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## Legendary investigator Henry Lee leads seminar for cops

BY MARIA BARAN  
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A famed forensic scientist visited the metro-east Wednesday to lead an FBI seminar for members of law enforcement on the campus of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Legendary investigator Henry Lee, who has worked on high profile cases including O.J. Simpson's trial for murder, the killing of Jon Benet Ramsey and kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart, taught the one-day FBI National Academy seminar to more than 100 law enforcement leaders.

Lee, who has authored and co-authored more than 20 books and published about 300 articles in professional journals, [is a research scientist at the University of New Haven in Connecticut.](#)

"DNA fine. Fingerprints fine. But the most important is team working together," he told the law enforcement officials who came from all across the state, some from as far away as Chicago.

Lee spoke about the 1993 murders of seven men at a chicken restaurant in Palatine. He was called in to help investigate the following year. After sifting through the trash, he found a half-eaten chicken wing. DNA evidence from the chicken eventually led to the charge and a 2007 conviction.

"So many people spent so much time on this case. It was finally solved," he said.

In 1965, Lee left his homeland of China where he had worked as a police officer and moved to the United States. He continued his education and served several positions in law enforcement.

He lectures across the country to law enforcement and also to college and high school students. In addition to his crime scene investigations, Lee teaches about life lessons, including cautioning students not to drink and drive. He said that he's heard from several students he lectured who grew up to be judges or work in law enforcement and told him, "Your lecture changed our lives."

Kris Gibbons, who worked for the FBI in Springfield, helped organize the conference, which centered around "investigating high-profile cases."

Lee said the seminar was the first time he had been to Edwardsville and that he was enjoying himself. "I even found a Chinese restaurant, Shangri-la," he said with a smile.

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