



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**WHO: Dr. William Anderson, Chief Toxicologist of Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division**

**WHAT: Awarded the Alexander O. Gettler Award from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences**

**WHERE: February 20, 2008 in Washington D.C**

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Dr. William Anderson, Chief Toxicologist of the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensics Science Division, is being awarded the Alexander O. Gettler Award from the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Washington D.C. on February 20, 2008.

Dr. Anderson is receiving this award for his contributions to forensic toxicology. He has published several papers concerning the development of analytical methods and the interpretation of postmortem toxicology results, especially concerning the postmortem redistribution of drugs. His team has published a series of papers and a book chapter concerning the fact that the concentration of some drugs may change after death rather than remain static.

"The thesis of the project was that the concentration of some drugs may be elevated in a heart blood specimen and our work proved that this may happen." states Anderson. "This was a novel concept when we presented the mechanisms of how this happened and how to deal with the problem. The work had a major impact on how postmortem drug concentrations are interpreted."

"It is an exceptional honor to be considered for the Alexander O. Gettler Award" says Sheriff Michael Haley. "It is no surprise to me that the work of our lab, specifically Dr. Anderson would be acknowledged on a national level. We are very proud of the quality of work and level of expertise our lab provides our community."

The Alexander O. Gettler award is given for outstanding contributions to the knowledge base of Forensic Toxicology.