

Virginia Department of Forensic Science (DFS)

Annual Retraining Seminar - 2020

8.0 Hours

Course Content:

Cultural Diversities in Handling the Deceased

Objectives:

- Be able to define and describe the following key words:
 - Culture Diversity Cultural Diversity
 - Intercultural Acculturation Assimilation
 - Race Ethnicity Stereotyping
 - Prejudice Discrimination Cultural Competence
- Employ culturally sensitive strategies that develop and encourage cultural competence during death scene investigations
- Recognize variations in attitudes and values of different cultures regarding the handling of the deceased
- Practice forms of communication and other skills which consider cultural differences when identifying and processing a death scene
- Discuss the changing demographics that contribute to Virginia's multicultural landscape
- Compare and contrast Western and non-Western sociocultural values surrounding the investigation of a death scene

General Department Update

- COVID - 19 Response
- New legislation affecting DFS and our user agencies
- Accreditation
- PERK Tracking System and related legislation

Forensic Biology

- Testing capabilities
- PERK kit submission trends and reminders
- Male DNA screening
- Y-Chromosome DNA testing

- Genetic Genealogy
- Information from around the State

Forensic Training Section

- COVID – 19 response
- ASTM Draft Standard - Standard Guide for Crime Scene Photography

Legal Update

- Presentation and discussion of court decisions from the past year that directly affect the laws of Search & Seizure