



Greetings,

It was good to see everyone at the spring training session in Banner Elk and the fall conference at Wrightsville Beach. I hope everyone who attended found the training beneficial and useful to them. It definitely has been a year of change in the association with our increased membership and attendance, which is something we welcome and hope continues. We strive to provide the type of training the membership requests at locations which are adequate for our attendees. Due to this, we moved the fall conference to Wrightsville Beach this year based on that facility assuring us they were capable of handling a group of our size when we visited with them. With the attendance numbers we had at the fall conference and estimating for future growth we realized that their information was incorrect. So even before the fall conference concluded, we sent board members in search of a facility that would fit our needs for the fall 2008 conference. Several locations were looked at, with the board settling on the Courtyard by Marriott at Carolina Beach. This facility will definitely meet our needs for future growth and they will accept the state room rates we require. They told us that the owners are also building a new hotel next door which will be connected and share the same conference room with the Courtyard.

With our need to move to a larger facility in order to accommodate more attendees, came increased facility costs as would be expected. So to keep pace, the board has found it necessary to raise the fee for the fall conference and implement a nominal fee for the spring training session. The fall conference is scheduled for November 4th - 7th 2008 and the early registration fee if postmarked by October 17th will be \$100.00, after that date it will be \$125.00. Included in this fee is your annual \$20.00 membership in the association. The spring training session which is scheduled for March 27th & 28th has a fee of \$20.00 for current members and for non members \$40.00. The non member fee of \$40.00 also includes the \$20.00 membership fee which will be good until the end of the association's current calendar year, which ends September 30th. Training topics for the spring training session were selected from the requests we received at previous events. This spring they will include Domestic Related Homicides, Stalking Homicides, Cold Case Issues and case presentations. We invite anyone who has unsolved, high profile or unusual homicide cases to present them at the meetings. Just indicate that you have one to present on the registration form and let John Wiggins know of any special needs or equipment required for the presentation. We will be in touch with you to work out the time and rest of the details.

As your president I have the privilege of serving a great association supported by past presidents possessing knowledge gained from previous conferences and current board members who are experienced and eager to provide you the best available. This is all held together by the vice-president and secretary who work diligently to obtain your information while disseminating training information back to you and a treasurer who ensures our funds are accounted for and available. I plan as president to keep this association moving forward and ever expanding to meet the needs of its members for years to come. As a final note, thank you Gerald Childress for your hard work in getting us a website that works. Happy Holidays and may God bless each and every one of you.

Det. Lt. Stanley T. Watkins
White Collar/Fraud Unit
Iredell County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 287
230 North Tradd St.
Statesville, NC 28677
704-928-4685 (Desk/Voice Mail)
704-928-4681 (Fax)
704-878-3180 (Sheriff's Office)
704-878-3100 (ECOM 24-hour dispatch)