

NFSTC Launches ForensicScienceSimplified.org—A Layman’s Guide to Forensic Science

ForensicScienceSimplified.org, a new website developed by the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) and funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), makes it easy to understand the what, why and how of forensic science.

Developed with noted experts, this straightforward guide walks non-scientists through the key disciplines that are crucial to today’s investigative and judicial process.

The name of the website says it all. From firearms examination to video enhancement, the site provides simple, easy-to-understand explanations of 11 different forensic disciplines (with more in the works). Each section presents the principles behind the techniques, approaches for discovering and collecting evidence, and an overview of how it’s enhanced and processed once it gets back to the lab.

The Simplified Guide also clears up common misconceptions about what the science can and can’t accomplish. This free online resource is a valuable guide for police officers, attorneys, educators and the general public.

“In today’s courtroom, where jurors increasingly expect forensic evidence to be presented, it’s helpful for officers of the court and other non-scientists to have a trusted, free resource that explains the basics of forensic science in easily understood terms,” said Kevin Lothridge, CEO of NFSTC.

To make it easy and enjoyable to navigate, the site is built using “responsive” web design that automatically adjusts to your smartphone, tablet or desktop computer.

Try out the site! www.ForensicScienceSimplified.org

Please forward to colleagues, educators, students or anyone you think would be interested.

About the Project:

The concept for ForensicScienceSimplified.org arose from a focus group of professionals from the legal, judicial, law enforcement and educational fields. Convened to discuss areas where forensic science training and technical assistance was most needed, the group identified a need for additional resources to provide basic forensic science education.

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