



The Application of AI within our Justice System

Saturday,
26
April
2025

Kings Forensics®, in association with the British Academy of Forensic Sciences (BAFS) and Inside Justice, are proud to host a one-day Conference exploring the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence within the Justice System.

This event brings together legal professionals, Police, CPS, forensic experts, technologists, academics, and policy makers to discuss the opportunities and challenges presented by AI within our Justice System.

With a very
special
appearance
by
JFK
himself!

Speakers to include:

- » **Professor Peter Watson**, President of BAFS
- » **Lord Clement-Jones CBE**, Co-Chair of House of Lords Select Committee on AI
- » **Professor Paolo Benanti**, Adviser to Pope Francis and Italian Government
- » **ACC Peter Gardiner**, National Police Chiefs' Council
- » **Mr Justice Jeremy Johnson KC**, Judiciary Lead on IT
- » **Cari Hyde-Vaamonde**, The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London
- » **Marco Fontani PhD**, AMPED Forensic Solutions Italy
- » **Dr Jonathan W. Hak KC**, Former Canadian Prosecutor, Author and Lecturer at Leicester University School of Law
- » **Matt Stagg** and **Dr Scott Stainton**, Collaboraite: Secure Data-related Solutions
- » **Tracy Alexander FKC**, Director of Forensic Services, City of London Police
- » **Professor Sarah Niblock**, CEO, Inside Justice

Fees Members: £40.00 | Non-members: £50.00 | Students: £20.00

Venue Bush House, 30 Aldwych, London, WC2B 4BG

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Join us for a day of insightful discussions and networking opportunities as we explore the future of AI in the Justice System.

AGENDA

- 09:00 - 09:30** Arrival and Registration (Main Hall)
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- 09:30 - 09:35** Lesley Nott ACMI – welcome on behalf of King’s College London
-
- 09:35 – 09:45** Professor Peter Watson, President of British Academy of Forensic Sciences
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- 09:45 - 10:15** Lord Clement-Jones CBE, Co-Chair of House of Lords Select Committee on AI
-
- 10:15 – 10:45** Professor Paolo Benanti: The Ethical Approach to AI Technology
-
- 10:45 – 11:00** Break
-
- 11:00 – 11:30** Assistant Chief Constable Peter Gardiner, National Police Chiefs’ Council
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- 11:30 – 12:00** Mr Justice Jeremy Johnson KC, Judiciary Lead on IT
-
- 12:00 – 12:30** Cari Hyde-Vaamonde, The Dickson Poon School of Law, King’s College London
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- 12:30 – 13:30** Lunch
-
- 13:30 – 14:15** Dr Jonathan W. Hak KC: AI and Image-based Evidence
-
- 14.15 – 14:45** Marco Fontani PhD, AMPED: Forensic Solutions for Image-based Evidence
-
- 14:45 – 15:00** Comfort Break
-
- 15:00 – 15:30** Matt Stagg & Dr Scott Stainton, Collaboraite: Secure Data-related Solutions
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- 15:30 – 16:00** Tracy Alexander FKC, Director of Forensic Services at the City of London Police
-
- 16:00 – 16:30** Professor Sarah Niblock, CEO Inside Justice
-
- 16:30 – 17:30** Drinks and Networking Reception (Main Lobby)

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BIOGRAPHIES



Professor Peter Watson

Professor Peter Watson was one of the first lawyers to qualify as a Solicitor Advocate in Scotland.

He has also recently been appointed President of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences. He was born in Greenock and is the son of a former senior police officer. His university education began at Strathclyde where he studied Economics and Psychology.

He later studied law at Edinburgh University, research at the Scandinavian Maritime Law Institute at Oslo University and studied Petroleum Law at Dundee. Professor Watson has many outside interests including the Chairmanship of Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity. He has also completed a very successful three-year stint as President of Legal Netlink Alliance Europe.

Amongst the many achievements in his long career, Professor Watson played a key role in the following cases:-

- The Piper Alpha Disaster Group
- The Braer Tanker Disaster Group
- The Lockerbie Air Disaster Group
- The RAF Chinook crash on the Mull of Kintyre
- Representing the families of 16 pupils in the Dunblane Primary school massacre
- The inquiry into the death of rally champion Colin McRae
- The Shirley McKie fingerprint inquiry

One of Professor Watson's niche areas is in the media and he has advised ITN, Mirror Group Newspapers (Daily Record and Sunday Mail), SMG, Newsquest (The Herald, Sunday Herald and Evening Times) Border television, Channel Four, Reuters, GMTV and Sky News. Other prestigious clients included the Scottish Police Federation, The Association of Scottish Police Superintendents and many other public bodies and private individuals. He has also worked with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. His focus has been on access to justice and integrity of legal systems in former Soviet Union countries. Professor Watson was Solicitor of the Year 2008 and has been involved in litigation in 12 countries other than the UK.



The Lord Clement-Jones CBE

Lord Clement-Jones was awarded CBE for political services in 1988 and life peer in 1998. He is the Liberal Democrat House

of Lords spokesperson for Science, Innovation and Technology. He is former Chair of the House of Lords Select Committee on AI (2017-18) and the initiator of and subsequent member of the Special Inquiry Select Committee into AI in Weapons Systems (2023). In 2016 he co-Founded and has since co-chaired the All-Party Parliamentary Group on AI. He is a founding member of the OECD Parliamentary Group on AI and former consultant of the Council of Europe's Ad-hoc Committee on AI. He is author of the book *Living with the Algorithm: Servant or Master?: AI Governance and Policy for the Future* (Unicorn, 2024). He is a Consultant on AI Policy and Regulation to global law firm DLA Piper where previous positions held includes London Managing Partner. He is Chair of Trust Alliance Group (formerly Ombudsman Services Limited), the not-for-profit, independent ombudsman service that provides dispute resolution for communications and energy utilities. He is Chair of Council of Queen Mary University London. He is President of Ambitious about Autism.



Professor Paolo Benanti

A Franciscan friar, Paolo Benanti has the ear of Pope Francis as well as the Italian Prime Minister in calling for "human-

centric" artificial intelligence that shouldn't be allowed to run rampant.

He highlights how the technology could change us, with humans ceding the power of choice to an algorithm that knows us too well. He is quoted as saying "Some people treat AI like idols, like oracles, like demigods. The risk is that they delegate critical thinking and decisional power to these machines." The 50-year-old Padre has made his mark on AI diplomacy through strategy papers such as the Rome Call for AI Ethics, the Holy See's bid to establish the moral ground rules for the emerging technology. This set of essential principles — transparency, inclusion, accountability, impartiality, reliability, security and privacy — for AI design has bagged the backing of tech giants Microsoft and IBM, religious leaders the world over, Italy's government and the United Nations' Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization. "The biggest risk is that AI will make or be used to make decisions on people's lives in a surreptitious, non-democratic way. That's why we need a grassroots governance process steering innovation towards progress."



Assistant Chief Constable Peter Gardner

Peter Gardner is the National Police Chiefs' Council Deputy for Artificial Intelligence.

He currently serves as Assistant Chief Constable for Surrey and Sussex Police forces with responsibility for Criminal Justice and Investigative Standards. Taking an evidence-based approach to policing, Pete has developed data and offender-based initiatives to tackle violent and acquisitive crime and is an advocate of using technology to improve the effectiveness of policing.

Prior to joining policing, Peter was a start-up investor and banker, sitting on the Executive Committee for HSBC's Alternative Investments business. He has advised leading technology and energy companies on innovation and leadership and has led investments in a number of UK start-ups, some of which have gone on to become household names. Peter also has responsibility for countering the criminal exploitation of AI and believes the UK can be a global leader in the safe adoption of AI without having to compromise on the pace and support for AI innovation.

Abstract

Artificial Intelligence is here, and it is developing fast. The police is at the forefront of protecting communities by bringing justice and preventing crime in the first place. Our remit is huge, from tackling online child abuse, organised crime through to preventing burglary and reassuring the public. In all these areas AI can make us more effective – it can be a tool for good.

In addition, it can allow policing, which is ultimately paid for by the public, to be more efficient and productive.

I understand there are many fears and misconceptions around AI and my role is to make sure policing, our partners and our communities are well informed and kept up to date about the systems and digital technologies we are investing in.

Trust and confidence are central to successful policing so it's important we are open and transparent about what we are piloting and testing and as well as being honest about how AI works. Policing has a covenant for the use of AI that places transparency and fairness at the heart of AI development."



BIOGRAPHIES



The Hon Mr Justice Jeremy Johnson KC

Mr Justice Johnson was brought up in Sheffield and studied Maths and Philosophy at Oxford University. He

then completed a Graduate Diploma in Law at Middlesex University.

Called to the Bar in 1991, Jeremy practiced from 5 Essex Court in general common law and public law, often acting in cases involving the Police and Government Departments. He was also a special Advocate and a member of the Attorney General's Panels for the conduct of civil litigation on behalf of the Government.

He was appointed as a Recorder in 2010, a Queen's Counsel in 2011, a Deputy High Court Judge in 2016 and a High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division) in 2019. Jeremy serves as the Judiciary Lead on IT.



Dr Jonathan W. Hak KC

Dr. Hak is a barrister and solicitor who served as a Crown Prosecutor in Canada for over thirty years. He has extensive experience prosecuting serious and

violent crime and utilizing image-based evidence in complex cases. He is an international imagery law researcher and lecturer who teaches extensively in the UK, US, Canada, Singapore, and Europe on the legal and practical considerations involved in the effective use of image-based evidence in criminal prosecutions. Jonathan holds a Diploma in Criminal Justice (Mount Royal University, Canada), a BSc (with distinction) (California State University, US), an LLB (University of British Columbia, Canada), an LLM (University of Cambridge), and a PhD in Law (Leiden University, Netherlands). The focus of his recent PhD work is on the use of non-textual evidence in international criminal prosecutions. He is the author of *Image-Based Evidence in International Criminal Prosecutions: Charting a Path Forward* (Oxford University Press, 2024). Jonathan was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2006. He lectures full-time at the University of Leicester Law School (UK) and is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Lethbridge (Canada).

Session Title: Confronting AI and Image Manipulation in the Criminal Justice System: The Erosion of Truth in the Digital Age

Abstract

Fake news, including images of questionable reliability, is a serious threat to society and the pursuit of the truth. This situation must be addressed urgently. News programmes and social media stories frequently feature images that appear to be real but may in fact be

wholly or partially false, and this ubiquity can lead to dangerous complacency. We are confronted daily with images of war, conflict, and crime. The sources of these images include victims, witnesses, investigators, perpetrators, state entities, and CCTV systems. These images frequently exist in the largely unregulated open-source environment where legitimate images compete with the triple threat of AI generated synthetic content, deepfakes, and shallowfakes. Image-based evidence can be extraordinarily valuable in the search for the truth, but the current approach to this evidence is inadequate for truth seeking purposes. This presentation will look at the challenges posed by image-based evidence and steps that must be undertaken to use it more effectively in the search for the truth.



Cari Hyde-Vaamonde - King's College London

Cari Hyde-Vaamonde is an experienced lawyer and court advocate fascinated by the potential for code and AI to reform how law

and justice function. She first studied Law at King's College London and, following a scholarship from the Inner Temple Society, was called to the Bar in 2006.

After practising as a lawyer in diverse fields including technology, and specialising in court advocacy, she became increasingly interested in systematic analysis and research. Her focus on research in the field culminated in a UKRI 4-year award to research the impacts of AI in justice settings at King's College London. She is engaged in several interdisciplinary collaborations including being embedded in the Alan Turing Institute for the academic year 2022-2023. She is currently involved in a multidisciplinary, cross-institution project to create a tool that will enable non-AI experts to probe and analyse the AI models that impact their work and lives, with partners from industry, public sector, third sector and charities.

Cari is co-convener for the international Innovations In Judging Collaborative Research Network for the Law and Society Association. She has published on algorithms in judicial proceedings and presented research at numerous conferences including convening and acting as chair at the Royal Anthropological Institute: Anthropology, AI and the Future of Human Society conference panel on Law and AI as well as the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Law.

Cari Hyde-Vaamonde's research interests are in the subjects of legal and technological innovations including: AI, criminal justice, judicial

reasoning, empirical research (quantitative and qualitative methods), procedural justice and legitimacy.

Her current research develops a methodology for empirically testing the effect of algorithms on the legitimacy of the justice system of England and Wales incorporating methods from the social sciences to build mathematically-based models in a collaborative way.

Cari has a special interest in the use of visualisations and art to convey otherwise complex ideas in an accessible way, and has been involved in projects to this end: *Judged by the Machines?* and *AI & Art Salon 26 May 2023*. Her work reflects a commitment to bridging the gap between technological innovation and public trust, ensuring that reforms in the justice system are both effective and legitimate.



Marco Fontani PhD, Amped Software - Italy

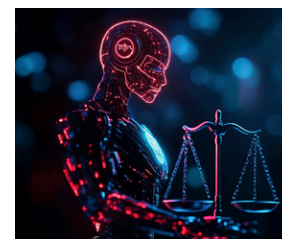
Marco Fontani is currently the Forensics Director at Amped Software, a company developing

image and video forensic software for law enforcement agencies worldwide. He earned his MSc in Computer Engineering in 2010 and his PhD in Information Engineering in 2014, and he is the author/co-author of over 30 journal and conference proceedings papers. He has experience in delivering training to law enforcement and provided expert witness testimony on several forensic cases involving digital images and videos. He actively contributed to the development of ENFSI's Best Practice Manual for Image Authentication.

Session Title: Opportunities and Pitfalls Of AI-Based Image Processing For Forensic Applications

Abstract

As AI-powered tools enter law enforcement and forensic laboratories, it becomes fundamental to understand their potential, their limitations and, most importantly, their pitfalls. This presentation is made up of two parts. In the first part, we will discuss the applicability of AI-powered methods to image and video forensics. We'll distinguish between evidentiary and investigative use, and between image enhancement and analysis. In the second part, we will share our experience in developing AI-powered analysis tools at Amped Software, specifically for reading severely degraded license plates, detecting deepfakes, and enhancing faces.



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BIOGRAPHIES



Matt Stagg, Collaboraite

Matt Stagg is the Managing Director at Collaboraite. Matt combines 16 years of operational experience within the Intelligence Analysis space between Surrey & Hampshire Police, with 12 years of spearheading the development of secure data related products into the secure government community.



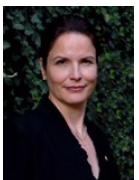
Dr Scott Stainton, Collaboraite

Dr Scott Stainton is the Technology Director at Collaboraite, where he leads their Data and AI technology strategy. His prior life in academia started with his PhD investigating the use of AI in communication networks for autonomous vehicles, and subsequently moved into the fields of AI for low power embedded devices and medical imaging, before developing solutions to support the secure government community.

Collaboraite: We build secure data & AI solutions to operational challenges

Abstract

Immersive exploration of how secure AI is being deployed operationally in the law enforcement, justice and secure government community, with real life case studies.



Tracy Alexander, FKC – Director of Forensic Services, City of London Police

Tracy Alexander has worked in forensic science since 1992. Her original post with the Metropolitan Police Service Directorate of Forensic Services incorporated fingerprint expertise and crime scene skills after which she progressed to working on major homicide investigations. Her last role with the Met was head of the Forensic Intelligence Bureau where she worked on multiple projects including the National Ballistics Intelligence Service and DNA search tools for mass fatalities.

Her current post is Director of Forensic Services at the City of London Police, which comprises digital forensic investigation, coronial investigations, scenes of crime, crime scene management, fingerprint bureau and chemical enhancement laboratory. Having been involved in some significant operations she is a specialist in disaster victim identification and mass fatality events.

Tracy is a Fellow of King's College London, a Fellow of Exeter, the immediate past President of the British Academy of Forensic Scientists, an advisory panel member of Inside Justice and a member

of the Chartered Society of Forensic Scientists as well as a Liveryman of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries.

She is passionate about the provision of forensic intervention to tackle wildlife crime, with particular emphasis on the trade in rhino horn, ivory and pangolin scales. Training programmes in Africa are showing good results and will be progressed in other countries wherever possible. In addition, recent work with Ukrainian colleagues has highlighted the need to assist them both with the investigation of mass graves and war crimes prosecutions. Forensic Response UK is a new venture which aims to harness the forensic specialisms offered by a cohort of volunteers to address these issues wherever possible.

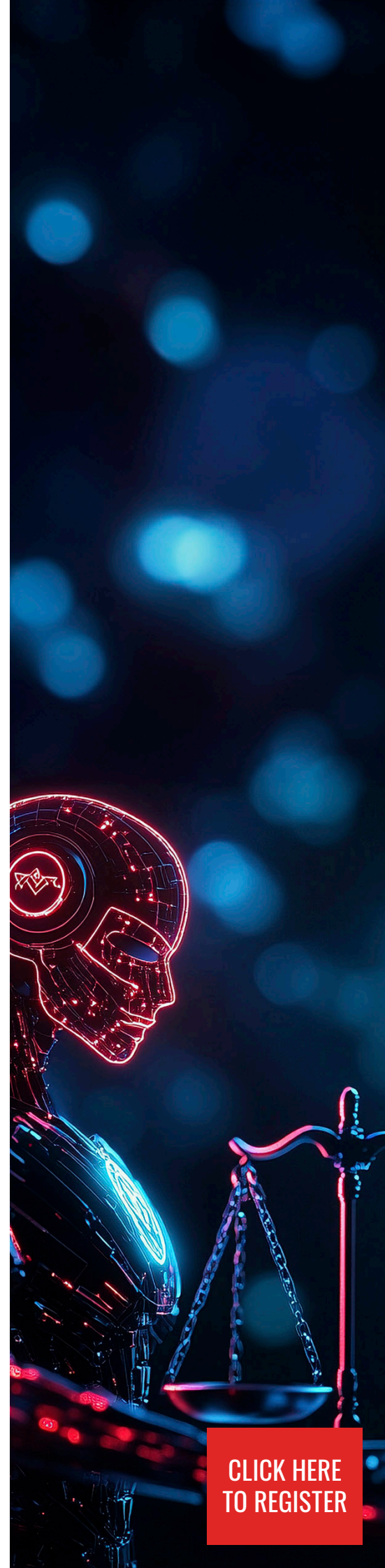


Professor Sarah Niblock – CEO of Inside Justice

Sarah Niblock is the CEO of Inside Justice, an award-winning UK charity

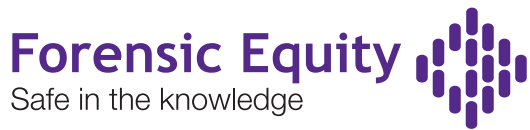
dedicated to investigating potential miscarriages of justice through cutting-edge forensic, legal, and investigative expertise. A seasoned journalist, media commentator, and professor of psychology, Sarah has a long-standing commitment to ethics, transparency, and fairness within the justice system, dating back to her earliest work in regional news journalism on Merseyside. Her work during and subsequent to the Hillsborough disaster culminated in her academic fellowship with the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University, NYC. With a career spanning national and international campaigning, Sarah has influenced major policy changes and has secured high-profile media coverage to drive systemic reform.

She previously led the UK Council for Psychotherapy, where she co-directed a groundbreaking initiative to expand access to talking therapies in the NHS. Sarah's expertise in communications, governance, and strategic leadership, combined with her background in research, positions her at the forefront of discussions on how AI can be deployed ethically and equitably, preventing further injustices while enhancing transparency and due process. Sarah is also the author of several books, peer-reviewed articles and chapters, a trusted media contributor, and a sought-after speaker on ethics, media and technology.



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