THE ROLE OF THE FORENSIC LABORATORY IN FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

TRACE EVIDENCE
(and associated physical evidence)

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(TENTATIVE SCHEDULE)

0800 – 0845 Introduction and Overview
1) Virginia Department of Forensic Science
   a. Disciplines other than Trace Evidence and their capabilities
2) Trace Evidence
   b. Subdisciplines

0845 – 0900 Break

0900 – 1130 Recognition, Collection and Preservation of Fire Debris Evidence
1) Recognition
2) Collection and Packaging
3) Hydrocarbon detectors and Accelerant Detection Canines
4) Contamination and how to avoid it
5) Petroleum laced background
6) Laboratory capabilities
7) Laboratory analysis
8) Report wording – recent changes and pending changes

1130-1230 Lunch

1230 – 1315 Recognition, Collection and Preservation of Explosives Evidence
1) Types of Explosives
2) Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)
3) Packaging
4) Report Wording
1315 – 1400  Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories

1400 – 1415  Break

1415 – 1445  Collection and Packaging of Biological Fluids

1)  Laboratory Analysis
2)  Conclusions/Report Wording

1445 – 1515  Collection and Packaging of Latent Prints

1)  Laboratory Analysis
2)  Conclusions/Report Wording

1515 – 1530  Review and Course Evaluation