

# Curriculum Vitae

## *Justin Bechaver*

### Education

06/05 Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry  
Eastern Oregon University, La Grande OR.

### Certifications

2011-2016 American Board of Criminalistics – Fellow –Specialty: Drug Analysis.

### Professional Experience

11/05-present Forensic Scientist Manager, Firearms section, State of Utah Bureau of Forensic Services  
Firearms and Tool Marks Technical Leader  
Disciplines of Firearms and Toolmarks/ Chemistry/ Trace/ Paint/ Crime Scene.  
Examine Firearm/Toolmark Evidence, Controlled substances/Paint/ and Trace Evidence  
and give testimony to analysis results in court of law.  
Member of the Crime Scene Response team for the laboratory.

07/05-11/05 ARUP Laboratories 07/05-11/05  
Tech Trainee,  
Performed ELISA testing on biological fluids for various diseases.

06/05-11/05 Intern, Utah State Crime Lab  
General laboratory experience.

### Specialized Training

5/11-5/16 2025 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~ Anaheim CA

5/11/2025 Introduction of Error Rate Metrics and Overview of Firearms Examiner Error Rate Studies  
~Todd Weller

5/13/2025 Forensic Aspects of Reloading  
~Mike Guisto, David Barbe

5/16/2025 PhotoGunmetry  
~Kristen Schaefer, Aaron Brudenell

5/21-5/26 2023 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Austin TX

5/21/2023 Less Lethal Forensics  
~Rick Wyant

5/24/2023 Additive Manufacturing  
~Douglas Halepaska, Corey Scott, Heidi Thornsby

5/26/2023 Blind Testing and Blind Verification in Firearms  
~Donna Eudaley, Maddisen Neuman, Aimee Grimald and Callan Hundl

6/20-6/23 2022 Pacific Northwest Division of the International Association for Identification  
~(PNWD- IAI) conference Bend, Oregon.

6/22/2022 Bullet Impact Examination-PNWD-IAI  
~Mathew Noedel  
~Dan Alessio

6/22/2022 Practical Trajectory Reconstruction-PNWD-IAI  
~Mike Haag

8/22-8/27 2021 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Miami, FL

8/22/2021 Practical Reloading Seminar  
~Skip Richardson

8/27/2021 Forensic Aspects of Black Powder and Black Powder Firearms  
~Luke Haag

5/26-5/31 2019 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Nashville, TN

5/26/2019 Hi-Point Firearms Armorer Course  
~Brian Smelser and Chris Monturo

5/29/2019 Class Characteristics of Toolmarks in Bone and Cartilage  
~Brian Smelser

5/31/2019 Double Casting: Best Practices  
~Paul Murphy

  

6/3-6/8 2018 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Charleston, WV

6/3/2018 Understanding the Math of Bullet Path Analysis  
~Matt Nodel (AFTE workshop)

6/8/2018 Bullets Through Glass Workshop  
~Haag, Haag (AFTE Workshop)

5/14-5/19 2017 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Denver, CO

5/14/2017 Forensic Examination of Airsoft Replica arms  
~ATFE

5/17/201 Handgun Function and Repair  
~AFTE

5/19/2017 Sig Sauer P320 Armorer's Course  
~AFTE

3/20-3/22 2017 International Firearm Specialist Academy  
~Daniel O'Kelly. Salt Lake City, Utah.

5/29-6/3 2016 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~New Orleans, LA

5/24-5/29,2015 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~Dallas, Tx

5/24/2015 Gunshot and Shotgun Injuries- A Forensic Pathologists view. (8hrs)  
~AFTE

5/29/2015 Blunt & Sharp Injury Analyzed- A Forensic Pathologists view. (3hrs)  
~AFTE

5/29/2015 The Silencer in Court for the Expert Witness.  
~AFTE

5/11-5/16-14 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE)  
~ Seattle Wa.

5/11/2014 Full Auto Conversions (9 Hours)  
~AFTE

6/28/2013 Ruger LCP Armorer's Course  
~AFTE

6/23/2013 3D Laser Scanning Workshop  
~Mike Haag , AFTE

8/28/2012 Glock Armorer's course (8 hrs)  
~ Alan Ramsey, Murray Ut. UHP Section 4.

6/29/2012 Kimber 1911 Familiarization course. (8 hrs)  
~AFTE

6/24/2012 Colt AR-15 Armorer's Course (8 hrs)  
~ Allan Offringa, AFTE. Buffalo, NY.

6/24-6/29-12 Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Conference (AFTE) (48 hours)  
~ Buffalo, NY.

5/7-5/8-12 ASCLD/LAB-International, Measurement of Uncertainty (230 (Firearms))  
~Laurel Farrell

2/8/2012 Documentation, Collection, and preservation of Footwear/Tire Impression in Snow.  
~ Park City PD, Utah IAI Fall/Winter Conf, Trent Grandy (8Hrs)

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5/29-6/3-11     | Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) (48 Hours)<br>~Drake Hotel, Chicago IL.             |
| 9/27-9/28-10    | Fall 2010 Death Investigation and Forensic Seminar<br>~Office of the Medical Examiner                     |
| 10/1/09-9/24/10 | National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA)<br>~ ATF                                                        |
| 5/7/2010        | Machine Gun Conversion Course<br>~ Firearms Technology Branch, Martinsburg WV.                            |
| 10/7/2009       | BPA-Cast-offs-Is This The Beginning or The End?<br>~Tri-Division IAI conference-Craig Moore               |
| 10/6-10/8-09    | Forensic Archeology/Crime Scenes Involving Skeletal Remains<br>~Tri-Division IAI conference-Karen Cooper  |
| 10/6-10/9-09    | 2009 Tri-Division Educational Conference<br>~ Texas Station, Las Vegas Nevada                             |
| 9/28-10/2-09    | Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (40 Hours)<br>~National Forensic Academy-Paulette Sutton, Steve Nichols       |
| 9/23-9/24-09    | Serial Number Restoration<br>~NWAFS/RMDIAI- Glenn Davis (16 Hours)                                        |
| 9/21-9/22-09    | Shotgun Pattern Interpretation/Trajectory Into Vehicles<br>~NWAFS/RMDIAI- (16 Hours)                      |
| 9/9/2009        | Ethics in Forensic Science<br>~UBFS                                                                       |
| 8/2-8/7-09      | Trace Evidence Symposium (40 hours)<br>~Various                                                           |
| 02/26/2009      | Search and Seizure<br>~UBFS                                                                               |
| 11/5/08         | Clandestine Laboratory Myths and Realities.<br>~ Matt Jorgensen NWAFS (4 hours)                           |
| 11/3-11/4-08    | Explosives Analysis Workshop<br>~ Ronald Kelly (FBI) NWAFS (16 hours)                                     |
| 08/14/2008      | Submerged Evidence Recovery and Documentation<br>~ UBFS (12 hours)                                        |
| 06/18/2008      | Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation<br>~Utah IAI, Brent Horn, Ed Leis, James May                |
| 06/10-06/11-08  | Uncertainty of Measurements and ISO 17025 Assessment<br>~Mark Ruefenacht, Heusser Neweigh                 |
| 06/02-06/06-08  | Forensic Paint Examinations and Comparison (40 Hours)<br>~Scott Ryland, CBI                               |
| 06/19/2007      | Internal Auditor Training<br>~UBFS (4 Hours)                                                              |
| 02/27-03/01-07  | EDAX Microanalysis Training (36 Hours)                                                                    |
| 01/22-02/02-06  | Crime Scene Specialist Training (80 Hours)<br>~UBFS                                                       |
| 10/3-10/5-06    | Basic Post Blast Training (24Hours)<br>~FBI                                                               |
| 09/11-9/15-06   | DEA Forensic Chemist Seminar (40 hours)<br>~DEA                                                           |
| 05/10/2006      | GC/MS Training Seminar (8 hours)<br>~Restek                                                               |
| 4/25/2006       | Crime Scene Response training / Fingerprints (3 hours)<br>~Trent Grandy, Utah Bureau of Forensic Services |
| 4/5/2006        | Crime Scene Response training (3 hours)<br>~Stu Smith, Utah Bureau of Forensic Services                   |
| 2/28/2006       | Cross Country GC and GC/MS Seminar (8 hours)<br>~Agilent Technologies                                     |
| 1/12/2006       | Marijuana Leaf Identification Technician/Unit Training (32 hours)                                         |

12/5/2005 ~Jay Henry, Deputy Bureau Director, Utah Bureau of Forensic Services  
Courtroom Testimony Techniques (16 hours)  
~Dwane Hilderbrand, Ron Smith and Associates Inc.  
05-2001 Crime Scene Academy (40 hours)  
~Kevin Patrick, Todd Van Buren Utah Bureau of Forensic Services

### **Institutions/ Manufacturing Companies visited**

Stratasys Additive Manufacturing May 24, 2023  
Silencerco- West Valley, Utah. March 29, 2017  
SIG-Sauer – Exeter, NH April 5, 2010  
Sturm, Ruger, & Co. – Newport, NH April 6, 2010  
Thompson Center Arms – Rochester, NH April 7, 2010  
Kahr Arms Inc. – Worcester, MA April 7, 2010  
Remington Arms – Ilion, NY April 8, 2010  
Yankee Hill Machine Co. – Florence, MA April 9, 2010  
Drill Master Inc. – Milford, CT April 26, 2010  
Lyman Products Corporation – Middletown, CT April 26, 2010  
O.F. Mossberg and Sons – North Haven, CT April 27, 2010  
U.S. Firearms Manufacturing Co. – Hartford, CT April 27, 2010  
Smith and Wesson – Springfield, MA April 28, 2010  
Savage Arms Inc. – Westfield, MA April 28, 2010  
Charter Arms Corp. – Shelton, CT April 29, 2010  
Connecticut Shotgun – New Britain, CT April 29, 2010  
Colt Manufacturing Co. – East Hartford, CT April 30, 2010  
Remington Arms Company, Inc. – Little Rock, Arkansas February 2010  
Barnes Bullets- Mona, Utah January 2010

### **Professional Conferences Attended**

Sporting, Hunting, Outdoors Trade Show 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021  
Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2025  
I.A.I. Tri-Division Educational Conference- 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011  
Trace Evidence Symposium 2009  
Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists (C.L.I.C.) -2008  
Utah I.A.I. Fall and Spring conferences 2008,2009, 2010, 2011, 2012  
North West Association of Forensic Scientist -2008,2009

### **Instructor/Guest Lecturer**

Reloading Fundamentals and Practical Aspect in Forensics-2025 AFTE Conference Workshop co-instructor  
National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA), Tool Mark Module (2019,2020,2021).  
Three day (24hr)-Crime Scene Shooting Reconstruction class (Instructed 4 times)  
Utah Sheriffs Association, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Corrections and L.E. Training conf.  
Salt Lake Community College- Salt Lake City Utah. Firearms/TM Lecture  
Evanston High School- Evanston High School. Forensic Chemistry/ Firearms/TM Lectures  
Office of the Medical Examiner Fall 2010 Death Investigation and Forensic Seminar  
Crime Scene Response Training  
Marijuana Leaf identification course  
Utah I.A.I; Night Photography, Firearms documentation and trajectories.  
Field Identification Drug Officers (FIDO) Course  
Payette High School-Payette, ID. Forensic Chemistry Lecture  
Eastern Oregon University- La Grande, OR. Forensic Chemistry Lecture

**Presentations:**

“Analysis and Sequencing of Bullet Strikes on the Spoke of a Moving Wheel” AFTE 2013 Conference.

**Courtroom Qualified**

Chemistry- 22 Times

Trace Evidence – 1 Time

Firearms/ToolMarks- 32 Times

**Membership in Professional Organizations**

NSSF SHOT Show Safety Advisor 2022, 2023, 2024

Association of Firearms and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE)

-Nominating committee 2021, 2022, 2023 (Chair)

-Editorial Committee

-Glossary Committee

-Web Forum Moderator

American Society for Trace Evidence Examiners ASTEE

Association for Crime Scene Reconstruction (A.C.S.R.)

Utah Chapter of IAI/ -Past President

Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists (C.L.I.C)

A.C.S Student Affiliate Member 2004-2005

**Awards and Recognitions**

Departmental recognition award

Dept. of Public Safety Distinguished Service Medal