

Grant R. Sperry:

The 2013 Albert S. Osborn Award Recipient

Joseph Parker

At the August 2013 AGM in Indianapolis, IN, Grant R. Sperry became the 11th recipient of the Albert S. Osborn Award for Excellence. This award is the highest honor given by the Society and is only bestowed on persons who have attained exceptional distinction in terms of:

- cumulative activities, such as professional research or literary accomplishments which advance the field of questioned document examination, and
- outstanding service to the ASQDE over a long period of time, such service resulting in generally recognized and beneficial improvements in the Society.

Grant Sperry began his career in forensic document examination in 1978, entering the two-year formal training at the United States Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL-CONUS) in Fort Gordon, GA.

Following the successful completion of his training in 1980, Grant began examining what would eventually involve many thousands of document cases submitted by investigative units of all U. S. service branches, NATO forces, and other Federal agencies. His military assignments included service at the USACIL-CONUS labs, both at Fort Gordon and Fort Gillem, GA, and as Chief of the Questioned Documents Division at the USACIL-EUROPE in Frankfurt, Germany.

Following retirement from military service in 1992, Grant maintained employment as a Forensic Document Examiner with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Forensic Lab at Memphis, TN, until the closure of that Lab in 2006. Concurrent with his U. S. Postal Inspection Service FDE employment, Grant began his FDE private practice in 1993, which he continues to operate in Germantown, TN.

Grant is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), past member of the Forensic Science Foundation's Board of Trustees, a member of the Southeastern Association of Forensic Document Examiners (SAFDE), and a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners (ABFDE). In 1998, he received the AAFS QD Section's Ordway Hilton Award. He is the author of a number of published articles and professional papers in the FDE field. Grant has provided innumerable training events for investigators and attorneys throughout Department of Defense, other Federal agencies, state and local agencies.



Grant served as the 27th President of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners from 2002-2004. Prior to his election as President, he served as Treasurer and Vice President of the Society. He is credited with advancing the Society through the initiation of the Society's web site and the rendering of annual meeting papers to digital media. He has also served the Society as web editor, curator of the ASQDE Library, AGM program chairman, resource committee chairman, Editor of the Journal of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, and as a co-trainer for a trainee breakout training session. In conjunction with his work as Curator of the ASQDE Library, Grant is currently correlating articles and materials in the ASQDE collection for addition to QDAD.

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Congratulations to Grant on his receipt of this well-deserved award.