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**ISSA**  
3300 Dundee Road/Northbrook, IL 60062 USA  
800.225.4772 / 847.982.0800 / Fax: 847.982.1012  
[www.issa.com/standard](http://www.issa.com/standard)

GBAC Forensic Restoration  
Certification Handbook

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Welcome to the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) Forensic Restoration Professional Certification program.

The Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) - Certification Body (GBAC-CB) is a multi-disciplinary subcommittee of the GBAC Scientific Advisory Board, which provides direction for and administration of the certification of Forensic Restoration professionals worldwide. The GBAC-CB is structured to and conducts its operations in harmony with ISO/IEC 17024:2012 “Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certifications of Persons”. The GBAC-CB acts impartially and ensures fair and equitable treatment in relation to its applicants, candidates and certified persons.

### Statement of Non-Discrimination

GBAC does not discriminate among applicants, candidates or certificants on the basis of age, gender, race, religion, national origin, marital status, disability or sexual orientation and evaluates each application individually.

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1. About GBAC – Global Biorisk Advisory Council

## The Mission of GBAC

Bringing together the scientific, decontamination, cleaning and restoration communities, to prepare, respond to, and recover from biological threats and dangers in an increasingly integrated world.

GBAC Values:

- Integrity
- Collaboration
- Excellence
- Leadership

GBAC is structured around 3 pillars - Prepare, Respond, Recover - PR2

Prepare – Through assessment, council, education, and training, GBAC assists individuals, institutions, companies and governments to strengthen their resilience to events involving biological threats by providing:

- Readiness assessments
- Education and training

Respond – Through our network of certified partners, GBAC is prepared to respond to biological threats by providing:

- Forensic restoration
- Decontamination services
- Site clearance evaluation

Recover – GBAC works with our customers and partners to ensure compassionate recovery following the elimination of biological threats.

a. What is Forensic Restoration?

Forensic Restoration® is the comprehensive response and remediation to areas and structures that are contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with biohazardous materials. The objective of Forensic Restoration® is to return areas and structures to pre-event conditions. Forensic Restoration® includes but is not limited to the response and remediation of situations involving:

- Known and unknown infectious diseases/biohazardous materials
- Crime and trauma scenes.
- Unattended deaths
- Unsanitary dwellings and conditions
- Hoarding
- Bio-terrorism
- Human and animal biological materials
- Mass casualty incidents.

The Global Biorisk Advisory Council's (GBAC) vision of Forensic Restoration® recognizes the need to bringing together the scientific, decontamination and restoration communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from biological threats and dangers in an increasingly integrated world.

Forensic Restoration® applies to many different disciplines including but not limited to:

Restoration professionals, decontamination professionals, cleaning professionals who as part of their responsibilities respond to situations involving biological materials, individuals who provide sanitization and disinfection services, HAZMAT or spill team members who must respond to spill involving biohazardous materials, and biosafety or biorisk professionals who either respond to or provide guidance to individuals responding.

## 2. Forensic Restoration Professionals Certification Program

### a. Introduction

This unique professional training and certification program promotes safe and responsible response and recovery to situations and events that involve biological materials and threats.



Individuals who complete GBAC Forensic Restoration training and obtain a GBAC Professional Certification demonstrate knowledge and competence in the identification, evaluation, reduction, and elimination of biological threats, leading to recovery

Being a Certified Forensic Restoration Professional brings:

- Enhanced recognition and endorsement of Forensic Restoration® professionals as skilled professionals;
- Increases incentive for Forensic Restoration® professional competency requirements to be included in standards and guidelines; and
- Greater demand for services with demonstrated competence, i.e., increased confidence for customers, insurance companies, governmental agencies, and value to not only the employer but our communities as well.

#### b. GBAC Certifications

The GBAC training and certification programs are based on international biorisk management guidance and follow the GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers as defined in Appendix 1.

All individuals who complete GBAC training programs receive a certificate of completion for the course which specifies the number of continuing education units the course provides.

GBAC currently offers 3 professional certifications programs and associated training programs.

§ GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician

§ GBAC Certified Forensic Operator

§ GBAC Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist

#### i. GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician

Individuals who successfully complete a GBAC Bio-Remediation and Response Fundamentals Course are eligible to obtain the designation of GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician.

Individuals receiving fundamentals training are taught how to:

- Successfully respond to the situation – GBAC Protocol for site evaluation and response;

- Utilize the fundamentals of biohazardous material clean-up;
- Recognize the difference between cleaning, sanitization and decontamination;
- Utilize the basics of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the importance of proper donning and doffing procedures;
- Implement waste management considerations;
- Use Quality Performance Management Measures; and
- Use the GBAC TIERS of Forensic Restoration
  - o How to recognize when to call a GBAC Certified Forensic Operator

The course involves the use of innovative cutting-edge solutions and equipment and how to use them. Participants will have fun performing hands on exercises with real equipment and solutions.

The GBAC Bio-Remediation and Response Fundamentals Course is designed for by not limited to:

- o personnel who provide sanitization and disinfection services;
  - o custodial services personnel;
  - o residential & hotel housekeeping;
  - o cleaning professionals;
  - o in-house service providers;
  - o building service providers;
  - o hospital environmental services;
  - o infection control professionals; and
  - o Forensic Restoration teams members, biosafety professionals, members of a biohazardous spill response teams, laboratorians, and related professionals.
- ii. GBAC Certified Forensic Operator (CFO)

A Certified Forensic Operator (CFO) is a certification awarded by the

GBAC-CB. It denotes that an individual has met training and field competency requirements and has successfully completed the CFO examination and field testing.

A CFO professional must demonstrate proficiency in responding to GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers 1, 2 and GBT3-Scenerio 1 (GBT1, GBT2, GBT3-Scenerio 1) and show a working knowledge of all the GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers. (See Appendix 1 – GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers).

Certified Forensic Operatorâ designation is a prerequisite to obtaining a Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialistâ (CBFRS).

### iii. Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialistâ (CBFRS)

A Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialistâ (CBFRS) is a certification awarded by the GBAC-CB. It denotes that an individual has met training and field competency requirements and has passed the CBFRS examination and field testing.

CBFRS Professionals must demonstrate proficiency in responding to GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers 1-4 (GBT1 - GBT4). See Appendix 1 – GBAC Bio-Forensic Tiers).

### c. Eligibility and Maintenance Requirements

Eligibility for each certificate or certification are described in this section. CFO and CBFRS designations involve an application process described in this section.

Successful candidates are able to use the GBAC certification credentials and will receive:

- A certificate stating, they have completed the required training and field competency requirements and have obtained the credentials.
- A certification wallet card.
- Access to the private Facebook page to communicate with other operators.
- GBAC ONLY Operator Discounts for products and equipment.

### i. GBAC Forensic Restoration TechnicianÔ.

(1) Successful completion of any GBAC operator training course and field competency testing.



(2) GBAC Forensic Restoration Technicians are required to agree to abide by the GBAC certification Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality. The Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality form is available on the GBAC website.

(3) 2-year renewal required.

ii. Certified Forensic Operator (CFO)

(1) Complete Certified Forensic Operator application.

(2) Successful completion of GBAC Forensic Operator course.

(3) Successfully passing the Forensic Operator exam.

(4) Successfully passing the Forensic Operator field competency testing.

(5) Two Professional References. Professional References should be as indicated below;

o GBAC Certified Forensic Operator,

o GBAC Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist,

o An individual who is familiar with your work.

(6) 5 years of experience in the field.

(a) Training completion, testing and field competency testing must be within 1 year (12 months) of candidates application.

(i) The training, testing and field competency testing can be completed prior to completing the 5 years of field experience. Once the candidate has completed their 5 years of experience, training and testing they will receive their Certified Forensic Operator rank and certificate.

(7) Applicants are required to agree to abide by the GBAC certification Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality before they receive GBAC Certification.

The Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality form is available on the GBAC website.

(8) Application and maintenance fees must remain current.

(9) Annual continuing education credits must be maintained.

(10) Certification must be renewed every 3 years.

iii. Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialistâ (CBFRS)

(1) Building upon Certified Forensic Operatorâ (CFO) requirements an individual seeking the designation of a Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialistâ must apply to the GBAC-CB.

As with the CFO application individuals must:

(2) Successfully complete the GBAC Forensic Operator Course;

(3) Successfully pass the Forensic Operator exam;

(4) Successfully pass the Forensic Operator field competency testing

(5) Provide two Professional References; Professional References should be as indicated below;

o GBAC Certified Forensic Operator,

o GBAC Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist,

(6) Complete five years of relevant experience in the field.

(7) Document and demonstrate experience in a specialty niche related profession such as a sanitization - decontamination specialist, hoarding specialist, see list of specialties in Appendix 4.

(8) Complete training completion, testing and field competency testing within one year of last application.

(9) Agree to abide by the GBAC certification Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality before they receive GBAC Certification. The Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality form is available on the GBAC website.

(10) Ensure application and maintenance fees remain current.

(11) Complete annual continuing education credits requirements.

(12) Renew certification every three years.

3. Application procedure and Registration for training

a. Registration for training and applications for certification are submitted on

the GBAC web site: [www.gbac.org](http://www.gbac.org)

b. Any questions or requests for consideration can be submitted to the GBAC-CB via the GBAC website or by sending an email to: [gbac@issa.com](mailto:gbac@issa.com).

#### 4. Maintaining Your Credentials

##### a. Recertification

It is essential that GBAC certified professionals remain up to date on the latest methodologies and practices in Forensic Restoration. Regular recertification through ongoing experience and ongoing training and education ensures that individuals maintain their knowledge, their skills and stay current on developments in the field.

o GBAC's certifications for Certified Forensic Operators and Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist are valid for three years after which the individuals must undergo a recertification process. Documented activities demonstrating continued competence and continued practice must be completed and submitted to the GBAC Certification Body (GBAC-CB) at least 90 days prior to the certificate expiration date.

o GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician certification is a 2-year certification and is renewed through participating GBAC training.

b. Refer to the GBAC Certified Operator Maintenance & Recertification Plan in Appendix 2 and available on the GBAC website.

#### 5. Fee Structure

a. Training courses, exam, field testing dates and fee structure are published on the GBAC website at [www.gbac.org](http://www.gbac.org).

b. Annual certification maintenance and recertification fees are posted on the GBAC website at [www.gbac.org](http://www.gbac.org).

#### 6. Trademarks and Copyrights

a. GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician, Certified Forensic Operator® (CFO) and Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist® (CBFRS) are registered trademarks of GBAC. Individuals who earn these credentials may use these designations as long as the certification has not expired, been suspended, revoked or voluntarily relinquished. The certificate is the property of GBAC and must be returned to GBAC upon request. Examination materials and publications are copyrighted and protected under U.S. law. GBAC aggressively enforces the appropriate use of its property, and unauthorized

use may result in sanctions or other penalties.

## Appendix 1

### Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) Bio-Forensic Tiers 1 – 5

#### GBT 1 - 5

GBAC Bio-Forensic Tier 1 (GBT1) – Human and animal blood, tissues, body parts, urine, feces and vomit may be present. If the remediation involves more than one room or the quantity of materials to be removed requires more than one biohazard bag the response moves to GBT2.

GBAC Bio-Forensic Tier 2 (GBT2) – GBT2 situations include complex GBT1 situations and all situations involving the following:

- Human and animal tissues and body parts,
- hoarding,
- bats,
- bird nests,
- rodents,
- ALL crime and trauma scenes start at GBT2,
- Mass casualty<sup>1</sup> moves this to GBT4.

GBAC Bio-Forensic Tier 3 (GBT3) – GBT3 situations bring in more complexity. There are 2 scenarios to consider in the site risk assessment.

Scenario 1 - Building on GBT2. Building contents and structural materials may need to be removed. Containment structures may need to be built to control cross contamination. HVAC system may need to be isolated and evaluated.

Scenario 2 - A known or suspect high consequence infectious agent or biohazardous material is involved (e.g., Mycobacterium tuberculosis (mTb), hantavirus, MRSA, West Nile virus, norovirus, Clostridium difficile (C-diff), ricin, Bacillus anthracis (anthrax)) where building content or structural removal is NOT involved. An agent specific risk assessment is to be completed to ensure proper procedures are in place to protect Forensic Restoration® professionals and the environment (e.g., PPE, disinfectant, waste management). If building contents or structural materials need to be removed, containment structures need to be built, or the remediation involves more than one room,

the response moves to GBT4.

GBAC Bio-Forensic Tier 4 (GBT4) - A known or suspect high consequence infectious agent or biohazardous material is involved (e.g., Mycobacterium tuberculosis (mTb), hantavirus, MRSA, West Nile virus, norovirus, Clostridium difficile (C-diff), ricin, Bacillus anthracis (anthrax)) where building content or structural removal IS involved. An agent-specific risk assessment is to be completed to ensure proper procedures are in place to protect Forensic Restoration professionals and the environment (e.g., PPE, disinfectant, waste management). GBT4 remediation involves one or more of the following:

- The removal of building contents and structures.
- Containment structures may need to be built for infection control and to control cross contamination.
- HVAC system may need to be isolated and evaluated.

ALL situations involving a mass casualty<sup>1</sup> event start at GBT4.

GBAC Bio-Forensic Tier 5 (GBT5)- GBT5 BERT (Biohazard Emergency Response Team) - Biohazard SWAT team. Working with government agencies, ministries of health and private industries to prepare, respond and recover from situations that may involve agents of high consequence. (e.g., Ebola virus, Lassa virus, highly pathogenic influenza virus (High Path Flu), bioterrorism events, mass norovirus outbreak, etc.).

1 Mass casualty - A mass casualty incident or situation is any incident in which locally available resources, using routine procedures, can become overwhelmed by the number and severity of casualties. Resources include but not limited to response personnel and equipment needed.

- Who.int. (2018). [online] Available at: [http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/MCM\\_guidelines\\_inside\\_final.pdf](http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/MCM_guidelines_inside_final.pdf) [Accessed 3 Jul. 2018].
- En.wikipedia.org. (2018). Mass-casualty incident. [online] Available at: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass-casualty\\_incident](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass-casualty_incident) [Accessed 3 Jul. 2018].

GBAC Tiers have received an official copyright: ©2018 GBAC All Rights Reserved

Appendix 2

GBAC Recertification Guide

GBAC Recertification Manual for Certified Professional

The Global BioRisk Advisory Council (GBAC) recertification of certified professionals program assures that Certified Forensic Operators® (CFO) and Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist® (CBFRS) maintain their professional qualifications. The recertification program requires that CFO/CBFRS professionals participate in professional development activities in addition to their Forensic Restoration® activities encountered through their daily job functions.

The field of Forensic Restoration® is constantly evolving. We see regulations change in addition to technology, technique, equipment, and chemicals. For this reason and to meet the requirements of the international standard ISO/IEC 17024:2012 "Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certifications of Persons", GBAC requires you to be recertified every three years. CFO/CBFRS professionals must earn a total of 90 certification maintenance points (CMPs) during a three (3) year cycle to qualify for recertification. Maintaining the highest professional standards by continuing to uphold and abide by the Code of Ethics is also a requirement for recertification.

The Recertification Program was developed to ensure that CFOs and CBFRSs remain competent in the field of Forensic Restoration®, and to encourage certificants to continuously enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities. GBAC provides certificants with many options that they may utilize for the purpose of achieving recertification requirements. Certificants can also submit options for consideration to the GBAC - Certification Board (GBAC-CB).

## 1. Philosophy of Recertification

- a. Recertification is defined as a process to ensure that GBAC Certified Professionals maintain continued competency in Forensic Restoration® and related areas.
- b. Upholding high standards of ethical and legal practice is the foundation of certification and a primary component of the recertification program.
- c. GBAC Certified Professionals are committed to remaining current in their area of work through continuous learning.
- d. Remaining actively involved in the field of Forensic Restoration® and related areas is essential to remaining certified.
- e. Maintaining competency occurs through professional activities, contributions to the field, and includes, but is not limited to, formal and continuing education.



f. GBAC Certified Professionals are responsible for conducting ongoing self-assessments of their continued competency in the field of hazardous materials management and related areas. The process of self-assessment is a key component in determining how they should proceed to build on their knowledge, skills and abilities.

## 2. Recertification Process

Because advancements in technology and changes in compliance requirements occur frequently in hazardous materials management and related fields, it is required that the GBAC Professionals must maintain and renew their designation every three years to ensure continuity.

Forensic Restoration Technicians renew their training every two years and CFO and CBFRS certifications are renewed every three years to ensure continuity of certification.

GBAC shall be the official office of record for recertification status. Certification expiration dates shall be printed on all GBAC professional certificates. Certificates and/or certifications not renewed in accordance with GBAC-CB policies and procedures shall expire on the expiration date indicated on the certificate.

### a. GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician

i. To maintain ones GBAC Forensic Restoration Technician designation individuals must renew their training every two years.

ii. Training is renewed by attending any GBAC Forensic Operator Training program. At a minimum, attending the GBAC Bio-Remediation and Response Fundamentals Course fulfills this requirement.

### b. Certified Forensic Operator and Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist

i. Certification Maintenance Points (CMPs) shall be earned over the three-year period by engaging in qualifying activities. See sections 3 and 4 of this document.

ii. Recertification credits shall be represented and tracked by certificant as Certification Maintenance Points (CMPs) and submitted via the GBAC Recertification CMP Tracking Form.

iii. Certificants not meeting the minimum requirements for professional

development at the end of the 3-year cycle may complete the CFO or CBFERS training and field testing to become recertified.

iv. Certificants must complete appropriate Certified Operator and field competency testing every 6 years.

v. Applications not selected for audit will be evaluated on the basis of the Application for Recertification and are not required to submit full

documentation. Evaluation will be based on the data entered into the form only. Therefore, all pertinent sections of the form must be completed.

vi. If the form is submitted online, check boxes must be marked to indicate that the certificant attests to the truthfulness and accuracy of the information presented, and pledges continued compliance with the Code of Ethics. Certificants should maintain copies of all supporting documentation for their three-year cycle. GBAC reserves the right to request documentation from any certificant at any time during the review process and within three years from the date their application is submitted.

vii. GBAC-CB will audit at least 5% of recertification applicants per year. Those Certified Operators who are selected for audit will be notified after receipt of their Application for Recertification, and will be required to submit full documentation for all claimed activities at that time.

viii. Any CMP claim may be challenged during the review process. Accordingly, only those CMP claims that can be properly documented upon request should be entered on the form.

ix. If the certificant has activities or professional development activities not on the GBAC-CB approved list, the certificant must submit the activity for review and approval by the GBAC-CB.

### 3. Certification Maintenance Points

a. Each application must demonstrate a total of at least 90 CMPs for their specific three-year cycle.

b. Each application may demonstrate up to 45 CMPs for Active Practice (employment).

c. Each application must demonstrate at least 45 CMPs for Professional Development.

d. All CMPs claimed must have been earned during the current three-year cycle ONLY in order to count towards recertification.

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## Acceptable Activities and Documentation

### 4. Active Practice

GBAC recognizes that Forensic Operators apply their specialized knowledge and skills in performing their jobs on a daily basis, and that certified individuals are engaged in continuous learning on the job. In recognition of this value of employment in the field, certified individuals may qualify for up to 50% of their recertification points through Active Professional Practice.

a. Forensic Restoration® Professional Practice (Maximum points allowed for three years: 45 (15 per year)

i. CFO/CBFRS professionals engaged in Forensic Restoration® practice for 50% or greater per year – 15 CMPs per year.

ii. CFO/CBFR professionals engaged in Forensic Restoration® practice for 20% or greater but less than 50% per year – seven CMPs per year.

iii. Acceptable Support Documentation

1. A description must be provided of the Forensic Restoration® practice or duties.

2. A letter for your employer verifying the dates of employment and Forensic Restoration® activities. Individuals who are self-employed may document their practice by letterhead and provide employee identification number (if incorporated).

### 5. Professional Development Activities

a. Professional Development Courses, Webinars and Podcasts - (Sponsored or co-sponsored by GBAC)

i. Attending a GBAC course – In general, one CMP per hour of contact time. This applies to in-person training, online training, webinars, podcasts, etc. GBAC-CB will specify the number of CMPs the GBAC event is approved for.

ii. Teaching a GBAC course, online training, webinar or podcast – In general, two CMPs per hour of contact time. GBAC-CB will specify the number of CMPs the GBAC event is approved for.

iii. Where multiple teachers are involved, as long as they are actively participating during the entire course, the points apply to all instructors.

iv. Acceptable documentation – A copy of the course attendance certificate.

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b. Professional Development Courses, Webinars and Podcasts – (Non GBAC Sponsored)

i. Sponsors, attendees or instructors of non-GBAC sponsored professional development events must apply to GBAC-CB before CMPs will be granted.

ii. Information on the sponsor, detailed event content, date(s) and contact hours should be submitted to the GBAC-CB for consideration. GBAC-CB will determine if and how many CMPs will be granted.

c. Participating on a GBAC, Industry or Government related advisory committee

i. Five CMPs per year. Industry and Government committee involvement must be approved by the GBAC-CB.

ii. Acceptable documentation – A letter or other documentation supplied from the organization verifying the dates of your committee membership.

d. Professional Publications or Presentations

i. Each peer-reviewed, Forensic Restoration® related paper or article which has been published during the current certification cycle – one CMP per author.

ii. Each published Forensic Restoration® related book which has been published during the current certification cycle - five CMPs.

iii. Each published chapter in a Forensic Restoration® related book – one CMP.

iv. Giving Forensic Restoration® or related technical / scientific presentation before a professional audience – one CMP. (Note: Credit may be claimed only once for the same scientific information presented).

v. Development of a Forensic Restoration® or related technical exhibit displayed in a poster session at a national or regional technical meeting – one CMP. (Note: Credit may be claimed only once for the same scientific information presented).

e. Conferences, Symposia, Local/Regional Meetings

i. Conferences, symposia, local or regional meetings sponsored or co-sponsored by GBAC: 0.5 CMPs per half-day or one CMP per day.

ii. Forensic Restoration® related conferences, symposia, local or regional meetings not sponsored or co-sponsored by GBAC may be acceptable for

CMP points. Approval for these activities must be submitted to the GBAC-CB for consideration and approval.

f. College / University Courses (Maximum points allowed per year: No Limit)

i. CMP points can be earned by completing college or university courses that relate to Forensic Restoration®. Courses must be given through an institution accredited by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

ii. Students – 1.0 CMP points per semester hour.

iii. Instructors – 2.0 CMP points per semester hour.

iv. International courses will be evaluated for U.S. equivalency by the GBAC-CB.

v. Students and Instructors must apply for CMPs to the GBAC-CB prior to the class for CMPs to be granted. The GBAC-CB will determine whether points will be awarded, based on the relevance of the activity to Forensic Restoration®.

g. Submitting a potential product for the GBAC STAR Program.

i. Each product, piece of equipment, etc., submitted to and accepted by the GBAC Scientific Advisory Committee will receive one CMP per product, piece of equipment, etc.

h. Community Service

i. GBAC recognizes the importance and value of having its certificants contribute on a local, national and a global level to the advancement of the field of Forensic Restoration® and good served by GBAC certificants. CMP points may be awarded for specific Community Service and outreach activities.

ii. A full description of the activity with an estimate of time spent and rationale for the CMP value must be submitted to the GBAC-CB for consideration. The GBAC-CB will determine, if applicable, the allowable CMP value.

i. Other professional accomplishments or activities related to Forensic Restoration® not covered in this document.

i. A full description of the accomplishment or activity with an estimate of time spent and rationale for the CMP value must be submitted to the GBAC-CB for consideration. The GBAC-CB will determine, if applicable, the allowable CMP value.

j. All certificants must maintain regulatory required training and provide documentation that this has been maintained. In the U.S. this would include OSHA related training such as but not limited to Bloodborne Pathogens and Respiratory Protection training.

6. Fee Schedule for Certified Forensic Operator or Certified Bio-Forensic Restoration Specialist. See Appendix 3.

a. Annual Certification Maintenance Fee – \$50 per year

b. Recertification Fee - \$250 every three years

c. IF certificant fails to meet the minimum recertification requirements, certificant is eligible to reset for the appropriate Certified Operator class and field competency testing. All regular training and field competence fees apply.

7. Failure to Meet Recertification Requirement

a. Certificants who are unable to meet the recertification requirements by submitting evidence of sufficient CMPs may elect to attend the appropriate GBAC Certified Operator Training and Competency Field testing to recertify.

i. The individual will be charged the standard training and examination fees.

ii. This option may be exercised only during the final year of the recertification cycle.

b. In the event of unusual circumstances which preclude the individual from meeting the recertification requirements in the standard manner, he/she may petition the GBAC-CB for alternative arrangements. Such cases shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

8. Appeal Procedures

a. A negative recertification decision may be appealed by submitting an explanation to the GBAC-CB in writing within 60 days of the decision letter.

b. Upon receipt of an appeal, the GBAC-CB shall examine all records provided to the GBAC-CB which bear upon the appeal.

c. The GBAC-CB shall meet within 30 days to discuss the appeal. Such meetings may be held in person, via telephone conference, or by electronic means.

d. The GBAC-CB shall make a recommendation on the appeal to the GBAC Executive Team.