

KENTUCKY INVESTIGATOR

Issue 2, Spring 2005

ASSOCIATIONS ONE 2005 CONFERENCE

Seven members of KPIA attended the Associations One 2005 Conference February 17-19 in Indianapolis, IN. Over 70 investigators from several states attended. Our host, INSPI, provided a very informative and interesting program, and there was ample opportunity for networking in the hospitality suite and banquet room.

Topics ranged from marketing to missing persons. In what was a very emotional session on the last day of the conference, several family members spoke about their attempts to find a missing loved one and/or to bring that person's murderer to justice, and a panel discussion was held. No one who attended the session was unmoved by the stories of loss, love and courage.

Those of you who attend the Associations One conferences know that there is something to be taken from each of them. For those who have never attended, please make plans to do so next year.

A big thank you to Mr. Jeff Sears of Intelius, a new advertiser with the *Kentucky Investigator*. Please take the time to check out the ad on page 12 and the Intelius website, *pi.intelius.com*. This will tell you more about this new information service.

Would you like to join the only organization representing the interests of professional investigators in Kentucky? Not sure? Want to learn more? Join us as our guest at the next regular K.P.I.A. membership meeting. For the exact time date and location, an application, or more information about our organization, please visit our website: www.kpia.org.

The Kentucky Investigator

Voice of the Membership

The Official Newsletter of the Kentucky Professional Investigators Association, Inc.



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LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members,

I am excited about our Association and the new members that are coming on board. We just added two new members at our recent meeting in Frankfort. This brings our membership to fifty-six members, which includes our Associate and Student members. Needless to say, we are still short of what we should have considering that there are well over two hundred Kentucky licensed investigators.

We are going through a tough period of growth in KPIA. As many of you know, the past two or three years, we have lost several members. I am sure there are some good reasons for this. With the requirement of Private Investigator licensing in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, many individuals made the decision to not seek a license. Some decided against it because they saw no need for a license and others, perhaps, because of the initial costs. Let me encourage you to check for those licensed investigators in your region that are not members of our Association. Invite them to join KPIA. Obviously, the more members we have the stronger we will be. It is important that we join together for networking and to promote the Kentucky Professional Investigators Association across the state. Membership applications and information are available at our website: www.kpia.org.

Although I was not around when KPIA was first organized, one of the goals at that time was to promote private investigation at a higher professional standard. Although the KRS provides for it, the Licensing Board has not required continuing education. I believe the Licensing Board will revisit this issue soon. It would be great if KPIA could provide this training to our members and preparatory training for those persons applying for a PI license in Kentucky. As professional investigators, we must continue to learn new ways of providing services to meet the ever-changing needs of our clients. On-going training that adds new skills and updates our knowledge should be a personal goal for each and every one of us.

The website for license verification in Kentucky is located at the following website: <http://finance.ky.gov/ourcabinet/caboff/OAS/op/privinve/>. This is the same website where license applications and requirements can be downloaded and printed for those needing these items. If you know of anyone conducting private investigations in Kentucky and in violation of the Kentucky Revised Statutes that regulate private investigators, please pass this information to the Executive Secretary of the Licensing Board.

In closing, let me encourage all KPIA members to participate in our meetings. ***You are needed and we really miss you when you are absent!*** With Spring already here and Summer not far behind, I am sure there will be many extra activities such as vacations, baseball games, gardening, etc., that require your attention. Nevertheless, we need your input during our meetings, too. Please mark your calendars for our next meeting on July 9th in Elizabethtown. Also, while you have your calendars, go ahead and mark off November 3rd, 2005. These are the dates for our annual Fall Training Conference. This year it will be at Caesar's near Louisville. We were there two years ago and everyone reported having a great conference. Please make your plans now to be at these two meetings. Details will be forthcoming.

Best regards,

David W. Duncan
KPIA President

PS. Our thanks go to Sherron Halter for publishing this edition of the Kentucky Investigator.



Legislation Update:

Below is the text of a press release issued by NCISS regarding the recent issue of data breach and the effects of possible legislation on the investigative industry:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF INVESTIGATION & SECURITY SERVICES, INC.

THE NATIONAL VOICE OF THE PRIVATE INVESTIGATION & SECURITY INDUSTRY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 23, 2005

DATA Breaches Require Targeted Response

Recent developments following breaches at data brokers and financial institutions have led to calls for immediate regulatory and legislative action. Private investigators agree that regulatory and/or legislative mandates for timely notification of breaches are an appropriate response. We support Senator Feinstein's bill, S 115 "Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act". The recent disclosures have also led data providers to renew and upgrade their vetting of clients, including private investigators, who require the data. The National Council of Investigation and Security Services (NCISS) agrees that data providers should do appropriate due diligence to assure that information is used only for legitimate purposes.

Legislative Responses Should be Focused

Investigators are extremely concerned that in the current atmosphere public officials will be pressured to create an overbroad regulatory scheme that will be harmful to the court system and commerce. And ironically, some of the suggestions being made would be counterproductive to the goal of fighting identity theft and other frauds. Statutory solutions should focus on securing personal data, not restricting its use by legitimate entities.

The National Council of Investigation and Security Services (NCISS) has learned from experience that the best of legislative and regulatory intentions can lead to harmful unintended consequences. The 1996 amendments to the Fair Credit Reporting Act ultimately led to an unanticipated requirement that employees suspected of theft be notified when an employer retained third parties to investigate the theft. It took years before Congress was able to remedy that error with passage of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACTA).

Privacy groups have been using the public's legitimate concern over the recent breaches to push a far broader agenda. Their suggestions would result in limiting the ability of businesses to verify the identity of customers, to conduct background checks, and collect debt. If barriers are erected to prevent legitimate business from accessing identifying information about an individual, then the identity thieves will have an easier time. If one can't confirm a Social Security number or other unique identifier, then the ID thief will have an easier time claiming to be Bob Jones.

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Legislation Update:

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Private Investigators Use Data for the Public Good

Private investigators use data from brokers to facilitate justice. We use the data to locate witnesses, find heirs, locate lost children, obtain child support, and detect fraud. Police authorities do not have adequate resources to solve ID theft cases, and many victims end up using private investigators. If the services investigators use to solve these cases are restricted, we'll not be able to serve clients as effectively and an additional burden will be placed on public authorities.

Recent Legislation

Congress has not been idle in recent years with regard to identity theft and personal information. FACTA, which includes many provisions affecting identity theft, was enacted only last Congress. In addition, more severe penalties for ID theft were imposed with enactment of the Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act. The impact of these statutes is only now being felt. Congress should gauge the success of these measures before acting to broadly limit access to information that is so essential to commerce.

Contact: Bruce H. Hulme, Chairman

NCISS Investigations Legislative Committee

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Directional Analysis of Blood Spatter at Crime and Accident Scenes for Police Investigators

Louis L. Akin, LPI Austin TX 5/23/04

Blood spatter analysis is an important part of contemporary crime scene investigation and, while not every investigator needs to become an expert at it, every investigator should at least understand the fundamental principles and procedures and be able to correctly record data at the scene for later interpretation by a blood spatter analyst.

A basic understanding of blood spatter analysis will allow the investigator to correctly collect blood stain data at the scene or from photographs of the scene and converse with the attorneys, medical examiner, and blood spatters expert regarding the blood evidence. This understanding is important, because the interpretation of blood spatter patterns and other evidence at crime scenes may reveal critically important information such as:

- The positions of the victim, assailant, and objects at the scene
- The type of weapon that was used to cause the spatter
- The number of blows, shots, stabs, etc. that occurred
- The movement and direction of victim and assailant, after bloodshed began
- It may support or contradict statements given by witnesses.

The investigator may use blood spatter interpretation to determine:

- What events occurred
- When and in what sequence they occurred
- Who was, or was not, there
- What did *not* occur

VELOCITIES OF BLOOD SPATTER

The velocity of blood spatter is that of the force causing the blood to move rather than of the speed of the blood itself; low velocity blood may drip from a wound as a result of gravity, while high velocity blood may be caused by a bullet moving at 900 fps.

Low Velocity

Low velocity stains are produced by an external force less than 5 fps (normal gravity) and the stains are 3mm and larger. It is usually the result of blood dripping from a person who is still, walking, or running, and sometimes from cast off. Dripping blood often falls at a 90° angle and forms a 360° stain when it hits a flat perpendicular surface, depending on the texture of the surface. Spines can be caused by drops repeatedly landing in the same place, by the distance the drop falls, or by the surface upon which the blood lands. Low velocity blood may also be found in the trail of a person who is bleeding and larger pools of blood may indicate where the person paused.

Medium Velocity

Medium blood spatter is produced by an external force of greater than 5 fps and less than 25 fps. The stains generally measure 1-3mm in size. They are often caused by blunt or sharp force trauma that is, knives, clubs, fists, and arterial spurts.

Most medium velocity blood found at crime and accident scenes will be created by blood flying from a body as the result of punching, stabbing, or in the case of an accident, the body striking surfaces inside or outside a vehicle.

High Velocity

High velocity blood spatter is produced by an external force greater than 100 fps and the stains tend to be less than 1mm. The pattern is sometimes referred to as a mist. High velocity patterns are usually created by gunshots or explosives, but may also be caused by industrial machinery or even coughing, or sneezing. In any case, the spatter tends to be tiny drops propelled into the air by an explosive force. High velocity droplets travel the least far because of the resistance of the air against their small mass.

THE THEORY OF BLOOD SPATTER INTERPRETATION

Angle of Impact

Experiments with blood have shown that blood tends to form into a sphere rather than a teardrop shape when free falling or projected in drop size volumes. When a sphere of blood strikes a flat surface the diameter of the sphere in flight will equal the width of the stain on the surface as seen in Figure 1. The following diagram will help the reader to understand the concepts being presented.

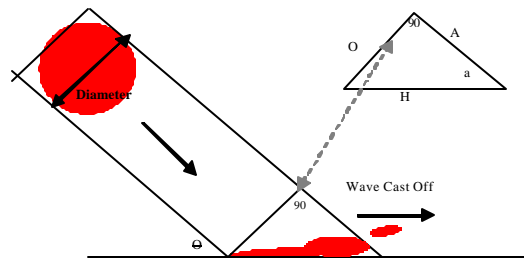


Figure 1 Side View of blood drop in air, and then striking a flat surface

Point of Convergence (POC).

The Point of Convergence or POC is the intersection where lines drawn through the center of the individual stains meet and is determined by drawing lines or strings through the long axis of individual spatters as seen in Figure 2 below.

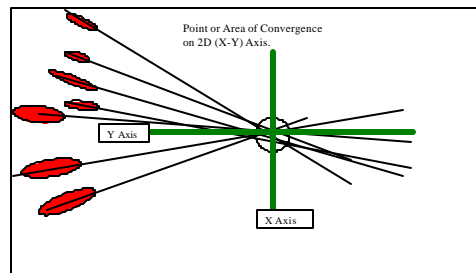


Figure 2 Lines through the central axes of the spatter cross at the Point of Convergence.

Determining the Angle of Impact (AOI)

There are two ways to calculate the AOI. The traditional way has been with a handheld calculator. The problems with the hand held calculator are that 1. It allows for entry errors, 2. The user must remember the trigonometric formulas, and 3. It doesn't store or print out the calculations so it has to be typed into a computer anyway.

The latest software technology as that produced by *On Scene Forensics* eliminates these problems. The data is posted to a screen so that errors can't be made. The software knows the formulas and does all the calculations automatically. The information is stored and can be printed, emailed, or faxed. The software produces an easily readable word document that can be used universally by any agency.

THE SOFTWARE METHOD OF ANALYSIS

When using software, performing the calculations to determine the Angle of Impact and Point of Origin are as simple as filling in the blanks. The user can forget all the information in the previous paragraphs and just enter the length and width of the representative blood stains and the distance to the Point of Convergence as seen in the illustration below and the Angle of Impact and Point of Origin appear instantly on the screen. This particular software product also calculates the trajectories of bullets from bullet holes and has an Artifact file that records each item of evidence recovered at a crime scene. The blood spatter and bullet trajectory data can be imported into diagramming programs.

Blood spatter analysis software programs range from \$149 to \$2000. The low end application by Digital.Cop costs \$149 and only calculates the angle of impact—nothing else. Any \$20 calculator will accomplish that much.

The mid-range software such as On Scene Forensics does all the calculations, saves a record that can be stored on hard drive or printed, costs about \$370, and requires no training. The software has the added features of bullet trajectory calculation, bullet caliber identifier. For the average PI this program is the best buy.

The more complex top-dollar software such as Back Track does all of the calculations, represents the results in a three-dimensional diagram program, and costs \$2000. Some people have complained that the high end program is too complicated to learn, but that is because of two reasons: one is the CAD ware learning curve, the other is that it does much more complex diagrams.

THE HAND HELD CALCULATOR METHOD

The Angle of Impact is the inverse arc sin of the W/L ratio, so first calculate ratio (W/L) then SIN⁻¹ (2nd function) to get the degrees of a and AOI

Lines drawn through the central axes of the blood drops will converge at an area that will be designated the Point of Convergence.

The Z axis is perpendicular to the surface at the Point of Convergence. It is easiest to imagine in relation to a floor in which case it would equate to the backbone of a standing person. However, the measurements are not always taken from a floor. They may be taken from a wall or the surface of a piece of furniture. In the case of a wall, the Z axis would be perpendicular to the wall. Once the point of convergence and the angles of impact have been established the next step is to locate the Point of Origin *three dimensionally* which will require a perpendicular axis.

The *Point of Origin* (PO) is located above the POC on the perpendicular axis 90 degrees perpendicular to the floor. It is the point from where the blood hemorrhaged or was disgorged from the body.

The formula to determine the Point of Origin on the Z Axis is similar to the one used to establish the Angle of Impact except that the TAN function is used. First, measure the distance from each blood stain along its central (Y) axis to the POC. Second take the TAN of the degrees AOI. Third, multiply the TAN of the AOI by the distance along the Y axis. The answer will be the height on the Z axis of the Point of Origin.

Author's Biography

Louis L. Akin, LPI, a licensed professional investigator and writer in Austin Texas with 23 years experience in investigation and crime scene reconstruction. He teaches blood spatter analysis to attorneys and investigators.

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iSutton, Paulette T., Bloodstain Pattern Interpretation, Short Course Manual, University of Tennessee, Memphis TN 1998

Blood Spatter Analysis On Scene Forensics Software, <http://www.onsceneforensics.com>, 2005

For Your Amusement

Neat PI Tricks (from the PI Coffee Shop website)

Clean Sweep

submitted by Jim Toth

An associate of mine had the job of watching a private P.O. box depot - sort of like a Mailboxes Etc. place. He could not sit inside the business and wait for the target to come in and put his key in the PO Box. And, he didn't have any idea what the subject looked like. So, my friend decided to get clever . . . He had a "special package" delivered to that box, and the store's operators put a note in the subject's PO box so he would pick it up . . . Later that day, when a man with a 6' broom came walking out the door with a dumbfounded look on his face, my associate had found his guy! Pretty neat idea!

Dirty Dancing

submitted by Jim Toth

Last week: Date Line South Beach: Assignment : Conduct Video surveillance of female target dancing in nightclubs with more gusto than a married women should have, at least without her husband. Three late night dance halls and two investigators negotiating around attempting to get a clear shot of the errant wife conducting dirty dancing lessons with male partners 1/2 her age, and this investigator getting sleepy. The problem with our pager/eyeglass cams was the lighting. Without proper candle power, all you really get in a nightclub atmosphere is a dark shape and a lot of telling your client " yea.. that's your wife out there on the dance floor... I think! Solution: A \$50.00 bill and a trip up to the D.J.'s booth- The brightest spotlight in his arsenal was shown upon her for a good 5 minutes... of course she thought she was a star during that time...my client , well he made other plans.. legal plans that is.

Dumb Criminal Acts (from the Dumb Network of websites)

Idiot With a Gun

Virginia

A man walked into his local convenience store and placed a gun on the cashier's temple. The man demanded all the money, which he received, and then left. On his way out, the thief shot himself in the arm.

Real Address

Long Beach, New York

A nervous holdup man fled a Long Beach supermarket without a penny but was arrested afterward at his home. He had been recognized as the guy who had earlier filled out an application for a check cashing card at the market, using his real address.

Dumb Kentucky Laws (from the Dumb Network of websites)

State Laws

Throwing eggs at a public speaker could result in up to one year in prison.

One may not dye a duckling blue and offer it for sale unless more than six are for sale at once.

It is illegal to fish with a bow and arrow in Kentucky.

City Laws

Fort Thomas—Dogs may not molest cars.

Lexington—By law, anyone who has been drinking is "sober" until he or she "cannot hold onto the ground."

It is illegal to transport an ice cream cone in your pocket.

Owensboro—A woman may not buy a hat without her husband's permission.

Dumb Warnings (from the Dumb Network of websites)

Christmas Lights—for indoor or outdoor use only.

Komatsu Floodlight—This floodlight is capable of illuminating large areas, even in the dark.

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4 issues yearly, plus special issues.

Artwork can change from issue to issue but it must be received by the Editor on the first day of the month prior to publication month. The advertiser must supply camera ready artwork in black and white. The Kentucky Investigator is published on a quarterly basis. Special issues may be published throughout the year. All ads are subject to placement solely at the discretion of the Editor.

The Kentucky Investigator is published for the benefit and use of the members of the K.P.I.A. and various businesses and organizations who participate in the newsletter exchange program. All articles submitted for publication become the property of The Kentucky Investigator. The Kentucky Investigator reserves the right to edit submitted articles as necessary. Reprinted articles do not necessarily reflect the views or opinion of the K.P.I.A. and their completeness or accuracy are not guaranteed. All advertisements and claims made in such advertisements are the sole responsibility of the advertisers. Please send all inquiries, articles, and related information material to the Editor or to:

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Also, please replace the name of Terry Milan with that of Patrice (Pat) Milan. She is now the member representing Hawke Investigations

BIRTHDAYS

Glenn Miller	2/11
Danny Triplett	2/21
Tom Loos	3/14
Richard Dearborn	4/01
John Arbogast	4/12
Larry Adams	4/22

GET WELL WISHES

For those of you who don't know, a member, Danny Triplett, underwent bypass surgery recently. He is at home and doing well. I know he would appreciate hearing from you. Danny, we are glad to hear that your "broken heart" was successfully mended!

THINKING OF YOU

Also, please keep Philip Blakeley in your thoughts. He has been deployed to Iraq with his military unit. If anyone knows his address, please share it with the group, in case a member wishes to send mail to him. I'm sure he would appreciate it.