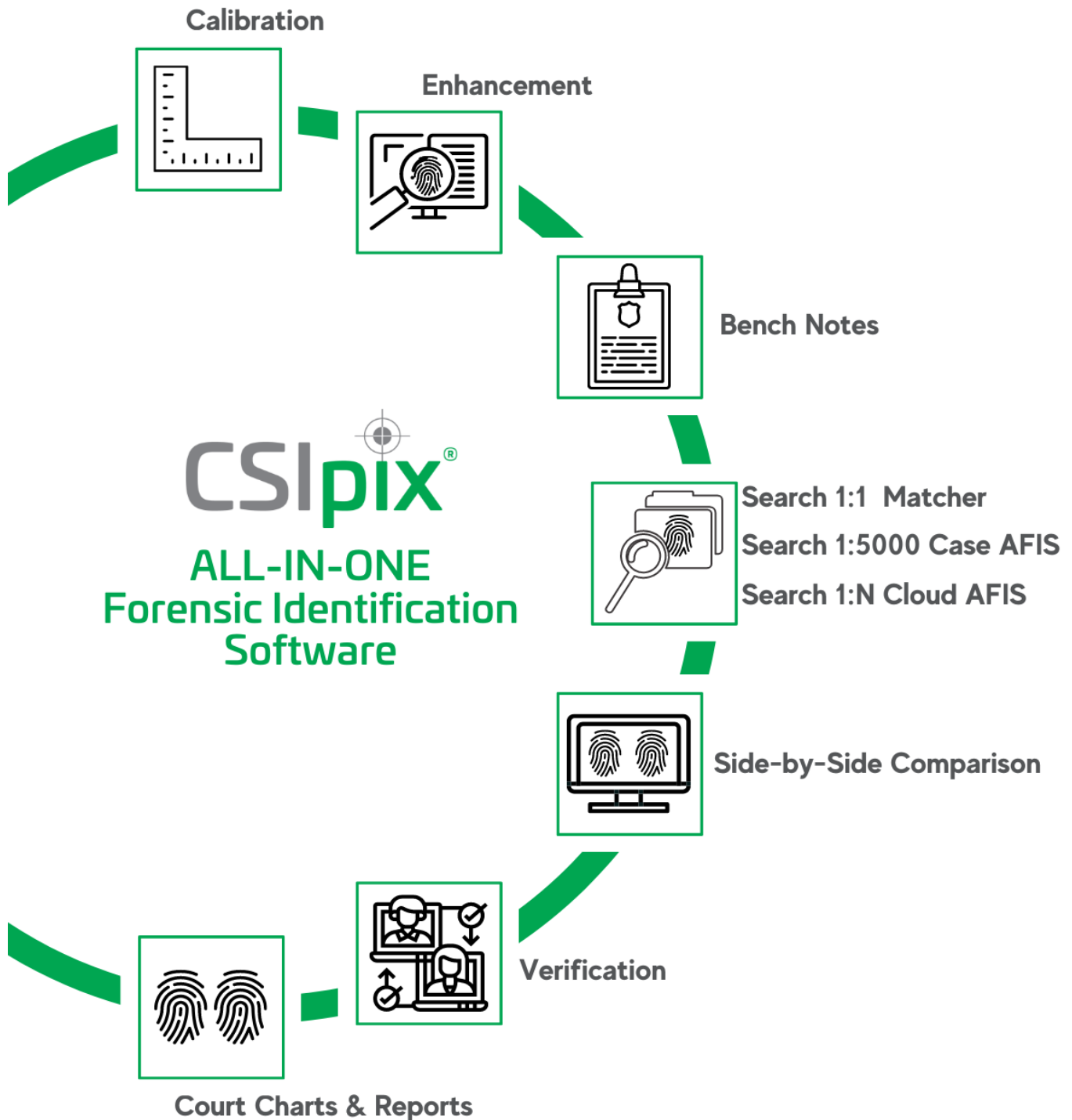
Scholarship in 2004. This scholarship is named after Harold W. Moon who was one of the foremost forensic document examiners in the Midwest and was instrumental in forming the Nebraska Chapter of the IAI (NEIAI). Mr. Moon served as the first elected president when the NEIAI was chartered in 1985.

- ***The 2023 recipient of the Harold Moon Scholarship was Amy Douglas-Homolka (NSP – Criminal Identification Division)***

Congratulations Amy! We look forward to hearing about the conference and your experience!

For more information and the application form, please visit www.neiai.org and click on the Harold Moon Scholarship link.

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Conference In Pictures



President Josh Connelly and presenter Joe Courtis



Sheriff Terry Wagner opening the conference



Presenter Eric Ray



Vendor Introductions



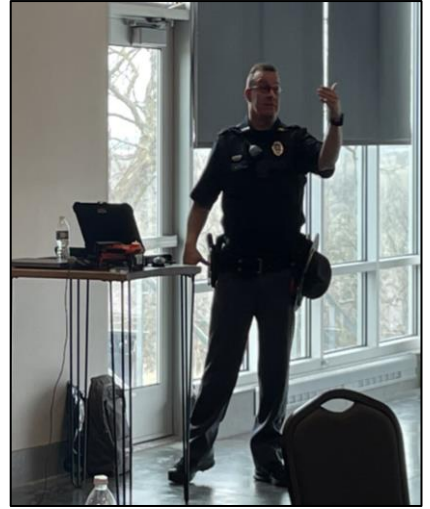
Conference In Pictures



Presenter Mark Lester



Historian Amy Lesan and presenter Brenda Butler



Matthew Maus Presenting



Conference In Pictures



**Board Member Cheri Ivers
and presenter Tyler Ford**



**Historian Amy Lesan
and presenter Shelly Haight**



**Michael Parker Presenting
Sgt. Stacie Lundgren Presenting**



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2023 NEIA Photo Contest Winners



Forensics/Crime Scene/Law Enforcement

"Uncovering The Truth"

Rachel Dellovechio

Omaha Police Department



People

"Wasteland Samurai"

Rachel Dellovechio

Omaha Police Department



Nature/Scenery

"Eat Your Heart Out, Bob Ross"

Rebecca Keller

Lincoln Police Department



Animals

"I'd Like to Talk to You About Your Car Warranty"

Amy Lesan

Lancaster County Sheriff's Office

The other guys are just all wet.

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SAVE THE DATE!

The 2024 NEIAI Annual Educational Conference will be held **April 2-3, 2024**, at the Crete Carrier Riverview Lodge!!

Visit our website at www.neiai.org for updates as we are in the early stages of conference planning. If you have any topics or workshops that you would like to see presented at the next conference, please feel free to email one of the Board Members with your suggestions!!

In the meantime, we hope to see you at the **International Association for Identification's 107th Educational Conference** August 20-26, 2023, in National Harbor, Maryland!
Visit www.theiai.org for more information.



AUGUST 20-26, 2023

2023 NATIONAL HARBOR

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION'S 107th EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The IAI's 2023 Annual Educational Conference meets the core aspects of the IAI Mission – education and professional development. There will be a full week of high-quality, cutting-edge education and hands-on training in forensic physical evidence examination and crime scene processing.

THE 2023 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION WILL OPEN MID-APRIL

FULL REGISTRATION	STUDENT REGISTRATION
<p>IAI Member Advance Registration, prior to 8/11/23 is \$425 (U.S.) and \$475 (U.S.) onsite.</p> <p>Non-Member Advance Registration, prior to 8/11/23 is \$550 (U.S.) and \$600 (U.S.) onsite.</p> <p>Individual Workshops sessions are additional and average \$35 to \$125 (U.S.) per class.</p> <p><u>Full registration includes:</u> all conference materials; the Sunday President's Reception; Monday Exhibit Grand-Opening Reception; Tuesday-night Poster Presentation/Photo Contest and Reception; Wednesday Forensic Networking Social; and the Friday-night Installation and Closing Banquet.</p> <p>(Note: receptions are not full meals)</p> <p>The full registration DOES NOT include workshops that require an additional fee, hotel accommodations, or travel.</p>	<p>Student registration is \$250 (U.S.). To qualify as a Student Registrant, individuals must be full-time college students, with a major in forensic science-related field or law enforcement, taking 12 or more semester hours/credits or the equivalent in quarter hours/credits for undergraduate study and at least 9 semester hours/credits or the equivalent in quarter hours/credits for graduate study. Students must provide a letter or transcript from their educational institution stating the number of credits currently being taken. The words "full-time student" will not suffice.</p> <p>A Student Registrant receives all benefits of the Full Registration with the exception of the Friday night Banquet (tickets may be purchased separately for that event) and workshops will require an additional fee. Also see the opportunity for Student Poster Presentations.</p>
<p>DAILY REGISTRATION</p> <p>Daily registration is \$275 (U.S.) per day, prior to 8/11/23 and \$325 (U.S.) per day onsite.</p> <p>Daily registrants will receive only the non-fee educational sessions for that day, and entrance to Exhibit Hall. Workshops are additional.</p>	<p>GUEST REGISTRATION</p> <p>A Guest Registration is for the Spouse/Guest of a full registrant. The registration fee is \$225 (U.S.) prior to 8/11/23 and \$250 (U.S.) onsite. This registration includes the Sunday President's Reception, Monday Exhibit Grand Opening Reception; Tuesday-Night Poster Presentation/Photo Contest and Reception; and the Friday-night Installation Banquet.</p>



Never forgotten

**IN MEMORY OF ALL LAW
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO HAVE
MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE**

On Wednesday, August 26th, 2020, Lincoln Police Department Investigator Mario Herrera was shot and critically wounded while attempting to serve a 2nd Degree Assault Warrant related to a homicide occurring in March of 2020.

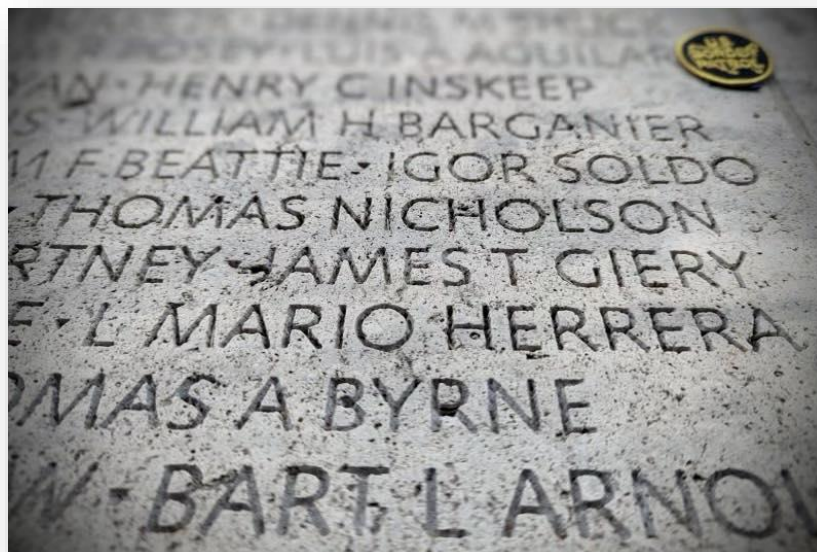
Investigator Herrera's valiant fight for his life ended as he passed away in the early morning hours of September 7th, 2020.

In 2023, Investigator Mario Herrera's name was placed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, DC. A husband, father and police officer gone too soon. His legacy will live on at the Lincoln Police Department.

Inv. Mario Herrera

EOW: September 7, 2020

*"May we forever remember his dedication, bravery
and sacrifice."*



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The Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification (NEIAI) is a non-profit organization for those professionals engaged in forensic identification, investigation, and scientific examination of physical evidence. In support of this goal, and in collaboration with our parent organization the International Association for Identification (IAI) the NEIAI has these goals:

- To associate persons who are actively engaged in the profession of forensic identification, forensic investigation, forensic education, and the scientific examination of physical evidence in an organized body within the State of Nebraska, so that the profession in all of its branches may be standardized and effectively and scientifically practiced.
- To encourage the advancement and improvement of the science of forensic identification and crime detection.
- To keep its members apprised of the latest techniques and discoveries in crime scene detection.
- To encourage research work in scientific crime detection.
- To raise the standards of all personnel engaged in scientific crime detection.
- To employ the collective wisdom of the profession to advance the scientific techniques of forensic identification and crime detection.
- To provide training, education and publication in forensic science disciplines represented by the Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification.
- To work closely with the International Association for Identification, in furthering the profession of identification generally.

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