

American Academy of Forensic Sciences

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) is a multi-disciplinary professional organization that provides leadership to advance science and its application to the legal system. AAFS is dedicated to the application of science to the law, promotion of education and the elevation of accuracy, precision and specificity in the forensic sciences. AAFS was founded in 1948 and has over 7,000 members divided into eleven sections spanning the forensic enterprise. Pathologists make up the bulk of the Pathology/Biology section, which is the third largest section in the Academy.

Notable Accomplishments:

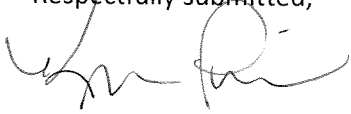
- AAFS has established an organization dedicated to developing documentary standards for forensics, the Academy Standards Board (ASB). This organization will work closely with the Forensic Science Standards Board and its subcommittees, which are dedicated to creating a national registry of forensic standards. In order to accomplish this goal, AAFS was the recipient of a \$1.5M grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation to establish AAFS as an accredited Standards Developing Organization (SDO) The application was submitted to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) in August, 2015 beginning the process. In doing so, AAFS will play a big role in the creation of national forensic science standards.
- Academy members comprise 49 percent of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC's), 56 percent of the Forensic Science Standards Board and 40 percent of the three National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Resource Committees. This amount of representation reflects the leadership role AAFS members have on a national level.
- The AAFS Humanitarian and Human Rights Resource Center was inaugurated at the 2015 AAFS meeting in Orlando. The Center seeks to utilize the assets of the AAFS to promote the application of contemporary forensic science and forensic medicine principles to global humanitarian and/or human rights projects requiring special assistance. The Center also will provide support to AAFS members engaged in human rights and/or humanitarian forensic applications and encourage AAFS members to increase their involvement in such matters. As well as the assistance provided, AAFS members are likely to develop their own personal and professional skills in undertaking this work.
- AAFS International Educational Outreach Program: For more than 20 years, AAFS has fostered international travel and professional exchange to provide opportunities for AAFS members to meet with other forensic science colleagues, to visit laboratories, and to participate in international forensic science meetings. In 2015, a group of 7 representatives traveled to Croatia to interact and learn from their forensic scientists. One important highlight was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between AAFS and the International Society for Applied Biological Sciences (ISABS). The commitment pledges support between AAFS and ISABS

in the exchange of information and cooperation for a period of five years. New Zealand is the location chosen for the IEOP visit in September, 2016.

- The Academy's annual scientific meeting was held in Las Vegas, NV in February 2016. Over 800 scientific papers, seminars and workshops were presented to the over 9000 meeting attendees.

AAFS continues to strive for excellence in the field of forensic sciences. Forensic Pathologists play a vital role in this mission, filling positions on committees, the board of directors and serving as officers.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Pinneri', written in a cursive style.

Kathryn Pinneri, MD

Pathology/Biology Section Chair