

# THE OK-IAI EXAMINER

An official publication of the Oklahoma State Division of the International Association for Identification

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## OSBI TO PRESENT ON MISSING PERSONS AT 2023 OK-IAI CONFERENCE



Francine's Law was passed in November of 2019 making it mandatory that law enforcement agencies receiving a report of a missing person to enter that person's information into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) within

thirty days. Unfortunately, the profiles that have been created in NamUs have very minimal information needed for an identification to be made with an unidentified deceased person. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation developed a project to locate known fingerprints and palm prints of Missing Persons to upload to NamUs profiles. Once the project got started, it evolved into more with many lessons learned along the way. The project was led by OSBI's Meghan Jones with the assistance of UCO graduate student Natali Hassett.

### About the presenters:

Meghan Jones is the Technical Manager of the Latent Evidence Unit with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. As the Technical Manager she oversees the implementation of the quality system within the discipline, assists with management reviews, reviews and approves all technical procedures within the discipline, implements and reviews quality documentation within the discipline, and oversees training, competency testing and evaluation of analysts. Before taking the Technical Manager position, Meghan served as a latent print examiner performing latent print development, latent print comparison, and crime scene processing. Meghan has been with the OSBI for 20 years and is a Certified Latent Print Examiner by the International Association for Identification. Meghan is also a Technical Assessor for ANAB.



Natali Hassett is a graduate student at the University of Central Oklahoma pursuing a Master of Science in Forensic Science. She completed a practicum with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation Latent Evidence Unit and worked under the direction of Technical Manager Meghan Jones. Her project involved searching for fingerprints and photographs of missing persons from Oklahoma that are registered in the

National Missing and Unidentified Persons System. Natali graduated from Oklahoma State University in 2022 with bachelor's degrees in honors biochemistry and microbiology.

## OK DIVISION OF IAI MAINTAINS GROWTH

Oklahoma Division of the International Association for Identification continues to grow with 147 members in 2022, including the Lifetime Members. 22 new members that have joined since May 2022 are:

Russell Boatman, OCME, Tulsa  
Allen Garoutte, OCME, Tulsa  
Ashley Welch, OCME, OKC  
Miranda Munson, Tulsa County SO  
Meagan Raddatz, UCO FSI Institute Faculty  
Stephen Stoltz, Tulsa PD  
Brad Green, OSBI  
Kevyn Gray, OSBI  
Roy Williams, OSBI  
Courtney Barnett, OSBI  
George Belding, OSBI  
Joseph Gravelle, OSBI  
Amanda Smith, OCPD  
Kylie Bayliffe-Wilkins, OCPD  
Lexus Robinson, OCPD  
Jonathan McClure, OCPD  
Samuel T. White, Midwest City PD  
Carissa Southern, Midwest City PD  
Dorothy Hunter, OCME, Tulsa  
Aaron Molloy, Lawton PD  
Gary McCollum, Okmulgee/McIntosh Co DA's Office  
James Ables, Okmulgee PD  
Patrick McLean, Tulsa PD

Applications for student, active and associate memberships can be found on the division's website, [theokiai.org](http://theokiai.org), and submitted to the division secretary. The application does require the signature of a current "recommending" member and a membership fee/application fee.

## OK-IAI 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE IN 2022



*124 members attended the OK Division IAI 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference, held May 24-26, 2022 at the UCO Forensic Science Institute, Edmond, Oklahoma.*

## MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH!!

### OCPD WELLNESS UNIT

Officer-involved shootings, serious accidents and horrific crime scenes can take their toll on first responders, and the Oklahoma City Police Department is working to support officers. The OCPD Wellness Unit officially began in 2020, due to an increase in mental health education.



*Pictured above (Left to Right): OCPD Msgt John “Blu” Blumenthal, OK IAI President Sami Richardson, OCPD Msgt Scott Pope & the lovely K9 “Will”*

### WARRIOR’S REST

Through peer support teams, workshops, and educational tools, Warrior’s Rest is shifting the stigma that surrounds job-related trauma with programs that support healthy individuals and build infrastructure within agencies. They serve agencies in Fire, EMS, Communications Officers, Corrections, and Law Enforcement as well.



They believe healing begins in courageous conversations, and restoration is possible when First Responders choose to offer and receive help from one another. Warrior’s Rest is on a mission to help First Responders heal from frontline traumas and empower them to live healthy, productive lives - personally and professionally. <https://warriorsrestfoundation.org>

### OK-IAI HAS A NEW FACE AS THE TREASURER



### **MEET PAIGE BRAY!**

Paige Bray has been a Crime Scene Investigator with the Oklahoma City Police Department since 2015, and currently serves as a Training Investigator for new hire Crime Scene Investigators and trains new OCPD Police Recruits with hands on training for basic crime scene processing.

Paige holds a Bachelor’s degree in both Criminal Justice and Forensic Science from UCO and a Master’s Degree in Forensic Investigative Services from OSU. Paige is passionate about the work she does for the police department and the citizens of Oklahoma City. Paige’s efforts and work accountability make her a pivotal asset as a seasoned Crime Scene Investigator for the police department. Paige is a Certified Crime Scene Analyst through the IAI and currently holds a treasurer position within the OK IAI.



## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SAMI RICHARDSON

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Dear fellow members of the OK-IAI,

As I approach the end of my 7th year with the organization, I would like to take a moment to reflect on my time here and share some of my experiences.

During my tenure, I have had the privilege of filling several roles within the organization, including Sergeant at Arms, Conference Planning Chair, and most recently, President. These opportunities have allowed me to develop both personally and professionally, and I am grateful for the chance to have served in each capacity.

One of the most valuable aspects of my involvement with the OK-IAI has been the connections I have made with fellow professionals. I have built wonderful relationships through networking and sharing resources and knowledge.

Over the years, I have worked to foster the inclusion of the ME's office in content that is relevant to our interactions in the field across disciplines. I believe this approach has helped to improve our ability to work collaboratively and effectively. At each of our conferences, I have had the opportunity to meet several individuals whom I later encountered in the field, in an email, or on the phone while performing my duties with OCME. This continually demonstrates to me the importance of building professional connections and maintaining them over time. This organization is a wonderful way for all of us to do this.

I welcome new and continued interest in the organization from prospective and current members alike. We have several roles open for election this year, and I hope to see some new faces on our officer and board team. The annual conference is an incredible opportunity for all of us, but it takes the work and donation of time from many of our members and community. I applaud each of you for your efforts year after year to look for and arrange content for our members.

In closing, I am proud to have served as President of the OK-IAI and look forward to continued involvement with this wonderful organization.

Sincerely,



Sami Richardson

## 2023 OK-IAI Conference Info

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The 57<sup>th</sup> OK-IAI Annual Educational Conference will be held at the University of Central Oklahoma on May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. The business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at noon. Lunch will be provided to attending members. A social gathering is planned for that evening at Showbiz Cinemas in Edmond. Additional information about the conference, including the conference brochure, can be found on the official website: [www.theokiai.org](http://www.theokiai.org).

**DON'T FORGET TO BUY RAFFLE TICKETS!!**



## 2023 CONFERENCE VENDORS



## OTHER FORENSIC SCIENCE NEWS2KNOW

- OK-IAI proposes Amendments to the By-laws.
- OK-IAI board member and officer positions open.
- Scholarships available through the OK-IAI.
- 107<sup>th</sup> IAI Conference set for August 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in National Harbor, Maryland. Registration is now open. Go to [theiai.org](http://theiai.org).