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## Preface

I have not reinvented the wheel on forensic chemistry in this book. This book is merely an effort to consolidate previously developed, yet scattered, forensic chemistry-related information under one umbrella. I used all reliable resources that my predecessors and contemporary experts in the field of forensic chemistry have developed. For this reason, I consider myself an editor rather than an author of this book. The material presented is very basic and is not intended or recommended for legislative use.

Primarily, this book is a milestone textbook toward teaching forensic chemistry at colleges and universities. Second, it is the first major, consolidated resource book for forensic laboratories throughout the country and overseas to train newly hired staff in controlled substance examination. I have developed a parallel laboratory manual with the book. The laboratory manual has 17 experiments that are exclusively designed to provide initial training to students and trainees of forensic chemistry. I also have developed an instructional PowerPoint presentation to assist instructors when teaching this course. This presentation is available to instructors at no extra cost.

Unlike many other chemistry books, most of the questions at the end of each chapter in this book pertain to court testimony. The answers to these questions affect many lives positively or negatively. For this reason, I wanted the students of forensic chemistry to learn to answer court testimony-related questions.

This book has room for improvement. I would like your suggestions, complaints, compliments, or concerns about the book. Please do not hesitate to drop me a line with suggestions for improvements to the future editions of this book.

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### Illustrations

I have used many original illustrations in this book.

I owe a special thanks to my forensic community at large for providing me hundreds of valuable original photos and illustrations for this book. If I ever requested one photo, I was given ten photos to choose from. Thank you once again.

In addition, GCMS and FTIR instrument manufacturers such as Varian Instruments, Avatar (Nicolet) Instruments, HP Instruments, and Agilent Instruments have generously permitted the use of photos of their instruments for this book. Thank you all.

I also used some photos from the public domain (citizen information centers) of US DOJ-DEA and other (forensic-related public domains) websites. Thank you for posting valuable photos on your websites for educational purposes. Microgram also permitted me to use illustrations.

I am thankful to all of you for permitting the use your material for this book. This book would not be in its current form without your generous contributions.

I always respected the copyrights and have avoided the use of any copyrighted material without permission in this book.

Riverside, CA

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