

► **REU Alumni Joseph Cavaleri – *Remembers when.....***

**Mentor:** *Kristin Bowman-James*

I just want to say congratulations on the 30th anniversary! I still remember my summer as a KU REU participant (1992), and I think it was very valuable to me as a young scientist. And the experience helped me to decide that I wanted to go to grad school at KU.

I am currently working as a forensic chemist for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department with about 17 years of service to date. I work in the Trace Evidence Section of the Crime Lab in a number of sub-disciplines including fire debris, explosive materials and post-blast residues, primer gunshot residue, unknown chemicals, and crime scene investigations. It has been an amazing experience so far. All of my education from undergrad, REU, grad school, and post-doc has influenced me at some point in time during my career.

Best wishes to you all! I hope you get another great cohort of REU students this summer.

J.J. Cavaleri, Ph.D.  
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