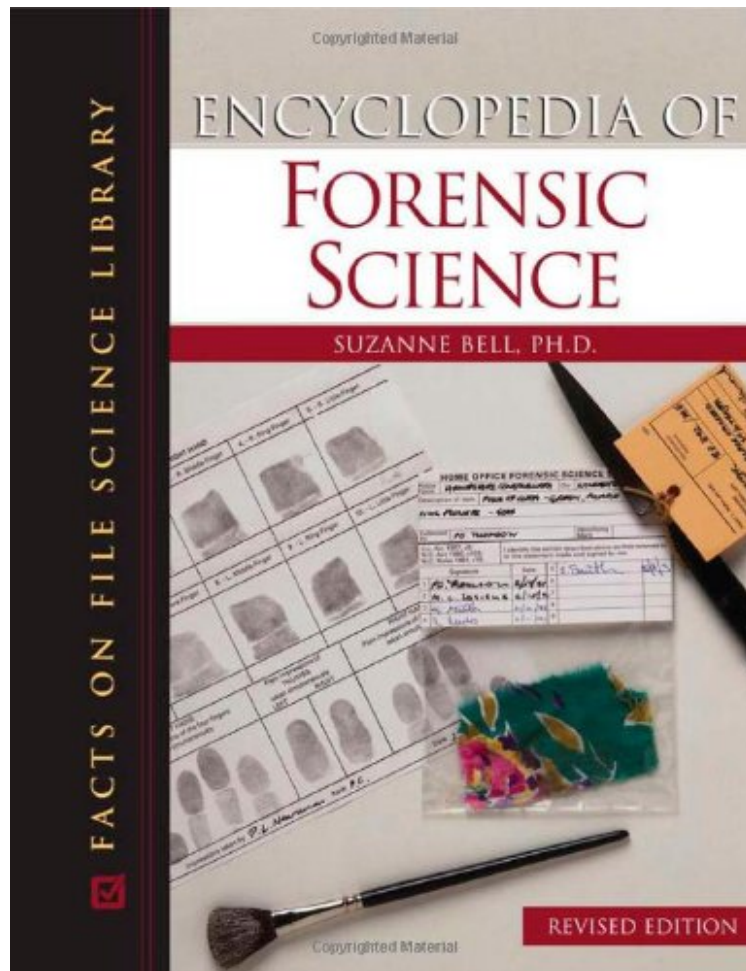


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## Encyclopedia of Forensic Science (Facts on File Science Library)

*Suzanne Bell PH.D.*

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**Suzanne Bell PH.D. : Encyclopedia of Forensic Science (Facts on File Science Library)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of Forensic Science (Facts on File Science Library):

Gathering the core topics of forensic science and providing an overview, this encyclopedia provides more than 12 essays that describe how forensic science relates to areas such as drug testing in sports, privacy concerns, misconceptions about forensic science, and the interface of forensic engineering and forensic science.

From School Library Journal The tremendous growth in popularity of forensic science in popular culture via television shows like CSI and the fictional works of Kathy Reichs and Patricia Cornwell has generated a corresponding growth

in public interest in the topic. This book is made up of 15 essays describing the application of forensic science to real-life situations as well as 650 alphabetical entries, most including recommendations for further reading. Bell (chemistry, West Virginia Univ.) who is a member of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and a Fellow of the American Board of Criminalistics and whose work has been published in such journals as *The Journal of Forensic Sciences* and *Journal of Analytical Toxicology* writes in a style that is accessible to the general public, explaining some of the relevant broader concepts that underlie scientific work (e.g., the scientific method, hypothesis testing, and stipulation). Also profiled are relevant persons and institutions, including the FBI, the American Board of Criminalistics, Calvin Goddard, and Paul Kirk. Revised appendixes also provide sources for additional information ("Appendix I: Bibliographies and Web Resources") and common acronyms and abbreviations. An index provides additional access to topics covered in the encyclopedia, including main entries and illustrations. Black-and-white illustrations are included throughout the volume, and an insert features four leaves of color illustrations.

**BOTTOM LINE** This resource fills the need for accessible, accurate information on a popular topic. It describes much of the reality of forensic work that is often glossed over in works of fiction. Recommended for public and academic undergraduate libraries as well as high school libraries. [Available electronically through Infobase Ebooks, the publisher's new ebook platform.] Sarah Sutton, Texas AM Univ. Lib., Corpus Christi Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist The popularity of books by Patricia Cornwell and television crime-solving shows like C.S.I. has brought forensic science to the forefront of popular culture. The *Encyclopedia of Forensic Science* seeks to narrow the gap between forensic fiction and the actual capabilities of forensic science by providing an overview to a very complex discipline. With an emphasis on science, this volume covers such experiment and laboratory concepts as Control samples, Density, and Null hypothesis, along with laboratory equipment and various lab tests like chromatography and immunoassay. In addition to explaining the science of forensics, Bell, a research professor in forensic chemistry, reviews various disciplines related to forensic science, among them entomology, odontology, and psychology. Other entries cover professional organizations, government agencies, famous names in the field of forensics, evidence, and legal issues. There are also entries for cases such as the O. J. Simpson trial and the Lindbergh kidnapping. More than 600 topics related to forensic science are treated. Descriptions vary in length from a sentence to four pages. Longer entries often have suggestions for further reading, usually one to three citations. There are illustrations and photographs throughout, as well as an eight-page color photograph insert. Numerous cross-references within entries provide a better understanding of the relationships among terms. In addition to the encyclopedia entries, Bell has also included 14 feature essays on such topics as "Myths of Forensic Science," "Careers in Forensic Science: A Reality Check," and "The 'Top Ten' Cases in Forensic Science." This volume has substantially more entries than *Encyclopedia of Forensic Science: A Compendium of Fact and Fiction* (Oryx, 2002), though readers hoping for more case examples may prefer the latter. *Encyclopedia of Forensic Sciences* (Academic, 2000) is a much more scientific treatment. With its clear language and brief entries, the current volume will provide readers with a nuts-and-bolts understanding of the real world of forensic science and is recommended for public and undergraduate libraries. RBB Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved .." an excellent source... Essential..." .." user friendly and accessible...a book with tremendous potential usage... Highly Recommended..." .."will provide readers with a nuts-and-bolts understanding of the real world of forensic science... recommended..." .."[a] handsome, polished reference work...should be among the more frequently consulted reference works in public and university libraries."