



**Andrew D. Taravella**  
**Crime Scene Investigator, Houston Forensic Science Center**  
**Senior Police Officer, Houston Police Department**



**Experience:**

- Senior Police Officer, Houston Police Department, 1992 – present
  - Photograph and Fingerprint Unit, 1997 – 2002
  - Field Trainer, 1998 – 2002
  - Field Training Evaluator, 1999 – 2002
  - Crime Scene Investigator, 2002 – present
  - Crime Scene Unit Trainer, 2006 – present
- Owner, Shadowbox Galleries Photography, 1996 – present
- Captain of the Army / Pilot, 7<sup>th</sup> Squadron / 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, U.S. Army Reserve, 1990 - 1998
- Adjunct Instructor, Keystone College, La Plume, Pennsylvania 2013 – 2016
- Adjunct Instructor, Texas A&M University Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Forensic Science Academy, 2013 - 2016

**Certifications:**

- Master Peace Officer, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education
- Certified Instructor, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education
- Certified Senior Crime Scene Analyst #CS10235, International Association for Identification
- Certified Forensic Photographer #64, International Association for Identification
- Certified Crime Scene Analyst #2801 (replaced with higher CSCSA in 2014)

**Education:**

- Bachelor of Arts from Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX - 1988
- U.S. Army Officer's Training Course, Ft. Rucker, AL - 1988
- U.S. Army Aviation Flight School, Ft. Rucker, AL – 1990
- Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX – 1992

**Leadership:**

- Platoon Leader, U.S. Army Aviation Attack Helicopter Squadron
- Troop Commander, U.S. Army Aviation Attack Helicopter Squadron
- Forensic Photography Certification Board
- Crime Scene Unit Trainer / Evaluator
- Police Patrol Officer Field Training Officer / Evaluator
- President, Board of Directors, Memorial Meadows Home Owner's Association
- Owner, Shadowbox Galleries Photography

**Affiliations / Memberships:**

- International Association for Identification, National Member #23455
- Texas Division of the International Association for Identification, State Member #2222
- Florida Division of the International Association for Identification, State Member #3613
- I.A.I. Forensic Photography Certification Board Member 2014 – present

- I.A.I. Forensic Photography and Electronic Imaging Science & Practices Subcommittee 2011-2014
- International Crime Scene Investigators Association, Regular Member
- Association for Crime Scene Reconstruction, Member #AC960
- Houston Police Department/ Houston Forensic Science Center Transition Team 2013-2014
- Houston Forensic Science Center Planning and Development Committee Member 2014-2016
- Houston Forensic Science Center Evidence Protocol Committee Member 2013-2014
- Associate Board Member, I.A.I. Forensic Photography and Electronic Imaging Science & Practices Subcommittee, 2015-present

## **Forensic Educational Conferences and Symposiums Attended:**

### **Conferences**

Topics in Forensic Science Conference; Mass Fatality Management, Houston, Texas, Feb. 2016  
Association of Crime Scene Reconstruction Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, Feb. 2015

Florida Division of the International Association for Identification

56<sup>th</sup> Annual Forensic Training Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 2015

55<sup>th</sup> Annual Forensic Training Conference, Panama City Beach, Florida, October 2014

54<sup>th</sup> Annual Forensic Training Conference, Miami, Florida, October 2013

International Association for Identification

101<sup>st</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Cincinnati, OH, 2016

100<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Sacramento, CA, 2015

99<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Minneapolis, MN, 2014

98<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Providence, RI, 2013

97<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Phoenix, AZ, 2012

96<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Milwaukee, WI, 2011

95<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Spokane, WA, 2010

94<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Tampa Bay, FL, 2009

90<sup>th</sup> Annual International Educational Conference, Dallas, TX, 2005

### **Symposiums**

Symposium on Forensic Science and Law, HFSC, St. Thomas University, Houston, TX 2015

National Forensic Week Symposium, Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston, TX 2015

Forensic Symposium, Keystone College Forensic Biology Dept., La Plume, PA April 2015

Forensic Symposium, Keystone College Forensic Biology Dept., La Plume, PA April 2014

## **Attended Training & Lectures:**

August 11, 2016  
(2 hours)

Swipes, Wipes, and Transfer Bloodstains Impressions  
Holly Latham, Cincinnati, Ohio

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| August 10, 2016<br>(2 hours)       | Documentation and Recovery of 2D Footwear Impression Evidence, Jason Cole, Cincinnati, Ohio                                                   |
| August 8, 2016<br>(4 hours)        | Digital Camera Operations for Police Photography, Mark Zabinski Cincinnati, Ohio                                                              |
| July 8, 2016<br>(16 hours)         | Foundations of Forensic Photography, Texas A&M Forensic Science Academy, On-line TEEK course, Houston, Texas                                  |
| April 11-15, 2016<br>(40 hours)    | Crime Scene Reconstruction, Tammy Barette, PhD, CSCSA & Mingo Villarreal, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas                     |
| April 4-8, 2016<br>(40 hours)      | Forensic Anthropology and Skeletal Recovery, Tammy Barette, PhD, CSCSA, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston Texas                        |
| March 15-16, 2016<br>(16 hours)    | Officer Involved Shooting and Critical Incidents Seminar, Johnathan Priest, Bevel Gardner & Associates, Inc., Rosenberg, Texas                |
| October 1-2, 2015<br>(16 hours)    | Macro Photography for Latent Prints, Dr. Tammy Barette & Mingo Villarreal, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas                    |
| August 3, 2015<br>(3 hours)        | Applying Logic and the Scientific Method to Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Holly Latham, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Sacramento, California |
| June 30-July 1, 2015<br>(16 hours) | Cognitive Factors in Forensic Decision Making, Dr. Itiel Dror Cognitive Consultants International, Ltd, Houston, Texas                        |
| June 22-26, 2015<br>(40 hours)     | Faro Laser Scanner Certification Training, David Dustin of Dustin Forensics, Houston, Texas                                                   |
| February 10, 2015<br>(3 hours)     | Infrared Examination of Evidence, Everett Baxter, Jr., Everett Baxter Forensics, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma                                      |
| February 12, 2015<br>(3 hours)     | Using Bloodstain Pattern Decision Map, Ross Gardner, BGA Oklahoma City, Oklahoma                                                              |
| January 20-22, 2015<br>(24 hours)  | Digital Scanning: Using the Faro 360 3D digital scanner, Doug Schiff, Vice President, 3rd-Tech, Houston, Texas                                |
| December 8-10, 2014<br>(24 hours)  | Digital Processing of Evidentiary Photography, David "Ski" Witzke, Foray Technologies, Houston, Texas                                         |

#### **Attended Training & Lectures (continued)**

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| October 29, 2014<br>(4 hours) | Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop, Dr. Gabriele Soboch, Colorado State University, Panama City Beach, Florida |
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| October 28, 2014<br>(2 hours) | Child Injuries and Death Investigations, Dr. D'Michelle P. DuPre<br>Forensic Pathologist, University of the West Indies, Columbia, SC.<br>Panama City Beach, Florida |
| October 27, 2014<br>(3 hours) | Forensic Digital Image Processing, David Witzke, Foray<br>Technologies, Panama City Beach, Florida                                                                   |
| August 15, 2014<br>(3 hours)  | Analyzing and Documenting the Shooting Scene, Jonathyn Priest<br>Bevel Gardner & Associates, Minneapolis, MN                                                         |
| August 13, 2014<br>(2 hours)  | UV/IR Photography Workshop, King Brown of West Palm Beach<br>Police Department, Dawn Watkins of Palm Beach Gardens Police<br>Department, Minneapolis, MN             |
| August 13, 2014<br>(3 hours)  | Analysis of Complex Patterns and BPA Scenarios Workshop<br>Holly Latham, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Minneapolis, MN                                             |
| August 12, 2014<br>(4 hours)  | Red Brown Stain – Presumptive Tests for Blood Workshop<br>Jan Johnson, Forensic Pieces, Minneapolis, MN                                                              |
| June 10, 2014<br>(8 hours)    | Orientation to Crime Scene Reconstruction<br>Karen Green Forensics, Houston, TX                                                                                      |
| May 25-29, 2014<br>(40 hours) | Death Investigation<br>Texas Engineering Extension Service, Houston, TX                                                                                              |
| May 28, 2014<br>7 – 9:30 pm   | Houston Forensic Science Center Lectureship Series<br>Larry D. Depew, PMP Digital & Multimedia Evidence                                                              |
| October 23, 2013<br>(2 hours) | Using Line Lasers to Determine Area of Convergence Workshop<br>Russ Ruslander, Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's Office<br>Miami, Florida                         |
| October 23, 2013<br>(4 hours) | Panoramic Photography Workshop<br>King Brown, West Palm Beach Police Dept., Miami, FL                                                                                |
| October 22, 2013<br>(1 hour)  | Photography of Shooting Reconstruction Lasers<br>Philip Sanfilippo, Lux Forensic Consultancy, Miami, FL                                                              |
| October 22, 2013<br>(2 hours) | Documentation of Luminol / Blue Star Photography Workshop<br>Tom Hill, Broward County, Sheriff's Office, Miami, FL                                                   |
| October 22, 2013<br>(1 hour)  | Autopsy and Gross Specimen Photography<br>Leonard Wolf, Miami Dade Medical Examiner's Office, Miami, FL                                                              |

**Attended Training & Lectures (continued)**

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| October 21, 2013<br>(2 hours) | Post Blast Investigations Workshop<br>Major Brandon Ball, Florida State Fire Marshall, Miami, FL |
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| August 6, 2013<br>(4 hours)           | Photography with Alternate Light Source Workshop<br>Edward McDonald, Dept. of Homeland Security, Providence, RI                    |
| August 5, 2013<br>(3 hours)           | Is It Human? Distinguishing Human and Non-Human Remains<br>Dr. Tammy Barette, Keystone College, Providence, RI                     |
| June 24, 2013<br>(4 hours)            | Forensic Photography I<br>West Virginia University Extended Learning                                                               |
| June 10 – 12, 2013<br>(12 hours)      | Technical Advances in the Visual Documentation of Crime Scenes<br>Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA                   |
| April 8 – 19, 2013<br>(80 hours)      | Forensic Technician Course<br>Texas Engineering Extension Service, Houston, TX                                                     |
| March 15, 2013<br>(16 hours)          | Medicolegal Death Investigation Training Program<br>National Institute of Justice                                                  |
| December 12 – 26, 2012<br>(40 hours)  | Basic Criminal Investigation<br>Texas Engineering Extension Service, Houston, TX                                                   |
| December 1 – 14, 2012<br>(40 hours)   | Basic Instructor Certification<br>TCLEOSE, Houston Police Department, Houston, TX                                                  |
| September 18 – 19, 2012<br>(16 hours) | Child Death Investigation-Team Approach<br>Texas Children's Hospital, Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX                            |
| August 7, 2011<br>(3 hours)           | Mastering Nighttime Digital Photography Workshop<br>Bret Doretti, Orange County Sheriff's Department, Milwaukee, WI                |
| April 4 – 8, 2011<br>(40 hours)       | Forensic Photography II, Dan Zyntek,<br>Texas Engineering Extension Service, Pearland, TX                                          |
| September 20 – 24, 2010<br>(40 hours) | Crime Scene Reconstruction I, Tom Bevel and Ross Gardner,<br>Bevel, Gardner and Associates, Crockett, TX                           |
| July 14, 2010<br>(4 hours)            | Bloodstain Pattern Documentation: A New Approach Workshop<br>Michael Perkins, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police, Spokane, WA           |
| July 14, 2010<br>(4 hours)            | Event Analysis for Crime Scene Reconstruction Workshop<br>Tom Bevel and Ross Gardner - Bevel, Gardner & Associates,<br>Spokane, WA |

#### **Attended Training & Lectures (continued)**

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| October 19 – 21, 2009<br>(24 hours) | Basic Police Photography<br>Officer Chris Duncan, Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX |
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| August 17, 2009<br>(5 hours)         | Basic Reverse Projection Photogrammetry Workshop<br>Richard V. Bruegge, Walter E. Bruehs and Christopher Iber,<br>Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tampa, FL |
| August 18, 2009<br>(2 hours)         | Reconstructing Bloodstain Patterns with Lasers Workshop<br>H.W. "Rus" Ruslander, Palm Beach Co. Medical Examiner's Office<br>Tampa Bay, FL                   |
| August 20 – 24, 2007<br>(40 hours)   | Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analysis<br>Bob Henderson, Henderson Forensics, Houston, TX                                                                      |
| April 23 – 24, 2007<br>(16 hours)    | Anthropology Short Course<br>Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, TX                                                                       |
| November 9, 2006<br>(8 hours)        | Forensic Entomology<br>Texas A & M University, College Station, TX                                                                                           |
| October 18, 2006<br>(8 hours)        | DNA Evidence Handling<br>Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX                                                                                                 |
| December 19 – 21, 2005<br>(24 hours) | Low Light Night Photography<br>Officer Chris Duncan, Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX                                                                     |
| August 10, 2005<br>(8 hours)         | Crime Scene Diagramming, Data Collection & Reconstruction<br>90 <sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Educational Conference, Dallas, TX                               |
| August 9, 2005<br>(4 hours)          | Examination of Bloodstained Clothing Workshop<br>Tom "Griff" Griffin, Bevel Gardner & Associates, Dallas, TX                                                 |
| February 9 – 13, 2004<br>(40 hours)  | Intermediate Blood Stain Pattern Analysis, Tom Bevel of<br>Tom Bevel and Associates, Houston, TX                                                             |
| April 14 – 18, 2003<br>(40 hours)    | Basic Investigators' School<br>Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX                                                                                           |
| February 15 – 16, 2001<br>(16 hours) | Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis<br>Officer Michael Walker, Houston Police Department, Houston, TX                                                          |
| May 20, 1999<br>(8 hours)            | Forensic Investigation Symposium<br>Houston Police Department, Houston, TX                                                                                   |
| July 13 – 17, 1998<br>(40 hours)     | Advanced Crime Scene Unit Investigation, Level III<br>Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX                                                                    |

#### **Attended Training & Lectures (continued)**

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| June 10, 1998<br>(8 hours) | Fingerprint Identification – Basic<br>Crime Scene Unit, Houston Police Department, Houston, TX |
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| July 1 – 8, 1997<br>(60 hours)       | Crime Scene Investigation (Intermediate)<br>Crime Scene Unit, Houston Police Department, Houston, TX |
| February 25 – 27, 1997<br>(24 hours) | Basic Police Photography<br>Officer Mark Connor, Houston Police Department, Houston, TX              |

**Presentations and Classes Given:**

- Basic Police Photography – Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX Aug. 31, 2016
- Daytime Laser Photography Workshop – 101<sup>st</sup> Annual I.A.I. Training Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, Presented twice August 12, 2016
- Trajectories in Vehicles: Rods, Strings, and Lasers Workshop – 101<sup>st</sup> Annual I.A.I. Training Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 8 and August 10, 2016
- CSI Camp, Museum of Natural Science – Crime Scene Processing and Anthropology Workshop, Houston, Texas – June 20 and 29 and August 28, 2016
- Forensic Photography; Photography for the Crime Scene Analyst – Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas, March 7-11, 2016
- Macro Photography for Crime Scene Investigator – Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas, November 9, 2015
- Forensic Photography; Photography for the Crime Scene Analyst – Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, Texas, November 2-6, 2015
- “I Think I Didn’t Shoot Myself”; a Crime Scene Reconstruction – 56<sup>th</sup> Annual FDIAT Training Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 22, 2015
- Macro Photography Workshop – 56<sup>th</sup> Annual FDIAT Training Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 21, 2015
- Daytime Laser Photography Workshop – 56<sup>th</sup> Annual FDIAT Training Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 20, 2015
- Crime Scene Dollhouse Processing and Powers of Observation – National Forensic Week Symposium, Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston, Texas, August 12, 2015
- Daytime Laser Photography Workshop – 100<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Training Conference, Sacramento, California, Presented twice August 7, 2015
- Crime Scene and Bloodstain Analysis Jeopardy – 100<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Training Conference, Sacramento, California, August 4, 2015
- Trajectories in Vehicles: Rods, Strings, and Lasers Workshop – 100<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Training Conference, Sacramento, California, August 3 and August 5, 2015
- Mastering Nighttime Digital Photography – 100<sup>th</sup> I.A.I. Training Conference, Sacramento, California, August 3, 2015
- CSI Camp, Museum of Natural Science – Crime Scene Processing and Anthropology Summary, Houston, TX – July 15, July 22, and August 12, 2015
- Summer Educational Seminar for Secondary School Science Teachers – Crime Scene Sketching and Bloodstain Analysis, Houston, TX – June 23 and August 11, 2015
- The Buccal Swab – A how to, Harris County District Attorney’s Office In-Service Training, Human Trafficking, Houston, TX – June 11, 2015

**Presentations and Classes Given: (continued)**

- “I Think I Didn’t Shoot Myself”; a Crime Scene Reconstruction – Keystone College Forensic Symposium, La Plume, PA – April, 2015
- Forensic Photography BIOL 1062– Keystone College, La Plume, PA – January 2015
- Daytime Laser Photography: Trajectory Reconstruction – Florida Division’s 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference Panama City Beach, Florida, October 2014
- Crime Scene Investigation – TEEEX, San Benito, TX, September 15-20, 2014
- Who Shot What, Where and When; Trajectory Reconstruction with Cars – 99<sup>th</sup> I.A.I. Training Conference – August 2014
- Flash Photography: Automatic, Manual & Painting - 99<sup>th</sup> I.A.I. Training Conf. Aug. 2014
- Rods, Strings, Lasers; Trajectory Reconstruction with Walls – 99<sup>th</sup> I.A.I. Training Conference – August 2014
- Mastering Nighttime Digital Photography – 99<sup>th</sup> I.A.I. Training Conference – Aug. 2014
- Low Light / Night Photography – Houston Police Department – July 2014
- Basic Police Photography – Houston Police Department – July 2014
- Laser Trajectory Photography Daytime / Bright Light– Keystone College, Forensic Science Symposium, La Plume, PA – April 2014
- Low Light / Night Photography – Houston Police Department – March 2014
- Basic Police Photography – Houston Police Department – April 2014
- Forensic Photography BIOL 1062– Keystone College, La Plume, PA – January 2014
- Forensic Photography I – TEEEX, Canyon TX, December 2013
- Basic Photography – Florida Division’s 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference – October 2013
- 3D Scanners: Leica vs. Faro – Chief of Police, Houston Police Department – Sept. 2013
- Nighttime Digital Imaging – 98<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Conference, Providence, RI – July 2013
- Rods, Strings and Lasers – 98<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Conference, Providence, RI – July 2013
- Forensic Photography BIOL 1062– Keystone College, La Plume, PA – May 2013
- Basic Investigator School – Houston Police Academy – Taught Quarterly Since Feb. 2008
- Low Light / Night Photography – Houston Police Department – December 2012
- Basic Police Photography – Houston Police Department – December 2012
- Intermediate Crime Scene Investigation – November 2012
- Fingerprinting Made Easy – Bunkerhill Elementary School – October 2011
- Basic Narcotic’s School: Crime Scene – Montgomery County Sheriff’s Dept. – Aug. 2011
- Rods, Strings and Lasers – 95<sup>th</sup> Annual I.A.I. Conference, Spokane, WA – July 2010
- Death Investigations – Lone Star Community College – March 2011
- Police Photography – Houston Police Academy – October 2009
- Crime Scene Investigation – Holland Middle School – December 2008

#### **Awards, Commendations, and Honors:**

- Supervisor Commendation Letter, H.F.S.C., Sergeant. J. Crusier, Mar. 14, 2016
- Letter of Commendation, Houston Police Department, Captain H.D. Harris, Oct. 27, 2015



- Unit Commander Commendation, Evidence Collection Div., Lt. M. Walker, Aug. 17, 2015
- Certificate of Achievement, Houston Forensic Science Center Dr. Dan Garner, Jan. 7, 2015
- Supervisor Commendation, Lieutenant H. Harris, November 5, 2012
- Assistant Chief of Police Commendation, Chief M. Slinkard, July 3, 2012
- Unit Commander Commendation, Crime Scene Unit, Lieutenant R. Walker, June 27, 2012
- Chief of Police Commendation, Chief C. McClelland, May 19, 2011
- First Place Winner, I.A.I. Education Conference Photography Contest, Spokane, WA, 2010
- Chief of Police Unit Citation, Crime Scene Unit, February 25, 2009
- Supervisor Commendation, Homicide Division, Captain M. Brown, July 19, 2007
- Supervisor Commendation, Homicide Division, Lieutenant H. Lopez, January 16, 2007
- Life Saving Award, Chief H. Hurtt, March 11, 2005
- Supervisor Commendation, Homicide Division, Captain R. Holland, January 8, 2003
- Supervisor Commendation, Captain J.P. Mokwa, April 22, 2002
- Supervisor Commendation, Westside Command, Captain K. A. Munden, June 27, 2001
- Life Saving Award, Chief C.O. Bradford, January 17, 2001
- Houston City Council's Service Recognition Award, September 2, 1999
- Mayor's Commendation, Honorable Bob Lanier, June 27, 1996
- Mayor's Commendation, Honorable Bob Lanier, March 6, 1996
- Academic Honor Graduate and Class Valedictorian, Houston Police Academy, Class #149  
December 11, 1992