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Salem Press Announces the New Second Edition of *Forensic Science*

Edited by Dr. Ayn Embar-Seddon O'Reilly (*Capella University*) and Dr. Allan D. Pass (*National Behavioral Science Consultants*), this new second edition of *Forensic Science* addresses the growing academic and public interest in the application of forensic techniques to criminal investigations.

Often called simply “forensics” within the legal world, forensic science is the application of the natural sciences to the analysis and interpretation of legal evidence. Since the beginning of the twenty-first century—and especially since the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on September 11, 2001—there has been an explosion of both public and academic interest in the use of forensics to investigate criminal acts. American television audiences have even developed an appetite for shows that portray the minutiae of forensic techniques (such as *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*), though these shows tend to emphasize crimes of violence, and the real-world applications of forensic science are much broader.

This three-volume edition of *Forensic Science* aims to dispel any false notions about the reality of forensic investigation and educate students and the general public alike about the wide scope of this important field. While forensic sciences do play a major role in investigations of murder and other violent crimes, they play equally important roles in other types of criminal and civil cases, from arson fires and contract disputes to forgery cases, paternity suits, and war crime trials. Additionally, forensic techniques are often central to efforts in identifying victims of major accidents, natural disasters, and more.

Forensic Science, 2nd Edition contains 500 alphabetically arranged articles that range from 500 to 3,000 words in length. The set includes several different perspectives of the forensic sciences, from its many specialties to how forensics is handled in the media, giving the reader a full, in-depth understanding of this complex subject. New topics added to this edition include: Arson Dogs, Athlete Drug Testing, Backspatter, Inconsistent Eyewitness Testimony, Legality of Electronic Documents, Liquid Dead Array Technology, Plant Toxins, and more.

This reference work provides five different perspectives with which to study the forensic sciences as a whole. The first perspective focuses on **investigators and specialties**, which includes professional organizations in forensic science fields, specific types of investigations, and investigative techniques and procedures. Diverse forensic subspecialties are featured here, including Anthropology, Ballistics, Computer Forensics, Geoscience, Pathology, Photography,

Psychology, Structural Analysis, Toxicology and more. Attention is also given to professional organizations in forensic science fields, as well as investigation types (such as Alcohol-Related Offenses, Art Forgery, and Suicide) and investigation techniques (such as Autopsies, Chemical Analysis, and Fingerprint Analysis).

Scene of the Crime, the second perspective, provides articles on types of forensic evidence, such as fire debris, fibers, filaments, glass, soil, and bloodstains. Other articles cover both general and specific aspects of chemical and biological agents (including biotoxins, carbon monoxide, illicit drugs, and a variety of poisons), as well as diverse diseases, medical conditions, and injuries, including various kinds of wounds.

The third perspective sheds light on the role of the forensic sciences in **the American legal system**. This section includes brief articles on important federal laws applying to controlled substances (such as the Harrison Narcotic Drug Act of 1914 and the Controlled Substances Act of 1970), selected U.S. Supreme Court decisions (including *Miranda v. Arizona*), and a variety of important legal principles (such as *habeas corpus* and *mens rea*). Law enforcement bodies and government investigative units are also covered here.

Specific historical subjects are highlighted through the fourth perspective, ranging from ancient criminal cases to such high-profile modern criminal cases as the O.J. Simpson murder trial and the Unabomber case. Also featured here are articles on the Lindbergh baby kidnapping case, the exhumations of U.S. presidents Zachary Taylor and Abraham Lincoln, and the mysteries surrounding the deaths of Napoleon I and Ludwig van Beethoven.

Finally, this title makes a special effort to address depictions of **forensics in the media** with long overview articles that examine the treatment of forensics in the media and misconceptions fostered by forensic depictions in television, literature, and journalism. Briefer articles cover such iconic TV programs as *CSI*, *Cold Case*, and *Forensic Files*.

Following the articles are six valuable appendixes: a **Guide to Internet Resources**, a list of **Television Programs** in which forensic science figures prominently, biographical sketches of **Key Figures in Forensic Science**, a detailed **Time Line** from 1194 to the present day, an annotated **Bibliography**, and a **Glossary** of forensic terms. Finally, a **Category Index** and a **Subject Index** complete the set.

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