About the Program
A general overview of the aspects of forensic dentistry will be presented, including educational requirements, organization structure, and dental identifications for individuals and mass disasters. The presentation will also cover the recognition, preservation, and analysis of bite mark evidence in addition to courtroom presentation, deposition, and malpractice avoidance. Many current identification cases will be shown, along with a special presentation to review the John Wayne Gacy mass murder case (33 victims) and the American Airlines flight 191 crash in Chicago (274 victims); both occurred 35 years ago. Identification efforts in the Gacy case are ongoing with new developments within the last two years.

The participant will be able to:
- Have information to make a decision about whether to become involved in forensic dentistry
- Identify educational options, requirements for certification, and professional organizational structure
- Understand the mechanism of dental identification of individuals and mass disaster organization
- Explain the recognition, preservation, analysis, and courtroom presentation of bitemark evidence and its current usefulness and acceptance in law enforcement
- Discuss the basics of malpractice avoidance, deposition preparation, and professionalism in court

About the Speaker
Edward J. Pavlik, DDS, MS, D-ABFO, has been involved in forensics since 1967, and has served in many law enforcement agencies in the Midwest, primarily as forensic odontologist, consultant, lecturer in criminalistics, deputy sheriff and Chief of Forensic Sciences for the Cook County Sheriff’s Police. Dr. Pavlik received a board certification from the American Board of Forensic Odontology in 1980. Since 1996 Dr. Pavlik has served as chief consultant and lecturer in forensic odontology for the Will County Coroner’s Office, and is currently a consultant and lecturer for the Will County Sheriff’s Police Criminal Investigation Division. Dr. Pavlik has received the “Excellence in Law Enforcement Award” from the Cook County State’s Attorney Office, and an “Award of Merit” from the Cook County Board. He was also elected “Forensic Dentist of the Year” in 1986 by the American Association of Forensic Dentists. Received the prestigious Lester Luntz Award by the Odontology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in 2013.