

2023 Albert S. Osborn Award Recipient

Samiah Ibrahim

It was an honour and privilege to present the Albert S. Osborn Award of Excellence to Past-President Diane Tolliver. I cannot think of a more deserving Society member or a lovelier recipient.

The nomination was received from Lauren Logan, a former member of the Society and unanimously approved by the EC. Lauren's nomination letter was so poignant and perfect, it is reproduced here for all to read.

"I would like to nominate Diane Tolliver for the 2023 ASQDE Albert S. Osborn Award of Excellence. After knowing her professionally and personally, I feel she meets all the criteria outlined as contributing above and beyond expectations for a Society member.

Diane began her career as a document examiner for the Indiana State Police in 1975. Within the state police laboratory, she completed document cases and testimony for 35 years, trained new examiners, helped build and design the document unit for the new laboratory in Indianapolis, and retired in 2011.

As for her work in the field of questioned document examination, Diane has been a regular member of ASQDE since 1990 and past president from 2000 – 2002. She also served as editor of the ABFDE news (1994–1997 and 2012–2015) and as an ASCLD/Lab inspector from 2001 to 2009. Her other contributions to the field include starting the FaxFont Database and publishing papers on ESDA examinations, the pencil, and document examiner training for the Journal of Forensic Sciences.

Lastly, Diane has stepped in as the ASQDE Library curator since it has moved to Indianapolis in 2018. As the curator, she has organized and deassessed the collection, created auctions of duplicate materials to bring funds back to the library, set up a system to effectively obtain collections from retiring document examiners, and worked with several interns on the



proper preservation of items within the collection. The Resource Center holds reference materials, including approximately 450 books and 250 journals.

Diane Tolliver is relentlessly willing to help and offer encouragement to colleagues. Her past and continued work for not only the field of questioned document examination, but particularly for ASQDE, qualifies her for this award many times over. I would greatly appreciate it if you would consider this a nomination for the 2023 award, despite its late arrival, as she plans to attend the meeting in New York this year."

I echo Lauren's sentiments and was so pleased to present the Albert S. Osborn Award of Excellence to Diane Tolliver for her continued excellence. You are a role model for us all.