

TITLE:

Advanced Testing Solutions – Exploring Novel DNA Testing Approaches to Close Cases

ABSTRACT:

DNA remains the gold standard in forensic identification, but not all cases processed result in a match. For many cases, attorneys and investigators are finding ways to develop new investigative leads using advanced DNA testing. New DNA testing can range anywhere from Y-STR analysis to new approaches such as forensic genealogy. Forensic Genealogy, which incorporates advanced DNA testing, traditional genealogical research and publicly available DNA databases, has resulted in many high-profile successes in identifying unknown individuals and providing new investigative leads.

The presenter will introduce various testing approaches, including what types of cases and evidence could potentially be candidates for each type of testing. The presenter will also introduce basic principles of genealogy and talk about how investigators, DNA analysts and genealogists can work together on a case from submission through reporting - and ultimately confirmation of an unknown sample.

Overall, attendees will leave with an understanding of testing methods suitable for criminal casework, forensic genealogy and how they can potentially be utilized in helping to solve their cases.