)ARD OF DIRECTORS

VOLUME 43 • ISSUE 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"COME GATHER 'ROUND PEOPLE, WHEREVER YOU ROAM, AND ADMIT THAT THE WATERS, AROUND YOU HAVE GROWN. AND ACCEPT IT THAT SOON, YOU'LL BE DRENCHED TO THE BONE. IF YOUR TIME TO YOU, IS WORTH SAVIN'. THEN YOU BETTER START SWIMMIN', OR YOU'LL SINK LIKE A STONE. FOR THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN.

BOB DYLAN

The last few years have been an evolutionary time for SOFT. Sometimes change is pleasant and welcomed, sometimes not so much. I, like many of you, remember the "old days" with great fondness. However, while we were not be aware of. Let's recap a few. reminiscing on the "old days", SOFT has grown many fold. In fact, when I started attending SOFT meetings in the early 90s SOFT had approximately 300 members. Now there are approximately 1,500 members.

In my opinion the most profound line of Dylan's opening verse, above, is "Then you better start swimmin', or you'll sink like a stone." I am proud to have been a part of the SOFT Board of Directors over the past few years as we "started swimmin". SOFT must adapt and embrace not only to our increased numbers, but to changing technologies such as social media, website utilization, online dues and registration payment,

as we adapt to new analytical technologies and the unpredictable environment of drug use and abuse. Some of the changes that have taken place you have surely noticed, others you may

A few years ago, we listened to the recurring and sound advice of our auditors and financial advisors who strongly counseled us to increase our membership dues to allow the organization to move closer to the goal of being able to cover operating costs based on our membership dues. In the past we relied almost solely on proceeds from our annual meetings to finance the organization. It was apparent that such a model was a risky venture. In 2017, the events of Boca Raton and the hurricane that threatened to cancel our annual meeting brought the importance of that point home. Additionally, with such a large organization comes a teleconferencing, email, and others just large meeting budget. At each annual

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President's Message IACP 2019 Awards Committee SOFT Regional Workshops 8 From the Toxicology Literature9

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Beth Olson, MBA

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT CC Watson

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PAGE 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

meeting a budget of over one million dollars must be managed by what once was an ever-changing group of people, many of who were first and foremost scientists with day jobs to attend to, not meeting planners or accountants. The organization had grown to the point that we needed full-time professional oversight of the administrative functions of the annual meeting and the organization. Strategic planning around this need resulted in the hiring of Beth Olson, our Executive Director and CC Watson, our Administrative Assistant. The skills they bring have greatly enhanced the stability, consistency, and efficiency of our meeting planning and execution and allowed us to turn over many of our everyday processes to people who are specifically trained in these functions.

In the past few years we became aware that many of our policies and procedures, such as our ethics complaint process, had become anachronistic and

did not allow for more modern processes, such as email, teleconferencing, etc., so that process was carefully revised and updated. Additionally, the events surrounding the near cancelling of the Boca Raton meeting highlighted the necessity of updating our bylaws to allow for the succession of officers and continuation of the business of the organization in the event a live business meeting cannot be held. It was also important to amend the bylaws to define the Executive Director's role in the organization.

As an added benefit, the revised bylaws also allowed us to enhance our Board of Directors by prescribing two Counselor positions. A counselor is a non-voting position, serving a two-year term. One Counselor will be appointed by the President each year as one Counselor rotates off the Board. The purpose of the Counselor is to provide strategic advice and perspective to the Board of Directors. As such, as our

first Counselor, I have appointed Joe Saady. Joe is a past-President of SOFT and currently serves on the Finance Committee. I have known Joe for many years and have always found him to be thoughtful in his actions and positions. I also believe that he understands and embraces the fact that SOFT must evolve with the times while remembering and honoring the past. Please welcome Joe aboard.

So how do I see my role and perhaps legacy as President of SOFT? While I can't say there won't be any more changes, I believe it is a good time to let the dust settle a bit and solidify our gains as we rapidly approach our 50th anniversary as a Society. Which will be the perfect time to reminisce about the "old days".

> Dwain G. Fuller, F-ABFL, TO-NRCO **SOFT** President

The IACP Annual Conference on Drugs, Alcohol, and Impaired Driving (DAID) is now accepting presentation submissions for the 2019 conference.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Innovations in Impaired Driving Enforcement
- DUI-Drug Trends/New Drugs
- Prosecutor Topics
- Traffic Enforcement
- Toxicology
- DEC Program Benefits for Law Enforcement Executives
- Physiological Effects of Specific Drugs on Driving

Now in its 25th year, the DAID conference is the largest international training conference for drug recognition experts, law enforcement, toxicologists, prosecutors, and traffic safety practitioners to learn, connect, and develop stronger strategies to reduce drug- and alcohol-impaired driving. The call for presentations is open now through March 8,

2019. This year's conference will be held August 10-12, 2019 in Anaheim, California.

This event is not open to the general public. Attendance is open to drug recognition experts, physicians, prosecutors, toxicologists, sworn officers, first responders, and civilian employees of public safety and government agencies. Public safety includes offices of police, sheriffs, EMS, fire service, hazmat, and park rangers from federal, state, city, county, campus, and tribal agencies.

Credentials required at check in. For any questions, contact the conference team at DAIDConference@theiacp.org

SUBMITA PROPOSAL

SOFT 2019 MEETING UPDATE

SAN ANTONIO, TX • OCTOBER 13-18, 2019

We would like to extend a formal invitation to this year's SOFT meeting in beautiful San Antonio, Texas. The meeting will be held October 13-18th, 2019 at the Grand Hyatt in bustling downtown San Antonio, just steps from the River Walk.

Downtown San Antonio has much to offer. There are countless restaurants and bars on the River Walk. In addition, there are multiple shops, cafés, museums and historical buildings such as The Alamo, all within walking distance of the hotel. The Grand Hyatt itself has dining options that include Ruth's Chris Steak House, Perks Coffee & More and Bar Rojo. For the fitness enthusiasts, there is a 24 hour, glass enclosed StayFit[™] fitness center, but if exercising is not your thing, you can enjoy panoramic views of the city from the outdoor pool on the 5th floor of the hotel.

There are many other attractions in the San Antonio area if you decide to venture out of the downtown area. Just north of downtown, Pearl is a beautifully renovated former brewery that now offers retail, dining, green spaces and a farmers market. Further out from downtown are the San Antonio Botanical Gardens, Natural Bridge Caverns, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, Six Flags Fiesta Texas as well as many parks and museums.

Now is the time to consider submitting your abstracts for platform or poster presentation and/or workshop proposals. Postmortem and human performance case reports or research, analytical methods, drug trends, studies in emerging or common intoxicants, or whatever idea that impacts us as forensic toxicologists are welcome. Your participation will help us ensure a successful meeting with a variety of enlightening topics. See the SOFT website for instructions on the abstract and workshop submission process. Reach out to us or specific member(s) of the planning committee if you have any questions. We are excited to host everyone in San Antonio later this year. See you soon!





Veronica Hargrove, Ph.D., F-ABFT

Scientific Program Chairs Peter Stout Ph.D., F-ABFT Dayong Lee, Ph.D., F-ABFT

Workshop Chairs
Teresa Gray, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Erin Karschner, Ph.D., F-ABFT

Exhibitor Liaison Liz Kiely

Food and Beverage Ann Marie Gordon Denice Teem

YFT Chair Kim Samano, Ph.D.

Volunteer Coordinators Kayla Ellefsen, Ph.D. MacKenzie Dunn

Mobile Application Rusty Lewis, Ph.D., F-ABFT

> Audio/Visual Frank Wallace

SOFT Staff
Executive Director
Beth Olson
Administrative Assistant
CC Watson















CALL FOR ABSTRACTS!

The SOFT 2019 Organizing Committee is requesting abstracts on all topics related to forensic toxicology. The Chairs will select appropriate abstracts to be presented as either a platform presentation or poster presentation at the 2019 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX, October 13-18, 2019.

Click HERE to access the submission form. Deadline to submit is May 10, 2019!

If you would like to serve as an abstract reviewer or moderate a session at the meeting or if you would like your abstract to be considered for the Drugs and Driving Special Session, please email the Scientific Program Committee Chairs

Click HERE to email the
Scientific Program
Committee Chairs

The Leo Dal Cortivo Memorial Fund will allow the Young Forensic Toxicologists Committee to present two awards to young forensic toxicologists at the SOFT 2019 Annual Meeting. The best platform presentation and the best poster presentation will be chosen from among the elligible entries, and the presenting author will be awarded a cash stipend of \$1000 in addition to a free registration for a future SOFT meeting.

Click HERE for requirements and instructions on how to apply

Thank you,
Dr. Dayong Lee and Dr. Peter Stout
SOFT 2019 Scientific Program Chairs

SUBMITA WORKSHOP PROPOSALI

The SOFT 2019 Workshop Chairs are currently soliciting workshop proposals for SOFT 2019 in San Antonio, October. 13-18, 2019.

Often, the most successful workshops stem from individuals who want to learn more on a particular topic. If you have a topic you are interested in, please submit your proposals for halfday and full-day workshops by April 1, 2019.

Click HERE to submit a workshop proposal

Please notify the workshop chairs if you plan to submit a proposal or if you have any questions about the submission process.

Click HERE to email the Workshop Chairs

Thank you,
Dr. Erin Karschner and Dr. Teresa Gray
SOFT 2019 Workshop Chairs



Brad Hall, Ph.D., F-ABFT



Veronica Hargrove, Ph.D., F-ABFT

Scientific Program Chairs Peter Stout Ph.D., F-ABFT Dayong Lee, Ph.D., F-ABFT

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CC Watson



JAT Special Issue Titles and Abstracts Deadline • Friday, March 1, 2019

JAT Special Issue Papers Deadline • Friday, March 15, 2019

Workshop Proposals Deadline • Monday, April 1, 2019

ERA/YSMA Award Applications Due • Friday, April 5, 2019

Meeting Registration Opens • Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Hotel Room Block Opens • Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Abstract Submission Deadline • Friday, May 10, 2019

ERA/YSMA Awardess Notified • Saturday, June 1, 2019

Authors Notified of Acceptance/Rejection • Friday, June 21, 2019

Registration Deadline to Avoid Late Fee • Thursday, August 22, 2019

Registration Deadline to Avoid On-Site Fee • Sunday, September 29, 2019

SOFT 2019 • October 13-18, 2019

The SOFT Awards Committee is requesting applications for the Educational Research Award (ERA) and the Young Scientist Meeting Award (YSMA). These awards recognize students and young scientists performing outstanding forensic toxicology research. Awardees will present their findings at the annual meeting. Each award consists of a basic meeting registration and a \$2000 stipend to be used to cover the cost of travel expenses.

Eligibility:

ERA: Applicants for the award must be

enrolled in a Master's, Pre-Doctoral,
Post-Doctoral or Medical Residency academic program and performing research related to forensic toxicology.

YSMA: Applicants must be bench level scientists (B.S., M.S., or Ph.D.) with 5 years or less experience in the field of forensic toxicology and complete a research project related to forensic toxicology.

Award Categories:

In order to fairly evaluate candidates for these competitive awards, applicants in a Master's program will be judged separately from those applicants enrolled in a PhD, Post-Doctoral, or MD program. Typically one award will be granted in each of the following categories:

Educational Research Award: enrolled in a Master's Program

Educational Research Award: enrolled in a Pre-Doctoral, Post-Doctoral, or Medical Residency Program

Young Scientist Meeting Award

In the event that there are two outstanding applicants in one of the above categories, one additional award may be given. A maximum of four award winners will be selected. It is not required that an award be granted in all categories.

To apply:

For instructions on the application process, go to the 'Features' tab on the SOFT website. Select Awards and then ERA or YSMA, as applicable. Application materials must be received by the Committee Chair no later than Friday April 5th. Winners will be notified by June 1st.

If you apply for an award, you should not submit an abstract for consideration in the scientific program via the SOFT website; in the event that you are not selected to receive an award, the committee will ensure that your abstract is provided to the Scientific Committee.

Awards Committee Chair



Erin A. Spargo, Ph.D., F-ABFT

ERA and YSMA Applications are due Friday, April 5, 2019!

Applications and questions regarding the application process should be directed to the SOFT Awards Committee Chair, Erin Spargo. Click HERE to email the Awards Chair.



PAGE 5

Case Notes



Case Study: Toxic Levels of Amantadine and Fluoxetine in an Accidental Choking Victim Jacquelyn Baldwin, MSFS, D-ABFT-FT; Broward County Office of Medical Examiner and Trauma Services, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Amantadine is used as an anti-viral, in the treatment of Parkinson's, and for the management of fatigue in multiple sclerosis patients. Although the mechanism of action is unknown, it is well absorbed by oral administration and can produce anticholinergic effects such as dry mouth, urinary retention and constipation. Amantadine is not actively metabolized and is excreted almost entirely unchanged, but tends to accumulate with impaired renal function. Data also indicate that little amantadine is found in blood circulation as it is extensively bound to tissues.

A typical dose in the treatment of MS and Parkinson's is 100-200 mg daily. Steady-state plasma levels for patients taking 200 mg daily in the treatment of Parkinson's ranged from 0.26 – 0.31 mg/L. Plasma concentrations of 1-5 mg/L are associated with CNS toxicity and the fatal blood concentrations from four apparent suicide cases ranged from 21 – 48 mg/L.

Fluoxetine is an atypical antidepressant, also known as an SSRI (selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor), used in the treatment of depression, anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder. Steady-state serum levels for patients taking 20-60 mg daily ranged from 0.025 – 0.473 mg/L of fluoxetine and 0.018 – 0.466 mg/L of its major (active) metabolite, norfluoxetine. Blood concentrations of 1-7 mg/L and 1-5 mg/L of fluoxetine and norfluoxetine, respectively, have been associated with overdose fatalities.

Both of these drugs are known to exhibit postmortem redistribution but only peripheral blood was collected in this particular case, so we were unable to establish a ratio for either analyte.

Case History

The decedent was a 65-year old female patient in a rehabilitation center with a history of multiple sclerosis, hypertension, hyperkalemia and depression. She was found unresponsive with labored breathing and during CPR food was discovered in her throat. She was pronounced upon arrival at the hospital.

Results

Analyte	Tube 1 (peripheral blood)	Tube 2 (peripheral blood)	Vitreous**
Amantadine	42.6 mg/L	42.5 mg/L	10.6 mg/L
Fluoxetine	4.0 mg/L	3.9 mg/L	0.10 mg/L
Norfluoxetine	0.54 mg/L	0.94 mg/L	QNS
Diazepam	0.10 mg/L	*	*
Nordiazepam	0.55 mg/L	*	*

^{*}Analysis not performed

Discussion

Both the central nervous and cardiovascular systems are the primary sites of toxicity in chronic and acute amantadine overdoses and there is also a potential side effect of respiratory failure. The manifestations are often confusion, disorientation, lethargy and arrhythmias or tachycardia. SSRIs such as fluoxetine can exhibit side effects such as lethargy, impaired psychomotor function and syncope or more severely respiratory arrest and cardiac toxicity. Toxicity is less common with the SSRIs than with the tricyclic antidepressants and fluoxetine is the least toxic of the SSRIs. While the levels of both amantadine and fluoxetine fall into typically lethal levels, the cause of death in this case was asphyxia due to a food bolus. It is possible that one or both drugs contributed to the victim choking but without a detailed medical history that includes medications prescribed, dosages, and length of time on each, it is only an assumption and not a conclusion. Another factor to take into consideration is the exact source of the specimens as they were only labeled "peripheral" and not with a specific location. Additional samples such as tissue and urine would have also been informative in forming a conclusion.

References

Baselt, Randall C., PhD. (2017). Disposition of Toxic Drugs and Chemicals in Man (11th Edition). Biomedical Publications, Seal Beach, CA.

Deleu, D., Northway, M., and Hanssens, Y. (2002). Clinical Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Properties of Drugs Used in the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease. Clinical Pharmacokinetics, 41(4), 261-309.

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Parekh, R. (2014). Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome: A Rare presentation of Amantadine Toxicity. American Journal of Case Reports, 15, 1-3.

www.pdr.net

Schwartz, M., MD, Patel, M., MD, Kazzi, Z., MD, and Morgan, B., MD. (2008). Cardiotoxicity After Massive Amantadine Overdose. Journal of Medical Toxicology, 4(3), 173-179.

^{**}Analytical procedures have not been validated in vitreous fluid. Specimen analyzed for research purposes only. Response ratios are consistent with quantitations from blood calibration curves.

Case Notes



Submitted by: Matthew T. Barnhill, Jr., Ph.D., F-ABFT Fairhope, AL mbarnhilljr@gmail.com

Novel Community Response to the Opioid Crisis Graham Kennedy, B.S.

A northwest suburb of Chicago has implemented community-based solutions to help those suffering from opioid addiction. These efforts are born out of the necessity to address the surge of opioid-related deaths in Cook County, IL which witnessed a 16 percent increase from 2013 to 2015. In 2016 alone, 340 people perished in suburban Cook County from opioids while the total number for Illinois reached 1,946 fatalities. Elk Grove Village unveiled the 'Elk Grove Village Cares' program in June of this year. Along with reducing the stigma of addiction, the program aims to reduce opioid deaths and overexposure, make resources for treatment available, create and improve recovery strategies, and maintain ongoing education for the community.

Rather than addressing the opioid epidemic as a strictly law enforcement issue, village officials spent 18 months researching and developing the program to provide the best possible community-based strategy. Individuals seeking aid can enter the Elk Grove Village Police Department facility and request help. Officers will then contact addiction experts in partnership with the program and provide transportation to a treatment facility. Social services personnel will follow up with everyone that enters the program. Building a support network and maintaining that commitment will benefit the person suffering from addiction, as well as family members impacted by this crisis. Elk Grove Village will also aid people with navigating insurance challenges, such as Medicaid applications, in order to benefit themselves and family members. Engagement with community leaders and inter-faith coalition members are also involved in the Elk Grove Village Cares program.

The program also has made life-saving Narcan (naloxone) kits available in numerous public spaces. This action has made Elk Grove Village the third community in the country with such ease of access to Narcan. All first responder personnel have also received in-depth training on the use of Narcan from healthcare professionals; Narcan is carried by first responders across departments and shifts. Elk Grove Village will partner with private businesses in the coming months to increase access to Narcan.

This program was recently <u>displayed</u> by village officials at the national level during the National Forum on Criminal Justice in Dallas, TX on July 24, 2018. The neighboring community of Arlington Heights has also implemented a similar program known as the Community Addiction and Recovery Effort (C.A.R.E.). This is an encouraging development for uniting multiple professionals, volunteers, and individuals across community boundaries. The opioid crisis does not discriminate in its victims. Further vigilance and compassionate outreach as demonstrated by Elk Grove Village and Arlington Heights are a clear way forward.

Elk Grove Village has reported that multiple individuals have begun the program, even since its relatively recent inception. As awareness of the Elk Grove Village Cares initiative grows, the benefits will spread to the wider suburban area. Committed, multi-disciplinary approaches that begin at the local level can serve at-risk members of a community in ways that previous policies did not address. The developing programs in suburban Illinois can act as models for other communities across the country.

"Elk Grove Village Cares: A Community-Based Strategy to Tackle Opioid Addiction, Help Those in Need and Make Our Community Stronger, Safer and Healthier." Elk Grove Village Cares | Elk Grove Village, June 2018, www.elkgrove.org/government/village-departments/police-department/elkgrove-village-cares.

Robb, Tom. "Deputy Chief To Detail EG Cares Program At National Conference." Journal Online, 19 July 2018, www.journal-topics.com/articles/deputy-chief-to-detail-eg-cares-program-at-national-conference/.

Dempsey, Emma. "Arlington Heights Launches Community Effort To Battle Opioid Addiction." Journal Online, 26 July 2018, www.journal-topics.com/articles/ arlington-heights-launches-community-effort-to-battle-opioid-addiction/

"Opioids." cookcountypublichealth.org, Cook County Department of Public Health, www.cookcountypublichealth.org/behavioral-health/opioids.

State of Illinois Comprehensive Opioid Data Report. Illinois Department of Public Health, 4 Dec. 2017

Continuing Education Regional Workshops













Grand Sierra Resort 2500 East Second Street Reno, NV 89595

Workshop Co-Hosts: Deborah Denson ddenson@health.nv.gov 775-684-1077

Ann Marie Gordon anngor@comcast.net 206-617-9149

Continuing Education Committee Chair: Dr. Robert Johnson rdjohnson@tarrantcounty.com 817-920-5700

CANNABIS REVISITED

April 4-5, 2019

ABSTRACT:

This SOFT Continuing Education Regional Workshop will provide Forensic Toxicologists with an update on Cannabis. The interactive workshop will focus on pharmacology, medical and regulatory aspects of Cannabis products.

COST:

SOFT members and students: \$150 Non-members of SOFT: \$225 Breakfast and Lunch Provided

INSTRUCTORS:

Ms. Ann Gordon, Forensic Toxicology Consultant

Dr. William Anderson, Forensic Toxicologist, NMS Labs

Dr. Brianna Peterson, Laboratory Manager, Washington State Patrol, Forensic Toxicology Laboratory

Dr. Patil Armenian, Assistant Clinical Professor, Assistant Clinical Research Director, UCSF Fresno Campus, Emergency Medicine and Medical Toxicology

Ms. Cheryl Wilson, Chief Deputy District Attorney, Washoe County NV

Mr. Chip Walls, Forensic Toxicology Consultant

Kyril Plaskon, Education Information Officer, NV Dept of Taxation, Marijuana Enforcement Division













ORAL FLUID AND DUID -FROM THE ROADSIDE TO THE COURTROOM

May 16-17, 2019

ABSTRACT:

This 8-hour SOFT Continuing Education Regional Workshop will focus on the use of oral fluid testing to support driving while under the influence of drugs (DUID) investigations. Both roadside and lab based evidential testing will be discussed. The training is designed for toxicologists, law enforcement, attorneys, and other traffic safety partners to successfully investigate and prosecute DUID in their communities.

COST:

SOFT members: \$75 Students: \$50

Non SOFT members: \$125

INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Christine Moore, Chief Toxicologist, Research Immunalysis Corporation

Dr. Curt Harper, Toxicology Discipline Chief Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences Richard Alpert Independent Legal Consultant (retired Tarrant County District Attorney's Office)

Dr. Madeleine Swortwood, Assistant Professor

Department of Forensic Science, Sam Houston State University Dr. Jarrad Wagner, Professor of Forensic Sciences

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Institute of Forensic Sciences 2355 North Stemmons Freeway Dallas, Texas 75207

Workshop Co-Chairs: Dr. Madeleine Swortwood swortwoodmeshsu.edu 936-294-4319

Dr. Jarrad Wagner jarrad.wagnereokstate.edu 918-561-8247

Local Host: Dr. Erin Spargo ekspargo@dallascounty.org 214-920-5973

Continuing Education Committee Chair: Dr. Robert Johnson rdjohnsonetarrantcounty.com 817-920-5700

From the Toxicology Literature



Submitted by: Kevin G. Shanks, M.S., D-ABFT-FT Axis Forensic Toxicology Indianapolis, IN kshanks@axisfortox.com

Forensic Science International Volume 294

DOI: 10.1016/j.forsciint.2018.11.007

Fatal Poisoning Involving Cyclopropylfentanyl - Investigation Of Time-Dependent Postmortem Redistribution Brockbals *et al.* reported the death of a 39 year old male who had a history of drug abuse including intranasal use of cocaine. as well as chronic spinal pain. He was prescribed oxycodone which he would grind and consume nasally. At autopsy, no external injuries or signs of violent cause of death were found. Internal pathological findings included brain edema, lung congestion, and a frothy fluid contained with the respiratory tract and larynx. Time of death was estimated to be 6.5-8 hours prior to autopsy. Femoral venous blood samples were collected 11 hours postmortem and 29 hours postmortem. Heart blood was also collected at autopsy. Toxicological testing by liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) revealed cyclopropylfentanyl at a concentration equal to 15.7ng/mL in the sample collected 11 hours postmortem and 19.8 ng/mL in the sample collected 29 hours postmortem. Cyclopropylfentanyl was detected in the heart blood specimen at 52.4 ng/mL. The central-to-peripheral blood concentration ratio was 2.6. The authors suggest that postmortem cyclopropylfentanyl concen-

Forensic Toxicology Volume 37

caution.

DOI: 10.1007/s11419-018-0435-8 Fatal Intoxication With 1,1-Difluoroethane (DFE) Due To Inhalation Of A Spray Cleaner: Analysis By GC-MS

trations should always be interpreted with

Torimitsu *et al.* reported the death of a man in his forties who was found deceased in his hotel room. He was holding a spray cleaner can (which contained compressed 1,1-difluoroethane (DFE)). The man had a history of inhalant abuse. Death was estimated to have occurred 2-3 days prior to discovery. Visceral congestion was observed at autopsy. Samples were drawn for toxicological testing. DFE testing was conducted via gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and was positive in the femoral blood (481 mcg/mL) and cardiac blood (591 mcg/mL). No other substances were found during toxicological investigation. Cause of death was acute DFE intoxication.

Journal of Forensic Sciences Volume 64

DOI: 10.1111/1556-4029.13823 N-Ethyl Pentylone-Related Deaths In Alabama

Atherton *et al.* reported the deaths of four individuals in the state of Alabama in 2017 which involved the substituted cathinone, N-Ethylpentylone (NEP). Case one was a 34 year old man who was found dead lying on the floor of an automotive repair shop. He had exhibited paranoid behavior the night prior to being found. A friend reported that he used "Molly" during the day. Cardiomegaly was found at autopsy along with moderate to severe dilatation of the cardiac chambers. Toxicological analysis of the peripheral blood found NEP (0.953) mg/L). Cause of death was acute NEP intoxication. Case two involved a 34 year old man who was brought to the hospital in cardiac arrest and pronounced deceased in the hospital. Cardiomegaly, bilateral pulmonary consolidations, pneumonia, and contraction band necrosis were observed at autopsy. Toxicological analysis of hospital blood found NEP (0.121 mg/L), along with other drugs. Cause of death was methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl, and NEP toxicity. Case 3 was a 25 year old male who was shot with a gun. Toxicological analysis of peripheral blood detected hydrocodone, alprazolam, and NEP (0.045 mg/L). Cause of death was injuries from gunshot wounds. Case 4 was a 25 year old man shot with a gun at a gas station. No significant natural disease or injuries (other than the gunshot wounds) were found at autopsy. Toxicological analysis of the peripheral blood found alprazolam, cocaine, and NEP(0.031 mg/L). Cause of death was injuries from the gunshot wounds.

Journal of Analytical Toxicology Article in Press DOI: 10.1093/jat/bky109 Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry Method For The Quantitative Identification Of 23 New Psychoactive Substances

In Blood And Urine
Nisbet et al. described the development and validation of a generalized gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS) method for the detection and quantitation of several classes of new psychoactive substances (NPS) including PCP derivatives, substituted cathinones, and NBOMe hallucinogens in blood and urine specimens. Sample preparation was completed via solid phase extraction (SPE) followed by derivatization and GC-MS analysis. The method was validated according to SWGTOX guidelines. Limits of detection ranged 0.2-1.0 ng/mL and limits of quantitation ranged

0.5-50 ng/mL. When applied to casework, the method detected 25C-NBOMe (n=3), 25I-NBOMe (n=2), Methoxetamine (n=1), and Methylone (n=3).

Clinical Toxicology (Philadelphia) Volume 57

DOI: 10.1080/15563650.2018.1497170 An Outbreak Of Synthetic Cannabinoid **Exposures Reported To A Regional Poi**son Center: "K2" Identified As 5F-ADB In this letter to the editor, Arens et al. reported an outbreak of synthetic cannabinoid-related illnesses which resulted in 47 patients visiting a single emergency department (a total of 101 separate visits) after using "K2" during September 2017-October 2017. Local emergency medical system reported 118 calls throughout the immediate area including patients treated in the hospital. Four drug samples were taken by law enforcement from patients treated in the hospital. The drug samples were tested by liquid chromatography quadrupole time of flight mass spectrometry (LC-QToF) and the synthetic cannabinoid 5F-ADB was found in all of them. No other substance was detected. No toxicological testing could be completed on patient admission blood or urine as all patient samples were discarded before testing could be completed.

Forensic Science International Volume 294

DOI: 10.1016/j.forsciint.2018.10.019 The Unexpected Identification Of The Cannabimimetic, 5F-ADB, And Dextromethorphan In Commercialy Available Cannabidiol E-Liquids

Poklis *et al.* reported the analysis of various electronic cigarette liquids by gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (DART-MS). The analyses found that cannabidiol (CBD) was detected in all products, but the synthetic cannabinoid 5F-ADB (also known as MDMB-PINACA) was found in four products and the antitussive Dextromethorphan was detected in one product. Both findings of 5F-ADB and Dextromethorphan were unexpected as the constituents were not included on the product label. The authors conclude that this study illustrates the quality control issues found within the unregulated industry of electronic cigarettes and vaping.



Submitted by: Amy K. Miles, B.S. SOFT Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Madison, WI amy.miles@slh.wisc.edu

- 1. Call to order at 3:32 pm CST by President Peace
 - Quorum has been confirmed by Secretary Miles
- Approval of agenda
 - Correction to the agenda to include the approval of the minutes from Jan 2018 not 2017
 - Motion to approve the agenda which includes the correction to the year of the business meeting minutes:
 Sears, Second: Jenkins, approved by all
- Approval of Annual Business Meeting Minutes (January 2018)
 - No changes necessary to the minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes from the SOFT Business Meeting in January 2018: So moved, second, approved by all
- 4. President's Remarks (Michelle Peace)
 - President Peace reflected on the previous year and the power of SOFT and it's support as a family. Peace apologized for the lack of ample supply of "Past President" ribbons for those in attendance. Bonnie Fulmer was recognized as past support for SOFT and Beth Olson and CC Watson were acknowledged, welcomed and thanked for their contributions to SOFT. Bruce Goldberger and the Bylaws Committee put it significant time and effort to redraft the SOFT Bylaws and their work is greatly appreciated. The Drugs and Driving Committee was commended for procuring a grant to hold a ConEd training that resulted in no cost to the attendees. During Peace's presidency, a committee was established to evaluate and provide recommendations regarding inclusivity, equality and diversity. During Peace's lame duck period, she will continue to create partnerships, stand up committees and provide leadership to SOFT. Committee Chairs were acknowledged for their hard work and time spent this year on the three areas of potential improvement and brainstorming by Peace to expand membership, increase ConEd reach and other fiscal ideas. Peace thanked the BOD for their conversations, work, and support on some very difficult topics and is very grateful for their friendship. Thank you to Justin Poklis for his work on the Special Edition of the Journal of Analytical Toxicology. Special thank you to Peace's husband for support and encouragement throughout her career and Presidency.
- Executive Director's Report (Beth Olson)
 - Olson thanked the organization for welcoming her and CC Watson into SOFT. Many changes and process improvements have occurred and Olson and Watson will continue to look for areas to continue to streamline the SOFT operations. Olson thanked 2018 Minnesota Hosts Loralie Langman and Paul Jannetto for their hard work. Included in gratitude are Frank Wallace, Ann Marie Gordon, Denice Teem and Liz Kiely. Olson thanked the BOD and appreciates the opportunity to work so closely with Peace over the last year. Olson welcomes feedback from the meeting to continue to improve the annual conference.
- Secretary's Report (Amy Miles)
 - Membership Committee Report (see attached Committee report)
 - Policies and Procedures Report (see attached Committee report)
- 7. Treasurer's Report (Suman Rana)
 - Rana commended the 2017 Planning Committee, Beth Olson and CC Watson, and BOD for the work on the rescheduling of the annual SOFT meeting from the fall of 2017 to January of 2018. Even with the postponement of the 2017 meeting, the budget is still in good condition. The close of 2017 was difficult given the delay of the 2017 annual meeting but the outcome has taught SOFT some valuable lessons. The following activities have occurred:
 - Review and filing of tax returns for 2017
 - Monthly reviews have occurred of the financials in QuickBooks
 - A final budget was prepared and published in the September ToxTalk issue
 - An external audit was initiated earlier in 2018 for FY 2017. The audit has been very thorough and has produced good questions and assurances for the finances of the organization.
 - Rana served as the Chair for the Finance Committee and instituted a quarterly internal audit process as recommended by the Committee. The audit reports have been provided to the Board for review



o Past Annual Meetings Income

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
				Grand		
	Boca	Dallas	Atlanta	Rapids	Orlando	Boston
Revenue	1,751,651	1,074,772	1,134,831	896075	974,084	868,259
Expense	1,702,000	997,934	981,560	681,215	887,957	793,585
Net						
Income	49,651	76,838	153,271	214,860	86,127	74,674

- Business of SOFT is financially strong. The Finance Committee is providing support to the Board in financial matters.
- 8. VP's (Committees/Liasons) Report (Dwain Fuller)
 - A. Bylaws (Bruce Goldberger)
 - Bylaws have not been revised in decades so the Committee redrafted and updated the Bylaws which were published in the most recent edition of ToxTalk. The language was brought up to date to reflect current time, President-Elect has been changed from Vice President, merely a name change for the Vice President, a new position of Councilor has been added to the BOD, and the Finance Committee has been added as a full Committee.
 - B. ToxTalk (Robert Johnson and Chris Heartsill)
 - The publication is looking at themes for issues such as instrumentation, development of old methods into new, etc. Any suggestions for themes or other topics and other articles may be submitted to Robert and Chris.
 - C. Publications (Bruce Goldberger for Matt Slawson)
 - SOFT Special Issue of JAT
 - Justin Poklis, Special Issue Editor 11 accepted articles for this edition. Thank you to all
 that submitted and reviewed for this journal and Oxford Press for a successful product. The
 edition is in the mail to attendees.
 - EDIT Award
 - Award Recipient: Brandi Puet "Presence of Parent Cocaine in the Absence of Benzoylecognine in Urine"
 - D. Awards (Erin Spargo)
 - Recognition of ERA/YSMA Awards

<u>Educational Research winner</u>: Haley Mulder "Evaluating the Dragon in E-cigarettes: An Analysis of the Aerosol from an E-liquid Adulterated with Methadone" <u>Young Scientist Meeting Award Winner</u>: Amanda D'Orazio "Nitrous Oxide in Postmortem and DUID Cases From 2013-2018."

- E. Meeting Resource Committee (Dwain Fuller)
 - Committee selected a new hotel broker, conducted a site visit to Minneapolis as well as conference calls regarding the Minneapolis meeting and held meeting host mentoring telephone conference calls
 - 2018 Minneapolis, MN (Loralie Langman / Paul Jannetto)
 - The Organizing Committee was recognized for their hard work on this meeting. Further recognition will occur during the President's banquet this evening.
 - 2019 San Antonio, TX (Brad Hill)
 - Video was provided promoting the SOFT meeting for 2019 and showing the area where the meeting will be held.
 - 2020 San Diego, CA (50th Anniversary) (Denice Teem / Dani Mata) No report
 - 2021 Nashville, TN (Jennifer Colby) No report
 - 2022 Cleveland, OH (Dough Rohde) No report
- F. Drugs and Driving (Amy Miles / Colleen Scarneo)
 - Website: Dr. Dayong Lee continues to oversee a small group of SOFT members and Committee members as they review forensic toxicology literature each quarter.



- Oral Fluid Subcommittee (Dr. Christine Moore Chair): In June 2018 the Oral Fluid Subcommittee organized a workshop to cover topics relevant to evidential and non-evidential oral fluid testing.
- SOFT MN: The Committee sponsored a workshop "Can We Say That?" Drug Impaired Driving
 Testimony, organized by Michele Glinn and Committee member Laura Liddicoat. Three other Committee members were presenters in the workshop.
- AAFS 2019: Dr. Michael Corbett and Dr. Sarah Kerrigan volunteered to solicit abstracts for the Committee's Special Session during the AAFS 2019 conference. They will also be the moderators for this session. Dr. Marilyn Huestis worked with the NTSB to propose a workshop on THC and human performance for the AAFS 2019 conference.
- Amy Miles and Colleen Scarneo will be rotating off of the Committee as their terms end in 2018.
- G. IT/Website (Matt Juhascik)
 - Website continues to be updated with items such as the upcoming meetings. Beth Olson has taken over the responsibilities for the day to day operations of the website. Any suggestions for improvement, please let Matt know.
- H. Continuing Education Regional Workshops (Jayne Thatcher)
 - Robert Johnson for Thatcher Robert will be the new Chair for this Committee. The Committee
 will work to hold as many ConEd opportunities as possible in the coming year.
- I. Young Forensic Toxicologists (Courtney Wardwell)
 - Annual symposium occurred on Sunday. Monday was the Student Enrichment Program and the Professional Development Fair occurred on Tuesday evening. The Leo Del Cortivo award recipients will be announced during the President's banquet Thursday evening.
- J. Drug Facilitated Crimes (Laureen Marinetti) No report
- K. Ethics (Jennifer Limoges)
 - The Ethics Committee made revisions to the procedures and they are available on the SOFT website. The Committee has not received any ethics violation submissions for consideration.
- L. Nominating (Bruce Goldgerger)
 - Slate of Officers-
 - President (1 year) Dwain Fuller
 - Vice President (1 year) Suman Rana
 - Treasurer (2 years) Robert Sears
 - Director (3 years) Chris Heartsill, Madeline Montgomery
- M. Designer Drugs (Dani Mata)
 - The Committee had a workshop at this year's conference, "How Do I Analyze for That?" The Committee's section on the SOFT website has been updated. The Committee is putting together a survey for the SOFT membership to find out the impact of the Committee and get feedback from the membership. Please let Dani and other Committee members know if they have interest in the Committee.
- N. Culture, Values and Diversity (Samantha Tolliver)
 - Newest Committee of SOFT which was just formed one month prior to the annual meeting. The Committee has sought input for external experts on cultural equity and diversity and looking for ways to educate its members to best serve SOFT.
- O. CFSO Liaison (Tim Rohrig) No report
- P. FSSB Liaison (Laurel Farrell) No report

Announcements

- ABFT 40 accredited laboratories and transitioning into ANAB accreditation. Timeline will be provided soon for transition to ANAB soon. 440 certificants, 30 people took the exam today. There is now an Analyst Certification program and attendees are encouraged to apply for the certification and take the examination. All information can be found on the ABFT website.
- Mass Spectrometry: Applications to the Clinical Lab (MSACL) meeting, March 31-April 4, 2019 in Palm Springs
- Midwest Association for Toxicology Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (MATT) 2019 meeting in Ohio
- Borkenstein Alcohol Course in Bloomington, IN 12/2/18-12/7/18 and 5/12/19 5/17/19
- Borkenstein Drug Course in Long Beach, CA 9/23/19 9/27/19
- International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Coeur d'Alene, ID 3/31/19 4/5/19
- Southwest Association of Toxicologists (SAT) Dallas 11/7/19 -11/9/19, Spring meeting Houston 5/1/19 -5/3/19
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 2019 in 2/18/19 2/23/19 in Baltimore, MD
- The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT) 9/2/19 9/6/19, Birmingham, UK



Submitted by: Amy K. Miles, B.S. SOFT Secretary, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Madison, WI amy.miles@slh.wisc.edu

- 10. Unfinished Business
 - NONE
- 11. New Business
 - Recognition of Outgoing Officers
 - Dwain Fuller as Vice President
 - Suman Rana as Treasurer
 - Bruce Goldberger as Past President
 - o Bylaws Revision
 - Report from the Bylaws Committee has been received. <u>Call for motion to approve new version of the SOFT Bylaws</u>: Marilyn Huestis, Second: Director Sears, approved by all

12. Elections

- Motion will be needed to approve the slate of Officers as published in the most recent edition of ToxTalk with the correction/update of title from Vice President to President-Elect. This means no vote for President Elect for 2019.
 - Motion for the slate of Directors, Chris Heartsill and Madeline Montgomery: So moved, second, approved by all
 - Motion for approval of Treasurer Robert Sears: So moved, second, approved by all
 - Motion for approval of President Elect, Suman Rana: So moved, second, approved by all
 - Motion for approval of President, Dwain Fuller: So moved, second, approved by all
- 13. Incoming President's Remarks Dwain Fuller
 - o Incoming President Fuller thanked the membership for their support in his election to President of the organization. Fuller reflected on his career and his early beginnings in science, which began in the 3rd grade. This interest in science became a curiosity in Forensic Science in his high school years. Fuller noted his first job as a Chemist for a chemical plant working rotating shifts in eastern Texas. He never gave up his interest in Forensic Science and eventually took a job as a Toxicologist at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Oklahoma with Bill Anderson. From there on began Fuller's career in Forensic Toxicology which has grown into the sense of family through colleagues at work and SOFT.
 - Kayla Ellefsen has been selected as the next Journal of Analytical Toxicology Special Edition Editor by Fuller.
 - Raffle winner Al Elian won free registration for the SOFT 2019 meeting.
 - Outgoing President's Award was presented to Peace by Fuller.
- 14. Adjournment at 4:59 pm CST by President Peace
 - Motion from floor: So moved, second, approved by all

Treasurer Report



Submitted by: Robert M. Sears, M.S., F-ABFT, SOFT Treasurer (2019-2020) SC Law Enforcement Division Columbia,SC robsears@sled.sc.gov

In January, I was honored to take on the role of Treasurer of SOFT after serving for the past two years on the Finance Committee and the past three years on the Board of Directors. I'd like to thank Suman Rana for serving as SOFT's Treasurer for the past two years. During my term, I look forward to continuing the work of the Finance Committee in overseeing SOFT's financial practices and making strategic recommendations to the Board to further SOFT's financial position.

The Finance Committee is made up of myself, Suman Rana, Michelle Peace, Jennifer Limoges, Laurel Farrell, Joe Saady, and Bill Johnson. This committee reviews budgets before they are voted on by the Board of Directors. In addition, the Finance Committee conducts a quarterly audit of SOFT's finances. 2018 was the first year that the Finance Committee audited all four quarters, and the committee will continue to do so in the future. This year the Finance Committee will work on low-risk investment opportunities for SOFT's reserve and award funds to further strengthen our financial position.

SOFT remains in a strong financial position. As of February 26, 2019, SOFT's bank account balances totaled \$1,093,067. SOFT retained the services of an external audit firm to conduct an audit for 2017, the results of which were reviewed by SOFT's accountant, Board of Directors and Finance Committee. No material weaknesses or deficiencies were found by the audit firm.

Revenue

Annual Meeting

2018: Registration and exhibitor booths sold were less than budgeted. We believe that attendance was slightly down due to two meetings being held in one calendar year (Boca Raton in January and Minneapolis in October). 2019: Sponsorship rates were increased. Attendance is budgeted at pre-2018 actuals.

Advertising

2018 and 2019: Advertising via mailing list and ToxTalk are very unpredictable so the decision was made to budget at zero for 2019.

Continuing Education Workshops

2018: SOFT applied for and received an unbudgeted grant from the Governors Highway Safety Association to conduct an Oral Fluid in DUID workshop in Albany, NY, in June 2018.

Uncategorized Income

2018: In 2017, a SOFT payment was held by the IRS toward back taxes. SOFT's accountant worked with the IRS to prove that no back taxes were owed, and SOFT was issued a refund by the IRS in 2018.

Expense

Office

The office expense line is for office supplies and postage. Adjustments were made to the 2019 budget based on actual expenditures in 2018.

Administrative Expenses

The administrative expenses line is primarily for JAT subscriptions

for SOFT members (about \$45,000 per year). The rest of this category is computer maintenance, software subscriptions, and professional development for staff.

Membership

The membership expense line is for SOFT's annul participation in the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations.

Legal and Professional Services

Due to the 2017 external audit and the reschedule of the 2017 meeting, SOFT incurred additional IT and Accounting expense in 2018 that will not be incurred in 2019.

Board and Committees

SOFT plans to incur additional expense in 2019 through the implementation of a member survey, and work by SOFT's History Committee in preparation for SOFT's 50th Anniversary meeting in 2020.

Below, please see SOFT's 2018 budget vs actual, as well as the 2019 budget. Following these financials is further explanation about some of the line items. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve SOFT.

2018 SOFT Budget vs Actual & 2019 Budget



Submitted by: Robert M. Sears, M.S., F-ABFT, SOFT Treasurer (2019-2020) SC Law Enforcement Division Columbia, SC robsears@sled.sc.gov

Revenue	Account	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Budget
Revenue	Membership Dues	\$135,000	\$137,010	\$140,000
	Annual Meeting	\$1,160,073	\$1,132,857	\$1,167,379
	Merchandise Sales	\$1,000	\$3,156	\$3,000
	Advertising	\$3,000	\$900	\$0
	Continuing Education Workshops	\$10,000	\$20,550	\$10,000
	Contributions	\$6,487	\$6,247	\$2,700
	Interest	\$250	\$822	\$750
	Uncategorized Income	\$0	\$1,404	\$0
Total Revenue		\$1,315,810	\$1,302,946	\$1,323,829
Expense				
	Payroll	\$143,159	\$128,563	\$136,250
	Occupancy	\$27,950	\$24,084	\$28,000
	Office	\$6,500	\$1,510	\$1,800
	Administrative Expenses	\$53,000	\$52,277	\$55,000
	Membership	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Insurance	\$9,000	\$7,291	\$8,000
	Appreciation Gifts	\$1,500	\$524	\$1,000
	Legal and Professional Services	\$21,450	\$20,052	\$10,850
	Meals and Entertainment	\$3,000	\$114	\$0
	Awards	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
	Annual Meeting	\$1,008,704	\$930,597	\$1,030,990
	Merchandise	\$1,000	\$1,382	\$500
	Board and Committees	\$35,000	\$28,217	\$46,000
	Bank Charges	\$6,200	\$5,991	\$6,000
Total Expense		\$1,336,463	\$1,218,602	\$1,342,390
				7//
Net Income/(Loss)		(\$20,653)	\$84,344	(\$18,561)



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February 1 for March Issue
May 1 for June Issue
August 1 for September Issue
November 1 for December Issue

TOXTALK Deadlines for Contributions

Year	Location	Dates	Host(s)
2019	Grand Hyatt San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	October 13–18, 2019	Veronica Hargrove and Brad Hall
2020	Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, San Diego, CA	September 21–25, 2020	Denice Teem and Dani Mata
2021	Gaylord Opryland, Nashville, TN	September 26-October 1, 2021	Jennifer Colby and Erin Karschner
2022	Huntington Convention Center, Cleveland, OH	October 30-November 4, 2022	Doug Rohde
2023	Gaylord Rockies, Denver, CO	October 29–November 3, 2023	TBD

FUTURE SOFT MEETINGS

Awards
ConEd Workshops
Designer Drugs
Drugs & Driving
Drug Facilitated Crimes
Ethics
Finance

Erin Spargo, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Robert D. Johnson, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Dani Mata, D-ABFT-FT
Curt E. Harper, Ph.D., F-ABFT
Laureen Marinetti, Ph.D., M.S., F-ABFT
Jennifer Limoges, M.S., DABC
Robert Sears, M.S., F-ABFT

IT Matthew Juhascik, Ph.D., F-ABFT JAT Special Issue Kayla N. Ellefsen, Ph.D. Meeting Resource Sumandeep Rana, Ph.D. Membership Amy Miles, B.S. Michelle Peace, Ph.D. **Nominating** Policy & Procedures Amy Miles, B.S. **Publications** Matt Slwason, Ph.D. YFT Kim Samano, Ph.D.

2019 SOFT COMMITTIES CHARIS

TOXTALK® is the official publication of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc. (SOFT) It is published quarterly for its members. To submit articles please email CC Watson at cc@soft-tox.org

For advertsing opportunites please email Beth Olson at beth@soft-tox.org

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