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Department of Life Sciences, CS-250
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Education/Certification:

- 2013 Board Certified: Diplomate, American Board of Forensic Anthropology, Number 100
- 2001 Doctor of Philosophy in Physical Anthropology
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
Dissertation: *Plague and Pestilence in Colonial Louisiana and Texas, 1777-1778*
Accelerated Master's Program Thesis: *Evidence of Association between Cranial Modeling and Supra-Inion Depressions*
- 1988 Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, with minor in Biology
Summa cum laude
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Current Academic Appointment:

September 2018—present

Assistant Professor and Forensic Program Coordinator, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, College of Science and Engineering, Department of Life Sciences

- Development and coordination of the former Forensic Science Track, adding new courses in the forensic sciences, working toward a minor in the program and program certification
- Developed and taught new course for Spring 2019, *Exploring Careers in the Forensic Sciences*
- Director of Forensic Anthropology Center (FAC) Laboratory
- Teaching two courses per fall and spring semesters

Professional Experience:

September 2016–2018

Identification Manager, Forensic Anthropology Division, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (HCIFS), Houston, Texas. Primary responsibilities include:

- Development, writing, and implementation of standard operating procedures following ISO 17020 accreditation standards
- Management of the personal identification process for medicolegal decedents
- Evaluation and resolution of identification related issues and non-conformities
- Chair of the Identification and Disposition Committee (IDC), a multidisciplinary panel that reviews complex identification cases, recommends actions, and monitors progress toward identification.
- Management of decedent release for Harris County-assisted burial or cremation

- Consultation with the HCIFS Medical Examiners on cases with skeletonization, bone trauma, bone pathology, and/or skeletal anomalies
- Laboratory analysis with detailed report for inclusion in the Medical Examiner autopsy report
- Court testimony as required
- Deployment for death scene recovery of skeletonized, charred, or commingled remains
- Participation in the Forensic Anthropology Division's research programs
- Coordination and monitoring of all interactions between the HCIFS and organ/tissue procurement agencies, including the development, writing, and implementation of standard operating procedures for the ongoing activities of procurement agencies at the HCIFS facility

Special Initiatives and Projects:

2016 Worked in collaboration with the HCIFS Quality Management Division and the Forensic Anthropology team to attain ANAB Forensic Inspection Program (ISO/IEC 17020 Standards) accreditation for the Forensic Anthropology Laboratory. The HCIFS Forensic Anthropology Laboratory is the only laboratory in the United States that is accredited for forensic anthropology by the ANAB.

2017 *Third Annual Missing in Harris County Day*, Houston, Texas, June 10, 2017

Annual community service educational event developed to help families and friends of missing persons make the necessary connections with the medical examiner's office, law enforcement, and local non-profit agencies, giving them the best chance of finding their missing loved ones. DNA samples are collected, missing persons reports are filed, and information is uploaded to national identification databases.

February 2006–September 2016

Agency Coordinator/Forensic Anthropologist, HCIFS (formerly the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office), Houston, Texas. Primary responsibilities included:

- Consultation with the HCIFS Medical Examiners on cases with skeletonization, bone trauma, bone pathology, and/or skeletal anomalies
- Laboratory analysis with detailed report for inclusion in the Medical Examiner autopsy report
- Court testimony as required
- Deployment for death scene recovery of skeletonized, charred, or commingled remains
- Participation in the Forensic Anthropology Division's research programs
- Principal Investigator for two large grant-funded research projects with supervision of two Forensic Anthropology Fellows funded by the grants
- Management of decedent release for Harris County-assisted burial or cremation.
- Coordination and monitoring of all interactions between the HCIFS and organ/tissue procurement agencies, including the development, writing, and implementation of standard operating procedures for the ongoing activities of procurement agencies at the HCIFS facility

Special Initiatives and Projects:

2009 Organized a committee of HCIFS faculty and staff to develop an application for accreditation to the Texas Medical Association as a provider of AMA physician continuing medical education credits. Coordinated the committee efforts, co-wrote the application, and directed the site visit by the inspectors. Provisional accreditation was awarded in 2010 (Texas Medical Association for the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education providers).

2011 Coordinated a standing committee of HCIFS faculty and staff and co-wrote the application for full accreditation by the Texas Medical Association as a continuing medical education provider. Coordinated and directed the inspection visit. Full accreditation was awarded in 2012. HCIFS is the only medical examiner's office in Texas that holds this accreditation.

2015 *First Missing in Harris County Day*, Houston, Texas, April 25, 2015

Initiated, developed, and coordinated a local community service educational event to assist families and friends of missing persons make the necessary connections with the medical examiner's office, law enforcement, and local non-profit agencies. DNA samples were collected, missing persons reports were filed, and information was uploaded to national identification databases.

2016 *Second Annual Missing in Harris County Day*, Houston, Texas, May 14, 2016

February 2003–February 2006

Injury Surveillance Coordinator, Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services, Houston, Texas.

Primary responsibilities included:

- Development and supervision of the Fatality Review Program
- Chair of the Houston/Harris County Child Fatality Review Team
- Liaison with the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office
- Member of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team
- Member of the Elder Fatality Review Team
- Member of the Houston-Area Suicide Prevention Coalition
- Surveillance of adult and child injury fatalities in Harris County/Houston
- Coordination of research on injury and mortality issues
- Principal Investigator on one grant-funded research project with supervision of one full-time employee funded by the grant

January 2002–January 2003

Child Fatality Epidemiologist, Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services, Houston, Texas.

Primary responsibilities included:

- Coordinator/Member of the Houston/Harris County Child Fatality Review Team
- Surveillance of child injury fatalities in Harris County/Houston
- Liaison with the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office

January 2001–June 2001

Senior Bioarchaeologist, Matagorda Cemetery Project, Center for Ecological Archaeology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Primary responsibilities included:

- *In situ* analysis of one historical grave site (Civil War era) containing multiple individuals believed to be members of a family who died in a cholera epidemic
- Supervised skeletal inventory by graduate students
- Developed biological profiles
- Examined skeletons for trauma or pathology
- Authored report of the analysis

June 1998–August 1999

Osteological Field Manager, Allen Parkway Village/Third New City Cemetery Project, PBS&J Corporation, Austin, Texas. Primary responsibilities included:

- Direction and supervision of human remains recovery from a large historically important 19th century cemetery containing approximately 400 graves
- Management of the osteological analysis team during the laboratory phase of the project
- Analysis of the resulting data (biological profiles, skeletal trauma and pathology)
- Co-authorship of the published report submitted to the City of Houston Housing Authority and the Texas Historical Commission

November 1995–July 1996

Assistant NAGPRA Coordinator (Graduate Assistant for Dr. D. Gentry Steele), Human Collections Facility, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Primary responsibilities included:

- Inventory the human remains housed in the Human Collections Facility in order to bring Texas A&M University into compliance with the Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act
- Co-authorship of a comprehensive report on the human remains submitted to the Office of the United States National Archaeologist, Washington, D.C.

October 1990–February 2002

Consultant Bioarchaeologist/Osteologist

Self-employed contractor on grave removal and skeletal analysis projects for the following agencies:

- Texas Historical Commission
- Prewitt and Associates, Inc.
- Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.
- Chambers County Sheriff's Department
- Texas A&M University
- Quest Realty

Academic Appointments (Adjunct/Teaching Assistant):

2010–Present 0 courses *Adjunct Professor*, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston

2009–2010 0 courses *Adjunct Professor*, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston

2008–2011 0 courses *Adjunct Professor*, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station

Peoples and Cultures (ANTH 205 Lecture) Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Fall Semester 1994 and Spring Semester 1995

Graduate Instructor with full responsibility for an auditorium lecture course on the subjects of introductory cultural and social anthropology.

Physical Anthropology (ANTH 225 Lab Section), Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Fall Semester 1992–Spring Semester 1994

Graduate Instructor for two four-hour credit lab sections per semester.

Invited Lectures (selected):

2018 The Earl Carl Institute's 5th Annual Child Welfare Forensics Continuing Legal Education Conference, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, April 25, 2018

Examination of Young Children in the Medical Examiner Setting: Injuries Assessed by the Forensic Anthropologist.

Homicide Theory undergraduate course at the University of Houston, Pearland Campus, Pearland, Texas, 04/25/2018

Serial Killer Homicides Investigated by the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office

- 2017 Second Annual Genetics in Forensics Congress, London, United Kingdom, March 15, 2017
Long-Term Unidentified Medical Examiner Cases: Is it Ever Too Late?
- 2013 Careers in Forensic Science survey course at Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas
Twenty years of Crime Laboratory and Mortality Data: Research opportunities at the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences
- 2012 Special Review of Unidentified Cases, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Alexandria, Virginia
The Lost Boys of 1970-1973
Review of unidentified male teens from the "Houston Mass Murders"
- 2011 62nd Annual James Steele Conference on Diseases in Nature Transmissible to Man
Corpus Christi, Texas, Luncheon Keynote Speaker
From Colonial Plague to H1N1: the multiple roles of the anthropologist in an urban medical examiner office

Death Scene Training Instructor

Regular, recurring topical field training events for pathology fellows, medicolegal death investigators, crime scene investigators and law enforcement officers.

Most recent course in 2017: Site Survey and Clandestine Burial Training, Houston, Texas.

Joint instruction exercise in collaboration with the FBI.

Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Topics in Forensic Science Conference, Houston, Texas

Recurring lecture at established annual conference; typical attendees are forensic pathologists, medicolegal death investigators, attorneys, and homicide detectives.

Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Anthropology Short Course, Houston, Texas

Recurring lecture and field recovery training for forensic pathology fellows, medicolegal death investigators, and law enforcement officers.

Professional Development and Training:

A list of additional training certificates from 2014-2017 is available on request.

National Incident Management System, Courses 100, 200, 300, 700, 800

Participated in tabletop exercises, and completed online and lecture courses

- 2017 Participated as the Identification Manager in the HCIFS Identification and Disposition Committee
Tabletop Exercise, Houston, Texas
Discussed three scenarios of mass fatality events with complex personal identification issues of medicolegal decedents.

- 2015 Participated as a forensic anthropologist in the HCIFS Mass Fatality Exercise, Houston, Texas First responder and medical examiner training in use of the HCIFS Portable Morgue during a mass fatality event.
- 2013 *Uncertainty of Measurements*
Presented by Michal Pierce, MS, Director of Quality Management, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas.
- 2010 *DNA: Why Molecular ID Matters*, Syracuse University Dialogues in Forensic Science. Sponsored by the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice (2009-DN-BX-K201), Syracuse, New York.
- 2010 *Confirmation Bias, Ethics, and Mistakes in Forensics*
Presented by Jon S. Byrd, MS, Invited Lecturer, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas.
- 2008 *Forensic Science Training and Development Symposium to Reduce the Number of Missing Persons and Unidentified Decedents*, 24 hours of Continuing Education, University of North Texas Health Science Center for Human Identification, Fort Worth, Texas.

Professional Organizations:

American Board of Forensic Anthropology (ABFA), *Diplomate #100*
American Academy of Forensic Sciences, *Fellow*
National Association of Medical Examiners, *Professional Consultant Member*
American Association of Physical Anthropologists, *Member*
Society of Forensic Anthropologists, *Member*
Texas Archaeological Society, *Member*

Service – Professional Organizations:

- 2017–Present National Institute of Justice Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC)
Forensic Anthropology Subcommittee, *Member*
- 2017–Present American Board of Forensic Anthropology Certification Examination Question Committee, *Member*
- 2015–2016 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Anthropology Section Policy and Procedures Review Committee, *Member*
- 2014–Present National Institute of Justice Grant Proposal Peer Reviewer
- 2013–Present Southeast Texas Applied Forensic Science (STAFS) Facility Research Review Committee, *Member*

Civic Awards:

2010. Special Recognition in Service to the City of Houston, Texas. Recognition certificate awarded by Mayor Annise Parker in appreciation for identification of cold case homicide victims.

Grants (Principal Investigator):

2013–2015 National Institute of Justice Using DNA to Identify the Missing (Derrick) 10/01/2013, **\$159,658**

“Project to Identify Cold Case Decedents”. The project exhumed up to 21 unidentified medicolegal case decedents for DNA and anthropologic analysis.

2010–2013 National Institute of Justice Research and Development on Forensic Crime Scene and Medicolegal Death Investigations (Derrick) 9/1/2010

\$366,361

“Novel Computer-assisted Identification Method Using Radiograph Comparison”.

The project developed and validated a new automated method of personal identification for use in medical examiner/coroner offices.

2004–2005 State of Texas Criminal Justice Division 421 Grant, (Derrick) 9/01/2004-8/31/2005, **\$44,361.00**, renewed for an additional two years for a total of approximately **\$100,000**

This award funded the activities of the Fatality Review Program at Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services.

Publications:

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4735-3714>

Books and Book Chapters

Derrick SM, Hipp J, Goel P

2017. Chapter 23: The CADI Method of Computer-Assisted Radiographic Identification. In: Bartelink E and Latham K (eds), *New Perspectives in Forensic Human Skeletal Identification*. Elsevier.

Love JC, **Derrick SM**

2017. Chapter 12: A Life History of Skeletal Trauma: Cases from a Medical Examiner’s Office. In: Tegtmeier C and Martin D (eds), *Broken Bones, Broken Bodies: Bioarchaeological and Forensic Approaches of Accumulative Trauma and Violence*. Lexington Books.

Love JC, **Derrick SM**, Wiersema JM

2011. *Skeletal Atlas of Child Abuse*. Springer Science/Humana Press, NY

Refereed Articles

Submitted to Journal of Forensic Sciences; February 2019. Soto Martinez M, Love J, Pinto D, Wiersema J, **Derrick S**, Bachim A, Greeley C, Donaruma-Kwoh M, Green C, Truong V, Gao S, Crowder C. The Infant Injury Database: A Tool for the Study of Injury Patterns in Medicolegal Investigations of Child Abuse.

Derrick SM, Figura B

2016. The Role of the Anthropologist in Identification at Two Urban Medical Examiner Offices: New York City and Harris County. *Acad Forensic Pathol.*; 2016 6(3): 413-423.

Oleske DA, Oleske DM, **Derrick SM**, Hines MO

2016. Suicide Trends and Risk Factors in Youth Aged 10-19 Years, Texas, USA. *Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf.*; 25:33-33.

Derrick SM, Raxter MH, Hipp JA, Goel P, Chan EF, Love JC, Wiersema JM, Akella NS

2015. Development of a Computer-Assisted Forensic Radiographic Identification Method Using the Lateral Cervical and Lumbar Spine. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*; Jan 60(1):5-12.

Wiersema JM, Love JC, **Derrick SM**, Pinto DC, Donaruma-Kwoh M, Greeley CS.

2014. Standardized Descriptive Method for the Anthropological Evaluation of Pediatric Skull Fractures *Journal of Forensic Sciences*; 59(6):1487-1492.

Love JC, **Derrick SM**, Wiersema JM, Peters C.

2014. Microscopic Saw Mark Analysis: an Empirical Approach. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*; Nov 14. Doi: 10.1111/1556-4029.12650.

Love JC, Wiersema JM, **Derrick SM**, Haden-Pinneri K

2014. The Value of the Pediatric Skeletal Examination in the Autopsy of Children. *Academic Forensic Pathology Journal*: 4(1):100-108.

Love JC, **Derrick SM**, Wiersema JM, Pinto DC, Greeley CS, Donaruma-Kwoh, M, Bista BR

2013. Novel Classification System of Rib Fractures in Infants. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*; March 58(2):330-335.

Love JC, **Derrick SM**, Wiersema JM, Peters C

2011. Validation of Tool Mark Analysis of Cut Costal Cartilage. *Journal of Forensic Sciences*; March 57(2):306-11.

Wolf DA, **Derrick SM** and Wood RP

2011. Preservation of Evidence during Organ Donation: A Modified Thoracotomy Procedure Designed to Increase Consent in Medical Examiner Cases. *Progress in Transplantation*. Vol 21(1):67-71.

Rosen DG, Lopez AE, Anzalone ML, Florez LF, Gonsoulin ML, Haden-Pinneri KH, Hines MO, Mitchell RA, Phatak DR, **Derrick SM**, Wolf DA, Sanchez LA

2010. Postmortem findings in eight cases of influenza A/H1N1. *Modern Pathology*. Nov 23(11):1449-57.

Derrick SM

2010. Review of Forensic Epidemiology. *Forensic Science, Medicine, and Pathology* Vol. 6, Issue 2:146. Epub February 27, 2010; DOI: 10.1007/s12024-010-9151-3, Springer Publishing.

Wolf DA and **Derrick SM**

2010. Undetermined Cause and Manner of Death after Organ/Tissue Donation. *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology* 31(2):1-4.

Derrick SM and Wilson DE

2001. The Effects of Epidemic Disease on Caddo Demographic Structure. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 72:91-103.

Derrick SM and Wilson DE

1997. Cranial Modeling as an Ethnic Marker among the Caddo. *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society* 68:139-146.

Recent Presentations and Published Abstracts: additional list available on request

Pope KC, Trammell LH, **Derrick SM**, Miller EA

2019. A Modern Application of Forensic Anthropology in Coroner and Medical Examiner Offices: A Preview. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 71st Mtg. Baltimore, Maryland.*

Derrick SM, Pinneri KH, Pinto DC

2017. Agenesis of the Thyroid Cartilage Superior Cornua: Implications for Autopsy. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 69th Mtg. New Orleans, Louisiana.*

Bird C, **Derrick SM**, Pinto DC, Wiersema JM Love, JC

2016. The Status of Unidentified Decedent Cold Cases at the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (HCIFS) from 1957 to 2015. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 68th Mtg. Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Doyle SN, **Derrick SM**

2016. Review of in-custody suicides in Harris County, 2009-2014. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 68th Mtg. Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Derrick SM

2016. Missing in Harris County Day: A Successful Initiative to Identify Unknown Decedents. National Association of Medical Examiners Annual Meeting, September 13, 2016. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Derrick SM

2014. Effective Use of Metadata in the Identification of Skeletal Remains with Weak DNA Kinship-Index Results. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 66th Mtg. Seattle, WA.*

Derrick SM, Raxter MH, Hipp JA, Love JC, Wiersema JM, Goel P, Sanchez LA, Akella NS

2013. Testing a New Computer-Assisted Forensic Identification Method Developed through Interdisciplinary Collaboration. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 65th Mtg. Washington D.C.*

Derrick SM, Hipp JA, Love JC, Wiersema JM, Shi C, Tan Z, Sanchez LA, Akella NS

2012. Ongoing Development of the Novel Computer-Assisted Radiograph Identification Method. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 64th Mtg. Atlanta, Georgia.*

Derrick SM, Hipp JA, Love JC, Wiersema JM, Sanchez LA, Akella NS

2011. New Method of Identification Based on Computer-Assisted Radiograph Comparison. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 63rd Mtg. Chicago, Illinois.*

Derrick SM, Love JC, Wiersema JM, Sanchez LA

2011. New Identifications in the Houston Mass Murder Cases of 1973. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 63rd Mtg. Chicago, Illinois.*

Derrick, SM

2011. Identifying the Lost Boys: Houston Mass Murder Cases of 1973. Texas Division of the International Association for Identification, June 11, 2011.

Derrick, SM

2011. Differentiating Human from Non-human Skeletal Remains. Texas Division of the International Association for Identification, June 11, 2011.

Derrick, SM

2010. *The Evolving distribution of Cause and Manner of Death in HIV Positive Medical Legal Cases: Links between ART and Traditional Categories of Chronic Disease*
American Academy of Forensic Sciences 62nd Meeting, Seattle, Washington

Published Report:

Wolf, DA, **Derrick, SM** and Wood RP

2010. *Procedural Modification for Thoracic Organ Recovery in Cases of Possible Child Abuse*. Print and electronic format available from the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, 1885 Old Spanish Trail, Houston, Texas 77054.