

# THE VOICE

Newsletter Fall 2012

CALIFORNIA SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION



## President's message

Dear CSAIA members,

It amazes me how the time flies. I can't believe this year is almost over. I was extremely pleased by your large and enthusiastic attendance at our 2012 Spring Conference. I recently reviewed the evaluation results and they were very positive and supportive of conference. Your board has been working hard to provide you with the tools you need to do your job. Hopefully we have been successful.

Over the last year, CSAIA presented two one day trainings on Child Abduction and Homicide, Child Abductions, False Allegation Kidnapping in both Northern and Southern California. The board kept the registration cost as low as possible so anyone who would like to attend had that opportunity. If you have any suggestions for one day training topics or instructors for 2013, please send the board an email through our website.

The board has been keeping the CSAIA website up to date with as much information as we possible. This includes future trainings and case law briefs, so please log on to the site at least once or twice a month for the updates.

I understand the job you do is so important, but it can also be mentally and physically challenging. I encourage you to not forget to take time for yourself, family, and loved ones. These are the people who are there for you 24 hours a day, whether your "case load" is light and everything is great or at the those time when you feel like you are barely keeping your head above water. Remember, you can't help your victims if you are not taking care of yourself.

The job we do is not a "thankless job." I firmly believe we all leave an impression upon our victims long after our contact with them is over. So take some time to enjoy your family and friends. If we all do this, I truly believe our victims will also benefit.

Roberta L. Hopewell  
CSAIA President, 2012

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2012 President  
Roberta Hopewell



Save the Date  
[CSAIA] Spring Training 2013

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Spring Training 2013 will be March 13-15, 2013 at the Cliff's Resort in Shell Beach.

The Board of Directors (BOD) has set the tuition at \$250.00 for current members and \$300.00 for renewing or new members.

Spring Training 2012 was a packed house (almost 200 participants) and we anticipate the same attendance in 2013.

Your BOD is finalizing the instructors for the training and will get a training flyer out ASAP. The BOD knows your training departments need that before the training can be approved.

For CSAIA attendees the rooms at the Cliff's resort during the training have been reduced to \$119.00 a night (plus taxes) for single or double occupancy. When the training flyer is sent out, you will find a special code to receive the reduced room rate. You will need that code to contact the Cliff's to make any room reservations.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at 951-955-0742 or [swelch@csaia.org](mailto:swelch@csaia.org).



# News From Spring 2012

CSAIA in conjunction with CCFMTC hosted the Spring 2012 Conference at the Cliffs Hotel in Shell Beach on March 14th, 15th, and 16<sup>th</sup>. The conference was very well attended with over 180 members in attendance.

The line-up of speakers proved very informative and topics such as digital evidence in sexual assault cases, gang rape, paraphilias, legal and psychological considerations of the Garrido and Gardner cases. We ended the conference with an interesting and entertaining presentation by retired FBI Agent Bob Hamer on his infiltration of NAMBLA.

For the raffle we tried something new. The proceeds from the raffle went to purchasing three full tuitions and lodging at the 2013 Spring conference. The final drawing was for these three prizes. The three lucky attendees, Raffle winners were: Gerald Jones, Mario Luna and Terri Edwards won tuition and lodging at the 2013 Spring Conference! We look forward to seeing you at our one-day trainings and at the Spring Conference 2013!



## Legislation

### ***SB 534 ENTITLES SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS TO A FREE FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAM***

By Kelly LeBel, Deputy Attorney General

Senate Bill 534 was sponsored by Senator Elaine Corbett (D-San Leandro), and signed into law by Governor Brown on September 29, 2011. The bill ensures that a sexual assault victim has access to a forensic medical exam free of charge even if he or she elects not to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement. (Pen. Code, § 13823.95, subd. (b).) The cost of the medical exam is chargeable to the local law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the offense occurred. In cases in which a victim declines to participate in the criminal justice system, law enforcement may seek reimbursement for the cost of the medical exam by applying to the California Emergency Management Agency for federal discretionary Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding from the Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant program until January 1, 2014. (Pen. Code, § 13823.95, subds. (c) & (d).)

Previously, a sexual assault victim's ability to receive a medical exam without having to pay for it was contingent upon his or her participation in the criminal justice system. If a victim chose not to cooperate with law enforcement and the law enforcement agency did not authorize the medical exam, the victim may not have been able to receive a free exam. This was inconsistent with federal law. Specifically, VAWA regulations stipulate that sexual assault victims receive free medical exams. Non-compliance with the law jeopardized California's receipt of federal funds.

# CSAIA 2012 Achievement Awards



## 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 presented the following awards at the 2012 Spring Training Conference in Shell Beach, California:

Senator Ellen M. Corbett was selected for the 2012 Legislator of the Year Award for her outstanding work regarding out of state sex offenders.

Sgt. Dan Scott was selected for the 2012 Patrick Sullivan Investigator of the Year Award.



**President Roberta Hopewell presented the 2012 Patrick Sullivan Investigator of the Year Award to Sgt. Dan Scott of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.**



## Membership Corner



**Steven Welch, Membership Director**

### Membership Status

Check out your membership status at [www.csaia.org](http://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](mailto:boardmembers@csaia.org) with your ideas.

We are currently 193 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 at [boardmembers@csaia.org](mailto:boardmembers@csaia.org)

## Fall Training Conference 2013

Your BOD is proud to announce that they're currently in contract negotiations with several Northern California hotels for October training dates in 2013

As the information develops, the BOD will post the information at [www.csaia.org](http://www.csaia.org)

## The Voice Newsletter Spring 2013

If you have any ideas for articles that would benefit the membership, please submit them as soon as possible to [boardmembers@csaia.org](mailto:boardmembers@csaia.org).



## ***SART***

The state of California is well known for its advanced forensic practices and this past year has been no different. CSAIA conducted its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual spring training in March in collaboration with California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (CCFMTC). The training continued with the focus being on collaboration between the multidisciplinary team which includes District Attorneys' office, Law Enforcement, Forensic nurses and advocacy. Acknowledging the need for advanced education, the team was able to offer a collaborative multitude of topics involving all aspects of forensic nursing.

Over the past year, CSAIA has been influential in the process of obtaining quality training and education for team members. Our membership has increased due to the collaboration between CSAIA and CCFMTC. The general need for continued education is never ending and CSAIA's mission will continue ensuring state of the art education for all our members including forensic nursing.

CCFMTC will be collaborating once again March 3013 with new and inventive techniques, topics, Updates on VAWA laws, photographic techniques, peer review and much more. So set your calendars for March 13-16, 2013 in Shell Beach.

If you have ideas you would like to share for our Spring training please feel free to contact Margie Jessen @ [margiejessen@csaia.org](mailto:margiejessen@csaia.org)

## California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (CCFMTC) ([www.ccfmtc.org](http://www.ccfmtc.org))

CCFMTC was established by state statute in 1996 (Penal Code Section 13823.93) and is funded by the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA). Its primary purpose is to train physicians, mid-level practitioners and nurses how to perform quality medical/evidentiary examinations for victims of sexual assault and child abuse. Its secondary focus is to train prosecutors, law enforcement officers and investigative social workers on the interpretation of findings for inclusion in their reports and judicial proceedings. The organizational home for the CCFMTC is the California District Attorneys Association, Sacramento, California.

### *SAFENet: Moving the Field Forward*

The CCFMTC Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Network (SAFENet) has three component parts:

- Development of an electronic forensic medical record for the mandated state form, the Cal EMA 923: Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Report form;
- Development of a local and state database for de-identified forensic medical exam data as a source of information about sexual assault forensic medical examination findings for analysis;
- Development of a telemedicine coaching and mentoring program linking examiners throughout the State to forensic medical experts to increase knowledge, skills, and expertise at the local level by providing consultation, mentoring and continuing education.

### *Why was SAFENet developed?*

- To develop consistency in the interpretation of findings among examiners that are based upon the scientific literature; and, to continue to refine and standardize the interpretation of findings among examiners.
- To develop a scientific database for examiners to provide expert court testimony and to publish scientific evidence based literature.
- To save SAFE/SANE time recording findings on the Cal EMA 923 form.
- To increase professional networking among examiners, and reduce isolation among them.
- Recruitment and retention are significant issues for this field.

### Seven Proposed Pilot Sites

- Trauma Recovery Center, San Francisco
- Highland Hospital SAFE Team, Oakland
- BEAR Center, Sutter Hospital, Sacramento
- Forensic Nurse Specialists, Long Beach
- Forensic Nurse Specialists, Fresno
- Eisenhower Medical Center, Palm Desert
- UCLA Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center



## **Does the law address this need?**

Yes, California Penal Code Section 13823.93 states that the CCFMTC shall: “Develop a telecommunication system network between the training center and outlying areas, including rural and midsized counties. This service shall provide case consultation to medical personnel, law enforcement, and the courts, and provide continuing medical education.

## **CCFMTC Leadership**

Marilyn Peterson, MSW, MPA, Program Director

William Green, MD, Medical Director

Elliot Schulman, MD, Education Director

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## CSAIA 2012 Board of Directors



**Top row from left to right:**  
President Elect – Scott Currie  
Treasurer – Tim McFadden  
Member – Steven Welch  
Member– Karen Sherwood

**Bottom row from left to right:**  
Secretary– Jesse Grant  
President – Roberta Hopewell  
Member – Heidi Chebahtah (Resigned 10/2012)  
Member – Margie Jessen, RN  
Member – Karla Beler (Not Pictured)

## About Our Organization



**CSAIA 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!!

