

Michael Kessler is an internationally recognized subject matter expert in Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) with over 20 years of experience. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice with Forensics Concentration from American Public University and Professional Science Master's Degree in Forensic Science from Florida International University (FIU).

Since 2003, he has performed scene investigations supporting law enforcement and intelligence operations in the United States and around the world. Throughout that time, he has been recognized as an expert in CSI in international, Federal, and State courts. Michael has worked scene investigations in collaboration with numerous prestigious investigative and intelligence agencies.

Michael recently led and managed a complex multi-national project that required evaluating multiple forensic intelligence and investigation programs to formalize an overall, unified framework and best practices foundation. The project resulted in the publication of a handbook and aide memoire now utilized by law enforcement and intelligence entities across the globe as the foundation to inform policy, doctrine, training, and operations in forensic science.

Michael has developed and delivered basic, intermediate, and advanced scene investigation courses to law enforcement and intelligence professionals throughout the world since 2007. He has served domestically and internationally in assess-advise-train-and-assist roles scoping, developing, and delivering policy, training, and operational support.

Since 2007, Michael has been certified as a Crime Scene Analyst by the International Association for Identification (IAI). He continues to maintain the certification, earning recertifications in 2012, 2017, and 2022.

Michael was appointed as an original Member of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Subcommittee in 2016 and served as the Subcommittee Chair from November 2018 until October 2020 when he was appointed as Vice Chair of the Scene Examination Scientific Area Committee (SAC) overseeing the Crime Scene Investigation and Reconstruction, Fire and Explosion Investigation, and Dogs and Sensors Subcommittees. The mission of the OSAC for Forensic Science is to strengthen the nation's use of forensic science by facilitating the development of scientifically sound forensic science standards, and by promoting the adoption of those standards by the forensic science community. This work is critically important to the crime scene investigation segment of the forensic science community as, prior to OSAC, there were no standards for crime scene investigation. Despite OSAC being a U.S.-centric organization, its standards work has quickly garnered attention from the international community as the premier authority for standards in forensic science. As Vice Chair of the Scene Examination SAC, Michael is responsible for leading, directing, and managing the adoption, coordination, and development of standards that have scientific and technical merit under a framework of representative, consensus-based standards development. Also,

Michael serves as the founding Chair of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Standards Board (ASB) Crime Scene Investigation Consensus Body (CSI CB) - a role he has held since 2020. Michael has become recognized as an expert in standards in forensic science and regularly lectures at symposiums, conferences, and scientific meetings.