

# THE ROLE OF THE FORENSIC LABORATORY IN FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

## TRACE EVIDENCE (and associated physical evidence)

January 28, 2015 0800-1600 hrs.

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### (TENTATIVE SCHEDULE)

0800 – 0900 Introduction and Overview

- 1) Virginia Department of Forensic Science
  - a. Disciplines other than Trace Evidence and their capabilities
  - b. Subdisciplines
- 2) Trace Evidence
  - b. Subdisciplines

0900 – 0915 Break

0915 – 1200 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

1200 -1300 Lunch

1300 – 1345 Recognition, Collection and Preservation of Explosives Evidence

- 1) Types of Explosives
- 2) Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)
- 3) Packaging
- 4) Report Wording

1345 – 1415 Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories

1415 – 1430 Break

1430 – 1500 Collection and Packaging of Biological Fluids

- 1) Laboratory Analysis
- 2) Conclusions/Report Wording

1500 – 1545 Collection and Packaging of Latent Prints

- 1) Laboratory Analysis
- 2) Conclusions/Report Wording

1545 – 1600 Questioned Documents in Fire Debris and Explosives Investigations

Review and Course Evaluation

