

# Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar

September 17-18, 2010  
Edgewood, Maryland

## Featuring

*Carole E. Chaski, PhD, (Linguist)*

*and*

*Kathie and Bill Koppenhaver*

Lectures and Hands-on Workshops  
Combat Training for each participant  
Poster Sessions

Photography, PowerPoint, and Photoshop Sessions  
as well as other document examination topics of interest



## Sleep Inn & Suites

1807 Edgewood Rd., Edgewood, MD, US, 21040

Phone: (410) 679-4700 / Fax: (410) 538-9926



100% Smoke Free Hotel

**When making reservations directly with the property,  
request Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar rates.**

**Make your room reservations by August 25, 2010 to get these great room rates!**

**(6% tax not included in rate)**

<b>Double (two standard beds) room rate</b>	<b>\$79.00 (room rate for up to 4 people)</b>
<b>Double (one queen bed)</b>	<b>\$79.00</b>
<b>Suite (king bed only available in suite)</b>	<b>\$89.00</b>

This interior corridor hotel features a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast with a free "USA Today", 24 hour coffee, business center, fitness room, elevator, guest laundry services, and an indoor swimming pool. Each of our guest rooms offers free wireless high-speed internet, satellite TV with HBO, pay-per-view movies, a Nintendo game system, oversized walk-in shower, and ample workspace. Many guest rooms also have a Mini Fridge (ask for one when you make your reservation).

# Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar

(topics and schedule subject to change)

Friday, September 17, 2010

## Topic: Court Testimony

**Synopsis:** If you are an expert, presenting evidence and opinions in court, watching others testify and getting feedback from others on your testimony are very valuable. Watching others testify provides you the opportunity to take away some ideas to use in future cases.

On Friday morning, participants will have the rare opportunity to watch another expert, **Katherine Koppenhaver**, testify and benefit from watching her provide testimony. We will be able to see how Ms. Koppenhaver explains what observations she made when analyzing the handwriting in this case, how she presents that evidence, and how she answers the questions put forth to her. Ms. Koppenhaver does an excellent job at explaining her opinions.

Participants will take notes to provide feedback to Ms. Koppenhaver, as well as sharpen one's knowledge and skills of how an expert witness responds in court. Notes should include things like the percentage of time Ms. Koppenhaver makes eye contact with the judge/jury during her testimony, how comfortable she appears, the way she addresses technical issues, her demeanor during direct and cross examination, etc. The feedback she receives from us, her colleagues, will help her, and us, do our best when presenting evidence and our opinions in court the next time. Participants will discuss their notes with Ms. Koppenhaver during a working lunch and conclude observations and feedback in the afternoon session, as time allows.

Should court be postponed or settle prior to Friday, Ms. Koppenhaver will begin Deposition Testimony presentations Friday morning.

## Topic: Deposition Testimony

**Synopsis:** Because deposition comments are recorded, opinions stated during court testimony that differ, even slightly, from opinions offered during deposition may be used to challenge your credibility.

**Katherine Koppenhaver** will share her deposition experiences and relate them as they apply to the goals of a deposition: 1-to learn about an expert witness' opinions; 2-to gather as much information as possible about the case; and 3-to evaluate the credibility of the expert witness.

During Mock Depositions, seminar participants will gain experience in the art of being natural when telling the truth, understanding the question, not interrupting, and maintaining composure when testifying at depositions.

## Topic: Photography Workshop

**Synopsis:** **Bill Koppenhaver** will present practical applications of digital photography that can lead to the solution of common problems in document examination.

For those who wish to participate in a special skills program, you will receive a special assignment prior to the Seminar, and will be asked to produce digital photographs prior to the Seminar, as if one were addressing a real-life forensic situation. To participate, you will need to bring your photographs on a jump drive/or bring your laptop and a digital camera. You will have an opportunity to present your special work product by digital projection on a screen for admiration by your colleagues and personal instructions from Mr. Koppenhaver on how to improve your skills.

## Topic: Overt and Covert Features of Paper and Ending the "Paper Weight" Confusion

**Synopsis:** After the presentation covering overt and covert features of paper, **Anne Smith** will provide participants with paper samples.

For those who wish to participate, bring three (3) samples of paper of unusual thickness. Participants will examine their own samples, plus samples to be provided, and determine overt and covert features of the samples, and measure the various thicknesses to determine the weight of the different kinds of paper.

## Experiment Topic: Disguised, Simulated, and Genuine Signatures

**Synopsis:** **Kathie Koppenhaver** Experiment: Seminar participants will be sent instructions by August 30. Seminar participants will be given the opportunity (aka homework) to examine and opine whether signatures are genuine, disguised, and/or simulated. Participants will need laptops with Photoshop (or similar programs) installed to analyze the signatures. On Saturday, participants will express their opinions as to whether signatures are genuine, disguised, and/or simulated.

# Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar

(topics and schedule subject to change)

Saturday, September 17, 2010

## Topic: Modern History of Handwriting as a Science

**Synopsis:** The keynote speaker at the 2010 NADE Annual Conference was Carole Chaski, PhD, Alias Technology. We are honored that she will be our keynote speaker, too.

**Ms. Chaski** made an initial proposal for modern scientific investigation into the identifiability of handwriting. It was of proper methodology, characterized by rigid controls, and designed to meet the current standards for scientific research in recognized scientific fields. These sound scientific proposals were sabotaged. Learn why some current, allegedly scientific research supposedly in support of reliable handwriting expertise is deeply flawed.

## Topic: How to Create Comprehensive Court Room Exhibits

**Synopsis:** **Tam Kaiden** will show you how to create comprehensive courtroom exhibits and help you develop skills on how to visually illustrate evidence to the trier of fact. An excellent, concise presentation of evidence is vital to communicating the facts to your audience and can make or break a case.

## Topic: Who Wrote It and What Is It? Forensic Linguistic Methods for Document Examiners

**Synopsis:** **Carole Chaski** will explain: Threat Assessment; Author Identification; Suicide Note Assessment; Gender and Age Historically, principally in the writings of Albert S. Osborn, elements of linguistics were employed as supportive evidence in handwriting identification. Currently, there is a conflict in case law as to what elements of language usage may be used in handwriting identification. Some courts ruled that spelling is a mental process and its usage for identification is tantamount to making the defendant a witness against himself, while other courts ruled to the contrary. A number of document examiners have taken a course called SCAN, Scientific Content Analysis. Whether we are among that number or must counter their opinions, we need to know what Ms. Chaski will present both to protect ourselves and better to serve our clients.

Participants may bring documents and have fun running them through the ALIAS system. Ms. Chaski suggests threats, suicide letters, and author id; the more, the better, as some author id methods require at least 30 documents.

## Topic: The Power of PowerPoint! A Workshop

**Synopsis:** At the end of 2009 NADE Conference, **Sharon Rose Hampton** very quickly projected a PowerPoint procedure whereby she solved a case reported in the news where examiners said that they were stumped. She will demonstrate her successful solution for us and explain how she used PowerPoint to accomplish it. She will demonstrate other powerful uses of Power Point, pointing out how you can replicate her work product.

For those who wish to participate, Ms. Hampton will send you a hands-on special skills project to do prior to the Seminar. You will need your computer with PowerPoint installed and operable. At the seminar, you will have an opportunity to present your work product by digital projection on a screen for admiration by your colleagues. Ms. Hampton will offer instructions on how to improve your skills.

## Topic: The Case of the PDF as The Questioned Document

**Synopsis:** **Tam Kaiden** will present this interesting case of a PDF as a questioned document where no original document existed. Line quality in one of the signatures was the key evidence in the PDF to prove that the questioned signature was scanned, manipulated in Photoshop and placed in place on the questioned document. Ms. Kaiden will show you how this document was created and how it nearly cost her client \$395,000.

## Topic: Deposition Testimony and Mock Depositions

**Synopsis:** Because deposition comments are recorded, opinions stated during court testimony that differ, even slightly, from opinions offered during deposition may be used to challenge your credibility.

**Katherine Koppenhaver** will share her deposition experiences and relate them as they apply to the goals of a deposition: 1-to learn about an expert witness' opinions; 2-to gather as much information as possible about the case; and 3-to evaluate the credibility of the expert witness.

During **Mock Depositions**, seminar participants will gain experience in the art of being natural when telling the truth, understanding the question, not interrupting, and maintaining composure when testifying at depositions.

**Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar Schedule (subject to change)**  
**September 17 and 18, 2010, Edgewood, Maryland**

**Fri., September 17, 2010**

8:30	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Court Testimony or Deposition Testimony</b>
10:15	Break	
10:30	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Court Testimony or Deposition Testimony</b>
12:15	Lunch Provided	
1:15	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Court Testimony Feedback or Mock Deposition Testimony</b>
2:15	Bill Koppenhaver	<b>Photography Workshop</b>
3:15	Break	
3:30	Anne Smith	<b>Overt/Covert Features of Paper and Ending the "Paper Weight" Confusion</b>
5:00	Bill Koppenhaver	<b>Photography Workshop</b>
5:45	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Experiment-Disguise, Simulation, or Genuine Signatures</b>
6:00	Dinner	

**Sat., September 18, 2010**

8:30	Carole Chaski	<b>Modern History of Handwriting as a Science</b>
9:15	Tam Kaiden	<b>How to Create Comprehensive Court Room Exhibits</b>
10:30	Break	
10:45	Carole Chaski	<b>Who Wrote It and What Is It? Forensic Linguistic Methods for Document Examiners</b>
12:15	Lunch Provided	
1:15	Sharon Hampton	<b>The Power of PowerPoint!-Presentation and critique</b>
2:15	Bill Koppenhaver	<b>Photography Workshop and Critique</b>
2:30	Tam Kaiden	<b>The Case of the PDF as The Questioned Document</b>
3:15	Break	
3:30	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Deposition Testimony and Mock Depositions</b>
5:15	Kathie Koppenhaver	<b>Review of Disguise, Simulation, or Genuine Signature Opinions</b>
6:00	Dinner	

**Registration Form**  
**Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar**

September 17-18, 2010

Friday, September 17, 2010 – Registration 8:15 am – Seminar 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday, September 18, 2010 – Seminar 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

**August 15<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (office) \_\_\_\_\_(mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost of Seminar is \$250.00 (includes lunch Friday and Saturday)**

\_\_\_\_ Early Registration Payment-**\$225.00 due in full and Received by August 15<sup>th</sup>**

\_\_\_\_ Full Price Seminar **Deposit** of **\$ 50.00 due and Received by August 15<sup>th</sup>** and  
Full Price Seminar **Balance** of **\$200.00 due by or before September 17<sup>th</sup>**.

\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my USPS Only Money Order  
or Check made payable to Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.

\_\_\_\_ Charge my VISA MC number \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address for card \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC number \_\_\_\_\_ Authorizing Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I would like to share transportation with someone arriving near the same time.

\_\_\_\_ I would like to share a room with someone.

I will be arriving BWI (Baltimore International Airport) via \_\_\_\_\_ airline,  
flight number \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm.

I will be departing BWI (Baltimore International Airport) via \_\_\_\_\_ airline,  
flight number \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm.

**Release**

Portions or all of the event may be photographed and/or video/audio taped. Your attendance gives permission to us to use your voice or likeness with no remuneration.

**USPS ONLY Money Order or C heck made payable to:  
FORENSIC DOCUMENT EXAMINERS, INC.**

**Mail To: Anne Smith / PO Box 185 / Virgilina, VA 24598**

**or send your Registration Form and payment information to Anne via:  
FAX No. 775-402-9782 or email at forgerydetection2@yahoo.com**

**Information Sheet**  
**Fourth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar**  
September 17-18, 2010

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**Kathie Koppenhaver** is the **Seminar Chairperson**.  
Contact Kathie via [fordocexam@aol.com](mailto:fordocexam@aol.com)

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**Anne Smith** is the **seminar facilitator** and is responsible for **registration**.  
Contact Anne via [forgerydetection2@yahoo.com](mailto:forgerydetection2@yahoo.com) or call her at 434-917-1367 (EDT).

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All presenter time has been allocated. If you have a topic, keep it in mind for the Fifth Annual Forensic Document Examiners' Seminar in 2011.

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*If you provide detailed arrival/departure information, Bill, Anne, and others with cars may be able to provide you with transportation to/from the airport.*

**KD Elite Transportation** (888-808-1212) has service to/from BWI airport and needs a couple of days notice. They have mini-vans (3-4 people) and 7-person vans. Rates are \$55 for the first person, then for each additional person in same vehicle, add \$5.00!

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The **Sleep Inn & Suites in Edgewood, MD** is the perfect choice for leisure or business travel to Harford County, MD, **historic Bel Air, MD**, the beautiful **Ladew Topiary Gardens, Cal Ripken's Aberdeen Ironbirds Stadium, Baltimore's Inner Harbor**, and **Bulle Rock Golf Course**.

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**Lunch** (included in the conference registration) will be provided by **Panera Bread**.

For **dinner**, within walking distance there are several restaurants: *Denny's, Burger King, Charlie's Grilled Subs, Wholly Cow Ice Cream, and Vitale's Italian Restaurant*. The *Williamsburg Inn Restaurant* (12 miles away) on Pulaski Highway, serves delicious prime rib, steak, chicken, veal, and seafood dinners.

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Kathie and Bill live only minutes away from the Sleep Inn and we may plan a session at their office. If we do, we will provide your transportation.

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