



# Iowa Division of the International Association for Identification

Over the past three weeks our nation has been drastically affected by the COVID-19 Virus. Our past practices, for virtually every activity, have been upended resulting in what seems to be a new normal for the foreseeable future. Please know that the Iowa division of the IAI is here to support you as you courageously continue to serve others.

We have a tremendous amount of pride and respect for law enforcement, fire department, and healthcare personnel knowing that while others are being asked to shelter from this terrible virus, you are on the front lines serving your communities. The Iowa IAI Officers and Board would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to all of you during these challenging, unprecedented times.

With the uncertainty associated with this pandemic, our regular lives have been put on hold. Most, if not all members, have been put on travel restrictions. Many of you have been put on work restrictions as well. Your health, along with those around you, is of the utmost importance, and we encourage you to continue to monitor conditions and follow guidance from the Center of Disease Control (CDC) and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH).

The uncertainty of COVID-19 can increase feelings of anxiety and stress, which is a normal response under such circumstances. Fear and anxiety about a disease and exposure to it can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions. In a time where social distancing is required, it is important to stay connected to your emotions and to the emotions of those individuals close to you. Serving our communities is vitally important at this time, and it is only possible if you continue to take care of yourself and those around you.

The Iowa IAI currently has two events scheduled in the near future. The Advanced Crime Scene School is currently scheduled for September 21-25 and the 2020 Iowa IAI Educational Conference and Business Meeting is scheduled for November 4-6. With the COVID-19 situation evolving daily, if not hourly, the IAI Officers and

Board will be discussing these planned events and will notify our members of any changes to this schedule as soon as a decision is made.

We are grateful for each and every one of you and hope that you stay safe and healthy during this challenging time. If there is anything our association can do for you and your agency please do not hesitate to communicate that to us. Take care of yourself and we look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Respectfully,

The IAI Officers and Board of Directors

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