



the SOURCE

GOVERNOR VISITS FUSION CENTER

Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin spent several hours recently touring the Oklahoma Information Fusion Center (OIFC), housed at OSBI Headquarters. Even though Governor Fallin is well aware of the function and mission of the OIFC, OSBI Director Stan Florence extended an invitation for her to visit the center. The Governor and several staff members were met and welcomed to OSBI and the OIFC by Director Florence. Also in attendance were the Commissioner of Public Safety, Mike Thompson; Director of the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security, Kim Carter; Chairman of the OIFC Governance Board, Rocky McElvany; a representative with the Oklahoma Department of Health; and members of the OIFC's Steering Committee, which represents 11 local, state, and federal agencies that oversee OIFC operations. The Governor was given a presentation on the daily operations and capabilities of the OIFC and toured the facility. The Governor also toured the OSBI/OIFC's Mobile Analysis Center. This vehicle is deployed, as appropriate, to crime incidents, both criminal- and terrorist-related. The vehicle also serves as the alternate location for the OIFC. The majority of the funding for this vehicle was obtained through a federal grant with the assistance of then Congresswoman Fallin. The OIFC and OSBI appreciate her interest in how the fusion center works in Oklahoma.



Gov. Fallin is briefed on function and mission of Oklahoma Information Fusion Center

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Next Generation Identification Coming Soon

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is charged with maintaining the National Repository of Fingerprint Records in the United States. These fingerprint records are stored electronically in a computer system known as the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). IAFIS not only allows the electronic storage of these fingerprint records, but it also offers search capability. Law enforcement agencies may search fingerprint records, criminal or civil, as well as latent prints from crime scenes through the approximately 65 million fingerprint records stored within the IAFIS system. IAFIS went live at the FBI in 1999 and

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OSBI Recognizes Excellence at Bureau

December 4, 2012, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation recognized many employees for their service during the annual OSBI Awards Banquet at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. Awards ranged from employee commendations and team awards to medals of service and employee of the year. The employee of the year category, the highest honor, is split into three categories: Criminalist, Agent, and Non-Commissioned.

Janice Joslin was honored with the 2012 Criminalist of the Year award. Joslin is the Forensic Biology Technical Manager; as such, she ensures all biology and CODIS operations comply with numerous standards. She reviews and revises biology discipline policies and training manuals and ensures the guidance provided analysts meets the hundreds of standards by which the OSBI is bound. Despite the numerous internal demands, Joslin avails herself to other agencies submitting evidence. She provides training to numerous investigative and prosecuting agencies to ensure OSBI customers know how best to utilize forensic biology and CODIS services. Her collaboration with other agencies has helped develop new and better methods for evidence collection such as her work to create a single rape kit for the state. The Bureau is proud of her overall exemplary performance.



Dir. Stan Florence presents Janice Joslin the 2012 Criminalist of the Year award

The 2012 Non-Commissioned Employee of the Year was awarded to Mary Reznicek for the significant impacts she made on the OSBI and the state during the year. Reznicek has worked in state procurement for more than three decades. She knew the state could save many thousands of dollars with fair market purchasing. However, for years the state mandated purchases with state-use vendors regardless of expense. Reznicek convinced the OSBI Director a change in law was necessary. She got the attention of legislators who requested an interim study of the issue. Reznicek presented pages of items the OSBI was forced to purchase at a higher price than fair market value. Last legislative session a bill was introduced to make the changes, allowing price to be an exception to using state-use vendors. The bill passed and became law in August.



Dir. Stan Florence presents Mary Reznicek with 2012 Non-Commissioned Employee of the Year award

Marvin Akers is the 2012 Agent of the Year. In the past year, Akers cleared several violent crime investigations including the bizarre shooting death of a Lexington man. Little evidence was available at the crime scene, so Akers recruited confidential informants. Akers' diligence led to two arrests and confessions. Akers also foiled a murder-for-hire plot in McClain County. When Akers learned of the plot, he recruited a jail inmate and went undercover. The suspect eventually offered Akers money and a gun to kill two people. The next day, when the murders were to happen, Akers arrested the suspect. Later in the year, Akers' interview of an informant on a possible murder in Cleveland County produced enough information for a search warrant. Items collected from that warrant ultimately led the suspect to confess to murder and dismemberment of the victim. These are but a few examples of Akers' work during the year. His dedication to the citizens of Oklahoma is honored with this award.

A picture of Agent Marvin Akers will not be released due to his undercover work.

OSBI Honors Director of University Forensic Institute

During the ceremony, Director Stan Florence recognized the strong partnership between Dr. Dwight Adams, Director of UCO's Forensic Science Institute, and the OSBI. Dr. Adams provides invaluable support to the OSBI by working closely with the Criminalistics Division to identify opportunities to strengthen the services of both agencies.

OSBI's training and travel budgets have been drastically cut in the past several years. Knowing training is vital to stay abreast of new technologies and procedures, Dr. Adams solicits requests for continuing education needs from criminalists and organizes meaningful training to meet OSBI's needs. He seeks out world-renown experts to conduct the training and covers all costs.

Dr. Adams has formalized UCO's Forensic Science Practicum Program ensuring OSBI receives the best UCO forensic students to assist the bureau with research and validation studies, freeing OSBI analysts to focus on casework.



Dir. Florence presents Dr. Adams the OSBI Director's Award

OSBI Forensic Artist Inducted into Hall of Fame

OSBI Forensic Artist Harvey Pratt was inducted into the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Museum and Hall of Fame January 12th. Pratt has worked in law enforcement for more than 40 years, starting his career as an officer in Midwest City after spending time in the U.S. Marines. Pratt retired as an OSBI Assistant Director in 1992 and returned to the Bureau as its forensic artist. During his career, his witness description sketches have help law enforcement solve hundreds of crimes; his soft-tissue reconstruction drawings and skull reconstructions have aided in the identification of numerous unidentified deceased. His talents have not been confined to Oklahoma. Pratt has worked with police across the United States. Some of the more well-known cases include the Green River Killer (Gary Ridgeway), BTK Killer (Dennis Rader), and I-5 Killer (Randall Woodfield).



Harvey Pratt, inducted into Law Enforcement Hall of Fame

Pratt was the first inducted into OSBI's Hall of Fame two years ago. The Bureau is proud of his accomplishments and talents.

Important Evidence Reminders

The primary goal of the OSBI Criminalistics Division is to process evidence and report our results in the shortest amount of time possible. By doing so, we assist our customers (law enforcement officers and members of the criminal justice system) in performing their jobs. To help us meet our goal, we establish practices that reduce unnecessary work for our analysts and technicians. Some of these practices reduce the amount of paperwork we must complete or improve the information we provide to our customers, while others limit the amount of items submitted that add no value to the case and do not need to be analyzed by the laboratory. The sections below offer reminders of some of our practices.

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Next Generation Identification continued from pg 1 supports more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies. State agencies designated as the fingerprint repositories for their state arrest records have been given access to IAFIS for latent print searches. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is the repository of fingerprint records for Oklahoma. If latent prints were not identified through the OSBI Automated Fingerprint identification System (AFIS), IAFIS allowed OSBI Latent Print Examiners the ability to search latent fingerprints through the national fingerprint database. The implementation of IAFIS has been an extremely successful tool in streamlining the identification of individuals in arrest booking processing, as well as identifying suspects in criminal investigations through the latent print search function. IAFIS has far exceeded expectations. Though advancements to the system have been implemented since its inception, technologies are now available that are not part of the original IAFIS.

The FBI has been working on the development of a new system known as Next Generation Identification (NGI). NGI will not only involve fingerprints but several other features and biometric search capabilities. The FBI has been developing NGI in increments over the last few years, starting with an equipment upgrade to support the system. The second increment was an upgrade in the fingerprint search capabilities. IAFIS searched fingerprints with an expected 92% accuracy. NGI's expected accuracy is 99%, which will result in more hits, 200 more per day is the expectation. NGI's search time is also dramatically reduced compared to the time it took to search fingerprints through the IAFIS.

On the second increment upgrade of NGI, the FBI worked with several law enforcement agencies on a pilot program testing mobile fingerprint identification devices. The FBI created a fingerprint database of 1.2 million wanted individuals, known or appropriately suspected terrorists, sex offenders, and persons of special interest. This database is considered the "worst of the worst." These devices were utilized in the field by patrol officers to search this special fingerprint database, identify these individuals, and assist the officers in quickly assessing the threat level of a subject. Houston Police Department was one of the pilot agencies and within one year apprehended 78 individuals from this "worst of the worst" database. The average response time for information to be returned to the officer was only 16 seconds.

The third increment upgrade to NGI will be the implementation of a national palm print database. One shortcoming of IAFIS was it did not have the capability to store and search palm prints, though palm prints are routinely collected from arrestees. While many state and local Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS) have palm print capabilities, there was no national database for palm prints, as there is for fingerprints. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) has palm print storage and search capabilities. However, if a latent palm print from a crime scene was not identified through a search of the OSBI Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) or by manual comparison with a known suspect, there was nothing more that could be done until a suspect was generated. For several years the FBI has been accumulating palm print records of arrestees and has developed a searchable palm print database to be woven into NGI. This will be a tremendous advancement in criminal investigations, as many of the latent prints developed at crime scenes or during evidence processing are palm prints. When the national palm print database is an operational part of NGI, there will be another tool for possibly identifying suspects. March 2013 is the anticipated launch of the NGI palm print database. The OSBI Latent Evidence Unit is currently making preparations to utilize this new feature as soon as it is available.



Palm Print

The FBI is planning on adding further searchable biometric features to NGI in the future. Currently, the planned upgrade features are the ability to store and search an individual's scars, marks, and tattoos, a facial

recognition program, and iris scan/identification. The timetable for these specific features isn't known at this time. However, all of these features are already in development through the NGI project at the FBI. These added biometric search tools will play a vital role in future criminal investigation.

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation is very excited about the new tools that NGI will provide in pursuing the safety and security for the citizens of Oklahoma.

Evidence . . . continued from p. 3

Mailing Evidence

A variety of evidence can be submitted to us through the mail. Officers who choose to mail evidence to us must provide a completed submittal form (RFLE). This form must be in its own envelope and must not be included in the evidence package. Officers are required to tape the envelope containing the RFLE to the outside of the evidence envelope. Evidence received in this way is protected from additional people being added to the chain of custody as evidence technicians do not have to open the evidence to retrieve submittal information.

Labeling Latent Lift Cards

When submitting latent lift cards to the laboratory, please, ensure each card is labeled with the officer's initials, date lifted, and location from which the print was lifted. This information is used to assist criminalists in documenting evidence in our laboratory reports.

“No Value” Items

Our laboratory receives many items that do not lend themselves to testing. These items increase the time it takes us to process a case as we are required to inventory and document in our report all items included in evidence packages. Officers are asked to remove items such as driver's licenses, used test kits/supplies, etc., if these items are not to be tested.
