



**RESUME OF  
DAWN ROMANO**

**EDUCATION**

**May 2005**

**University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, New York**

Master of Science - Forensic Biology

Coursework in Advanced Molecular Biology, Human Population Genetics, Principles of Statistical Inference, Law & Science in Criminal Justice, Courtroom Testimony, Forensic Biology.

**May 2003**

**University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, New York**

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Coursework in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Cellular Biology, Physiology, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, Statistics, Criminal Justice.

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**December 2009- Present**

**Serological Research Institute, Richmond, CA**

Forensic Serologist II

**Sept. 2008-Dec. 2009**

Forensic Serologist I

Examine and analyze biological physical evidence; conduct presumptive and/or confirmatory tests for blood, semen, saliva and other body fluids; Perform organic, differential, chelex, and DNA IQ extractions. Proficient in use of Real-time PCR ABI 7500/7000 Sequence Detection System using the Quantifiler Human DNA. Quantification Kit, Quantifiler Y Male DNA Quantification Kit, and Quantifiler Duo Quantification Kit. Utilize ABI 310 and 3100 Genetic Analyzers and Identifiler, Yfiler, and Minifiler Multiplex STR kits. Analyze DNA profiles and corresponding data utilizing GeneMapper ID software. Perform mixture interpretation and application of statistics to evidentiary items. Write casework reports. Testify in court regarding casework findings. Conduct research projects and validation studies, such as the internal validation of the Quantifiler Duo Quantification Kit and Xtractor Robot, and assist with quality control of various chemicals and kits used in the laboratory.

**Dec. 2007 - Aug. 2008**

**Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory, Maynard, MA**  
Chemist III – DNA Unit Supervisor

Performs all the duties of a Chemist II as well as: Oversees the work product and case management of Chemists I's and Chemist II's in the DNA Unit. Supervises trains, instructs and reviews the activities of subordinate personnel. Technically reviews casework, competency and proficiency test results to ensure compliance with requirements for clarity, quality and timeliness. Ensures the DNA unit's policies and procedures are being followed as written and works to develop and update laboratory procedures, protocols, and manuals. Assisted with the implementation of a training program for new hires in the DNA Unit.

**Sept. 2006 - Dec. 2007**

**Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory, Maynard, MA**  
Chemist II – DNA Unit

**Jan. 2006 – Sept. 2006**

Chemist I- DNA Unit

Analyze samples found at crime scenes in an effort to obtain DNA profiles from biological fluids. Perform organic and differential DNA extractions. Proficient in use of Real-time PCR ABI 7500/7000 Sequence Detection System using the Quantifiler Human DNA Quantification Kit and Quantifiler Y Male DNA Quantification Kit. Utilize ABI 3130xl Genetic Analyzer and Identifiler Multiplex STR kit. Review casework to meet administrative requirements for quality and timeliness. Analysis of DNA profiles and corresponding data utilizing GeneMapper ID software. Perform mixture interpretation and application of statistics to evidentiary items. Write casework reports. Administrative review of analysts' casework. Technical review of exemplar casework from the CODIS DNA caseworking unit. Technical review of outsourced casework. Assist with validation projects (True Allele for mixture samples and n+4 stutter study). Assist with quality control (performing experimentation on extraction positives, Y-Filer kit). Competent to perform YSTR testing. Testify in court regarding casework findings.

**Jan. 2007 – Aug. 2008**

**Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory, Maynard, MA**  
Chemist II – Crime Scene Response Unit

Provide technical assistance to law enforcement personnel related to crime scene investigations. Identify, document, and collect items of evidence (e.g. biological fluids, trace materials, clothing and weapons). Conduct chemical screening tests for the presence of biological fluids. Write reports, communicate with investigators and attorneys and testify in court. Provide on scene training to new Crime Scene Specialists.

**June 2004 – Oct. 2004**      ***Forensic Identity Program, New York State Department of Health, Albany, N.Y.***

Intern

Performed a reduced reaction volume comparison and internal validation on Applied Biosystems' Quantifiler Y Human Male DNA Quantification kit. Performed validation studies on sensitivity, precision, reproducibility, mixture samples, PCR inhibitors, and non-human DNA. Performed differential and organic extractions. Performed quantifications using Quantifiler Total Human and Total Human Male Quantification kits on the ABI Prism 7000 Sequence Detection System. Amplified samples using the Applied Biosystems' COfiler and Profiler Plus STR amplification kits.

**Aug. 2003 – May 2004**      ***University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, NY***

Teaching Assistant

Prepared and gave lectures in Human Physiology and Microbiology. Oversaw student's laboratory experiments. Gave assignments, created examinations, and graded individuals performance.

**TESTIMONY EXPERIENCE**

Qualified as an expert witness in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and State of California.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION**

**Dec. 2009 - Current**      Provisional Member – California Association of Criminalists

**CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**2009:**      *Hair Microscopy for the DNA Analyst*, by Skip Palenik, California Association of Criminalists Fall 2009 Seminar, San Jose Jose, CA

**2008**      *Supervisory Leadership Skills*, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Human Resources Division, Boston, MA

**2007**      *Search and Seizure and Expert Witness Testimony for Crime Scenes*, by Nancy Burns, Sudbury, MA.

*Buccal DNA Collection*, Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory

*Applied Biosystems 2007 Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology Seminar*, Applied Biosystems, Waltham, MA.

*The Science of DNA Profiling: A National Expert Forum*, Forensic Bioinformatics, Dayton, OH

**2006**

*Forensic Mixture Interpretation and Statistical Analysis*, presented by Ray Wickenheiser, George Carmody, and Joanne Sgueglia, Sudbury, Massachusetts

*Pipettes in the Laboratory Training*, given by Wendy Vaccaro, Artel Inc., Sudbury, Massachusetts

*NorthEast Regional Forensic Institute (NERFI) training*, Albany, N.Y. and Sudbury, M.A.