The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists

Established 1963

TIAFT Randall Baselt Award

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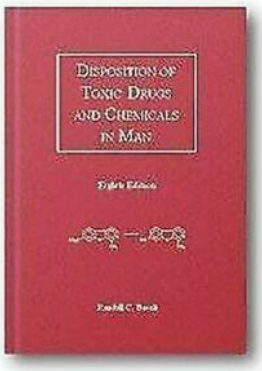
BACKGROUND - RANDALL BASELT, PHD

Graduating from the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD in 1963, then completing his degree in chemistry at UI Urbana, Randall "Randy" Baselt went on to work under Robert Cravey at the Orange County Sheriff's office crime lab in California, in 1965. Leaving there in 1969, he attended graduate school at the University of Hawaii, then a post doc at the University of Bern in Switzerland. After working with the OCME in San Francisco, he was appointed Chief Toxicologist at the medical examiner's office in Farmington Connecticut in 1972.

In 1977, Randy had founded the Journal of Analytical Toxicology, with Preston Publications, now the official journal of both SOFT and TIAFT, of which he served as editor until 2000.

In 1978, while still at the Connecticut medical examiner's office, Randy authored with Bob Cravey the first edition of the *Disposition of Toxic Drugs and Chemicals in Man*, as a 2-volume set with 200 drug monographs. Today it is in its 12th Edition with over 2000 monographs and is fondly known to many of us as the "Bible" of forensic toxicology. The future of disposition is currently being determined, through conversations with several prominent publishing houses, and its future is bright.

Randy left Connecticut in 1984 to create the Chemical Toxicology Institute in Foster City, California; an independent and widely recognized center for excellence in forensic toxicology, which he ran for 21 years.



In May of 2021, the TIAFT family was shocked to learn of Randy's sudden passing. In his message to the TIAFT membership, President Marc LeBeau described Randy as "a giant whose shoulders we will continue to stand upon for years to come."

TIAFT RANDALL BASELT AWARD

Sharing research and knowledge through publication is a hallmark of good science practice. It becomes even more important in matters of understanding drug concentrations and trying to interpret their meanings. TIAFT appreciates this importance, as did Dr. Baselt. Therefore, the *Randall Baselt Award* recognizes his great contribution to our field by identifying a TIAFT member who has also helped us better understand drug concentrations to correctly interpret their meaning.

TIAFT's *Randall Baselt Award* will be offered to one TIAFT member each year who has served as the lead author of a paper that improves our ability to interpret drug concentrations and is published in

the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology*, the official journal of TIAFT, in the previous calendar year.

OBJECTIVES OF THE AWARD

The objectives of the *Randall Baselt Award* are in accordance with the Aims of TIAFT:

1. Provide an organization for professionals engaged or interested in the field of forensic toxicology or related areas of analytical toxicology, including the interpretation of the results of these analyses.
2. Provide a forum for the discussion and exchange of professional experiences in forensic toxicology and related areas of analytical toxicology between forensic toxicologists and all other interested parties.
3. To promote education and training in forensic toxicology and related areas of analytical toxicology.
4. Promote cooperation and coordination of effort among members.
5. Encourage research in and the practice of forensic toxicology and related areas of analytical toxicology.

FUNDING

When the Chemical Toxicology Institute was purchased by NMS Labs and the Fredric Riederes Family Foundation in 2005, Randy and the Rieders brothers, Eric and Michael, were excited about the opportunity to bring together two of the most prominent forensic toxicology organizations in the United States. In that light, the Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE) at the Fredric Rieders Family Foundation, in fond remembrance of Randy and his contributions to our field, and his relationship with NMS Labs, is generously providing long term support for the *Randy Baselt Award* within TIAFT.

AMOUNT OF THE AWARD

This annual award will be in the amount of $500 USD to the awardee.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

By publishing their work in the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology*, any Standard or DCF member of TIAFT who is in good standing with the organization is eligible to win the *Randall Baselt Award;* however, the award specifically recognizes those who have helped improve our interpretation of drug concentrations in forensic toxicology.

ASSESSMENT OF CANDIDATES

The TIAFT Awards Committee Chair will be responsible for identifying all publications from the *Journal of Analytical Toxicology* from the calendar year prior to the award's announcement in which a TIAFT

Standard or DCF member served as the lead author. The TIAFT Awards Committee will independently review these publications and collectively determine the paper that is most impactful to the field's understanding and interpretation of drug concentrations in biological samples. Should the committee deem that none of the published papers for that year have met this requirement, there will not be an award given for that year.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD RECIPIENT

The Awards Committee Chair or the President will announce the winner of the *Randall Baselt Award* at the annual TIAFT Meeting.