

THE VOICE

Newsletter Spring 2011

CALIFORNIA SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION



President's message

Hello and welcome to the California Sexual Assault Investigators Association. As your President for 2011, I would like to thank the members and the Board of Directors of this Association for giving me the opportunity to lead this Association in 2011.

Since the creation of this Association in 1979, it has been built on the foundation that as professionals involved in sexual assault investigations we need to collaborate and work with each other to reach the common goal of helping victims and incarcerating offenders. The Association has accomplished this task by providing two bi-annual training conferences, with specialized courses for our law enforcement and medical professionals alike, offering multiple one day training classes, and a member-only website for networking and resources.

As you're all aware the state and local governments are experiencing tighter budgets and unfortunately training is often the first to be cut. I believe it's cheaper in the long run to train our staff, as the possible outcome of inexperience and a lack of training ultimately costs the agencies a whole lot more. To combat this financial situation, your Board of Directors has sought other means to get the CSAIA members and others in the field of sexual assault investigations the needed training. CSAIA plans to bring more training to local venues and continue to offer current high court case decisions and one minute legal briefs as part of the membership benefits.

Through this financial crisis, your Board of Directors diligently worked on providing the best quality training at the lowest price possible. However, the current 30% down-trend in registration across the state for all training classes, CSAIA is also faced with cutting expenditures and finding more fiscally responsible ways to bring the training to you. Unfortunately, this means that in Fall 2011, the CSAIA will not host the annual Fall Training Conference. I am pleased to inform you that CSAIA will provide the annual Spring Training Conference in Shell Beach on March 14-16, 2012.

In closing, remember that this is YOUR Association and your suggestions, ideas, and experience are welcome! Should you need any assistance, you can count on the Board of Directors to assist you. As always the Board of Directors will continue to work tirelessly to bring you, the membership of CSAIA, the best possible resources available!

Thank you, Steven Welch

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2011 President
Steven Welch

Spring 2011 Raffle Funds go to OPERATION CARE



It was a privilege to donate the Spring Training 2011 Raffle proceeds in the amount of \$803.00 to Operation Care. Thanks to all of our members for their generosity and support.



Save the Date ... CSAIA Spring Training Conference

Don't miss the Spring training Conference! Save the Date

CSAIA
2012 Spring Training Conference
March 14-16, 2012
Shell Beach



The Cliffs at Shell Beach

2757 Shell Beach Road Pismo Beach, CA 93449
Tel. 800.826.7827
Tel. 805.773.5000

Look for registration information at www.csaia.org

Rooms will be available at a special rate of \$119.00 for single, double per night.

According to new POST Regulations, all participants must provide their individual POST ID number from their employing agency

2011 Spring Training Conference in Shell Beach



CSAIA was proud to present this year's 2011 Spring Training Conference at the Cliff's at Shell Beach Resort. This location is a favorite to many members; it is a wonderful venue with breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean and fantastic facilities for training and speakers!

This year's Spring Training Conference featured instructors from a variety of professions and disciplines. The topics at the 2011 Spring Training included investigating social networking sites and using cell phone information in your investigations, medical aspects of sexual abuse of children, investigating the most difficult sexual assault cases, legal updates, and courtroom testimony from both the defense and prosecution perspective. The medical professionals that joined our 2011 Spring Training were led in course study on subjects such as consent, healing of trauma to the genitals, case peer review, human trafficking signs and symptoms, and preserving forensic evidence.

This was the first time that CSAIA had dual presentations from the perspective of a defense attorney and a deputy district attorney on "Courtroom Testimony." This back to back presentation was successful as evident by the following exit evaluations; "Very worthwhile information presented. I think this is a very valuable class." It was nice to get candid, honest information from the opposing side. Thanks." "It's hard to hate him [the defense attorney]," and "Somewhat disturbing but honest....It helps us know more on warning the victims and pushing the DA."

While overall participation was down due to the statewide budget crunch, over 70 members attended and had fun networking with other professionals in the field of sexual assault investigations. We encourage your comments and suggestions as we strive to bring only the best in training opportunities to our members!

Legislation

The California Sexual Assault Investigators Association is dedicated to actively supporting legislative changes, which promote our mission. A few California State bills we are monitoring and providing input are:

- SB 534 Victims of sexual assault. Existing law provides that no costs incurred by a qualified health care professional, hospital, or other emergency medical facility for the examination of the victim of a sexual assault for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible prosecution shall be charged directly or indirectly to the victim of the assault. This bill would provide that victims of sexual assault are not required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement in order to be provided with a forensic medical exam.

CSAIA agrees that a victim of sexual assault should have access to an evidence collecting examination at public expense and this access should not depend on the victim's cooperation with prosecution. Our concerns are with the potential abuses of the grey area within this proposed SB 534 amendment. CSAIA efforts focus on giving law enforcement more input into preventing abuses, which could create additional uncontrolled costs to law enforcement.

Numerous other questions have also arisen, which is not answered by this bill, as to who will maintain the SART kits (as evidence, considering chain of custody), for how long will these SART kits be maintained, will any testing be conducted on the contents and mandated reporting requirements.

- SB 39, This bill would prohibit the import, production, manufacture, distribution, or sale of caffeinated beer beverages, as defined, at retail locations within the state.

Just about every sex crime detective has seen a case where this type of beverage was involved in a sexual assault of an intoxicated female. Because of this the Board has voted to support this bill.

- SB 622, Existing law, the Sex Offender Registration Act, requires persons who have been convicted of specified crimes to register as sex offenders, including persons who have been convicted in any other court, including any state, federal, or military court, of any offense that, if committed or attempted in this state, would have been punishable as one or more specified sex crimes.

This bill would instead require registration for any person who has been convicted based on the elements of the conviction offense or proven or stipulated facts in the record of conviction, as specified, would have been punishable as one or more of the above-referenced specified sex crimes.

Existing law provides that there is no registration requirement unless the out-of-state offense contains all of the elements of the specified California offense. This bill would instead provide that any person convicted of a statutory offense that is described as a sex offense in the state of conviction for which registration as a sex offender is required in that state shall be required to register under the act except that, for offenses similar to specified California offenses *offenses*, there is no registration requirement unless the out-of-state offense, based on the elements of the conviction offense or proven or stipulated facts in the record of conviction, contains all of the elements of the specified California offense.

The CSAIA Board is very interested in receiving input from members on the listed bills or any other bill under consideration. Please send comments to Board Member / Legislative Liaison Scott Currie at sdcurrie@sbcglobal.net.

Training Opportunity

One Day Training

Date: Thursday July 28th, 2011 from 0800-1700 hours.

Location: Moreno Valley Police Department
22850 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, Ca. 92552

Carlton Hershman, of the San Diego Police Department, will be speaking on Intoxication, Credibility and Consent and Innovative Investigative Responses to Sexual Assault Cases
Clark Morrow, of the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department, will be speaking on Sexting.



Registration: Log onto www.csaia.org to register and pay via PayPal. This course is POST approved but is **non-reimbursable**.

Cost: \$40.00 per person (member or non-member)

Membership Corner



Weldon "Linc" Lincoln

We are currently 307 members strong! If you have any recruitment ideas or would like to encourage members of your team or organization to become members of CSAIA, please contact our Membership Coordinator Weldon "Linc" Lincoln. Linc can be reached at Weldon.Lincoln@csaia.org, or by telephone at (209) 223-6747.

Check out your membership status at www.csaia.org. All memberships are now based on an annual renewal from the date you joined the Association!

Training Ideas??

CSAIA is always looking for new and innovative ideas in training to bring to membership.



If you have any ideas for our Conference Training or One-Day Training, please contact:

boardmembers@csaia.org with your ideas

CSAIA 2011 Achievement Award Nominations



Awards:

- The Michiel Hyder Sustained Achievement Award
- Sustained Achievement Award in Forensic Services
- Legislator of the Year Award
- Outstanding Agency of the Year Award
- The Patrick Sullivan Investigator of the Year Award

CSAIA will be presenting the Sustained Achievement Awards at the 2012 Spring Training Conference in Shell Beach, California. Please think of recipient's for the above awards and submit your nominations. All nominations need to be submitted to Roberta Hopewell by December 1st, 2011. All nominations need to include a nomination form as well as a letter describing the nominee and his/her qualifications. Please visit the web site at www.csaia.org for nomination forms.

2012-2013 CSAIA Board of Director Elections



Hello fellow members, the time has come for you to get out of the passenger seat and help drive the CSAIA band wagon. The 2012-2013 Board of Director Elections is quickly approaching and the Board of Directors are looking to you to help guide this association for the next two years.

As a Board member, you would be responsible to participate in up to nine meetings a year, two (2) one week conferences a year, and you could be responsible for additional time commitments based on various committee assignments and duties as assigned to each Director. All transportation and lodging costs are reimbursed.

Any member wishing to run for a position on the Board of Directors must complete a Candidate Application and submit the application with a portrait photograph via e-mail to <mailto:RICHARD.NICKEL@CSAIA.ORG> by **5:00pm on October 28, 2011**. Online voting will open on **November 15, 2011 and conclude by 5:00pm on November 29, 2011**. Candidate Application forms can be obtained on-line at www.csaia.org or by contacting a current Board member directly.

Additional questions should be directed to boardmembers@csaia.org, or by contacting any current Board member directly. Refer to Board Member contacts at www.csaia.org.

Good luck,
Steven Welch
President, CSAIA

Board of Directors Candidate Information Sheet

California Sexual Assault Investigators Association

Board of Directors Candidate Information Sheet Election 2011

The California Sexual Assault Investigators Association (CSAIA) is an organization dedicated to providing training in all aspects of sexual assault investigation. The Board of Directors meets regularly and also works outside the meeting times to develop and provide training each year. Eight (8) open Board of Directors positions are elected at the end of each odd-numbered year.

According to the CSAIA bylaws:

All members in good standing of the Association are eligible to submit their name for election to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors positions shall be selected in a general membership election where all members in good standing may vote. This election process shall be completed no later than the first day of December of odd-numbered years.

Further, the CSAIA bylaws declare that:

2.2 – Terms of Office

The term of office for a member of the Board of Directors shall be two (2) years, with the term beginning on the first day of January of even-numbered years, and ending on the thirty-first day of December of odd-numbered years.

2.3 – Board of Director Elections

The Board of Directors shall be elected by a simple majority of those members of the Association that are eligible to vote. The votes shall be counted by the incoming President and the outgoing President. All Board of Director positions are elected during a general membership election, with the exception of the incoming President and the outgoing President.

2.4 – Board Composite

The Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of 60% sworn police officer members or retirees as defined under section 830 of the California Penal Code.

Additional Requirements for members of the Board of Directors:

- Commitment shall be for a two year term (January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2013)
- Board members shall prepare for and attend up to nine (9) Board meetings per year. All transportation costs are reimbursed.
- Board members shall prepare for and attend two (2) one-week training conferences per year. In general the training conferences will be held in March and October each year. All transportation and lodging costs are reimbursed.
- Each Board member shall be responsible for additional time commitments based on various committee assignments and duties as assigned to each Director.

It is imperative that each candidate Board member obtain advance permission from his/her agency employer before running for a position on the Board. In an average year, each Board member will spend approximately 24 days per calendar year away from his/her agency for each of the two year term.

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Additional questions should be directed to boardmembers@csaia.org, or by contacting any current Board member directly. Refer to Board Member contacts at www.csaia.org.

Board of Directors Candidate Application Sheet



California Sexual Assault Investigators Association

Board of Directors/Candidate Applicaton

Candidate Application Information

Name: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____ Position: _____

E-Mail _____

Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

candidate statement

Submission information

Due Date: October 28, 2011

All Candidate Applications and photographs must be submitted via e-mail to <mailto:Richard.Nickel@CSAIA.ORG>. All submissions are due before 5:00 pm on October 28, 2011.

CSAIA 2011 Board of Directors



Top row from left to right:
Member – Weldon “Linc” Lincoln
President – Steven Welch
Treasurer – Tim McFadden
Member – Richard Nickel
Member – Scott Currie

Bottom row from left to right:
President Elect – Roberta Hopewell
Secretary– Jesse Grant
Member – Margie Jessen, RN
Member– Karen Sherwood
Member– Anthony Hickman

About Our Organization



**CSAIA NEW PHONE
NUMBER:
(951) 290-8261**

<http://www.csaia.org>

**California Sexual Assault
Investigators Association**

**750 S. Lincoln Avenue
#104-287
Corona, CA 92882**

Membership is now on a 12 month annual cycle! Watch your e-mail for an electronic notification to renew your membership. RENEW ON-LINE!

You must renew to continue to have access to the Members Area on the website and to continue to receive information by mail!!

