Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

LOCK & KEY
WINTER EDITION

Promoting Professionalism in Evidence Management since 1992

President's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends. It's nice to take some time off and enjoy the time you have with them.

Hard to believe we are now in the month of December. Where did the time go… not only that, two years have past since our last nomination and as you all know, this December is the nomination time for the 2019—2021 time frame. I guarantee that there won't be any 'political ads' with slanderous comments about our nominees (that we all had to endure recently) but I do want to say that your nomination is important as well as your vote (sorry no stickers will be passed out, Lol).

If you or someone you know, who would like to be a part of the board, please ensure you send in your nominations. I am sure more will be discussed at this upcoming members meeting at the Peoria Police Department.

I appreciate the work that goes into this organization and I hope we can continue with the growth. That said, the organization is as only as strong as its members and the support you can give. Ideas and your information helps us all. This group allows us to learn, grow and establish a well working warehouse making our Departments strong.

As we move on into December, most Departments will be shut down for the Holiday season so now is the time to get those last minute numbers in place and finish 2018 strong. Time to purge what can be purged and continue to organize those warehouses and review those old cases that qualify under the Statute of Limitations. I want to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a safe and prosperous new year. May you officers package the evidence items correctly, DPS lab forms filled out nice and neat, and your shelves neat and organized.

Take care and see you all at the next meeting at the Peoria PD.

Jason Michael - President

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE

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Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

DNA leads to arrest in 2012 Avondale jogger murder

Joe Enea 11:08 AM, Nov 2, 2018

AVONDALE, AZ - DNA evidence has led Avondale police to the man they believe is responsible for the murder of a female jogger in 2012.

Avondale police report that Thursday morning they arrested 24-year-old Francisco Alejandro Lopez at his home near Dysart Road and Western Avenue.

Lopez is accused of killing a female jogger near 107th Avenue and Indian School Road on Dec. 16, 2012.

The naked woman was found hunched over a wall by a man looking for cans behind a business in the area.

Police say she was dragged from the sidewalk on Indian School Road to an area behind the store.

Lopez is accused of brutally raping the woman and causing "extreme physical trauma to her face."

Police report that the woman, who was an avid jogger, fought back against Lopez.

The case remained unsolved until May of this year when Lopez was given probation on a criminal damage conviction. As part of his probation, he was forced to submit a DNA sample.

On Tuesday, Avondale police got word that his DNA matched that of the suspect in this case.

Police say, at the time, Lopez lived within 700 yards of the murder scene, behind Westview High School, where he was a student.

The murder happened three days before Lopez's 18th birthday.

Upon his arrest, Lopez reportedly told police that he attended a house party the night before and had been drinking. He then remembers waking up next to a partially nude woman behind the business.

The Winter Meeting will be held at:

Peoria Police Dept.
8351 W. Cinnabar Ave
Peoria, AZ 85345

Wednesday
December 12th, 2018

Meet and Greet at 9am
Meeting starts at 10am

Have an interesting story or unusual item that was brought in to your warehouse?

Don't hold back…
Share it…
Send your ideas, comments, photos, and interesting articles to
landknews@gmail.com

17,500 Dutchmen Gave Their DNA in a Murder Inquiry. After 20 Years, an Arrest.

BRUSSELS — For 20 years, the Dutch police investigated the rape and murder of an 11-year-old schoolboy, and the Dutch news media chronicled the case's many twists and turns.

Now, after an investigation in which 17,500 Dutchmen voluntarily took part in DNA profiling, a suspect has been arrested in Spain.

The boy, Nicky Verstappen, had attended a summer camp at a nature reserve in the southern Netherlands in 1998. On a night that August, he left his tent and never returned. His body, pajama-clad and barefoot, was discovered the next day, hidden in a dense pine forest about a mile away. He had been raped and killed.

DNA found on the boy's clothes was of male origin. But no samples in Dutch and international criminal databases matched it. Nor did hundreds of samples initially taken from men living near the nature reserve and from men linked to Nicky or the camp.

A Dutch law passed in 2012 allowed for a practice known as familial DNA profiling, which involves taking DNA samples from people who could potentially be relatives of a suspect, based on geographic and social profiles.

The hope, said Nicky Jansen, a spokeswoman for the Dutch Forensic Institute, which carried out the analysis, is that "if the DNA of a volunteer shows any familial relationship to the suspect's DNA, investigators can identify the suspect by analyzing the volunteer's family tree."

The technique has since led to the resolution of two major Dutch cold murder cases, Ms. Jansen said.

It also opened new doors for the investigation into the murder of Nicky Verstappen. In 2013, a Dutch prosecutor ordered two new DNA sampling investigations based on the DNA found on Nicky's clothes: the voluntary sampling of up to 21,500 Dutchmen based on familial profiling, and the obligatory sampling of 1,500 men of special interest to the case.

"This was the biggest DNA investigation in the Netherlands so far, and we're proud of it," said Judith Verbaan, a spokeswoman for the regional police of Limburg, the Netherlands' southernmost province, where Nicky was killed.

Eventually, 17,500 Dutchmen volunteered to have cells swiped from the inside of their mouths to provide DNA for the investigation. None matched the original sample.

Yet when one person of special interest — Jos Brech, a 55-year-old Dutchman who had been missing since last April — failed to show up for obligatory sampling this year, investigators dug deeper.

At the time of the murder, Mr. Brech lived with his mother about 10 miles from the scene of the crime. A former scout, an outdoorsmen and a children's camp organizer, Mr. Brech was also cited in a sexual offense case in 1985, investigators said. And in the days after Nicky's body was found, Mr. Brech was seen walking by the camp site and was questioned by the police, though he was never arrested or officially listed as a suspect.

But when the police took DNA samples from Mr. Brech's family members and from his old clothes at his mother's home as part of the new investigation, and pulled DNA from a parallel inquiry into his disappearance, all three samples matched the DNA found on Nicky's pajamas in 1998.

Last week, investigators publicized the suspect's identity. And within days, a "golden tip" led them to an abandoned house on a hill near Castellterçol, a tiny town on the outskirts of Barcelona, said Ms. Verbaan, the police spokeswoman. The Spanish police arrested Mr. Brech there on Sunday.

The Spanish authorities said they had arrested him while he was cutting wood in a field. Among his belongings were survival items like fishing instruments, a book on edible wild plants, dried food, boots and mountain gear, and batteries, the police said.

Mr. Brech is a member of a Dutch bushcraft club, where members share experiences about living in the wild. Since he went missing this April, investigators said, Mr. Brech had lived in outdoor shelters and in abandoned houses across Western Europe.

The Dutch public prosecutor's office said it expects Mr. Brech to be extradited soon — within a week if he cooperates, officials said. If he appeals, a Spanish judge will have 90 days to rule on the extradition.

Speaking to reporters on Monday, Nicky's mother, Bertie Verstappen, thanked the Dutch authorities, investigators, the news media and in particular a Dutch

EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS
Experts in property/evidence room inspections and audits

Is this what your property/evidence room(s) looks like?

Would you rather have your room(s) look like this??

Evidence Management Specialists performs independent, unbiased inspections/audits of your property/evidence room and will provide your Chief/Sheriff with a comprehensive report which may show that you are overworked (and possibly underpaid), understaffed and in need of equipment and supplies necessary to properly manage your property/evidence room. It is important to note that most inspections and audits are not evaluations of personnel or their ability to perform their job duties, but rather an evaluation of the methods and processes in place for managing the property/evidence and an agency's ability/willingness to comply with accepted industry standards. Often times, an outside audit of an agency's property/evidence room is the mechanism needed to motivate command staff to make improvements to existing facilities, enhance security measures, and provide the tools and equipment necessary to allow staff to properly manage their property/evidence.

An inspection of your property/evidence room includes digital pictures of all storage areas, documentation of the condition of the storage facility/facilities and security measures used to store/secure your property/evidence, and recommendations (if any are needed) to improve the facility and security measures in order to meet generally accepted property/evidence industry standards.

An audit of your property/evidence room includes an evaluation of your methods for accepting, rejecting, storing, transferring and disposing of property/evidence as compared to your agencies written policies/procedures as well as complying with professional property/evidence industry standards for property/evidence management (International Association for Property and Evidence [IAPE] and the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies [CALEA]).

Ancestry DNA kits: Collection by Swab or Spit, and Just What They Reveal

More people took ancestry DNA tests in 2017 than all previous years combined, according to a report published earlier this year in **MIT Technology Review**. The number of people who have had their DNA analyzed more than doubled during 2017 and now exceeds 12 million. In January 2018, the industry leader reported that it has tested more than 7 million people, including 2 million during the last four months of 2017. The sudden rise in popularity of ancestry DNA kits, with prices starting at about $50, could have a significant impact on both the manufacturers that supply these companies and the laboratories that process samples. Today, most companies in the industry collect samples by cheek swab or vial of saliva. But what are the pros and cons of each method? And how accurate are the results of each?

Collecting DNA: Cheek Swab or Saliva Tube?

Three of the top 5 ancestry DNA companies collect samples by cheek swab (or buccal swab). While saliva samples historically tend to collect more DNA per sample, that collection method is not without its disadvantages. For example, kits featuring saliva tubes run a higher risk of failing to test properly. Most often, that's because the customer didn't collect a large enough sample, typically 1-2 milliliters. According to customers, generating that much saliva can be challenging for the elderly, especially those whose medication may induce dry mouth.

(Continued on Page 4 …..)

And consumers of all ages can have trouble with the restriction on eating or drinking for a period before you collect your sample. And if you fail the test? You'll need to buy another kit and try again. Sample collection from swabbing, on the other hand, offers a number of benefits.

Here are **5 reasons** to opt for an ancestry DNA test featuring a cheek swab:

It is convenient and simple. Using a swab is so easy that anybody can collect DNA.
It is easy to transport. Swab samples are very easy to be locked in sealed pouches and transported. Swabs often come in **dry transport systems**.
It is a painless sample collection. A buccal swab is painless. It just feels like a soft brush on the side of your cheek.
It is widely available. The newest technology is adept at detecting DNA using these swabs. There is hardly any work required and that makes the whole process extremely fast, even for the lab staff.
Swabs are as accurate as blood. Epithelial cells contain exactly the same DNA as blood cells. In other words, these swab tests are more than 99.9% accurate, which is the same in case of blood samples as well.

Can You Trust the Test Results?

Customers report receiving marginally varying results from different ancestry DNA kits. That can happen for a number of reasons. Chief among them is that there is no such thing as a complete database of human DNA samples, or even a sufficiently globally-representative one. According to a report in **Scientific American**, when a technician searches a database of existing samples with known lineage for matches with your DNA, the quality of that match depends on the size of the comparative samples. Each company has its own database, so you may get different results from different companies. Age and ethnicity also factor into the accuracy equation. If you're not of white European descent over the age of 30, you will not get the most thorough match possible. The size of the database of possible DNA matches—known as **reference populations**—is not all that matters. Variety plays a role, too. So far, the matches produced for **non-white customers**, and anyone with lineage traced outside of Europe, are typically far less accurate because they draw from a much smaller subset of DNA samples available for comparison. We don't really know how accurate these tests are in determining ethnicity and genealogy, genetics expert Sheldon Krimsky told **Tufts Now**.

Krimsky cites three barriers to test accuracy:

- Companies don't share data with each other
- Collection and analysis methods are not validated by an independent group of scientists

There are no agreed-upon standards of accuracy

While the ancestry DNA industry may as yet lack comprehensive regulation, consumers can find confidence in one fact. Companies using Puritan swabs have an edge in the purity of the samples collected and analyzed. Earlier this year, the **International Standards Organization** (ISO) certified that products manufactured by Puritan conform to the global ISO 18385:2016 standard. That means Puritan's forensics products are manufactured in an environment where stringent controls are in place to "minimize the risk of human DNA contamination in products used to collect, store and analyze biological material for forensic purposes." So you might be wise to read ancestry DNA results with some skepticism. But you can certainly believe that companies using Puritan swabs are helping their cause for accuracy by using the best products on the market.

VENDOR'S PAGE

QueTel

QueTel's business is tracking and managing uniquely numbered items – serialized equipment, physical evidence, digital files, documents, and people – for law enforcement business operations. Each poses separate challenges, but all share the need to permit authorized users to know where the unique item while securely handling and storing the data or item itself.

Evidence Management System

Our paperless physical evidence management system that can simplify evidence tracking and save officer time from submission through approval for disposition.

https://www.quetel.com/products/digital-evidence-management-system/

Volunteers for the Arizona Association for Property and Evidence.

The Association is in need of more volunteers from its members to help contribute and learn the rolls that make up the Association.

Training Committee Personnel– If anyone is interested in joining they can assist at the seminar to become familiar with the duties of putting on a seminar. Ideas are needed and the more help that is provided makes for a smooth operation.

Remember that if you use a vendor see if they would like to become a corporate sponsor.

Your help is greatly appreciated as well as your time.

Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

Maricopa County
Office of the Medical Examiner

Subject: Specimen Retention Schedule Changes Effective July 1, 2018

Law Enforcement Stakeholder:

The Office of the Medical Examiner (OME) collects specimens from human remains and occasionally from death scenes in order to determine the medical cause and manner of death and make relevant medical diagnoses. Once those tasks are complete, OME no longer has need of the specimens. Because some death cases may be the subject of criminal investigation and prosecution, law enforcement agencies may wish to obtain OME specimens for additional testing or retesting.

Past OME administrations set retention schedules up to 50 times longer than industry standards for some specimen categories, and for other categories no retention periods were established. Those past practices have resulted in storage and specimen management challenges.

Therefore, OME has implemented specimen retention schedules that align with industry standards set by the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), as well as with statutory requirements and practices of other county medical examiners in Arizona.

If you have any questions, please contact me at johnston004@mail.maricopa.gov or Administrative Director Amy Rex at rexa@mail.maricopa.gov.

Specimen	Retention period
Body fluids/tissues (unfixed) for laboratory testing including toxicology	2 years*
Body fluids/tissues for statutory communicable disease exposure testing	30 days**
Specimens for DNA (blood blots or frozen tissue)	Indefinitely*
Formalin-fixed tissue for potential histology (save jar)	2 years *
Histology paraffin blocks	10 years*
Histology glass slides	Indefinitely*
Fixed tissues/organs for further examination	2 years
Skeletal tissues for anthropology examination, excluding specimens where the examination is solely for the purpose of identifying the remains	5 years
Medical devices	2 years
Drugs, medications, and drug paraphernalia from scenes and other miscellaneous specimens	2 years

Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

OL' DAD JOKE CENTER

Why aren't koalas actual bears?
They don't meet the koalafica-tions.

What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo?
One is really heavy, and the other is a little lighter.

I used to be addicted to soap.
But I'm clean now.

What did the left eye say to the right eye?
Between you and me, something smells.

What do you call bears with no ears?
B–

World Wide Web Resources

HB2371 AAPE Sponsored bill on unclaimed property:
http://www.azleg.gov/DocumentsForBill.asp?Bill_Number=2371&Session_Id=107
Department of Health Services comments on medical marijuana:
http://www.azdhs.gov/prop203/

Find your state legislator, or what district you live in:
www.azleg.gov
And click on "How do I Find My Legislators".

Find Arizona Revised Statutes at :
http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp

Find City Municipal Codes at :
www.municode.com/library/clientlisting.aspx?stateid=3

Find the Arizona Association for Property & Evidence at:
http://208.106.133.174/

Find the International Association of Property & Evidence at: http://www.iape.org

Find the Arizona State Retirement System at:
www.azasrs.gov

Find the Arizona Public Safety Retirement System at:
http://www.psprs.com/

Arizona Emergency Information Network
http://www.azein.gov/azein/default.aspx

What else would you like to see here? E-mail me at ***landknews@gmail.com*** Jason M.

WORD OF THE DAY:
"Transient Evidence"

What does it mean???
Transient evidence is a term used in criminal forensics to indicate elements of physical **evidence** that might be expected to degrade or disappear within a particular time frame.

RULES OF THUMB

New word on the street: When you hear a new word, you'll hear it again within 24 hours.—Glenda Oglesby, hypnotherapist

Bad Customers Rising: Customers are most difficult to deal with during the full moon. The next most trying phase is the new moon.—Georgia Chapman, pharmacist

Making a Chimp go Ape: Never walk past a chimpanzee while wearing a clown suit.—Todd Strong, circus school Student

AAPE SHIRTS

For those of you that are interested in an AAPE Shirt you can bring in your own polo-shirt and for a minimal fee of $7 to $8 an AAPE logo will be sewn on to your shirt.
Your shirt will then be returned back to you at the upcoming two day conference in Prescott, AZ.
Any questions or comments please contact Sandie Imberi

Patton On Leadership:

#22 — Know Your People

Infantry troops can attack continuously for sixty hours. Frequently, much time and suffering are saved if they will do so. Beyond sixty hours, it is rather a waste of time, as the men become too fatigued from lack of sleep.

Know the limits of what you can expect from yourself and your subordinates. Be willing to push to those limits, but understand that pushing beyond them is subject to one of the few absolute laws that govern business and other human endeavor.: the law of diminishing returns. Pushed beyond their limits, people work inefficiently, poorly, even counterproductively or destructively.

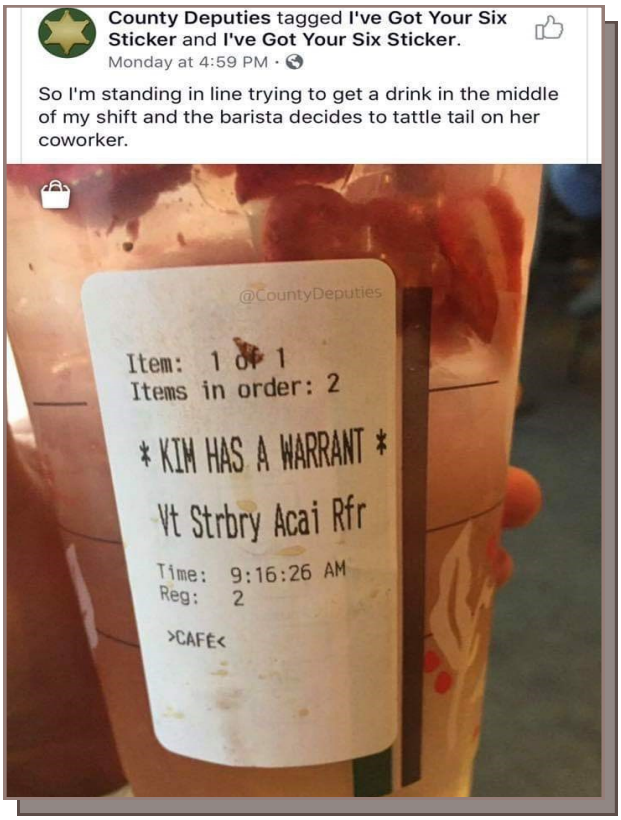
Based on the best-selling book by Alan Axelrod: *Patton on Leadership: Strategic Lessons For Corporate Warfare*

WHEN CHOSEN FOR JURY DUTY, TELL JUDGE "FORTUNE COOKIE SAY GUILTY!"

Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

LOCK & KEY WINTER EDITION

New Uniforms to be set in Policy for the Holiday Season. What do you think?



Tips for Managing the Holiday Blues

Many people can experience feelings of anxiety or depression during the holiday season. Extra stress, unrealistic expectations or even sentimental memories that accompany the season can be a catalyst for the holiday blues. Some can be at risk for feelings of loneliness, sadness, fatigue, tension and a sense of loss. Also, a lot of seasonal factors can trigger the holiday blues such as less sunlight, changes in your diet or routine, alcohol at parties, over-commercialization or the inability to be with friends or family.

These are all factors that can seriously affect your mood. However, there are certain things you can do to help avoid the holiday blues. Ken Duckworth, M.D., NAMI's medical director, shares advice for managing your health—both mental and physical—during the holiday season.

- Stick to normal routines as much as possible.
- Get enough sleep.
- Take time for yourself, but don't isolate yourself. Spend time with supportive, caring people.
- Eat and drink in moderation. Don't drink alcohol if you are feeling down.
- Get exercise – even if it's only taking a short walk.
- Make a to-do list. Keep things simple.
- Set reasonable expectations and goals for holiday activities such as shopping, cooking, entertaining, attending parties or sending holiday cards.
- Set a budget for holiday activities. Don't overextend yourself financially in buying presents.
- Listen to music of find other ways to relax.

https://www.nami.org/Blogs/NAMI-Blog/November-2015/Tips-for-Managing-the-Holiday-Blues

Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

DID YOU KNOW?
DECEMBER IS CONSIDERED NATIONAL STRESS FREE MONTH??? I DOUBT THAT WITH ALL OF THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

IMPORTANT DATES

PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY—DECEMBER 7TH

POINSETTIA DAY—DECEMBER 12TH

BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY—DECEMBER 16TH

WRIGHT BROTHER'S DAY—DECEMBER 17TH

HUMBUG DAY—DECEMBER 21ST

CHRISTMAS EVE—DECEMBER 24TH

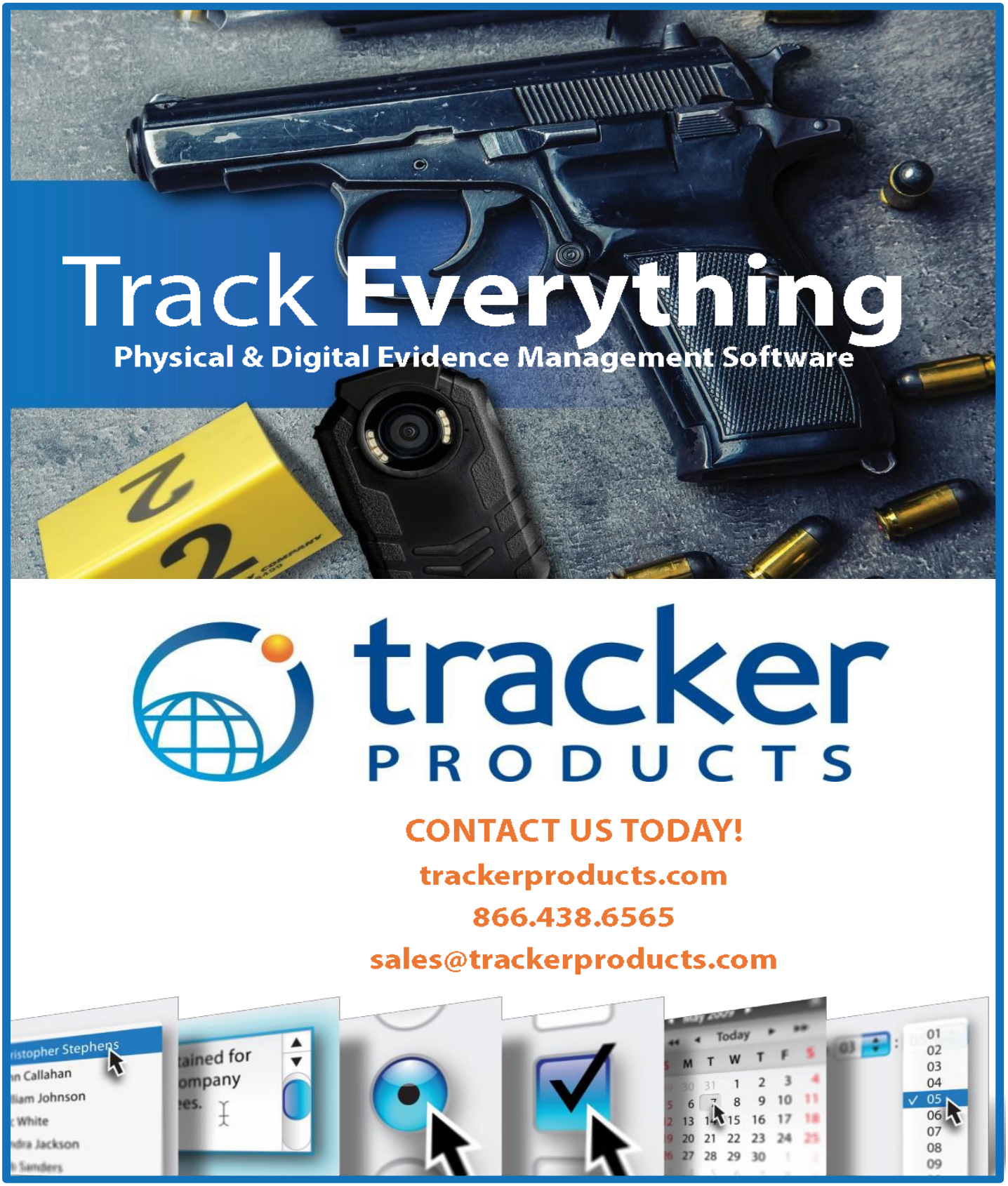
CHRISTMAS DAY—DECEMBER 25TH

KWANZAA—DECEMBER 26TH

NEW YEAR'S EVE—DECEMBER 31ST

CSI: Winter Squash Division

Nomination Time: Remember, this December's meeting we will be holding nominations for the up coming election in 2019.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Physical & Digital Evidence Management Software
tracker
PRODUCTS
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sales@trackerproducts.com

Arizona Association for Property and Evidence

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