

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

U.S. Department of Defense Biometric and Forensic Technology Forum
March 26, 2012**John M. Collins, Director of Forensic Science for the Michigan State Police**

John M. Collins is the Director of Forensic Science for the Michigan State Police in Lansing, Michigan. Born and raised in the suburbs of Detroit, he studied forensic science at Michigan State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science while also competing as a four-year varsity discus thrower for the Spartans.

After graduating from MSU in 1992, he was hired as a forensic scientist specializing in firearms evidence by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in Atlanta. In 1996, he was recruited and hired by the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) where he worked for two years. During that time, he became recognized internationally for his forensic work in the bombing of the 1996 Olympics and subsequent serial bombings that shook the city of Atlanta afterwards. He has been contacted for assistance by investigators from around the world, including Madrid, London, and Israel in matters related to terrorist bombings. He has also conducted several accreditation inspections of crime laboratories across the United States as well as in Malaysia and Hong Kong.

John Collins served as the Director of the DuPage County Crime Laboratory from 2000 to 2010, and in 2009 was hired to serve as the first Executive Director of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, the premier association of forensic science managers in the United States. In 2007, he testified on the subject of forensic science management and leadership before the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. and he has published several articles and peer-reviewed literature related to forensic science.

John is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and has a Masters Degree in Organizational Management, which he earned in 2006. He has given several lectures and keynote speeches about contemporary issues in forensic science to various groups around the country, and he frequently teaches specialized management workshops to forensic science professionals.

John is married with two children and lives in the Lansing area.

Ken Kroupa, Deputy Director of Defense Forensics, Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mr. Kroupa serves in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as the Deputy Director, Defense Forensics and has full responsibility for strategic planning, management oversight, policy

development, technical leadership, and coordination within the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. government agencies, and international level for all forensic activities.

Born in Nebraska, Mr. Kroupa began his 26 years of military service in the enlisted ranks and later served as a military police officer in numerous command and staff assignments in the United States Army. While commanding, his company was awarded the meritorious Unit Citation for combat actions in Iraq and the JP Holland Award recognizing them as the best Military Police Company in the US Army. Immediately after 9/11, Mr. Kroupa commanded a provisional battalion of over 2,400 active and reserve troops to provide force protection and security to the 5th largest military installation in the world. Later, Mr. Kroupa commanded a second military police battalion responsible for felony level investigations that included drug suppression operations, major and economic crimes, criminal intelligence, combating terrorism and force protection within eleven states. Mr. Kroupa's military service culminated at the Pentagon where he had full responsibility for strategic planning, worldwide synchronization, and development of the biometric and forensic programs within the joint staff, combatant commands and military services. In addition, Mr. Kroupa was selected to serve as the Crisis Action Team Chief responsible for orchestrating the joint military support activities to FEMA and the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas during Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Kroupa holds a Master of Science degree in Military Science from Fort Leavenworth Kansas, a Master of Science degree in Counseling from the Long Island University in New York and a Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska. Mr. Kroupa serves on the National Science and Technology Council Subcommittee on Forensic Science and is a member of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.

Mr. Kroupa resides in Northern Virginia. He has three children and two grand children.

Christopher Miles, Biometrics Program Manager, Human Factors / Behavioral Science Division, Directorate for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security

Christopher (Chris) Miles is a Biometrics Program Manager with the Human Factors/Behavioral Sciences Division of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Directorate for Science and Technology. He manages the biometrics basic research portfolio leading the efforts in multi-biometric research, stand-off biometrics, decision fusion research and the development of rapid and low-cost DNA analysis. Mr. Miles is Chair of the Center for Identification Technology Research (CITeR) Advisors Committee and Co-Chair of the White House National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Biometrics & Identity Management.

Mr. Miles received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics and Computer Engineering from George Mason University and previously worked for the Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice where he managed the biometric, sensor and surveillance, and firearm technology portfolios. He managed biometric technologies for wireless and remote identification, booking & background checks, and access & movement control within facilities; sensor technologies for video & through-the-wall surveillance, concealed weapons detection, license plate recognition, & thermal imaging; and firearm technologies for ballistics imaging,

“smart gun,” & gunshot detection. Prior to NIJ, he provided support to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency’s display technology program and worked for the U.S. Army Night Vision Laboratory on thermal targeting systems.

Mr. Ben Riley, Principal Deputy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Rapid Fielding

Mr. Riley is the Principal Deputy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Rapid Fielding in the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Research and Engineering. Mr. Riley is responsible for policy and oversight of fielding capabilities that counter unconventional and time-sensitive threats. He facilitates rapid technology transition within the Department through discovery and demonstration of advanced technology concepts and works with interagency and coalition partners, industry, and academia to facilitate the timely satisfaction of validated priority operational needs. Prior to assuming his position in September 2009, Mr. Riley served as the Director of the USD(AT&L) sponsored Rapid Reaction Technology Office (RRTTO) and Chairman Combating Terrorism Technology Task Force (CTTTF). In this position he interacted and coordinated with both Department of Defense commands and organizations and other government departments on identifying technologies and technological trends to address combating and countering terrorism operations. Previously, Mr. Riley was Senior Research Associate in the Georgia Tech Research Institute of the Georgia Institute of Technology. He was assigned to the Office of Naval Research in Washington, DC.

Military assignments as a Captain in the United States Navy included serving as Military Deputy to the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Advanced Technology) in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He participated in the initiation of the Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) program and was responsible for direction and management of a wide range of ACTDs including those related to helicopter maintenance; unmanned aerial vehicles; employment of a laser radar; countermine operations; privatization; distributed collaborative planning and information systems; and logistics.

A Naval flight officer, Mr. Riley completed five tours in different Patrol Squadrons in P-3 aircrafts, conducting anti-submarine warfare and surveillance and reconnaissance operations. He completed three aviation commands and tours and served in a number of staff positions. Additionally, he served as Assistant Navigator on board USS AMERICA (CV-66). Captain Riley retired from the U.S. Navy on September 1, 1997.

Mr. Riley received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia. He has Masters degrees from the Naval War College and Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island. He and his wife reside in Crownsville, Maryland.

Jill Spriggs, Bureau Chief, California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Service

As Chief of the CA DOJ, Bureau of Forensic Services, Jill Spriggs holds over 23 years of professional experience in the area of forensic science, specializing in DNA analysis. Jill oversees the operations of 13 regional crime laboratories, as well as the DNA databank which is

the fourth largest in the world. Her oversight of the Bureau includes an \$85 million dollar budget, approximately 450 employees, and state laboratories which perform forensic analysis for 48 of the 58 counties in California.

Jill often consults on cold cases and teaches classes for the California Department of Justice Advanced Training Center in the area of DNA and cold case investigation. She has also taught classes at UC Davis, California State University, Sacramento and at the University of New Haven-West Coast Campus in Sacramento, California. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Science and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. She also currently serves as the President of the American Society of Crime Lab Directors and as the Treasurer of CACLD (California Association of Crime Lab Directors).

Stephen Washington, Project Manager, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Biometric Center of Excellence

Mr. Washington joined the FBI after retiring from Hewlett Packard as Director of North American Operations with the completion of 20 years of service, designing and deploying advanced technologies worldwide. During his career in the private sector Mr. Washington has worked closely with the Department of Justice and the Department of Defense sectors for the implementation of leading edge solutions. Mr. Washington is now leading the design and building efforts for the state of the art FBI – CJIS – Biometric Technology Center (BTC) Latent Print laboratory and Biometric Technologies Evaluation facilities, which will provide advanced biometric training, research, design, testing, and evaluation services for the Law Enforcement, Defense, and Intelligence Communities.