

Benefits of Membership

Networking

- **MEMBER DEVELOPMENT** through networking with other members, participation in committee activities and participation in other functions sponsored by the Association.

Credibility

- **A VIRTUAL MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** listing members' names and forensic specialties, which provides a marketing instrument for the organization and its members (www.forensic.org).
- **MCLE CONTINUING EDUCATION** credit for the legal profession (*and credit for CPAs coming soon*).

Professional Development

- **PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS and a 2-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE** designed for education, networking, and professional development of your practice.
- **A FORENSIC PRACTICE LIBRARY** with free member access. This library consists of various published articles, monographs, periodicals, reports, audiotapes, videos and other information of importance to members.
- **A BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER** notifying members of scheduled meetings, workshops and other events important to their development in the field of forensic practice; reporting on past events which may be of interest to members; and containing articles and other information of importance to members.

Community

- **A SPEAKERS BUREAU** whereby qualified FEWA members make presentations at meetings of other professional groups and prospective client organizations. Members participating in this program, in addition to improving their speaking skills, have the opportunity of broadcasting their personalities and their qualifications in the legal and professional communities.
- **Community Benefit** – FEWA is a community resource for all who seek qualified forensic services together with expertise in specialty fields. Members of FEWA are professionals as expert witnesses, with experience, training and skill in their specific disciplines.



Background of the Association

With increasing frequency, issues in litigation require the services of expert witnesses to enlighten judges and juries on technical matters and standards related to the cases brought before them. When these experts perform the necessary studies to assess and evaluate case conditions related to their individual fields of specialty and testify under oath or otherwise publicly make known their findings, conclusions and opinions, this work is known as forensic practice.

Most professional disciplines and trades do not focus on forensic practice and there is generally very little information concerning forensic practice available in these fields. Few, if any, educational and training programs are readily available for those who elect to practice forensics in their chosen field. FEWA has been formed to provide a source of information on forensic practice and to provide continuing education and training for those active in forensic practice.

The Organization

FEWA is a not-for-profit 501(c)6 professional association, founded in Orange County in 1993 and incorporated in California in 1996 originally as

Forensic Consultants Association. The name changed to Forensic Expert Witness Association in 2003.

The purpose of FEWA is to promote the development of forensic practice on a professional level, to assist its individual members in attaining and maintaining a professional standard of practice in forensics, and to assist its members in networking, which may lead to business development in the field of forensic practice.

Los Angeles Chapter and San Francisco Chapters formed in 2002, San Diego Chapter in 2004, Sacramento/Sierra in 2005, Dallas Chapter formed in 2007, Houston Chapter formed in 2007, Arizona Chapter formed in 2007, Chicago (Midwest) Chapter formed in 2009, Florida Chapter formed in 2016.

FEWA is managed by a National Board of Directors whose members are the officers and directors elected from the chapter memberships and is assisted in its functions by an Executive Director. The Boards of each chapter have regular meetings. The National Board meets quarterly.

Members of FEWA subscribe to and operate under a Code of Professional Ethics.

FEWA has monthly meetings of the general membership, workshops and a national conference. Guest speaker programs at regular meetings are directed to topics relevant to the purpose of FEWA.

Workshop meetings are dedicated to in-depth special topics of interest, where attendees may enhance their expertise in the practice of forensics.

The Membership

FEWA members are forensic practitioners and experts in their individual disciplines and professions, which are numerous and varied. They are members of FEWA because of a common interest in forensic practice. FEWA maintains several classes of membership:

- **Professional Member:** Open to forensic consultants in all disciplines who meet a minimum of three verifiable forensic engagements (testimonies and/or depositions). Annual Dues: \$425.
- **Professional Consulting Member:** Open to forensic consultants in all disciplines who have completed a minimum of 5 verifiable redacted, signed engagement agreements indicating the applicant has been retained as a forensic consultant in their field. Annual Dues: \$425.
- **Associate Member:** Open to those forensic consultants working toward Professional Member requirements. Annual Dues: \$325.
- **Affiliate Member:** Open to other professionals using or supporting forensic consultants. Annual Dues: \$480.