

# KATHLEEN A. CLARDY

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Forensic Scientist • Firearms Examiner

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FORENSIC CASEWORK      Firearm Function, Caliber Determination, GRC List, IBIS/NIBIN Entry, Serial Number Restoration, and Firearm Identification & Comparison

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EDUCATION      **Anthropology (B.A.)** – University of South Carolina  
*Concentration in Biological & Forensic Anthropology*

**Biology (Continuing Education)** – University of South Carolina  
*Electron Microscopy, Biology, and Forensic Chemistry coursework*

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## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

### DATE BEGAN

Member of the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE)      September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Certified in Firearms Evidence Examination and Identification by AFTE      December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Acting member of the AFTE Unpublished Research Committee      September 2019

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## COURTROOM TESTIMONY

### DISCIPLINE

### SUPERIOR

### FEDERAL

Firearms Examination and Identification

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## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

**Owner of Clarity Forensic Consulting, LLC**  
Forensic Firearms Examiner and Expert Witness  
Established March 2022

**University of North Carolina School of Medicine** – Chapel Hill  
Research Specialist • Microscopist in the Microscopy Services Laboratory  
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Hire Date: August 2021

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## PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

May 2014 – August 2021      **North Carolina State Crime Laboratory** - Firearms Section  
Forensic Scientist II • Firearms Examiner  
Primary Duties: Forensic analysis of firearms, projectiles, and cartridge cases.

- June 2013 – August 2013     **Electron Microscopy Center** - University of South Carolina  
 Research Assistant  
Primary Duties: Processed biological samples for scanning and transmission electron microscope. Edited electron microscopy images taken by laboratory to create an image gallery for online access by potential clients, students, and users.
- June 2012 - August 2013     **Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology** - University of South Carolina  
 School of Medicine  
 Pathology Intern • Volunteer  
Primary Duties: Developed an online virtual microscope program for clinical pathology instructors. Received hands-on forensic and clinical pathology training.
- July 2011 – August 2013     **Department of Biology** - University of South Carolina  
 Histology Teaching Assistant  
Primary Duties: Collaborated with colleagues in the development and execution of a virtual microscopy program for distance education science courses. Assisted course instructor with teaching histology course to enrolled graduate and undergraduate students.
- May 2007 – May 2008     **Department of Anthropology** - University of South Carolina  
 Field Assistant/Lab Assistant  
Primary Duties: Assisted forensic anthropologists and South Carolina law enforcement agencies in the recovery of human skeletal remains. Received formal field school training for archaeological recovery of artifacts and skeletal remains. Assisted archaeologists on numerous archaeology sites for artifact collection and analysis. Conducted research on the dating and identification of cartridge cases found at the Mann-Simons archaeological site.
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## TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

- Mar 2021     **Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence (CSAFE) Short Course Series: Statistical Thinking for Forensic Practitioners**  
*Fundamental concepts from probability and statistics followed by a detailed investigation of how they apply to assess forensic evidence's probative value* –Virtual Event
- Dec 2020     **Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence (CSAFE) Firearms Workshop**  
*Workshop on the analysis and interpretation of bullet and cartridge case evidence using 3D technologies* –Virtual Event
- Nov 2020     **Forensics at NIST**  
*An overview of advanced methods in metrology, computer science, and statistics to strengthen forensic science* – Virtual Event hosted in partnership with CSAFE and OSAC
- Sep 2020     **Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science Public Update Meeting**  
*Presentations from the chairs of OSAC's Forensic Science Standards Board to discuss standards their unit is working on, as well as research gaps, challenges, and priorities in the upcoming year* – Virtual Event
- May 2019     **2nd Annual NIBIN Users Group Round-Table Meeting**

- Hosted by ATF and Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology for the 50th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Nashville, TN*
- May 2019 **Berretta Manufacturing Tour**  
*Hosted by Beretta in Gallatin, TN for the 50th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Nashville, TN*
- May 2019 **Implementation and Practical Applications of 3D Technology, Analysis and Statistics for Firearms and Toolmark Examinations**  
*Methodology and experience using Virtual Microscopy (VM) in Firearms casework, including a final practical exam using the FBI's VM test set used for validation of their current instrumentation. Workshop hosted by NIST at the 50th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Nashville, TN*
- May 2019 **Tour of the Tennessee State Museum Antique Firearms Collection**  
*Workshop on antique firearm function, operation, and care. Tour included familiarization of gunsmith tools and history of firearms development in the US from 1750 to 1950. 50<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Nashville, TN*
- May 2019 **Firearms Casework Documentation Workshop**  
*50<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Nashville, TN*
- March 2019 **Subclass Characteristics Workshop**  
*FATE Forensic Instruction hosted by Nancy McCombs – Raleigh, NC*
- Jan 2019 **Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show**  
*National Shooting Sports Foundation – Las Vegas, NV*
- Nov 2018 **Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) Data Acquisition Training - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) – Raleigh, NC**
- June 2018 **Tour of the Manufacturing Facility for the IBIS/NIBIN System**  
*Forensic Technology, Inc. (subsidiary of Ultra Electronics) – Montréal, Canada*
- June 2018 **ANAB ISO/IEC 17025:2005 Forensic Science Accreditation Requirements as it Applies to Firearms Identification**  
*49th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Charleston, WV*
- June 2018 **How to Identify “Other” Firearms**  
*49th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Charleston, WV*
- June 2018 **Trajectory of Vehicles: Rods, Strings and Lasers**  
*49th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Charleston, WV*
- June 2018 **Distance Determination: An Overview**  
*49th Annual AFTE Training Seminar – Charleston, WV*
- June 2017 **NCSC Phase II Training Program for Firearm, Cartridge, and Projectile Analysis**  
*Forensic Firearms Identification History, Firearms Manufacturing Processes, Ballistics, Projectile Trajectory Determination, Individual Characteristics, Presentation of Evidence in Court, Part II – Raleigh, NC.*
- Jan 2017 **Concealed Carry Handgun Training Course**  
*North Carolina Criminal Justice Education & Training Standards Commission – Johnston Co., NC*
- Sept 2016 **Armory Tour of the National Museum of the Marine Corps**  
*Private tour of the firearm reference collection maintained by museum historians – Quantico, VA*
- July 2016 **NCSC Phase I Training Program for Firearm, Cartridge, and Projectile Analysis**

- Firearms Safety, History of Firearms, Mechanics, Serial Number Restoration, Microscopy, Ammunition, Comparison Microscopy & Fired Ammunition Class Characteristics, Presentation of Evidence in Court* – Raleigh, NC
- June 2016 **Quantitative Measurement and Automated Bullet Comparison Using High-Resolution Optical 3D Surface Metrology**  
*47<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar*—New Orleans, LA
- May 2016 **Expert Witness Testimony Techniques for Firearms Examiners in Post Daubert/NAS Report and Current NCFS Environment**  
*47<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar*—New Orleans, LA
- June 2015 **Introduction to Firearms Comparison and Analysis**  
*Continuing Education Forensic Professional Program at West Virginia University* – Morgantown, WV
- Mar 2015 **False-Positive and False-Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Comparisons**  
*NIJ Forensic Technology Center of Excellence* – Online Course
- Feb 2015 **Mechanics, Function, and Conversions of Fully Automatic Firearms**  
*Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE)* – Raleigh, NC
- Nov 2014 **Firearms Admissibility**  
*RTI International and National Institute of Justice* – Virtual Course
- July 2014 –  
Sept 2014 **Forensic Scientist Academy**  
*A modular introduction to individual forensic science disciplines* – NCSCCL in Raleigh, NC
- Aug 2014 **Firearm Manufacturers Tour**  
*Tour of firearm manufacturing facilities: Kel-Tec CNC Industries in Cocoa, FL, Knight's Armament Company in Titusville, FL, SCCY Industries in Daytona Beach, FL, FN Manufacturing in Columbia, SC, Barrett Firearms Manufacturing in Murfreesboro, TN.*
- May 2014 **Shooting Reconstruction: 4 Elements of Trajectory**  
*RTI International and National Institute of Justice* – Virtual Course
- Sept 2013 **NRA Basic Pistol Safety**  
*National Rifle Association hosted by City of Columbia Police Department* – Columbia, SC

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## ARMORER SCHOOLS

- Aug 2018 **Smith & Wesson M&P Rifle Armorer's Course**  
*North Carolina State Crime Laboratory* – Raleigh, NC
- June 2018 **Ruger LCP and LCP II Armorer's Course**  
*49<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar* – Charleston, WV
- Aug 2017 **Smith & Wesson M&P Pistol Armorer's Course**  
*North Carolina Justice Academy* – Salemburg, NC
- June 2016 **Hi-Point Firearms Familiarization/Armorer's Course**  
*47<sup>th</sup> Annual AFTE Training Seminar*—New Orleans, LA
- Aug 2014 **Glock Pistols Armorer School**  
*Course on firearm function, disassembly, assembly, maintenance, and repair* – Haw River, NC
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## MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

- Apr 2021      **National Institute of Justice Forensic Science Research and Development Symposium**  
*An overview of ongoing research and development within forensic science. Hosted by RTI International – Virtual Event*
- Nov 2019      **AFTE Eastern Regional Fall Training Seminar**  
*FBI Laboratory – Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA*
- May 2019      **50<sup>th</sup> AFTE Annual Training Seminar**  
*Nashville, TN*
- Oct 2018      **AFTE Eastern Regional Fall Training Seminar**  
*FBI Laboratory – Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA*
- June 2018      **49<sup>th</sup> AFTE Annual Training Seminar**  
*Charleston, WV*
- Sept 2016      **East Coast Regional Firearms Conference**  
*ATF Forensic Science Laboratory – Beltsville, Maryland*
- May 2016      **47<sup>th</sup> AFTE Annual Training Seminar**  
*New Orleans, LA*
- Oct 2015      **AFTE Eastern Regional Fall Training Seminar**  
*FBI Laboratory – Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA*
- Aug 2015      **Impression Pattern and Trace Evidence Symposium**  
*Nation Institute of Justice – Virtual Attendance*
- Nov 2014      **Breakout Session: Firearms and Toolmarks 2012 IPES Conference**  
*RTI International and National Institute of Justice – Virtual Attendance*
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## PUBLICATIONS

- 2008              “Dating and Identifying American Rimfire and Centerfire Metallic Cartridges.” *South Carolina Antiquities*. Vol. 40: 152-158. Awarded “Publication of the Year.”
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## PRESENTATIONS

- Mar 2022      **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Whiskey in the Courtroom Symposium**  
“Testimony Questions for the Firearms Examiner: Prior Experience and Subclass”  
*Duke Law, Center for Criminal Justice & Professional Responsibility – Durham, NC*
- Jan 2021      **CCI Online Workshop**  
“Testimony Practices for Firearms and Toolmark Examiners”  
*California Criminalistics Institute - Virtual*
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