Workshop #2: More Likely Than Not: Navigating Civil Cases in Forensic Toxicology
Date: Monday October 28, 2024
Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Rate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER RATES</th>
<th>NON – MEMBER RATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Bird Registration</td>
<td>Early Bird Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 26 – September 11</td>
<td>June 26 – September 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Registration</td>
<td>Late Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begins September 12</td>
<td>Begins September 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-site Registration</td>
<td>On-site Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begins October 10</td>
<td>Begins October 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairs
Madeleine J. Swortwood, PhD
Toxicologist
Robson Forensic, Inc.
swortwoodm@gmail.com

Curt E. Harper, PhD, F-ABFT
Chief Toxicologist
Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences
Curt.harper@adfs.alabama.gov

Abstract
This workshop is designed to equip forensic toxicologists with skills and knowledge for navigating civil casework. Participants will be introduced to a range of civil casework types, such as wrongful death/injury, workplace incidents, DRAM shop cases, and toxic exposures, providing practical insights through case studies. Attendees will also learn the art of drafting clear and persuasive reports, affidavits, and expert disclosures, essential for legal proceedings. The workshop will cover deposition preparation, including case material review, communication strategies, and ethical considerations. Additionally, the workshop will offer guidance on serving as an expert witness, highlighting the best practices and pitfalls of civil testimony to ensure confident and effective communication in the courtroom.

Learning Objectives
1. Attendees will recognize the different case types in forensic toxicology civil casework
2. Attendees will master the art of affidavit and opinion report writing
3. Attending will understand the fundamentals of civil deposition preparation and excel as an expert witness in civil testimony
**Faculty**
Madeleine J. Swortwood, PhD  
Toxicologist  
Robson Forensic, Inc.  
swortwoodm@gmail.com

Dwain C. Fuller, F-ABFT, TC-NRCC  
Forensic Toxicologist  
Private Consultant  
Dwain@forensictoxicologyconsultant.com

Chris Heartsill, BS  
Regional Toxicology Liaison  
NHTSA  
chris@soft-tox.org

Robert Johnson, PhD, F-ABFT  
Chief Toxicologist  
Tarrant County Medical Examiner’s Office  
Rdjohnson@tarrantcoutytx.gov

Curt E. Harper, PhD, F-ABFT  
Chief Toxicologist  
Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences  
Curt.harper@adfs.alabama.gov

Debbie S. Champion, JD  
Partner  
Rynearson Suess Schnurbusch & Champion, LLC  
dchampion@rssclaw.com

**Audience Knowledge Level**
Basic - suitable for individuals new to the field, requires little prior knowledge to the subject matter

**Workshop Agenda**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30 am</td>
<td>Introduction to Forensic Toxicology Civil Cases (Part I)</td>
<td>Madeleine Swortwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:00 am</td>
<td>Introduction to Forensic Toxicology Civil Cases (Part II: DRAM)</td>
<td>Dwain Fuller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30 am</td>
<td>How to Write an Effective Report, Affidavit, and Expert Disclosure</td>
<td>Chris Heartsill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:00 am</td>
<td>Deposition Preparation 101</td>
<td>Robert Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:30 am</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:30 am</td>
<td>Expert Witness Testimony – Do’s and Don’ts for Civil Cases</td>
<td>Curt Harper + Debbie Champion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30-12:00 pm</td>
<td>Panel Q &amp; A</td>
<td>All speakers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>