



The Commission on Forensic Education (COFE) promotes the growth and emphasizes the importance of forensic science programs in secondary education. The Commission offers guidance on instruction, provides help to those who teach or study forensic science, and reviews professional certification programs. COFE is an effective and essential network that helps educators and students stay informed of the latest innovations, breakthroughs, and important research in the field.

The Commission helps educators advance the field and inspire future forensic professionals by:

- Helping educators network with fellow teaching professionals and top experts in the field.
- Convincing potential students of the importance and the benefits of studying forensic science.
- Helping members stay current in a constantly evolving field by providing quality continuing education.
- Providing certification programs that recognize achievement.

Membership in COFE is open to forensic professionals and law educators at both the secondary and post-secondary levels. Members of the Commission may be employed by either public or private educational institutions as full-time, part-time, or adjunct instructors. Members are dedicated to advancing the field of forensic science and providing quality education to future professionals in the field.

The Commission has its own interactive, member-centered Web site. This Web site makes it easy for members, teachers, and students to interact with one another while learning and expanding their knowledge in the forensic science fields.

The Commission on Forensic Education had an exceptional year during 2009, including a successful and mutually beneficial partnership with *LeadAmerica*, who represented COFE at their forensic science camps at the University of California, Berkeley; Bentley University; Fordham University; and Johns Hopkins University.

The Forensic Commissioner of COFE, Anna Pry, was able to represent the organization in person twice this year. The first was at the Florida Institute of Technology's forensic summer camp, a day camp for high school students that is designed to explore forensic psychology and forensic science through hands on activities, movies, lectures, and guest speakers. It even goes through the steps of an actual crime scene investigation and its subsequent court procedures.

Ms. Pry's second visit was to the American College of Forensic Examiners National Conference at the Rio hotel in Las Vegas.

It was here where she met with members of the Board as well as some outstanding members of COFE to discuss upcoming events and plans for the 2010 year.

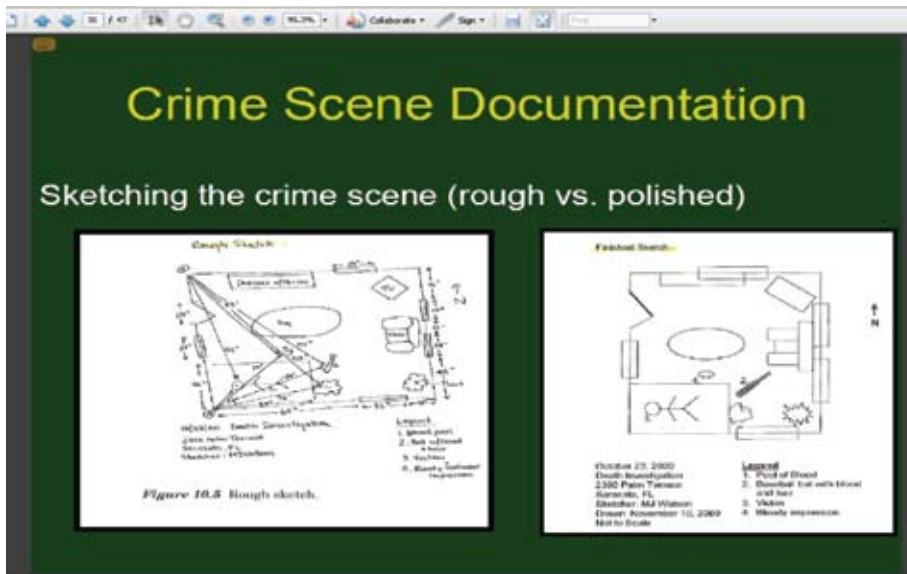
2009 also gifted the Commission on Forensic Education with its 200<sup>th</sup> member, as well as the Commission's first free online course, a forensic science class syllabus for teachers starting a new program at their schools, dozens of free lesson plans, free forensic science PowerPoint presentations, a study guide template, and a forensic psychology overview. All of these are free and currently available on the Commission's Web site for all of our dedicated members and also for any new members who are interested in joining.

### Free Forensic Syllabus

COFE now has a forensic science syllabus to cover a *full* semester of forensic science classes. Created by Jeremy D. McCoy of Kickapoo High School in Springfield,



▲ JPA Cadets practice traffic stop procedures



▲ Sample slide from a free COFE lesson plan; this presentation can be viewed at [www.forensiccommission.com](http://www.forensiccommission.com).

Missouri, this syllabus includes various elements, including:

- Course description
- Goals
- Outline
- Grading scale
- Classroom policy and management

### Twenty Lesson Plans

Made possible by a generous donation from Chaplain David J. Fair, PhD, D.Min., CHS-IV, ACMC-III, BCETS, FAAETS, BCCC, we now have a full program of 20 lesson plans from the Junior Police Academy! Since 1992, The Junior Police Academy has been dedicated to helping today's youth grow up to be exceptional citizens of tomorrow. This is accomplished through a series of law enforcement education, mentorship, and encouragement; with the goal of safer communities and schools for the students they guide.

The lesson plans donated to the Commission on Forensic Education give children an inside look at law enforcement in the United States and cover the following topics:

- Introduction to the Junior Police Academy
- Guide to being a law enforcement officer
- Street patrol
- Traffic enforcement
- Crime fighting
- Conflict resolution
- School resource officer
- Bomb squad

- K-9 unit
- Swat
- Sheriff's department
- Gangs
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation
- The Secret Service
- Scene of the crime
- Crime prevention
- School violence
- Teens and drug use
- Terrorism
- Do you have what it takes?



▲ *LeadAmerica* CSI camp: students learn forensic lab techniques, including blood sample analysis.

### Free PowerPoint Lesson

Some students' minds go straight to popular, compelling shows like *CSI* when they hear the word "forensics." With a new PowerPoint presentation submitted by COFE's partner *LeadAmerica*, you will be able to show your students the real nature of crime scene investigation. This introduction not only has notes for students but also for the teachers themselves; the presentation covers such topics as suspect and substance identification, crime scene processing and documentation, evidence searching and collection, and crime scene reconstruction.

*LeadAmerica* and the COFE have partnered with a common goal of improving forensic science and crime scene investigation curricula in secondary schools. *LeadAmerica* and COFE have come together in order to empower children to realize their own possibilities and to help give them a sense of reason, honesty, self-belief and accountability.

*LeadAmerica* puts on four camps during the summer in which junior high and high school students come for one week to discover and process a crime scene, examine the evidence, develop hypotheses, and go to trial. COFE provided the camp with different types of documentation (forensic articles, interviews, cases and brochures) as well as present each student with a "Certificate of Completion" upon successful achievement of the camp's agenda.

The Commission on Forensic Education and *LeadAmerica* plan to extend their partnership into 2010.

To learn more about *LeadAmerica*, please visit their Web site at [Lead-America.org](http://Lead-America.org) or follow them on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/LeadAmerica>.

### Wanted

The Commission on Forensic Education is always looking for **new online courses** and **lesson plans** to provide *free* to our members and help promote the study of forensic science in high schools. Desired topics include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Crime scene analysis
- Computer forensics
- Medical investigation
- Sensitive information security

If you wish to submit a course or lesson plan for review to the Commission on Forensic Education, please include the following information along with the materials you wish to have reviewed:

- Title
- Learning objective(s)
- Target audience (grade level)
- Short author bio ■



▲ *LeadAmerica* CSI camp: a high school student learns about fingerprint dusting and analysis.

### Questions, comments, submissions, or ideas? We want to hear from you!

Toll Free: (800) 423-9737

Phone: (417) 881-3818, ext. 172

Online: [www.forensiccommission.com](http://www.forensiccommission.com)

Anna Pry, Commission Coordinator, at [coordinator@forensiccommission.com](mailto:coordinator@forensiccommission.com)

# THE COMMISSION ON FORENSIC EDUCATION

COFE01EX



**To join** the commission, apply online at [www.forensiccommission.com](http://www.forensiccommission.com) or call Anna Pry at (800) 592-1399

## Attention Forensic Educators

The Commission on Forensic Education, developed by The American College of Forensic Examiners, emphasizes the importance of forensic science programs in education and is committed to their expansion. The Commission offers guidance on instruction, provides help to those who teach or study forensic science, and reviews professional certification programs. The Commission is an effective and essential network that helps educators and students stay informed of the latest innovations, breakthroughs, and important research in the field. Commissioner membership is open to college and university administrators and full-time, part-time, and adjunct professors; Associate Commissioner membership is open to high school science teachers. The Commission helps educators advance the field and inspire future forensic professionals through providing supportive services:

- Helping educators network with fellow teaching professionals and top experts in the field.
- Teaching potential students about the importance and the benefits of studying forensic science.
- Giving members a highly visible forum to publish and distribute their research.
- Helping members stay current in a constantly evolving field by providing quality continuing education.
- Providing certification programs that recognize achievement.