

International Association for Identification



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An Open Letter to the Members of the I.A.I.

As of this writing, we are all being affected by the current COVID-19 Virus. Many of our Regional Divisions have either canceled or are attempting to reschedule their conferences. The I.A.I. Executive Office, your Officers, and Board of Directors will help in any way possible.

You will be receiving the latest Newsletter with a lot of activity updates and future planning following our Strategic Plan. Many of these will be put on hold or canceled due to health and safety concerns for our members who donate their time and services to represent the I.A.I. in the International, Governmental, Regional, and Professional Associations and Groups. As of this date, no travel will be authorized by COO Glen Calhoun or me until further notice. No words can express our appreciation to those who work so hard for the betterment of our science and practices.

At present, there is no accurate way of knowing how long the pandemic or the full impact on our way of life will last. To our members - in first responder occupations; crime scene investigators and analysts, evidence personnel, forensic laboratory scientists, supervisors, and managers - you are all on the front lines. Please take every care and precaution possible to protect yourself, family, neighbors, and the communities in which you work. Remember, our charge is to serve our communities to the best of our abilities, always remembering that if you become injured or sick it will limit our positive contributions during this crisis. Viruses, such as COVID-19, do not discriminate. We deal with the public, who may have been exposed, just as we may have been exposed, and this mutual concern is yet another challenge for the Public Services Fields. Care, caution, and mutual respect will go a long way.

The IAI Conference is scheduled for August 9-15, 2020, in Orlando, Florida. As of now the conference is still scheduled to go on. A decision to go forward or cancel will be made sometime in June, and all members will be notified of the decision.

In closing, the Executive Office, Elected Officers, and Board of Directors wish all of our members and their families a safe and healthy spring and summer. Please take care of yourselves, family, and all those who depend on you. May this pandemic ride into the sunset forever!

Sincerely Yours,

Kenneth B. Zercie
President, I.A.I. 2019-2020

Glen Calhoun
Chief Operations Officer