



## PRESS RELEASE

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## From genetic genealogy to rapid DNA analysis and MPS, explore real-world forensic DNA applications with the experts at ISHI 2017

**MADISON, WI USA** (August 29, 2017) — The [28th International Symposium on Human Identification](#) (ISHI) will feature presentations from leading professionals in the fields of forensic DNA analysis, genetic genealogy, forensic anthropology, law enforcement and more. The largest international conference on DNA analysis for human identification, ISHI attracts more than 900 DNA analysts and forensic scientists and features 50-plus experts presenting their latest research and case work. It provides participants an opportunity to explore and discuss the latest trends, technologies and ethical issues in the field

ISHI's 2017 presenters will cover a variety of trending topics, including rapid DNA analysis and multiple parallel sequencing (MPS), as well as highlight unique forensic DNA applications:

- Forensic genetic genealogist [Colleen Fitzpatrick](#) will present her experience [helping to move forward an Arizona cold case](#) involving the “Canal Killer.” The case was cracked thanks in part to connections made when ISHI 2014 was held in Phoenix and Fitzpatrick contacted local detectives to see if there were any cases in which she may be able to help. “I knew [relevant contacts] would probably also be at the annual ISHI meeting because, well, isn't everybody?” said Fitzpatrick.
- Genetic genealogist [CeCe Moore](#) will describe how commercial DNA databases can be leveraged to unravel complex identity cases, using the Paul Fronczak kidnapping case as an illustrative example. This case was solved using forensic genealogy, descendant research, along with biogeographical ancestry analysis, Y-chromosome STR testing, mitochondrial DNA testing and X-chromosome DNA analysis.
- [Michael Capuzzo](#), bestselling author of *The Murder Room*, will open ISHI 28 with a keynote describing the inner workings of the [Vidocq Society](#), an exclusive group of the world's foremost forensic investigators who volunteer to work the toughest cold cases. Founded in 1990 in Philadelphia, this invitation-only members' club has been featured on various episodes of *Law and Order*, *The New Detectives* and NPR, among others. It has long had a reputation as one of the world's most exclusive clubs, known for its “Cuisine and Crime Solving” monthly luncheon meetings.

The 2017 symposium will be held October 2–October 5 in Seattle, Washington. During the three-day general sessions, experts in forensic DNA practices and scientists devoted to improving forensic technology will present talks covering:

- Rapid DNA Analysis and Searching of CODIS
- Missing Persons' Family Matching at an International Level
- Triaging Evidentiary Sample at Crime Scenes
- Swiftly Solving Crime Utilizing Rapid Technology
- Familial Searching and Probabilistic Genotyping

ISHI 28 also features optional small group workshops, including:

- Introduction to Mindfulness for Forensic Scientists
- Efficient Validation Using STR-Validator
- The Likelihood Ratio
- Better Solutions for Body Fluid Identification
- Preparing as an Expert Witness
- Familial Testing: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Industry experts from the FBI (including the CODIS Unit), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), INTERPOL, top research universities, public and private forensic labs, expert DNA witnesses, and various state forensic science bureaus, police departments and state attorneys' offices will be represented.

A complete list of [workshops](#), [speaker biographies](#), the [ISHI blog](#) and continuing program updates are available at the symposium website: [www.ishinews.com](http://www.ishinews.com).

This symposium for forensic experts and suppliers is offered through Promega Corporation, a leader in providing innovative solutions and technical support to the life sciences industry. Promega Corporation has provided products for DNA-based human identification for over 25 years. The company's 3,500 products enable scientists worldwide to advance their knowledge in genomics, proteomics, cellular analysis, drug discovery and human identification. Founded in 1978, the company is headquartered in Madison, WI, USA, with branches in 16 countries and over 50 global distributors. For more information about Promega, visit [www.promega.com](http://www.promega.com).

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*2017 International Symposium on Human Identification (ISHI) October 2 – October 5 in Seattle, WA.*