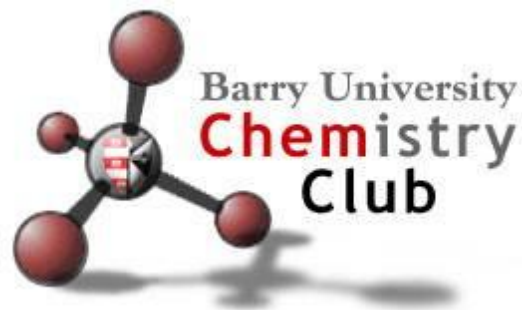




*SoFlacs*



and

**SEMINAR**

***"GLITTER as Forensic Evidence"***

**Dr. Robert Blackledge**

**Naval CSI Regional Forensic Lab  
San Diego, CA**

**Noon, Friday, January 23  
Wiegand Annex 103**

Barry University, Dept. of Physical Sciences  
11300 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Miami Shores

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## **'GLITTER as Forensic Evidence**

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San Diego, CA**

### **Abstract:**

*Locard's Exchange Principle* states, "Every contact leaves a trace." When these traces involve an exchange between a criminal, victim, and crime scene, there is the potential that they may help to establish a common association. Well known examples of such *trace* or *associative* evidence are hairs, fibers, paint chips, and broken glass fragments. Although not as well known, we will see that in many respects "glitter" is the ideal contact trace. Today, glitter may be found in every possible variation of cosmetic products. Glitter is also in widespread use as material for arts and crafts; it is used as decorative material on items of apparel, and it is incorporated in numerous clear plastic commercial products. This presentation will tell you what glitter is; how it is made; the many ways it varies; how it may be found and collected from crime scenes and evidence items; and the many ways it can be characterized and distinguished from other glitter samples. The talk will conclude with several brief case histories (including photomicrographs and infrared spectra from the actual evidence) where glitter was important associative evidence.