



Seminar Presenters

Shot in the Dark

Pottawattamie County Sheriff's Office **James Doty**
Anthony Kava, Ryan Avis
"No body" cold case. Killer impersonated victim for years. Stalking, a shooting, arson, digital evidence, and tarps. Subject of Netflix's Lover, Stalker, Killer and Dateline: Scorned.

Family Man to Family Annihilator: Chris Watts Case Study

Federal Bureau of Investigation **Grahm Coder**
 Colorado Bureau of Investigation **Tammy Lee**
A case study of a husband/father who killed his pregnant wife and their 2 small children, the effect it had on the community, and on the lives of the lead investigators.

Digging for Answers: Cold Cases, Mass Exhumations and Modern Investigative Tools

Oakland County Sheriff's Office **Lori Bruski**
The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUS) provides technology, forensic services and investigative support to resolve missing and unidentified remains.

Beyond The Golden State Killer: Harnessing Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy to Solve Violent Crime, Identify Missing Persons, and Exonerate the Innocent

Sacramento County District Attorney's Office **Anne Marie Schubert**
 Schubert Strategies
Overview of the Golden State Killer case, how it was solved using forensic investigative genetic genealogy (FIGG), case examples as well as best practices and legal considerations in its use.

Buried Secrets: The Bucks County Killing Spree

Solebury Township Police Department **Jonathan Koretzky**
What began as a search for four missing young adults in Bucks County escalated into one of Pennsylvania's most chilling investigations, exposing a calculated killing spree on a family-owned farm and highlighting an exemplary multi-agency probe, resulting in swift confessions, arrests, and justice.

Cold Case: The Murder of Karen Norton

Baltimore County Police Department **Dominic Bridges**
A young female was found murdered in her home, but the case went cold. The presentation highlights how some cold cases can still be solved without DNA or advanced technology.

No Body Homicide/Device Location

New York State Police **Joseph Merla**
Brian McNally, Mark Baney
Missing person turned into a homicide case study. Case was successfully prosecuted in federal court despite body being disposed of and never found.

Homicide of Brandyn Foster

New York State Police (Ret.), Advanced Strategic Communication **Joseph Auriemma**
This case led to the creation of the Google Tombstone Report and the Google Geo-Fence Search Warrant.

DNA Technology

New York State Police, Director of Biological Science, Forensic Investigation Center **Julie Pizziketti**
DNA as it relates to new methods, evidence submissions, and samples as DNA continues to play a major role in cases.

Yogurt Shop Murders

Office of the Texas Attorney General **Mindy Monford**
 Austin Police Department **Daniel Jackson**
The "Yogurt Shop Murders" refers to the brutal unsolved quadruple homicide of four teenage girls in Austin, Texas, on December 6, 1991, which remained a high-profile cold case for over 30 years before a major breakthrough in late 2025.

Forensic Video / Digital Media

New York State Police, Forensic Video / Multimedia Services **M. Cathy Eckhardt**
Multimedia documentation of crime scenes, on-scene forensic multimedia acquisitions, digital multimedia evidence analysis, 3D Photogrammetry Analysis.

****Special Events for Early Arrivals****

- Reception at the Crowne Plaza Albany – The Desmond Hotel Saturday, September 19, at 7:30 p.m.
- Optional trip on Sunday, September 20, departing 9:00 a.m. We will visit the New York State Police K-9 facility near Cooperstown, New York as well as the National Baseball Hall of Fame (www.baseballhalloffame.org). This annual event has become a favorite. Limited space!

****Networking Events****

- A three-hour cruise on the Lac du Saint Sacrement, the largest cruise ship on Lake George, on Tuesday, September 22.
- Closing Banquet on Thursday, September 24, at the Crowne Plaza Albany – The Desmond Hotel.



Seminar Information

Seminar Registration Form

Available at www.troopers.ny.gov. All wishing to attend the seminar must complete and submit the registration form online.

Seminar Fees

Attendees: \$1,200 in U.S. funds for double rooms, \$1,800 for single rooms. All attendees are responsible for the full fee, even if they do not use the accommodation provided. Fee includes registration, lodging (double), meals, and the hospitality program. Attendees/agencies are responsible for the cost of transportation to and from Albany, New York.

Meal Schedule:

The following meals are covered by your Registration Fees:

Monday	Sept. 21 st	Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner
Tuesday	Sept. 22 nd	Breakfast - Lunch Dinner - Lake George Boat Cruise
Wednesd	Sept. 23 rd	Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner
Thursday	Sept. 24 th	Breakfast - Lunch Dinner - Banquet - King Street

Registration

Class size is limited, and registrants will be approved in the order that their registration and payment is received. Registration Deadline - September 11, 2026.

Confirmation

Registrations will be reviewed by New York State Police personnel. Once approved, you will be notified via a confirmation email.

Payment

Fees are to be paid by credit card (Master Card / Visa), purchase order or check. **Please note, registration cannot be confirmed until payment is received.**

Cancellation Policy

There will be a **\$100 fee** assessed in the event of cancellation. All other money will be refunded to the credit card provided for registration.

Lodging

Attendees will be lodged at the Crowne Plaza Albany -The Desmond Hotel, 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211. Lodging, which is based upon double occupancy, is included in the seminar fee. **Attendees are assigned two to a room by NYSP personnel, unless a single room has been requested and paid for.**

All attendees are personally responsible for any additional room charges that may be incurred during their stay. The hotel will request a credit card at the time of check-in to cover any such charges. Hotel rooms will be available from Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 3pm through Friday, September 25, 2026, check out by noon.

Early Arrivals and Late Departures

If you plan on arriving in Albany before September 20, or staying after September 25, you do not need to book separately. Please provide that information when registering and we will assist in reserving your accommodations at the Crowne Plaza Albany – The Desmond Hotel for the seminar rate of \$130 per night plus tax.

Transportation

It will not be necessary to rent a car. Once you arrive, all transportation will be provided:

- A hotel shuttle will transport you between Albany Airport and the hotel
- A shuttle will take you from the hotel to the Tuesday evening Dinner Boat Cruise.

Letter from Superintendent Steven G. James

It is with great pleasure that I extend to you a special invitation for representatives of your department to join us at the 38th Annual Colonel Henry F. Williams Homicide Seminar.

This annual seminar began in 1987 and was the vision of the late Colonel Henry F. Williams. Colonel Williams imagined a seminar that would provide Investigators and Detectives assigned to investigate homicides with the finest and most up-to-date training available. The core curriculum of the seminar concentrates on the application of forensic science to death investigations with instruction provided by some of the most recognized experts in the field.

In addition to receiving the best training available, Colonel Williams wanted attendees to have the opportunity to network with investigators and detectives from around the world to create a multi-agency resource known as "Williams Associates." Attendees have the opportunity to network with fellow participants and course presenters during evening hours and special events.

At the end of the seminar, all participants receive an electronic directory of the "Williams Associates", a resource that has proven to be highly successful during multi-jurisdictional investigations. To date, there are over 5,700 Williams Associates spanning 48 states, and 36 foreign countries on 6 continents.

We hope that a representative of your agency will join us as we celebrate the 38th year of the HFW Seminar.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven G. James".

Steven G. James
Superintendent