

SDM Shout Out

Weekly News Updates for SDM Faculty, Staff and Students

SDM's 2021 Match Day



This year's Match Day was truly a day of celebration for our students from the Class of 2021. Our SDM students head out across the country to advanced education programs from Tempe AZ to New York, New York and all areas in between.

"The success achieved by the class of 2021 is truly impressive. This continues a tradition of UB students securing residency and specialty programs ranked as their first or second choice" says Dr. Mary Bush, Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Community and Professional Initiatives.

"The strength of our program and its students is reflected in this great achievement and I am proud of the overall excellence our students bring to the profession. Congratulations to all!"

Dr. Mary Bush's Forensic Expertise Quoted in New York Times



[Dr. Mary Bush, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Community and Professional Initiatives](#)

Eddie Lee Howard of Mississippi spent more than two decades in prison, but the evidence used to convict him in a 1992 killing is no longer considered reliable. After years of fighting a murder conviction that had relied heavily on dubious evidence, a Mississippi man who spent more than quarter of a century behind bars won dismissal of his case last week.

The man, Eddie Lee Howard, 67, had remained on death row even though his conviction was based on little more than bite marks on a murder victim, which were presented as evidence at his trial by an expert whose testimony has since been called into question.

Mr. Howard's conviction for capital murder was overturned by the Mississippi Supreme Court last year, and he was released in December. Last week, a judge approved a motion by the Lowndes County District Attorney's Office to dismiss the case.

"I agree with the Supreme Court that bite mark evidence has come under important scrutiny," said the district attorney, Scott Colom. "Besides that evidence, there was nothing else putting Mr. Howard at the scene of the murder."

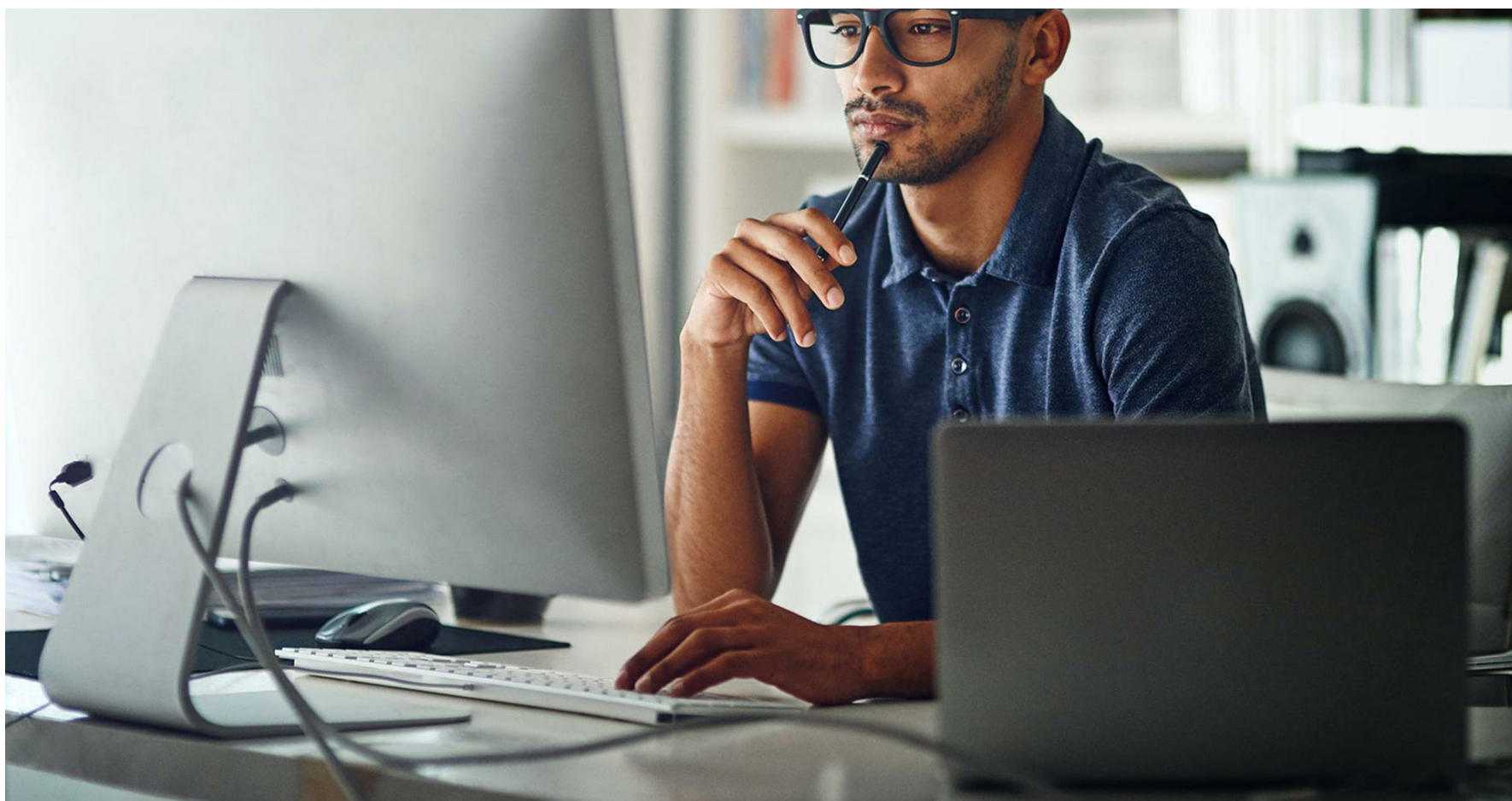
"As it started to gain acceptance into the courtroom, nobody was really challenging the scientific validity of it," said Mary Bush, a professor at the University at Buffalo's School of Dental Medicine who is an expert in forensic dentistry and bite-mark analysis and served as an expert witness for Mr. Howard in 2016.

But in the years since, the method has been criticized by experts who see it as ineffective.

Because human skin is elastic, bite marks can easily become distorted, Dr. Bush said. "Unless you have DNA, you really can't use a bite mark to identify somebody," she added.

[Click here to read full article.](#)

SDM's Continuing Education Upcoming Events & Self Study Programs



Events

[2021/05/14 Prep Designs and Lab Communication](#)

[2021/06/11 What am I Missing? The Science of Occlusal Medicine](#)

Self Study Online

[\(Pub.\) 05/20/20 Little Mouths are a Big Deal](#)

[\(Pub.\) 05/27/20 Talk to Your Patients About TMD](#)

[\(Pub.\) 04/29/20 Silver Diamine Fluoride](#)

[\(Pub.\) 06/10/20 Prescribing Controlled Substances \(NYS Mandated\)](#)

[\(Pub.\) 06/17/2020 From Risk to Results: Perio Instrumentation](#)

[*New Self-study! Vaccine and Vaccination: A Primer With A Focus On COVID-19](#)

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If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Kelli at natale@buffalo.edu.

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