Introduction to Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

October 5 – 9, 2026

Location:
Johnson County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory
11890 S Sunset Drive
Olathe, Kansas 66061

Sessions will be from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday to Friday.

Please contact Jeremy Morris (jeremiah.morris@jocogov.org) to register and for local hotel information.

About the instructors

Kevin R. Winer has 25 years in crime scene investigation and bloodstain pattern analysis and is the Director of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Crime Laboratory. He is the Chair of Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Sub-Committee of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science and is certified as a Bloodstain Pattern Analyst.

Michael J. VanStratton has over 40 years of experience in BPA and served for 10 years on the Scientific Working Group on Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (SWGSTAIN) and is a retired laboratory director. Mr. VanStratton has taught and lectured in 25 states and Canada. He is certified as Bloodstain Pattern Analyst and is currently employed by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation as a bloodstain pattern analyst.

Description

This 5-day (40 hours) workshop is designed as an introduction to bloodstain pattern analysis (BPA). During this workshop, attendees will be introduced to the history and basic principles of BPA while also discussing the different types of bloodstain pattern producing mechanisms. Attendees will have multiple opportunities throughout the week to apply the concepts discussed in a variety of experiments and practical exercises with a culmination of documenting and classifying patterns from a mock scene at the end of the week.

Course Learning Objectives

- Learn the history of BPA.
- Understand the physical properties of blood.
- Learn BPA terminology.
- Learn the scientific method.
- Learn how to document bloodstain patterns.
- Learn how to classify bloodstain patterns by their size, shape, distribution, appearance, and location.
- Learn how to determine the area of convergence and origin and associated mathematics.
- Understand the limitations of BPA. Demonstrate an understanding of classifying bloodstain patterns and documenting them in a mock crime scene.
- Demonstrate an understanding of other workshop objectives via a mathematics quiz, terminology quiz and a final examination.

Fee

The cost of the workshop is $800 per person.

What to bring:

Attendees are encouraged to wear appropriate clothing. Attendees should also bring a digital camera to document the stains and patterns created during the various exercises and experiments.

The workshop qualifies for 40 hours continuing education credit through the *International Association for Identification*.