

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE SUMMER 2009

As the seasons change, so does your Board of Directors and Examination Committee. On behalf of both, I would like to thank Robert Adamo (NEAFS), Sly Arsovski (CAC), Dave Green (MAFS) and Reta Newman (AAFS). I also want to thank Dan Bergman, our former Proficiency Administration Committee Chair. Your dedication and service to the American Board of Criminalistics is greatly appreciated and Good Luck in life's new endeavors.

We welcome Liz Ziolkowski (ASTM) and Mike Portzer (NEAFS) to the Board. Both are seasoned veterans and former Examination Committee members. A welcome is also extended to our new Board of Directors and Examination Committee members: Bill Chapin (ASTM), Andria Hobbs Mehlretter (AAFS), Kristine Olsson (MAFS) and Daniel Gregonis (CAC), as well as our new Proficiency chair Noelle Umback. Please keep in mind we are all volunteers and serve for you, the certificate holders. Feel free to reach out to any Board member if you have a question, suggestion, idea or problem.

On a personal note, I am honored to be serving in the capacity of Board of Directors President. I have some big shoes to fill but I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead, especially in light of the National Academy of Sciences report: Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States, and its recommendation regarding certification for all practicing laboratory personnel. We hope to continue our organization's growth and strive to evolve while maintaining the level of professionalism we have achieved.

A heartfelt Thank You goes to our past President Mike Healy. Mike's leadership helped form the building blocks for the ABC's future. He has graciously agreed to continue serving on the Board. Mike, I am privileged to count you as a fellow Board member, a colleague, mentor and friend. Thank you for all you have accomplished for the ABC and all you have done for me.

I hope to see many of you earning points towards next year's recertification at the Joint Forensic Associations Meeting in October 2009! Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Respectfully Yours,
Desirée A. Reid
President- Board of Directors