Law Enforcement Healing

By Joseph T. Daniels
Director of Criminal Justice Outreach
Seafield 911 Center

The concept of specialized treatment for members of select career orientation is certainly not new. A variety of treatment centers for various occupations exists around the country. The list includes Florida Lawyers’ Assistance (FLA), a drug and alcohol abuse program for attorneys, recognized by the Florida Bar Association; an Intervention Project for Nurses (IPN), recognized by the Board of Nursing; and even treatment centers quietly treating members of the clergy.

There is also a center in Davie, Florida, which has been successfully treating law enforcement officials for two and one-half years. Seafield 911 is the only facility in the country dedicated solely to the treatment of alcoholism, substance abuse and stress for law enforcement personnel.

Law enforcement officials have long held a unique place in society. They are the most visible and accessible representatives of the government and are held to higher standards of conduct than the public they serve. As such, their moral conduct must be beyond reproach. Law enforcement officials bear the incredible responsibility of administering capital punishment, often without judicial “due process.” Law enforcement is the only occupation where participants must go to work loaded with firearms, handcuffs, and batons, prepared for battle every day. Whether chasing hardened criminals or generating voluminous amounts of paperwork to support their actions, law enforcement officials find their day-to-day activities stressful — and often dangerous. Yet no matter how ghastly the crime or gruesome the incident, the officers must never run from the scene or display any emotion. A rigorous police academy program has thoroughly trained these officers to mask all feeling and, above all, never to trust anyone.

Lack of trust is the major barrier to treatment and becomes part of the denial of stress related illness. Officers strive to live up to the image of the gleaming knight at all costs, and accustomed to helping others, they often find it difficult to open up and ask for help for themselves. Lack of trust is a common psychological component; as such, the onset of any stress related illness or injury is even more significant. The National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety rates Law Enforcement as having a higher rate of suicide, alcoholism, and divorce than any other occupation.

Law enforcement professionals agree that they would never hesitate to help one another when a call for assistance goes out. However, most officers do not know what to do when they see a fellow officer suffering from alcoholism or stress-related problems. Not wanting to jeopardize the afflicted officer’s career by calling attention to the problem, other officers will usually stand by helplessly while their colleague continues to suffer. There is, however, an alternative.

The starting point for a lifestyle of wellness for an afflicted officer must be a safe place, a place of trust. It must be a place where the officer is not treated differently nor stands out with a special image to maintain. Seafield 911 has been proven to be among the best treatment sources for law enforcement officers. After treating over three hundred clients for substance abuse and related stress, Seafield 911 boasts a ninety percent recovery rate measured for a year after treatment. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations has rated Seafield 911 in the top ten percentile of all rehabilitation centers in the nation.

The reason for the unusually high success rate for clients at Seafield 911 is the law enforcement specific program. In the past, officers who have attended treatment centers open to the general public have found themselves in a defensive role and, consequently, lose primary focus of their treatment. In such general treatment centers, many civilian clients with arrest records or legal problems fear the officer/client is a “narc.” In turn, the officer/client often fears that the others may inform the media or internal affairs of his or her whereabouts, or even leak personal information divulged in group process. Consequently, many officers have complained that treatment continued on next page
in such an environment was a failure. Upon arrival at Seafield 911, however, the client who has a badge and I.D. finds he or she is no different than the other clients, nor is he or she treated differently. Bonding occurs almost overnight due to the combat mentality and camaraderie of officers. As well, group therapy, a vital component of recovery, is more effective. Finally, in a safe place to confront his or her emotional problems, the officer can now learn to interact in the very society he or she serves, participate in self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, and practice a lifestyle of wellness.

Most law enforcement agencies prefer to use Seafield 911 in order to protect the anonymity of their officer and the referring agency. Such anonymity enables the officer to return to work after treatment without undue attention, to perform his or her job, attend self-help groups, and lead a reasonably happy and productive life. Seafield 911 is not only an alternative to negative discipline, but a response to a situation which, left untreated, can be fatal.

Anyone desiring information on training seminars or Seafield 911 may contact Joseph Daniels at 1-800-226-COPS (2677).

**Milwaukee County, WI: DEPUTIES ATTACKED IN SQUAD CAR AWARDED $5.3 MILLION**

Two Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, sheriff's deputies who were attacked in their patrol car by a prisoner were awarded $5.3 million by a jury. A Milwaukee County Circuit Court jury on April 16 found that the rights of James Paradinovich and Stephen Parks were violated because of recklessness by LaRon McKinley shot Paradinovich in the neck twice and tried to shoot Parks in the face Oct. 2, 1987, as they were transferring him from the Milwaukee County Jail to the Dane County Jail in Madison. McKinley had hidden a gun, keys and cash in a body cavity and took them out during the trip to Madison. Courtesy of Crime Control Digest, April 27, 1992

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FSA’s ADA/JTA Workshops a Success!

The Florida Sheriffs Association conducted the first of a series of seminars designed to assist local agencies with their implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The classes were conducted at the Omni Hotel in Orlando on June 3-5.

The training program was divided into two parts. The first part addressed the guidelines for meeting legal compliance with the ADA. Informative presentations were made by Bill Powers, FSA’s Labor Relations Attorney and Jean Kwall, General Counsel for the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office.

Part II of the program was a Job Task Analysis (JTA) Workshop which was presented by staff from the Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville. Participants were taught the method for developing locally validated JTA’s from a statewide model which has been accomplished for law enforcement and correctional officer positions.

Approximately 100 individuals representing some 50 different sheriff’s offices completed the workshop.

This program is the product of a joint effort between the Florida Sheriffs Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and FDLE’s Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission.

By the publication date of this edition of APB, another ADA/JTA workshop will have been completed (June 15-17) at the Orlando Omni Hotel as well.

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Instructors included (left to right) John Marshall, Consultant to Santa Fe Community College; Bill Gager, Santa Fe staff; Mike Brawner, Consultant; Tony Blalock and James Humphries of the Santa Fe staff.

The Florida Sheriffs Association has assumed a leadership role in developing the first statewide training program of this nature, a project which is specifically designed to assist sheriffs office personnel and other Florida governmental agencies in their efforts towards accomplishing ADA compliance.

“We need to insure uniformity and consistency among the 67 sheriff’s offices, the many police departments and other law enforcement agencies, in their efforts to comply with the ADA Act,” noted “Buddy” Phillips, Executive Director of FSA.

“It is our sincere belief that consistency will afford equal access for disabled Americans while at the same time, strengthen the agency’s position in the event of a legal challenge,” Phillips noted.
EDITOR'S CORNER
By Tom Berlinger

Campaign or not — don't become the "Big Story!"

For the next few months, life will grow increasingly more anxious for the thousands of deputy sheriffs, correctional officers and civilians employed by sheriffs in Florida. None of us need a reminder that with the exception of Dade (appointed) and Duval County (elected at opposite 4 year periods), 1992 is "election year.

The media holds a special affinity for sheriff's races. Even more than the election of our president, sheriffs races get the people out to vote. And, like it or not, we are all held to a higher standard than the average person. Thus, most every local journalist will be traipsing through your agency trying to find a "big story."

Prior to joining the FSA staff, I was employed by a few sheriffs over the span of about 17 years. I was always acutely aware of Chapter 30.07, F.S., which, in its entirety, reads: "Sheriffs may appoint deputies to act under them who shall have the same power as the sheriff appointing them, and for the neglect and default of whom in the execution of their office the sheriff shall be responsible."

I was and am proud to be a deputy sheriff. During that period, I made a personal choice to be an active (off-duty) campaigner for my bosses during four separate elections. Frankly, I enjoyed participating in the election process. And, I reasoned to myself, that despite the obvious risks to himself associated with Chapter 30.07, my sheriff thought enough of me to employ, retain, and promote me.

I got involved in the campaign.

I am not suggesting that you do or you don't involve yourself in campaigning. That is a personal choice, and one which can only be made after discussions with your family and your sheriff.

What I am suggesting, though, is that carrying out your job responsibilities in a professional manner is a must at all times — and of magnified importance during election years when media scrutiny is at its peak. "Do a good job — and you'll have a job — no matter who is sheriff," is an axiom I've heard over and over again through the years. I believe it. And that's exactly why I never balked at becoming a sheriff's deputy in the first place.

Be fair in your dealings, and calm and level-headed during difficult times. Don't do anything so foolhardy that it causes you to become the local "big story" of the campaign of '92.

US Attorney General to visit Florida's Sheriffs

United States Attorney General William Barr has accepted an invitation to address Florida's Sheriffs at their 79th Annual Training Conference scheduled for July 19-22 in Fort Myers.

Among the issues General Barr is expected to discuss is the possibility of establishing of national minimum standards for the housing of inmates in local county jails.

Barr's visit comes in response to concerns raised by several of Florida's sheriffs who find themselves having to meet not only Chapter 33-8 of the Florida Administrative Code (Florida's jail rules), but an assortment of standards, depending on court decisions which have been rendered in their respective geographic locales. The goal the sheriffs have in mind is the ability to house inmates in a constitutional setting, "at the least possible cost to the taxpayers," noted J. M. "Buddy" Phillips, Executive Director of the Florida Sheriffs Association.

Florida DOC inmate population explodes

Inmate population in Florida's prison system has exploded from 20,000 in 1978, to more than 46,500 today. The number of new admissions to the DOC system in FY 90-91 was 37,631. They are housed in 47 major institutions, 36 community correctional centers, 6 road prisons, and 21 work camps.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to statistics about Florida and Floridians which were gathered by Strikeforce, a citizen oriented crime prevention project in Jacksonville, that:

- We had the highest crime rate in the nation from 1983-89
- We had a serious crime occurs every 28 seconds
- A violent crime occurs every 3 minutes and 16 seconds
- Weapons were involved in 27.9% of the offenses reported to the police in 1990
- We have a 1 in 12 chance of falling victim to a crime
- 1 of every 7 crime victims sustained an injury in 1990
- The group most frequently arrested for non-violent crimes was 11-17 year olds

In regards to juvenile felony crimes, during fiscal year 89-90 that:

- Felony drug cases grew by 707%
- Auto Thefts rose by 326%
- Concealed Firearm cases were up by 280%
- Murder and manslaughter cases rose by 168%

And that, Serious Habitual Offenders have a statewide total of 40 beds available for the detention of juvenile offenders.
Florida Chapter S.P.I.A.A. seeks candidates for the Lt. William M. “Kim” Dunn Memorial Scholarship

The membership of the Florida Chapter Southern Police Institute Alumni Association encourages Florida police chiefs and sheriffs to submit qualified candidates to receive a tuition scholarship to the Spring 1993, Administrative Officers Conference.

This twelve week intensive management course is offered by the Southern Police Institute and will be held at the University of Louisville, Belknap Campus, Louisville, KY.

Qualified candidates must be a full-time Florida Law enforcement officer as defined in FSS, hold a supervisory rank within a Florida municipal, county, or state law enforcement agency, receive the support and endorsement from their police chief or sheriff, complete the Florida Chapter’s scholarship application, and successfully complete the SPI application process and entrance examination.

A completed scholarship and SPI application process (including entrance examination) must be post marked no later than September 1, 1992. Selection of the recipient will be made by the Southern Police Institute’s selection board. The tuition scholarship will be awarded during the Florida Chapter Southern Police Institute Alumni Association’s annual conference to be held during October, 1992, in Hollywood, Florida.

SPI applications may be obtained by calling the Admissions Coordinator at 502/588-6561. Scholarship applications or further information may be obtained by calling Lt. Rick Staly at 407/277-6736, or writing to the Florida Chapter S.P.I.A.A., P. O. Box 720631, Orlando, Florida 32872.

You are encouraged to submit applications today. The scholarship is for the tuition only. The recipient or his agency will need to provide other incidentals such as housing, books, etc.

Selection as “officer of the year” or something similar is not a criteria for selection. The scholarship is a completely separate award.

Drivers License Bulletin

Beginning back in January of this year, the Division of Drivers Licenses changed their procedures for renewal, announced James H. Cox, Director of the DHSMV’s Division of Drivers Licenses (DDL).

Each month, the Division will send “mail-in” renewal notices to half of the drivers in each zip code area. The other half will be required to renew at examining offices.

The mail-in notices will be mailed 30 days before the renewal date and will contain a "tear-off stub" extending the license expiration date for 60 days beyond the expiration date printed on each license, while the returned application and fee are being processed.

After processing the information, the DDL will mail an extension sticker to the driver to affix to the back of the drivers license as evidence that the license term has been extended. The law provides for a four or six year extension at every second license expiration. Upon expiration of the license "extension," the driver will be required to renew in person at an examining office.

"Driver license employees throughout Florida will be happy to answer questions about the new law,” noted Director Cox.

Free Monograph on Managing Informants

The Institute for Law and Justice, Inc. (ILJ) has recently released a new monograph entitled Managing Confidential Informants. The monograph was prepared by ILJ under the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s (BJA) Narcotics Control Technical Assistance Program (NCTAP).

BJA, part of the Office of Justice Program’s, U.S. Department of Justice, helps implement discretionary and formula grant programs authorized by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988.

The monograph provides law enforcement agencies with specific guidelines on managing confidential informants. It will help agencies establish and revise written directives for employing and handling narcotics informants. It will also show how to gain maximum benefits when utilizing informants while maintaining the integrity of the agencies and investigators who rely on them.

ILJ will provide one free copy of the monograph per agency upon written request only. Enclosing a pre-printed mailing label will expedite the request.

Write to: Mr. Edward F. Connors, Institute for Law and Justice, 1018 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Courtesy of Crime Control Digest, November 1991
Lee County to Host 4th Annual Summit

Lee County Sheriff John MCDougal extends an invitation to all sheriff’s office officials to attend the Fourth Annual Southwest Florida Law Enforcement Summit.

The Summit will be held July 22-24, 1992 at the Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa near Fort Myers.

The theme of this year’s Summit will focus on drug abuse and the need to “bridge the gap” in understanding between law enforcement agencies and drug abuse service providers. Presenters will explore mechanisms for increased cooperation and enhanced communication between the police and those providing daily care for individuals addicted to drugs.

Among the presenters at this year’s Summit will be Robert J. Creighton, SAC of ATF in Miami; Douglas W. Hughes, President of Youth Crime Watch of America; Shirley Colletti, President of Operation PAR in St. Petersburg; Dr. Mark Kleiman, Chairman of the Criminal Justice Policy and Management Program at Harvard University; Reuben Greenberg, Chief of Police of Charleston, SC; Vivian Smith, Director of the Office of Substance Abuse in Washington; as well as staffers from the FBI National Academy.

The fee is $85 for those registrations received prior to July 3, and $100 for those received after that date. Hotel rooms are $78 per night, single or double, and reservations may be made by calling the reservations desk of the Sanibel Resort & Spa toll free at (800) 767-7777. Reservations made after June 22 are on a “space available” basis.

For further information, contact Col. Dennis C. Duffala at the Lee County Sheriffs Office at (813) 335-9206.

Sheriff begins plain talk . . .
radio 10-Codes dropped from cop lingo

“Everyone already knows their meaning,” said Monroe County Sheriff Rick Roth about the cryptic codes that county law officers use when communicating. “Anyone who buys a scanner and listens to what we do can figure out quickly what a code means.” So, to ease the burden on his force, Roth is dropping mandatory use of 10-Codes from the language of law enforcement.

“It’s hard for the old timers,” said one Upper Keys officer. “You can say a lot more with a simple code than you can with an entire sentence. It’s more easily understandable.”

The county’s top cop agrees. “This is a test . . . it may not work, but the idea is to open up better communications between the dispatch officers and road patrol.” Roth added that while each district would be encouraged to use plain talk, no officer will be penalized for reverting back to 10-Codes or “Signals” when communicating.

“There are going to be certain situations when the officer might feel a need for security like a kidnapping, sexual battery, bomb threat or an incident involving a child,” Roth continued. “Sometimes confidential communications will be necessary.”

The general consensus that most Sheriff’s Office communications are a matter of public access is borne out by the fact that sales of radio scanners which intercept police and fire frequencies is usually brisk in the area. Some retailers say that considering the drug activity and traffic problems facing Keys residents, citizens like to be informed.

A few local law enforcement officers bemoan the “plain talk” concept likening it to “throwing out the baby with the bath water.” Said one, “The last thing I want to do is drop the county’s mandatory use of 10-Codes. I have a name for the plain talk concept. It doesn’t do another cop any good because the rest of the troops can’t hear what’s happening on a cellular phone.”

Roth said the plain talk test would continue until such a time that its merits or liabilities were fully weighed.

Get with the times: Turn off those fluorescent lights

Pop-quiz time, everyone! You’re leaving the room, there’s no one else in it and you won’t be back for 10 minutes. Your hand is reaching for the light switch, but just as you’re about to give it a flick you notice that the bulb is a fluorescent one. From an energy-conservation point of view, is it better to: a) Leave the light on until you get back? b) Turn the light off as you go out the door?

Andy Rudin, director of the Interfaith Coalition on Energy, specializes in answering just these kinds of questions. Says Rudin, “If you keep today’s fluorescent light bulbs off for more than a couple of seconds, it’s worth turning them off.” If this answer is surprising to you, you’re in good company. According to Rudin, the misconception that it’s inefficient to turn fluorescent bulbs on and off for short periods is widely held.

The reason it’s so widely held is that in the past it was true.

When fluorescent bulbs first became popular in the 1940s, the engineering wasn’t as efficient as it is today and turning one of these bulbs on and off frequently would severely reduce its life span by wearing out the filament. Further, it took a lot of energy to start the bulb.

All that has changed. Today’s fluorescent bulbs are better-engineered than ever before. According to Rudin, the initial current required for turning the bulb on lasts for only 1/120th of a second and even at its peak that current is no more than five times larger than the normal energy used to power the bulb.
The number of inmates in overcrowded state and federal prisons swelled by more than 48,000 in 1991 to a record 823,000 prisoners, the Justice Department said Thursday. A report by its Bureau of Justice Statistics found a 6.2 percent increase last year in the state and federal prison population, continuing a decadelong trend of more criminals behind bars. Since 1980, the nation’s prison population has grown by 150 percent, adding nearly 500,000 inmates and causing severe overcrowding.
Florida statute. In addition to conducting the Florida tests and completing FHP form 70, IPTM will also test for output radiation levels and report them to the using agency. The fee for performing the Florida test and conducting radiation tests is $35. If a Florida agency has a unit tested under the NIST/NHTSA program, the Florida tests and form will be completed upon request at no extra charge.

If you have questions about IPTM and its radar testing programs, please call director Russ Arend, Bob Jacob, or Bob Bradley at 904/646-2722. The IPTM fax number is 904/646-2453.

**Monroe County Sheriff’s car torched**

A Monroe County Sheriff’s Office patrol car was torched in the Upper Keys in the early morning hours of May 2. Authorities do not believe that there was any relationship to similar violence across the nation in connection with the Rodney King beating verdict.

“We have substantial leads that we are investigating,” sheriff spokesman Greg Artman said. “And it is in no way related to the Los Angeles violence.”

The 1990 Chevrolet parked in front of a deputy’s home just off U.S. 1 near mile marker 95 was ignited shortly before 4 a.m., Artman said.

Deputy Tom Breedlove had just gotten off duty and parked his car in front of his home 25 minutes before the incident. The ignited vehicle was discovered by Deputy George Rosenmeyer, who was driving by shortly after the fire was set. Breedlove was able to recover a shotgun and a few personal items before the fire consumed the vehicle.

“It was burned to a crisp,” Artman said.

Breedlove was treated and released at Mariner’s Hospital for minor smoke inhalation. The state fire marshal determined the fire was definitely arson, deliberately set by someone pouring a flammable liquid on the tires.

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**Sheriffs’ departments employ more women, blacks, and Hispanics in 1990 than in 1987**

The nearly 17,000 publicly funded State and local law enforcement agencies operating in the United States during 1990 included about 3,100 sheriffs’ departments.

- Among sworn personnel in sheriffs’ department in 1990 —
  - 84.5% were non-Hispanic white vs. 86.7% in 1987
  - 9.8% were non-Hispanic black vs. 8.3% in 1987
  - 4.7% were Hispanic vs. 4.3% in 1987
  - 1% were members of other minority groups
  - About 15.4% were women vs. 12.6% in 1987.

**Number of officers grew 15% from 1987 to 1990**

- The number of sworn officers in sheriffs’ departments reached 141,400 in 1990. Sheriffs’ departments had operating expenditures of $9.1 billion and employed 204,000 persons full time during fiscal 1990. About 69% of these employees were sworn officers, and 31% were civilian employees.

**Sheriffs’ departments use their time in different ways**

- Almost all sheriffs’ departments reported performing at least some work related to the courts (98%) and to law enforcement (97%). About 87% of the departments performed some jail-related work.
- About 84% of the departments estimated they spent a third or more of their personnel hours on law enforcement activities. About 40% of the departments spent at least a third of their time on jail-related responsibilities, and 9% spent a third or more of their time performing court-related duties.
- Most sheriffs’ departments were small: nearly two-thirds of them employed fewer than 25 sworn officers, and a third employed fewer than 10.

About half of the departments served jurisdictions with a population of less than 25,000.

- Sheriffs’ departments serving jurisdictions with a population of 1 million or more employed a fifth of all officers. Departments serving jurisdictions with 250,000 or more residents employed about half of all officers.
- Approximately 93% of sheriffs’ departments required new officer recruits to have at least a high school diploma, and the minimum requirement in another 4% of the departments included some college education; usually a 2-year degree.
- About 9 in 10 sheriffs’ departments had formal classroom and field training requirements for new officer recruits. The average number of required training hours ranged from 400 hours in departments serving less than 25,000 residents to more than 800 hours in departments serving jurisdictions with a population of 500,000 or more.

**Starting salaries average just over $17,000**

- The average starting salary for new officer recruits in sheriffs’ departments ranged from about $26,000 in the largest jurisdictions to about $16,000 in the smallest with an overall department average of $17,400.
- Approximately 74% of sheriffs’ departments authorized their officers to use semi-automatic sidearms. The 9mm was the semi-automatic weapon most frequently authorized for use.
- About 21% of sheriffs’ departments required all regular field officers to wear body armor while on duty. Another 6% of the departments applied this requirement to some, but not all officers.

Reprinted from BJS National Update, April 1992
Jail Suicide Update

This technical update, published quarterly, is part of the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives (NCIA)'s continuing effort to keep state and local officials, individual correctional staff and interested others aware of developments in the field of jail suicide prevention. Please contact them if you are not on their mailing list, or desire additional copies of their publication. Since NCIA also acts as a clearing-house for jail suicide prevention information, readers are encouraged to forward pertinent materials for inclusion into future issues.

This project is supported by grant number 92J01GH03 from the National Institute of Corrections (NIC), U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions stated in their document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Many agencies across the country have found some of the following materials to be of great assistance.

**JAIL SUICIDE PREVENTION MATERIALS AVAILABLE**

- And Darkness Closes in . . .
  National Study of Jail Suicides (1981)
- National Study of Jail Suicides: Seven Years Later (1988)
- Training Curriculum on Suicide Detection and Prevention in Jails and Lockups (1988)
- Curriculum Transparencies (1988)
- Jail Suicide Update (Volumes 1, 2 and 3)

For more information regarding the availability and cost of the above publications, contact either:

Lindsay M. Hayes, Project Director
National Center on Institutions and Alternatives
40 Lantern Lane
Mansfield, Massachusetts 02048
(508) 337-8806

or

NIC Information Center
1790 30th Street, Suite 130
Boulder, Colorado 80301
(303) 939-8877

F.D.I.A.I. 33rd Training Conference
Miami, Florida - October 19-22, 1992

By Glen Calhoun,
Conference Chairman, Crime Scene Investigations Bureau,
Metro-Dade Police Department

The Metro-Dade Police Department along with Miami and Hialeah Police Department will host the Florida Division of the International Association for Identification 33rd Training Conference, October 19-22, 1992.

The F.D.I.A.I. represents Crime Scene Investigators, Fingerprint Examiners, Serologists, Forensic Artists, and other forensic sciences. The conference is being held at the Holiday Inn Newport Pier Resort in North Dade County. Room rates for the conference are $62.00.

Registration is $50.00 for members, $65.00 for non-members. Experts will give presentations on the latest techniques and technologies available to law enforcement.

Scotland Yard, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F.B.I., and the United States Army Crime Lab are a few of the agencies participating.

Workshops are also planned to enhance the skills of police officers, and forensic experts. Those interested in attending should contact Glen Calhoun or Thomas Fadul, at Metro-Dade Police Department, 9105 N.W. 25 Street, Miami, Florida 33172, or at (305) 471-2970. This conference meets the mandatory educational requirements for re-training in the State of Florida.