



AGENDA

NDAA's 2026 Forensic Evidence Conference

*From Evidence Overload to Evidentiary Clarity:
Interpreting, Challenging, and Using Complex Evidence in High-Stakes Cases*

Attendees must wear their name tags to all events and turn off cell phones during all sessions.

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Understanding Complex Evidence: From Information to Meaning

7:45 – 8:45 AM	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Check-in & Registration
9:00 – 9:15 AM	The Problem of Too Much Evidence
9:15 – 10:15 AM	Defining Evidentiary Clarity: What Makes Evidence Reliable, Relevant and Defensible Christopher Sperry Chief Deputy District Attorney Fulton County, GA
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Networking Break
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Interpreting DNA Evidence: Transfer, Uncertainty, and the Limits of What You Can Say Susan Horan DNA Specialist, Forensic Science & Cold Case Unit Kings County, NY Rachel Singer Chief, Forensic Science & Cold Case Unit Kings County, NY
11:30 – 1:00 PM	Networking Lunch (on your own)
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Using Biological and Trace Evidence to Reconstruct – or Misconstruct – Events Danielle Grootenboer Senior Assistant Prosecutor Hackensack, NJ
2:00 – 2:15 PM	Networking Break



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- 2:15 – 3:15 PM **When Evidence Conflicts: Reconciling Competing Forensic Narratives**
April Gould, PhD, MPH T.B.D.
Park Dietz & Associates
- 3:15 – 3:45 PM Networking Break
- 3:45 – 4:45 PM **Deciding What Matters: Charging and Strategy in Evidence-Heavy Cases**
Nicole Keary
Deputy Attorney General in Charge
White Plains, NY

Wednesday, September 2, 2026 Testing the Evidence: Strategy, Risk, and Prosecutorial Decision-Making

- 7:45 – 8:45 AM Breakfast Buffet
- 9:00 – 9:15 AM **Reframing the Challenge: Where Risk Hides in Evidence**
- 9:15 – 9:30 AM Networking Break
- 9:30 – 10:30 AM **Defending the Evidence: Admissibility, Daubert, and Strategic Positioning**
Mike Carlson
Executive Assistant District Attorney
Lawrenceville, GA
- 10:30 – 10:45 AM Networking Break
- 10:45 – 11:45 AM **Evaluating Digital Evidence: Reliability, Context and Evidentiary Meaning**
Matt Beers
Digital Forensic Investigator
Boulder, CO
- Patricia Mittelstadt**
Deputy District Attorney
Boulder, CO
- 11:45 – 1:15 PM Networking Lunch (on your own)



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|----------------|---|
| 1:15 – 2:15 PM | Don't Believe Everything You Read: When Digital Evidence Misleads
Ian Whiffin
Senior Customer Engagement Manager
Cellebrite |
| 2:15 – 2:45 PM | Networking Break |
| 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Case Dissection: When Too Much Evidence Almost Lost the Case
Jamie Mosser
Kane County State's Attorney
St. Charles, IL

Michael Zeigler
Investigator
St. Charles, IL

Zeus Flores
Chief of Digital Forensics
St. Charles, IL |
| 3:45 – 4:00 PM | Networking Break |
| 4:00 – 5:00 PM | From Information to Strategy: What Toxicology Results Really Tell You
Donna Papsun
Forensic Toxicologist and Business Scientist
NMS Labs |

Thursday, September 3, 2026 Presenting Complex Evidence: Experts, Partnerships, and Persuasion

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| 7:45 – 8:45 AM | Breakfast Buffet |
| 9:00 – 10:00 AM | Preparing Forensic Experts: Clarity, Boundaries, and Credibility
Dawn Weber
Senior Chief Deputy District Attorney
Denver, CO |
| 10:00 – 10:10 AM | Networking Break |



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- 10:10 – 10:55 AM **Beyond the Lab: Leveraging Forensic Toxicology Partnerships to Strengthen Investigations**
Kristen Burke
Regional Toxicology Liaison
Western Region
- 10:55 – 11:00 AM Stretch Break
- 11:00 – 12:00 PM **Translating Forensic Evidence: Communicating Complexity Without Losing the Jury**
John Melvin
Chief Assistant District Attorney
Lawrenceville, GA
- 12:00 – 1:00 PM **Capstone Lab: Turning Evidence Overload into a Clear, Defensible Case**
Ray Grogan
Marion County Prosecuting Attorney
Marion, OH

Please note: This agenda reflects the program as confirmed. Because prosecutors and other members of the justice system may occasionally face unexpected court obligations or other unforeseen professional responsibilities, rare adjustments to faculty or scheduling may become necessary. If changes are required, NDAA will communicate updates as promptly as possible.

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Views expressed are those of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the National District Attorneys Association. Participants should consult current, authoritative sources when researching specific legal matter.



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