

Dr. John I. Thornton
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Curriculum Vitae

Professional Experience

Dr. Thornton has twenty-six years of experience in an operational crime laboratory, four of them as a laboratory director, and twenty-four years of experience as a Professor of Forensic Science at the University of California, Berkeley. He has testified as an expert witness on a wide variety of physical evidence cases. He has extensive experience in evidence collection and processing, trace evidence analysis, firearms identification, gunshot residues, wound ballistics, bloodstain pattern interpretation, crime scene reconstruction, homicide investigation, and expert testimony.

Professional Affiliations

Life Member, California Association of Criminalists
International Association for Identification
Society for Wildlife Forensic Science
Board Certified, American Board of Criminalistics 1993-2008
Fellow, American Academy of Forensic Sciences 1966-2009

Education

B.S., Criminology, University of California, Berkeley, 1962.
M.Crim., Criminalistics, University of California, Berkeley, 1968.
D.Crim., Criminalistics and Forensic Science, University of California, Berkeley, 1974.

Other Professional Experience

2006-: Professor of Forensic Science, University of California, Davis.
1994- : Emeritus Professor of Forensic Science, University of California, Berkeley.
2004-2010 : Evidence Specialist, Napa County Sheriff's Office, Napa, California.
1994-2003 : Forensic Scientist, Forensic Analytical Specialties, Inc., Hayward.
1970-1994: Professor of Forensic Science, University of California, Berkeley.
1963-1972: Criminalist, Contra Costa Sheriff's Department, Martinez, California.

Military Service

1962-1968: Staff Sgt., US Air Force Reserve. Skill classification: Medic

Technical Presentations

American Academy of Forensic Sciences
California Association of Criminalists
American Chemical Society
California State Police Academy
National District Attorney's Association

Technical Presentations - Continued

International Association of Identification
FBI Academy Symposium on Forensic Science
California Public Defender's Association
Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners
Society for Applied Spectroscopy
California Association of Licensed Investigators
Association of Public Health Microbiologists
Southwest Association of Forensic Document Examiners
California District Attorney's Association
California Women Police Officer's Association
International Wound Ballistics Association
California Defense Investigators Association
International Society for Optical Engineering
Washington State Bar Association
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association
Israel National Police
Policia Nacional de la Republica de Colombia
National Conference on Science and the Law

Other Relevant Information

Board Certified, American Board of Criminalistics, 1993-2008; Board of Directors, American Board of Criminalistics, 1994-1996; Vice President, 1995-1996.
Consultant to the California Council on Criminal Justice to draw up a Master Plan for a Crime Laboratory System for the State of California, 1970-1971.
Consultant to the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration and National Institute of Justice, U.S. Dept. of Justice, to evaluate 1974, 1975, 1978, 1981, and (now the National Institute of Justice) 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 Program Plans.
Member of the Project Advisory Committee, Nationwide Crime Laboratory Proficiency Testing Project, Forensic Science Foundation, 1974-1982.
President, California Association of Criminalists, 1974-1975.
Award of Merit, Forensic Sciences Foundation, 1979.
Ethics Committee, California Association of Criminalists, 1977-1981, 1997-2000.
Criminalistics Section Award (*nee* Paul L. Kirk Award), American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 1979-1980.
Chairman, Criminalistics Section, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 1980-1981.
Representative Assembly of the Academic Senate, Univ. of California, Berkeley, 1980-1981
Editorial Review Board, *Journal of Forensic Sciences*, 1981-1984, 2010- .
Visiting Professor, University of New Mexico Medical School, Albuquerque, August 1982.
Vice-Chairman, Dept. of Biomedical and Environmental Health Sciences, Univ. of California, Berkeley, 1981-1985; Acting Chairman, March-August 1984.
Member of the Graduate Group in Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry, and member of the Graduate Group in Environmental Health Sciences, Univ. of California, Berkeley.
Participant in Crime Laboratory Improvement Project Summit 2000, National Institute of Justice, Washington, D.C., 2000
Visiting Professor, Southwest China Institute of Political Science and Law, People's Republic of China, March-April 1987.
POST (Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training) Advanced Certificate, 1968.

Relevant Information - Continued

Biographee, *Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the West, Directory of Distinguished Americans, American Men and Women of Science*
Member of Advisory Board of the California Criminalistics Institute, Calif. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Sciences, 1986-1992.
Certificate of Basic Competency in Criminalistics, California Association of Criminalists, 1989.
Distinguished Member Award, California Association of Criminalists, 1989.
Chair of the Faculty, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, 1989-1990.
Member of Symposium Faculty for physical evidence instruction, Policia Nacional de la Republica de Colombia, Bogota, Colombia, May 1991.
Visiting Professor, La Escuela de Policia 'General Santander,' Policia Nacional de la Republica de Colombia, Santa Fe de Bogota, Colombia, January 1992.
Member of Symposium Faculty for physical evidence instruction, Universidad Nacional de Mexico, Mexico, D.F., December 1997.
Lecturer on crime scene investigation, Universidad de Andaluc a, Baeza, Spain, December 2005.
California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Award for Investigative Excellence, 2007.
"Above and Beyond" Award, Napa Sheriff's Department, 2010.
Awarded Life Membership, California Association of Criminalists, 2009

Author or coauthor of 197 articles in the area of forensic science. This includes the editing of one standard textbook on physical evidence and chapters in eleven other texts. The remainder are journal articles in the forensic science literature, the chemistry literature, the law literature, and an encyclopedia. Dr. Thornton is the principal author of two extensive computer databases of forensic information, the *Firearms Evidence Sourcebook* and the *Sourcebook of Forensic Science Information*, both published by the National Institute of Justice. Certain of Dr. Thornton's writings have been translated into Spanish, Chinese, Russian, French, and Czech.

Formerly a consultant to various police agencies, public prosecutor's offices, public defender's offices, and attorneys, in connection with criminal and civil litigation. Dr. Thornton has been involved in approximately 800 homicide investigations over a period of more than 45 years. Dr. Thornton has taught physical evidence doctrine and methods in China, Mexico, Spain, India, Israel, and Colombia at the request of the governments of those countries.

Dr. Thornton has testified as an expert witness on several hundred occasions on a variety of physical evidence matters. He has testified in Superior Court in California, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Colorado, Iowa, Alabama, Massachusetts, Hawaii, and North Carolina, in Department of Defense Courts Martial, and in Queen's Court in Canada. He has testified in Federal District Court in Fairbanks, Anchorage, Boise, San Francisco, Oakland, Fresno, Spokane, Reno, Denver, and Raleigh.

Representative publications:

180. FORENSIC PAINT EXAMINATION. John I. Thornton. Chapter 8 in *Forensic Science Handbook*, Vol. 1, 2nd ed., Richard Saferstein, Ed., Prentice-Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 2002, p. 429-478.
181. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF GLASS EVIDENCE. John I. Thornton. Chapter 6 in *Forensic Examination of Glass and Paint*, Ed. Brian Caddy. Taylor & Francis, London, 2001, p. 97-121.
182. GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS AND RATIONALE IN FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION. John I. Thornton and Joseph L. Peterson. Chapter 24 in *Scientific Evidence Reference Manual*, 2nd ed., Ed. David L. Faigman, David Kaye, Michael J. Saks, and Joseph Sanders. West Publishing Co., St. Paul, Minn., 2002, Vol. 3, p. 145-206.
196. THE ETHOS AND ETHICS OF CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION. John I. Thornton. in *Crime Reconstruction*, 2nd Ed., Brent E. Turvey and W. Jerry Chisum, eds., Academic Press, San Diego, CA, submitted
197. TRACE EVIDENCE IN CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION. Meagan B. Gallagher and John I. Thornton, in *Crime Reconstruction*, 2nd Ed., Brent E. Turvey and W. Jerry Chisum, eds., Academic Press, San Diego, CA, submitted.