



The Property Times

Texas Association of Property And Evidence Inventory Technicians (T.A.P.E.I.T.) Newsletter

July 2015

The Officers and Board members met again at the conference site June 29 to discuss and finalize things for the upcoming conference. You are able to register for the 2015 conference now, payment is due by the first day of the conference. If you have any questions regarding registration you can visit the conference page on our website, www.tapeit.net or contact our Secretary Jamie Murphy at j-murphy@tamu.edu.

TAPEIT 2015 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

San Marcos, Texas

OCTOBER 20-23, 2015

Property / Evidence Certification Course Included BASIC OR ADVANCED

NAME: _____ TAPEIT Member#: _____

AGENCY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Class Attending: **Basic Certification** _____ ***Advanced Certification** _____

**you must have: a current Basic Certification, previously attended 3 TAPEIT conferences, & 5 years of property room experience to attend the Advanced Class .*

COMPLETE four day conference: **\$325.00***
(Tuesday Oct. 20— Friday Oct.23, 2015)

Registration MUST be received by September 15th, 2015 and conference fees MUST be paid no later than first day of class. *Late Registration after Sept. 15: \$375.00 - Includes: paid 2015 member dues, admission for **one to our social night, door prizes and more...**

Method of Payment: (Check one): Check _____(payable to T.A.P.E.I.T.)

PO / Invoice: _____ CC: _____ (Email j-murphy@tamu.edu for cc instructions)

Register online at www.tapeit.net or scan this page then email or call:

T.A.P.E.I.T. C/O Gayla Robison (817) 426-9938 voice (817) 426-9384 fax

E-mail: Jamie Murphy, Secretary

We pay Tribute - Honoring Officers Who Left Us In 2015...



Patrolman Adrian Arellano
El Paso PD
EOW: Mar 18, 2015
Cause of Death:
Motorcycle accident



Sergeant Korby Kennedy
San Angelo PD
EOW: Jun 25, 2015
Cause of Death:
Motorcycle accident



Sergeant Christopher Kelley
Hutto PD
EOW: Jun 24, 2015
Cause of Death:
Vehicular assault



Police Officer Richard Martin
Houston PD
EOW: Mon, May 18, 2015
Cause of Death:
Vehicular assault



Police Officer Michael Villarreal
Pearsall PD, TX
EOW: Apr 12, 2015
Cause of Death:
Auto accident



SA William Sheldon
USDOJ - BATF, US
EOW: Monday, Mar 2, 2015
Cause of Death:
9/11 related illness



Dep U.S. Marshal Zach Toro
USDOJ - US Marshals Svc.
EOW: Sun, Jun. 14, 2015
Cause of Death:
9/11 related illness



Jun 8, 15: Khyrstin "Kyssi" Andrews — a spunky, little girl who made headlines late last year by becoming an honorary Houston police officer and a state trooper — succumbed to a rare form of kidney cancer that she had been fighting since early 2012.

The Folks Behind The Scenes - your officers and board members—all working for T.A.P.E.I.T. members because....
They're members too!

Officers		Board
President	Gayla Robison - Burleson PD	Sandy Reynolds - Wise County SO
1st VP:	Danny Barfield - Killeen PD	Shawn Henderson - Carrollton PD
2nd VP	Vincent Hunter - Mansfield PD	Bob Killingsworth - Nacogdoches PD
Secy:	Jamie Murphy - TX A&M PD	Fonda Rhoades - Bee Cave PD
Sgt. At Arms	Tommie Hastings - Humble PD	Connie Jordan - Jasper County S.O.
Treasurer	Linda Roberts - Longview PD	Steve Yancey - Forest Hill PD
Web/Editor	Melinda Strange - Huntsville PD, retired	
Historian	Lynne Sinclair - McKinney PD	

If you are interested in serving as a board member please go to the TAPEIT Documents tab on our website or contact any officer / board member for information regarding the requirements.



Evidence TraQ makes it easy for everyone involved in the handling and management of property and evidence.



Evidence Tech. of the Year Info!

TAPEIT will select one Property Technician as the Property and Evidence Technician of the year. The selected nominee will be recognized at the annual conference.

Hello everyone,

I would like to remind you that the Technician of Year Nomination deadline is **September 1st**. The Tech of the Year award is a huge honor for both the Technician and the Agency. To nominate someone go to the TAPEIT website, click on ABOUT, then select the Technician of Year Information. Complete the requested information and email to either myself or [Gayla Robison](#). If you are the only Property Tech at your Agency please feel free to contact one of us and we will provide your Agency Department Head the nomination information. Looking forward to seeing you at the TAPEIT 2015 Conference, OCTOBER 20 - 23, Embassy Suites San Marcos, TX.

Sendy Reynolds
Wise County Sheriffs Office
T.A.P.E.I.T. Board Member
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reynoldss@sheriff.co.wise.tx.us

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- Interrogation Room Video
- Data/Audio Intercepts
- Still Image and Motion Cameras

Rimage enables efficient and effective evidence logistics in an amazing variety of applications. By combining core optical disc technology with advanced software and integration, Rimage delivers evidence management solutions that are optimized for the specific needs of law enforcement.

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Serving Texas one bid at a time

TAPEIT is proud to invite Ron Smith to our 2015 conference as a guest speaker:

Ron Smith, B.S., C.L.P.E.
ron@ronsmithandassociates.com



Ron Smith is President of "Ron Smith & Associates, Inc.", a forensic identification services corporation headquartered in Collinsville, Mississippi. RS&A has two ISO/IEC 17020/17025/17043 accredited laboratory facilities located in Mississippi and in Largo, Florida and is the only company in the United States to have achieved all three of these accreditations. RS&A specializes in impression evidence examination, case consultation, national and international forensic training, ISO Mentoring services, competency testing for latent print examiners and proficiency testing for both ten print and latent print examiners. The full time staff of 40+ employees is complimented by a cadre of IAI Certified Latent Print Examiners from throughout the United States.

Ron began his career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1972, moving on to the Alabama Bureau of Investigation and from 1978 to 2002 with the Mississippi Crime Laboratory, retiring as Associate Director.

He has over forty years of experience in latent print, crime scene and laboratory management practices and has been certified by the I.A.I. as a latent print examiner and senior crime scene analyst. In July of 2001, he was awarded the "John A. Dondero Memorial Award", which is the highest award bestowed by the International Association for Identification for exemplary contributions to the science of forensic identification.

Ron has lectured on courtroom testimony techniques, latent print examinations and crime scene related topics in over forty-five states and numerous other countries around the world.

TAPEIT is proud to invite Billy Rowles to our 2015 conference as a guest speaker:

Billy Rowles
Retired DPS Trooper
Sheriff - Jasper County, TX (1996 - 2004)
Texas Ranger

Ranger Rowles grew up in Beaumont, Texas. Upon graduation from high school Rowles enlisted in the US Marines and serve four years including two tours in Vietnam.

Ranger Rowles has attended Sam Houston University, SWT State University and, Central Texas Jr. College.

Ranger Rowles law enforcement career started with the Texas DPS where he first served as security for the then Governor Preston Smith. Ranger Rowles then went back to east Texas as a Trooper and remained in that position for the remainder of his 27 years with the State. He was given a special Texas Ranger commission which he still holds.

He was sworn in as the Jasper county Sheriff January 1997 and remained in that position through 2004. Less than 2 years after becoming sheriff his agency, and his community, dealt with the brutal murder of James Byrd.

He has spoken to many law enforcement organizations all over our country and believes that there is no greater honor than to get asked to share his story to so many brothers and sisters who wear the badge of courage.



TAPEIT Scholarship / Grant Fund and Conference Door Prize Info:

A rectangular graphic with a background of US dollar bills. Inside the graphic, the text reads: **Apply for Grant Money for Your Department!**
TAPEIT has established a Grant Fund to help agencies purchase equipment, supplies or other products that shall be used within a property room to help the agency store property or evidence until it's final disposition.
The deadline for these applications is September 1!

Go to the TAPEIT Website for more information on the grant fund and to find the [application.](#)

TAPEIT SILENT AUCTION

Every year at our annual conference, we hold a silent auction. Items to be auctioned are donated by members, vendors, and various businesses. The monies raised from the auction goes into a fund to provide grants for our members. With the grants, our members are able to purchase needed supplies/items for their agency's property room. For more information on the grant fund visit <http://www.tapeit.net/tapeit-documents.html>.

If you would like to donate to the auction, you can contact Linda Roberts at lroberts@longviewtexas.gov, or just bring the item with you to the conference. You, or your agency, can also donate items to be given away as door prizes to the attendees during the conference.

The bidding for the silent auction items will begin on the first day of the conference and end on Thursday at 5:00pm. Winners will be announced on Friday morning and items will be able to be picked up at break time on Friday.



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No, I Don't Think We Want To Get Rid of That Just Yet...

This is just one example of why evidence containing potential biological material is being maintained for so long and why we (or our State crime labs for Texas counties with a population of less than 100,000) will be keeping some evidence for longer periods of time than we ever have:

Nineteen-year-old Mary Sullivan had just moved from Cape Cod to Boston. Within a few days of her arrival in January 1964, she was found dead. Her attacker raped her and strangled her to death.

Sullivan was one of 11 women whom Albert DeSalvo — known as the Boston Strangler — would later confess to killing. However, he then recanted, leaving lingering doubts about the possibility that the real assailant had eluded capture.

Evidence that finally linked DeSalvo to the Sullivan assault emerged in July 2013.

Over the years, NIJ has funded the examination of "cold cases" across the country through its Solving Cold Cases with DNA program. The funding helps police departments identify, review, investigate and analyze violent crime cold cases that could be solved through DNA analysis. Sometimes the cases are so old that DNA testing did not yet exist when the crimes were committed, and testing biological evidence now might show a match with a suspect.

In 2009 and 2012, the city of Boston received competitive grants under NIJ's cold case program. The Boston Police Department's cold case squad decided to use some of the NIJ funding to test DNA from a nephew of DeSalvo's and look for a match with seminal fluid that had been found on Sullivan's body and on a blanket at the crime scene. When forensics experts ran the test, they got a hit.

To read the full article visit the NIJ (National Institute of Justice) site at:

<http://nij.gov/journals/273/pages/boston-strangler.aspx>



Contraband Solutions, LLC, recognizes the need for law enforcement agencies to focus on reducing costs while keeping their citizens safe. Our services help your agency achieve the goal of saving money and making your community a safer place for its citizens and employees. Contraband Solutions, LLC was founded by a licensed Texas Peace Officer who recognized the need for a vetted and trustworthy contraband disposal company to serve the Dallas – Fort Worth Metroplex and surrounding areas.



Law Enforcement Services

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Questions from the Message Board...

Does anyone have a form that the Chief signs for authorization for agency use of property?

I need information if anyone can tell me what are you doing with the liquids brought in from Meth Labs that need to be destroyed. I have checked with every known company, even those that were mentioned at the conferences and no one will take the liquids.

Looking for SOP manual for property and evidence room. We are in the process for writing an SOP for our Property room and would like to know if anyone has one they would be willing to share? Thank you!

I was under the impression that you cannot store live ammo in an evidence room. I don't know who advised me of this and I can't find anything on it anywhere. Is this true and if so, where do you store ammo that is evidence?

Our agency has money that cannot be tied to an owner and that we've had for several months and longer. Do we need any sort of special documentation or court order to take possession of it and submit it to the city's general fund?

When you get case dispositions and are ready to dispose of evidence? Does your agency have the prosecutors sign off on them as well as the judge?

Who develops film and takes cell phones to be downloaded?

Paraphernalia: I am writing to see how other agencies handle the submission of paraphernalia in both county and class "C" offenses. I've been asked from officers if taking a picture of the paraphernalia and then disposing of it on the scene instead of submitting the actual physical evidence is an acceptable practice.

Property & Evidence
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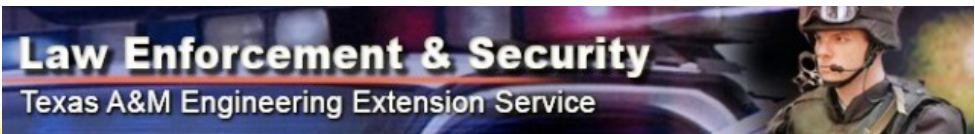
Did You Know?.....

Random facts you may or may not be familiar with:

Retention - the length of time you must keep records on items disposed, released, destroyed...

Source: [Texas State Library and Archives Commission](http://www.tsl.texas.gov/records/retention.html)

<p>PS4175-09</p>	<p>PROPERTY RECORDS</p>	<p>Reports, logs, property cards, receipts, notices, and similar records documenting the receipt, processing, chain of custody, and disposition by return, destruction, or sale of evidential, stolen, abandoned, unclaimed, impounded, or recovered property, including motor vehicles, by a law enforcement agency.</p>	<p>FE of return or disposal of property + 3 years. (FE = Fiscal year end)</p>
<p>PS4050-05d</p>	<p>WEAPONS RECORDS</p>	<p>Inventories of weapons.</p>	<p>US + 3 years. (US = Until superseded)</p>



<http://teexweb.tamu.edu/publicsafety/>

The T.A.P.E.I.T. Officers and Board would like to thank all of the members, vendors and others who support our mission for being a part of T.A.P.E.I.T. - making it the best it can be. See updates and more at www.tapeit.net.



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