Law Enforcement Challenges in Forensic Crime Scene Processing
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New technologies for forensic crime scene capture and analysis are rapidly being developed and coming on line. The ability of law enforcement to understand and adopt them is hindered by several factors. These include training, procurement and tech support. Because officers first and foremost need to master the skills required for modern law enforcement, agencies have significant difficulties in developing and maintaining specialized skill sets among their officers that many modern technologies often require for their professional use. This includes rapidly changing and advancing geospatial technologies. Add to this the requirements for forensic scientific validity and reliable processes, extended procurement processes, budget limitations, and technical support, and the challenges that law enforcement faces begin to come into focus.

Ranger Wilson is responsible for the training and proficiency of 24 officers working with Leica terrestrial laser scanners to capture and document crime scenes. He is also the Chair of the Texas Ranger Crime Scene Investigation Working Group assigned to design, implement and instruct advanced crime scene investigation techniques for the Texas Rangers. As such he is familiar with the challenges that law enforcement faces for the valid and reliable use of geospatial technology for forensic crime scene processing, and he will discuss them in his plenary address.