

Suzanna Ryan, MS, D-ABC
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EDUCATION:

Master of Science in Forensic Science
December, 1998

Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Bachelor of Science – Biology
Minor in Chemistry
May, 1997

Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Lock Haven, PA

EXPERIENCE:

Forensic Serologist
November 2015-Present

Advanced Serology Laboratory
Carlsbad, CA

- ◇ Perform biological evidence screening on casework evidence
- ◇ Test evidence items for the presence of blood, semen, saliva, vaginal fluid, and menstrual fluid
- ◇ Collect DNA samples using the M-Vac Wet Vacuum DNA Collection System

Independent Forensic DNA Consultant
March 2008 – Present

Ryan Forensic DNA Consulting
Carlsbad, CA

- ◇ Provide Forensic DNA and Serology consultation services and Expert Witness testimony to law enforcement, prosecution and defense agencies
- ◇ Perform complete review of Forensic DNA casework including bench notes, DNA data, mixture interpretations, and statistical conclusions
- ◇ Review of electronic DNA data utilizing Applied Biosystems' GeneMapper ID or Softgen's GeneMarker HID software
- ◇ Offer pre-trial and trial assistance
- ◇ Present educational programs and DNA training for trial counsel and others in the legal system

Interim Technical Leader/Forensic Scientist
October 2009 – March 2010

Human Identification Technologies
Redlands, CA

- ◇ Performed serological screening on casework submitted by prosecution and defense agencies
- ◇ Performed Forensic DNA analysis on casework submitted by prosecution and defense agencies
- ◇ Reviewed other analyst's work
- ◇ Acted as interim technical leader and aided in maintaining ASCLD/LAB International accreditation

Forensic DNA Technical Leader & Quality Assurance Manager
September, 2006 – March, 2008

Crime Scene Technologies
San Diego, CA

- ◇ Responsible for maintaining ASCLD/LAB accreditation of the laboratory
- ◇ Wrote and revised laboratory methods and quality assurance procedures
- ◇ Devised and performed validation studies for new serology and DNA methodologies
- ◇ Screened evidence items for the presence of blood, semen, urine, and saliva
- ◇ Performed STR DNA typing on evidentiary items submitted to the lab
- ◇ Utilized Organic, Chelex, and DNA IQ extraction methods with Quantifiler quantitation and electrophoresis on an ABI 310 with analysis using GeneMapper ID

- ◇ Fully trained to use and interpret Identifiler, YFiler, and Minifiler amplification kits/results
- ◇ Wrote detailed reports based upon findings
- ◇ Testified in court as an expert witness when needed
- ◇ Technically reviewed all other analysts' work
- ◇ Responsible for all technical aspects of the lab including troubleshooting problems

Instructor

VLETA.net

August 2009 – December 2012

- ◇ Created online Serology and DNA-related training programs for attorneys and for members of the law enforcement community via the Virtual Learning and Training Academy

Contributing Author

LawOfficer.com

July 2008 – February 2009

- ◇ Wrote a monthly column for LawOfficer.com concentrating on DNA-related topics

Adjunct Professor

National University

July 2007 – May 2010

San Diego, CA

- ◇ Created course syllabus and all test materials for a course entitled "Advanced Forensic Serology and DNA" for the Master of Forensic Science program at National University
- ◇ Created course syllabus and all test materials for an online course entitled "Advanced Criminalistics" for the Master of Forensic Science program at National University
- ◇ Instruct students on techniques of serological testing, sperm cell identification, and hair identification
- ◇ Instruct students on all aspects of forensic DNA analysis including historical techniques
- ◇ Designed laboratory exercises to augment student learning

DNA and GPA Auditor/Assessor

National Forensic Science Tech. Center

June, 2006 – August 2011

Largo, FL

- ◇ Trained by FBI personnel to perform DNA Audits of forensic DNA laboratories following the FBI's National DNA Quality Assurance Standards

Criminalist II

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Dept. Crime Lab

November, 2005 – August, 2006

Charlotte, NC

- ◇ Screened evidence items for the presence of blood, semen, and saliva
- ◇ Performed microscopic examination of hairs
- ◇ STR DNA typing of evidence and reference items utilizing PowerPlex 16 amplification kits
- ◇ Entered qualifying profiles into the CODIS database
- ◇ Technically reviewed other analyst's work
- ◇ Wrote reports based upon serology and DNA findings
- ◇ Attended Homicide Investigators morning meetings to render assistance when needed

Adjunct Instructor

Hillsborough Community College

July, 2005 – November 2005

Tampa, FL

- ◇ Created and taught a course entitled "Introduction to Criminalistics" for two semesters
- ◇ Course provided overview of multiple forensic disciplines including: blood spatter analysis, latent print identification, firearms identification, crime scene analysis techniques, fiber and hair testing, glass and soil testing, and serology and DNA typing

Teaching Assistant

University of Florida

November, 2004 – November 2005

Gainesville, FL

- ◇ Teaching Assistant for the online Master of Science in Forensic Science program with UF
- ◇ Graded papers, tests, and quizzes and answered students questions in the Forensic DNA course

Crime Laboratory Analyst*May, 2002 – November, 2005***Florida Department of Law Enforcement**

Tampa, FL

- ◇ Received complete training in serological testing techniques
- ◇ Performed serology and STR DNA testing on evidence submitted by agencies in 18 counties
- ◇ Utilized Profiler Plus and COfiler amplification kits with analysis on ABI 310, AB 3100 and AB 3130
- ◇ Attended crime scenes when requested
- ◇ Provided training to investigators and attorneys on Forensic Serology and DNA capabilities
- ◇ Attended Cold Case Squad meetings to answer biological evidence-based questions
- ◇ Wrote case reports based upon findings and testified in court as an expert witness when needed

Forensic DNA Analyst 2*January, 1999- May, 2002***The Bode Technology Group, Inc.**

Springfield, VA

- ◇ Received training in STR DNA typing techniques
- ◇ Received Top Secret security clearance and performed DNA testing as part of a federal government contract
- ◇ Performed STR DNA testing on evidence and reference samples
- ◇ Utilized PowerPlex 1.1, 2.1, Profiler Plus and COfiler amplification kits with electrophoresis performed on the FMBIO II or ABI 377 followed by analysis with STaRCaLL software or GeneScan/Genotyper
- ◇ Managed a project in conjunction with the International Commission on Missing Persons to identify remains found in mass graves in Bosnia
- ◇ Assisted with mass disaster identification projects such as the Alaska Air flight 261 crash in 2000 and the World Trade Center disaster on 09/11/01
- ◇ Testified in court as an expert witness when needed

CONTINUING EDUCATION/TRAINING:

1. Statistics Seminar, The Bode Technology Group, Inc. December 2000
2. Third Annual Fluorescent STR MegaPlex Technology Workshop, Hilton Head, NC. March 2000
3. ABI Prism 377 DNA Sequencer training given by Applied Biosystems at The Bode Technology Group, April 2000
4. STR Analysis Seminar, The Bode Technology Group, November 2000
5. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 53rd Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. February 2001
6. DNA STR Workshop, Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists 28th Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ. November 2002
7. Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement Forensic Biology Discipline Meeting, Tampa, FL March 2003
8. Introduction to Bloodspatter Analysis Training, Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement, Tampa, FL February 2004
9. NIJ's 5th Annual DNA Grantee's Workshop, Washington, D.C. June 2004
10. SAFS/MAAFS/MAFS/CFC Combined Meeting & Paternity Statistics Workshop, Orlando, FL September 2004
11. MAAFS annual meeting & LCN Workshop, Richmond, VA May 2006
12. ABI Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology, Research Triangle Park, NC May 2006
13. FBI Auditor Training Course, National Forensic Science Technology Center, Largo, FL, June 2006
14. Forensic Consultants Association Annual Meeting, - "New Developments in Forensic DNA Testing", San Diego, CA, December 2006.
15. California Association of Crime Laboratory Directors Spring 2007 Meeting, Temecula, CA, April 2007
16. FBI DNA Auditor Refresher Training and Annual Training for Grant Progress Assessment (GPA) Assessors, Washington DC, June 2007
17. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 60th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. February 2008
18. National Forensic Science Training Center DNA Mixture Interpretation Workshop, online training, October 2011
19. Advanced DNA Mixture Interpretation and Statistical Approaches Workshop. American Academy of Forensic Sciences 64th Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. February 2012
20. Transforming Investigative Potential - DNA Technology Today. Held at DNA:SI Lab, Burlington, NC. August 2012
21. Tenth Annual Advanced DNA Technical Workshop sponsored by Bode Technology, San Diego, CA March 2013
22. First Annual American Investigative Society of Cold Cases Conference, Fayetteville, NC. May 2014
23. Promega 25th International Symposium on Human Identification and Probabilistic Software Workshop, Phoenix, AZ. October 2014
24. Implementing Next Generation Sequencing for Forensic DNA Analysis. Webinar presented by Forensic Magazine and Battelle. June 2015
25. Second Annual American Investigative Society of Cold Cases Conference, St. Louis, MS. July 2015.
26. MSI M-Vac Systems training given by Jared Bradley of MSI at Advanced Serology Laboratory, Carlsbad, CA. November 2015

EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY:

Qualified as an expert in Serology and Forensic DNA Analysis in the following States: California (in Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Placer, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Ventura Counties), Idaho, Maryland, Rhode Island (Superior and Supreme Court), Texas, Washington, Iowa, Connecticut (Federal Court), Arizona, New York (Federal Court), and Florida (in Alachua, Polk, Pinellas, Pasco, Duval, Citrus, Sarasota, Hillsborough, Hernando, Highlands, Collier, Lee, and Charlotte Counties and Federal Court in Tampa) and in Kaiserslautern, Germany for a total of over 80 times, as well as more than 20 expert deposition experiences in both civil and criminal trials.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- ◇ Eleni N, Levedakou, Freeman, D.A., Budzynski, M.J., Early, B.E., Damaso, R.C., Pollard, A.M., Townley, A.J., Gombos, J. L., Lewis, J.L., Kist, F.G., Hockensmith, M.E., Terwilliger, M.L., Amriott, E., McElfresh, K.C., Schumm, J.W., **Ulery, S.R.**, Konotop, F., Sessa, T.L., Sailus, J.S., Crouse, C.A., Tomsey, C.S., Ban, J.D., and Nelson, M.S. Characterization and Validation Studies of PowerPlex 2.1, a Nine-Locus Short Tandem Repeat (STR) Multiplex System and Penta D Monoplex, *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, July 2002.
- ◇ **Ryan, S.R.** and Kelepecz, B.K., "DNA on Guns; How Do You Preserve the Evidence?", *Law Officer Magazine*, pp 48- 51 Vol. 4 (9) September 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Using DNA to Solve Cold Cases", www.LawOfficer.com, July 15, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Maximize the Usefulness of Sexual Assault Kit Evidence", www.LawOfficer.com, August 19, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Y Chromosome DNA Testing", www.LawOfficer.com, September 16, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Familial DNA Searching", www.LawOfficer.com, October 21, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Mini-STR Technology", www.LawOfficer.com, November 20, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "The DNA Database Problem", www.LawOfficer.com, December 16, 2008.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Transfer Theory in Forensic DNA Analysis", www.LawOfficer.com, January 20, 2009.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Latent Prints or DNA?", www.LawOfficer.com, February 17, 2009
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "Understanding DNA Evidence; Why It Is Important To Do a Case Review", presented at the National Defender Investigator Association, West Regional Conference, September 17, 2009.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "Defense Attorney's Guide to Forensic Serology and DNA Analysis" presented to the San Diego Public Defender's Office, Vista, California, October 21, 2009.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "DNA: Get It Right", *Law Officer Magazine*, pp. 28-29 Vol. 5 (11) November 2009.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "The Defense Investigator and Paralegal's Guide to Forensic Serology and DNA Analysis" presented at the National Defender Investigator Association National Conference, April 9, 2010.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "Understanding DNA Evidence: Analysis Through Interpretation and Beyond" presented for CLE credit to the Kern County Public Defender's Office, November 11, 2011.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "DNA Testing and Mixture Interpretation: an Overview of DNA Analysis & Discussion of the 2010 SWGDAM Guidelines" presented for CLE credit to the Orange County Alternate Defender's Office, February 29, 2012.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Touch DNA Analysis: Using the Literature to Help Answer Some Common Questions", *Forensic Magazine*, pp. 31-33 Vol. 9 (3) June/July 2012.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Investigative Potential: Using Touch DNA to Generate Leads", presented at the Transforming Investigative Potential - DNA Technology Today conference held at DNA:SI Labs in Burlington, NC. Aug. 2012
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "The Value and Collection of Touch DNA and Potential Investigative Pitfalls", presented at the LODIS Users Group Meeting held in Palm Bay. December 4, 2012
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Identifying, Collecting, and Packaging DNA Evidence", presented to the Palm Bay Police Department, Palm Bay, FL. December 4, 2012
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Cold Case DNA Evidence - The Progresses and Perils", presented at the First Annual American Investigative Society of Cold Cases Conference held in Fayetteville, NC. May 2014.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. "Creative uses of DNA in Cold Cases and Recent Advances in the Field of Forensic DNA Analysis", presented at the Second Annual American Investigative Society of Cold Cases Conference held in St. Louis, MS. July 2015.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R. Advances in forensic DNA analysis: A brief review. *Journal of Cold Case Review*. Vol.1(1), July 2015.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Defending Against Potentially Inculpatory Sexual Assault Kit Evidence", presented at the National Defender Investigator Association Regional Conference held in Las Vegas, September 10, 2015.
- ◇ Ryan, S.R., "Understanding and Interpreting DNA Results", presented at the National Defender Investigator Association Regional Conference held in Las Vegas, September 10, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- ◇ American Academy of Forensic Sciences 1997-present
- ◇ Certified as a Diplomate in Molecular Biology - American Board of Criminalistics, 2012
- ◇ Selected as a Member of the Review Board of the American Investigative Society of Cold Cases, 2013 - present
- ◇ Associate Member California Association of Criminalists 2015-present

AWARDS:

- ◇ Awarded the 2004 Davis Productivity Award from the State of Florida
- ◇ Awarded a Commendation from the Sarasota Police Department for Outstanding Assistance in the 2004 Wishart Murder Investigation, March 2005
- ◇ Awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Drug Law Enforcement by the Drug Enforcement Agency, April 2007