



**20<sup>th</sup> Annual Forensic DNA Conference – Bode 2021**  
**October 19-22, 2021 - Denver, CO**

All workshops, meals and events listed in the program below require registration.

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**Tuesday, October 19**

**Workshops – Colorado Ballroom 2nd Floor**

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**7:00am – 4:00pm**

**Registration – 2nd Floor Near Colorado Ballroom**

**8:00am – 10:00am**

**Technical Leaders Workshop**

**Challenges in Forensic DNA Science**

Join the panel session to hear a moderated and interactive discussion from a panel of DNA Technical Leaders and Managers as they address critical issues that face the DNA forensic community today. Topics and issues include:

- Tackling Scientific Foundation Reviews
- Use and Legality of the YHRD Database

**Everyone is welcome.** Topics are subject to change.

***Moderator:***

*Kristin Sasinouski, Technical Leader, Bode Technology*

***Panelists:***

*Ann Marie Gross, M.S., Technical Leader, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension*

*Lauren Lu, DNA Technical Leader, Michigan State Police*

*Dixie Peters, Technical Leader, University of North Texas Center for Human Identification*

**10:00am – 10:15am**

**Break with Exhibitors**

**10:15am – 12:15pm**

**Thermo Fisher Scientific Workshop**

Join us as we explore ways to maximize resources and save time.

Gain insights on best practices from forensic DNA practitioners who are leveraging innovative workflow solutions to enhance laboratory effectiveness and solve crime more efficiently.

**Rapid DNA Booking Station Implementation Best Practices**

*Joanie Brocato, Ph.D., Rapid DNA User Group Facilitator & Implementation Advisor*

**Embrace Change - from Automation to Implementation**

*Mary Schleicher, Forensic Biology Supervisor, Unified Metropolitan Forensic Crime Laboratory*

**Bones: Traditional STR Workflow, and DNA Extraction with a Twist**

*Sheree Hughes, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Forensic Science, Department of Forensic Science, Director, Southeast Texas Applied Forensic Science (STAFS) Facility, Sam Houston State University*

**How CE with the SeqStudio has Changed the Game: Academic Teaching and Research Made Easy**

*Nicole Novroski, Ph.D., Assistant Professor & Forensic Geneticist, Forensic Science Program (Dept of Anthropology), University of Toronto Mississauga*

12:15pm – 1:00pm

**Lunch – Aspen Ballroom 2nd Floor**  
*(for am & pm workshop participants)*  
*Sponsored by Promega*

1:00pm – 5:00pm

**Promega Tech Tour**

Please join us for presentations and discussions on the latest advances in STR analysis and the forensics workflow. This workshop will feature presentations by leaders in the forensics community who will provide information and tips on maximizing success with challenging samples and improving laboratory efficiencies through workflow enhancements. The presentations will also include customer experiences and insights from using Promega products.

*Heather Lenzy, Supervisor, Forensic Biology Department, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation*

*Melissa Schwandt, Ph.D., Director of Field Science & Customer Support, ANDE*

*Tim Kalafut, Associate Professor of Forensic Science, Sam Houston State University*

2:25pm – 2:45pm

**Break with Exhibitors**

5:30pm – 7:00pm

**Welcome Reception**

*Sponsored by Bode Technology*

*Join us for hors d'oeuvres and drinks in Capitol Peak A on the 38<sup>th</sup> Floor in the Pinnacle Club*

**Wednesday, October 20**

**General Session – Colorado Ballroom 2nd Floor**

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7:15am – 8:15am

**Hot Breakfast Buffet – Aspen Ballroom 2nd Floor**

7:15am – 12:00pm

**Registration – 2nd Floor Near Colorado Ballroom**

8:30am – 8:45am

**Welcome**

*Andrew Singer, Vice President, Global Marketing and Operations Sales, Bode Technology*

8:45am – 10:00am

**KEYNOTE SESSION**

**A Mother's Mission - Jayann Sepich**

Jayann Sepich, founder of [dnasaves.org](http://dnasaves.org), has become a world-renowned voice for the expansion of DNA testing in memory of her daughter Katie.

Katie's Law, also known as the Katie Sepich Enhanced DNA Collection Act of 2010, is a federal law to provide funding to states to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes for felony arrests. The bill is named after Katie Sepich, who was brutally attacked outside of her New Mexico home in August 2003. Jayann joins us to tell her story and the importance DNA technology has in **Preventing Tomorrow's Victim**.



10:00am – 10:30am

**Break with Exhibitors**

*Sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific*

10:30am – 11:00am

**Policy and Funding Update: Forensic DNA Programs**

*Lisa Hurst, Senior Consultant, Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs*

11:00am – 11:30am

**Maryland's New Forensic Genetic Genealogy Legislation - A Success Story in Compromise and Hope for the Future**

*Dan Katz, Laboratory Director, Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division*

<b>11:30am – 12:00pm</b>	<b>Lawfully Owed DNA</b> <i>Kate Hemann, Assistant Attorney General, Washington State Attorney General's Office</i>
<b>12:00pm – 1:00pm</b>	<b>Buffet Lunch – Aspen Ballroom</b> <i>Sponsored by Promega</i>
<b>1:00pm – 1:30pm</b>	<b>Probabilistic Genotyping Daubert Challenges in the State of Michigan</b> <i>Lauren Lu, DNA Technical Leader, Michigan State Police</i>
<b>1:30pm – 2:00pm</b>	<b>Complexities of a High Profile Case: The Murder of Kelsey Berreth</b> <i>Caitlin Rogers, M.S., ABC-MB, Forensic Scientist &amp; Serology Technical Leader, Colorado Bureau of Investigation</i>
<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm</b>	<b>Lab Life During COVID</b> <i>Heather Lenzy, Supervisor, Forensic Biology Department, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation</i>
<b>2:30pm – 3:00pm</b>	<b>Break with Exhibitors</b> <i>Sponsored by SoftGenetics</i>
<b>3:00pm – 3:30pm</b>	<b>Validation of MaSTR™ Probabilistic Mixture Analysis Software</b> <i>Michael Adamowicz, Ph.D., Director, Forensic Science College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska, Lincoln</i>
<b>3:30pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b>The Evolution of the CMPD Cold Case Unit</b> <i>Sergeant Darrell Price, Supervisor, Homicide and Sexual Assault Cold Case Unit, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department</i>
<b>4:00pm – 4:45pm</b>	<b>Partnering for Success: Navigating a Complicated System to Bring Justice to Victims</b> <i>Melissa Diaz, Chief, Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking, San Diego County District Attorney's Office</i> <i>Catherine Nguyen, Ph.D., Laboratory Director, Verdugo Regional Crime Laboratory, Glendale Police Department</i>
<b>6:00pm – 10:00pm</b>	<b>Group Event/Dinner - <a href="#">Wynkoop Brewing Co.</a></b> <i>Wynkoop is Colorado's First Brewpub, for almost three decades they've been brewing handcrafted beer in a modest basement brewery underneath Denver's largest pool hall. Join us for great beer, food, pool, shuffleboard and darts at this private function. The event is less than a mile from the Grand Hyatt Denver, however bus transportation will also be provided.</i>
	<b>(Buses begin to depart hotel at 5:45pm)</b>

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**Thursday, October 21**

**General Session – Colorado Ballroom 2nd Floor**

<b>7:00am – 8:00am</b>	<b>Hot Breakfast Buffet – Aspen Ballroom 2nd Floor</b>
<b>8:15am – 8:30am</b>	<b>Opening Remarks - DVI Center of Excellence</b> <i>Andrew Singer, Vice President, Global Marketing and Operations Sales, Bode Technology</i>
<b>8:30am – 9:00am</b>	<b>Missing Persons Grant: What We Dug Up</b> <i>Ann Marie Gross, M.S., Technical Leader, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension</i>

9:00am – 9:30am	<p><b>Bode &amp; BPD Unidentified Remains: Unexpected Results from an Unexpected Project</b>  <i>Christina M. Hurley, M.S., Forensic Scientist III,  CODIS Administrator/DNA Analyst, Baltimore Police Department</i></p>
9:30am – 10:00am	<p><b>Operationalizing NGS: A Tale of Two Workflows – How and Why Would I Do This?</b>  <i>Meredith Turnbough, Ph.D., Scientific Affairs, Verogen</i></p>
10:00am – 10:30am	<p><b>Break with Exhibitors</b>  <i>Sponsored by Verogen</i></p>
10:30am – 11:00am	<p><b>Uninhibited Live: A Closer Look at America’s Crime Surge</b>  <i>Peterjon McAnany, Sr Technical Application Specialist, Thermo Fisher Scientific  Nick Andrews, Product Manager, HID, Thermo Fisher Scientific  Dave Jackson, Sr. Manager, Application Scientist, Thermo Fisher Scientific  Joanie Brocato, Ph.D., Rapid DNA User Group Facilitator &amp; Implementation Advisor</i></p>
11:00am – 11:30am	<p><b>The Expanding DNA Toolbox: Emergence of Rapid DNA and Expanding DNA Databases</b>  <i>Glenn Vandegrift, Detective Sergeant of Forensics, Bensalem Township Police Department  Janeisha Hutley, Forensic Scientist 4, Philadelphia Police Department Office of Forensic Science</i></p>
11:30am – 12:00pm	<p><b>Lessons Learned from Implementing and Operating a 24/7/365 Rapid DNA Program Across the United States</b>  <i>Dane Plaza, Director, Federal Operations, Bode Technology</i></p>
12:00pm – 1:00pm	<p><b>Buffet Lunch – Aspen Ballroom</b>  <i>Sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific</i></p>
1:00pm – 1:30pm	<p><b>Sample Prep that Offers Unrivaled Simplicity, Safety and Speed – the E22 Connect Fx</b>  <i>Mark Guilliano, Director, Human ID and Forensics, Americas, QIAGEN LLC</i></p>
1:30pm – 2:00pm	<p><b>DNA from Shell Casings and Rootless Hairs</b>  <i>Kristin Sasinouski, DNA Technical Leader, Bode Technology</i></p>
2:00pm – 2:30pm	<p><b>Denver PD Crime Lab Crime Gun Intelligence Center: Streamlining NIBIN Entry to Forensic Intelligence</b>  <i>Brooke Plumley, Forensic Scientist, Breanna Wydra, Forensic Scientist &amp; Kelsey Cole, Forensic Scientist, Denver Police Department</i></p>
2:30pm – 3:00pm	<p><b>Break with Exhibitors</b>  <i>Sponsored by QIAGEN</i></p>
3:00pm – 3:30pm	<p><b>Preventing Tomorrow’s Victim – The Mark Dribin Homicide Investigation</b>  <i>Detective Brendan McGuire, Cold Case Homicide Unit, Portland Police Bureau</i></p>
3:30pm – 4:30pm	<p><b>Betty Lee Jones Rape/Murder - A 14-Year Odyssey</b>  <i>Detective Steve Ainsworth, Major Crimes (ret), Boulder County Sheriff's Office</i></p>

7:00am – 8:00am

Continental Breakfast – Colorado Foyer 2nd Floor

(for workshop participants)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Colorado A</b> 8:00am – 12:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Colorado B</b> 8:00am – 10:00am</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Workshop</b> <b>From Bench Criminalist to Lab Director: Lessons Learned Leadership Training</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Workshop</b> <b>The Missing Link - Generating Actionable Leads in Your Investigation</b></p>
<p>If you think about the numbers 6 and 9, depending on which way you look at this page, you may see 6 and 9 or flip the page upside down and you will see a 9 and a 6. When we are bench scientists or front-line workers, we look at situations or circumstances perhaps in a much different way than our leaders do. This was exactly how I viewed things when I was a bench scientist. It is often challenging to be a follower and difficult to try to see things through a leader’s lens; in fact, I rarely did. I was a nerdy bench analyst who apparently didn’t screw up enough and found myself promoted to supervisor. Unfortunately, I was a much better scientist than a leader and I screwed up a lot of humans in those early days. My trajectory moved me through DNA Technical Leader, Laboratory Manager, Assistant Director and finally Laboratory Director. Leadership wasn’t something that I actively sought. In fact, it happened rather organically, and I had a lot of luck. My Success was a perfectly timed collision between luck and skill (ok,... a lot of luck!). My early failures prompted me to learn and gain the competence and character to become a better leader. It doesn’t matter whether you are a formal leader in your lab, community or church, or the bench analyst that started last week; we all have the ability influence human behavior and develop people around us. And you never know when you are going to be called upon to be a formal leader. In this workshop, we will go over some simple lessons that I learned and still find very important daily. We will learn basic leadership concepts and work through leader strategies to help us influence human behavior.</p> <p><i>Brian Hoey, Laboratory Director, Missouri State Highway Patrol</i></p>	<p>LexisNexis® Special Investigations Unit (SIU) will be highlighting how LexisNexis can partner with law enforcement to identify the missing link during an investigation. Bode and LexisNexis will highlight a case study out of Durham, NC where the data capabilities and resources LexisNexis can offer provided an investigative lead that helped in solving the case utilizing Accurint Virtual Crime Center (AVCC). Within AVCC users are able to data mine public records and agency contributed law enforcement data to identify links and associations between relatives, associates, addresses, phone numbers and/or law enforcement data for both current and cold case investigations. Presenters will also discuss bulk/batch searching as an effort to triage and prioritize investigations. Presenters will also introduce forensic flashback as a tool to allow for neighborhood reconstruction to generate leads in cold cases.</p> <p><i>Lauren Norman, Senior Manager, Public Safety Analysis, Special Investigations Unit, LexisNexis Risk Solutions</i></p> <p><i>Shanna Spagnuolo, Lead Data Analyst, Special Investigations Unit LexisNexis Risk Solutions</i></p> <p><i>Andrew Singer, Vice President, Global Marketing and Operations Sales, Bode Technology</i></p> <p><b>Case Assistance Session:</b> <b>Don’t forget to bring your open cases, SIU will be providing case assistance and Bode’s genealogy team will be providing case review following the session.</b></p>
<p>10:00am – 10:20am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Break</b></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:20am – 12:00pm</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Workshop</b> <b>Advancing DNA Forensics for Investigative Leads:</b> <b>90 Minutes Can Change Everything</b></p>

The first few hours of investigations are often the most critical. Every minute that a crime remains unsolved is time that someone else may become a victim. This workshop will discuss how receiving DNA testing results in only minutes can immediately impact an investigation, or link suspects with past crimes while they're still in custody. Presenters will discuss how the use of Rapid DNA when supported by forensic analysts can immediately impact an investigation, link suspects with past crimes, or eliminate suspects while investigations are just beginning. Additional applications, including the combatting of child trafficking and implementation of a comprehensive program to support investigators will be discussed.

**Moderator:**

*Pamela Jarman, Technical Account Manager,  
Bode Technology*

**Panelists:**

*Glenn Vandegrift, Detective Sergeant of Forensics,  
Bensalem Township Police Department*

*Major Todd Morris, Chief, Crimes Against Persons  
Special Operations, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office*

*Dave Jackson, Sr. Manager, Application Scientist  
Human Identification, North America, Thermo Fisher  
Scientific*

Conference Concludes at 12:00pm.

Program Subject to Change.

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