

October 28, 2013



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

### General Announcements

### Vendor Sponsors

Dear Colleagues-

**The deadline for input to NIST is approaching...**

Just a friendly reminder to send your input and/or comments regarding the Scientific Working Groups (SWG's) to Past-President Jill Spriggs at [SpriggsJ@sacda.org](mailto:SpriggsJ@sacda.org) by **October 30**.

As you may recall, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) recently distributed a solicitation through the Federal Register seeking input on the formation and organization of these groups. The ASCLD Board of Directors welcomes your comments regarding this announcement and is requesting that you provide us input. We feel that this is a significant development and want to make sure that the voices of our membership are heard. Our intent is to develop a consensus document that best represents the views of our members within the community.

You can download the notice in the Federal Register [here](#).

#### **Call for Workshops, Presentations and Posters!!**

I'm excited to announce that President Elect Brady Mills and the Symposium Planning Committee are releasing the 2014 ASCLD call for presentation abstracts. The theme for this year's meeting is "The Efficiency of Quality". If you've got an idea for a workshop, the plenary session or poster, please download the form below and return by **December 16, 2013**.

[2014 ASCLD Symposium Abstract Form](#)



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## Speaking of the meeting

The planning committee still has room for volunteers. Your degree of participation can be very flexible with opportunities ranging from working a shift at the registration table to running the meeting's plenary session. How much time you commit is up to you! If you're interested, please contact President Elect Mills at [brady.mills@dps.texas.gov](mailto:brady.mills@dps.texas.gov).

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), a partner with RTI in NIJ's Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCOE), recently completed a technical evaluation on 2D/3D scanning technologies. The 17 page executive summary titled, Technical Advances in the Visual Documentation of Crime Scenes: An Overview, can be located at <https://forensiccoe.org/techtransfer.aspx#> or downloaded as a pdf [here](#). It includes background information on panoramic imaging technologies, descriptions of products selected for evaluation, and highlights of findings and recommendations. An expanded technical report complete with objective information an agency might consider prior to adopting this technology including a comprehensive explanation of the evaluation methodology and in-depth results, is scheduled to be released next month. For more information on recommendations for selecting a technology, please visit the FTCOE website.

Jay Henry  
ASCLD President



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## News Around the Globe

[State gets first spectrograph for forensic investigations](#)

Hindustan Times

The Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL), Dharamsala, has become the first forensic institution in north India to have digital imaging spectrograph.

[Annie Dookhan's co-workers paid \\$800G on leave](#)

Boston Herald

The last of the 14 chemists left in paid limbo is now finally being given a new job after the state crime lab in the Hinton building was shuttered in August 2012, the ...

### [The State Crime Lab has a facility in Biloxi not being used](#)

WLOX

For five years now, the State Examiner's Office has had a crime lab in Biloxi stocked ... Right now, none of local coroners use the state crime lab for autopsies ...

### [Drug boxes making significant impact](#)

Chillicothe Gazette

The secure drop boxes were the brainchild of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, the Ohio Department of Health and the Drug Free Action Alliance to provide ...

### [Durham forensics division earns accreditation](#)

Durham Herald Sun

The Forensic Services Division's Crime Scene Unit includes 12 crime-scene investigators, four crime-scene specialists and a supervisor. The Crime Lab Unit, ...

### [October 26 - DNA database a critical tool in fighting crime, says Collins](#)

Limerick Leader

Speaking on a new Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System Bills, he said the effective use of a DNA database also strengthens the justice system from ...

### [Ian Mulgrew: Judge breaks protocol by introducing his own research](#)

Vancouver Sun

The only evidence against him was a single latent fingerprint on a box containing a Living Dead Doll, a ghoulish carnival figurine delivered by courier from the ...

### [Under-fire Colorado toxicology lab to halt drug, alcohol testing](#)

The Coloradoan

DENVER — The Colorado health department announced Monday that a state toxicology lab



## [Loyola University New Orleans](#)

Designed in response to the growing need for leadership in forensics, the Forensic Science Administration specialization of the Master's in Criminal Justice Administration (MSCJA) prepares you with the advanced skills needed to lead forensic labs and crime scene investigation departments from the crime scene to the courtroom.

Topics of study include:

- Develop an advanced understanding of operations, management and administration
- Bridge the gap of understanding between scientists and laypersons, judges and lawyers
- Learn the role of ethics in forensic science, including general principles and training requirements
- Learn effective techniques and communication skills to improve expert testimony



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won't resume blood alcohol testing. The announcement comes ...

[Study projects much lower cost for new crime lab](#)  
WVXU

New figures are in on how much it would cost to convert Mercy Mt. Airy hospital into a new crime lab for the coroner's office. Hamilton County Coroner Lakshmi ...

[Judge: 5 years max for Mass. chemist if she pleads](#)

San Francisco Chronicle  
... more than three to five years if a chemist pleads guilty in a state drug lab scandal that led to more than 1,000 criminal cases being dismissed or not prosecuted ...

[Audit finds 'unprecedented' backlog of rape kit testing](#)

Boston Herald (blog)  
The Boston police crime lab is facing an "unprecedented" backlog of rape kit testing, and it is taking nearly six months to turn some of the key evidence around, ...

[Redlands strikes agreement with Orange County for forensic services](#)

Redlands Daily Facts  
"That whole process on a batch of say eight cases would take about two months," said Steven Johnson, San Bernardino County's crime lab director.

[Lab chief in botched case skips his trial](#)

Lexington Clipper Herald  
The former chief of the Douglas County crime lab, named as a defendant in a federal civil rights lawsuit after serving a prison term for felony evidence tampering, ...

[Only certain hospitals can do forensic exams for sexual assault victims](#)

ABC2 News  
Experts say one of the first things victims of sexual assault need to do is seek medical attention, but the facility the victim chooses for treatment could impact the ...

blood, semen, and saliva identifications. We also offer Y-screening (using Plexor HY), a more sensitive alternative to traditional screening that directly detects the presence of male DNA. Sorenson Forensics scientists and technicians have extensive public lab work experience, creating an environment empathetic to the issues which public labs face. Our veteran team with combined public and private lab work history have decades of forensic DNA experience and have completed thousands of individual cases. Some of the highest profile cases in the country have been sent to the Sorenson laboratory because of this unique expertise. The growing reputation for excellence has spread internationally with a world-wide clientele now using Sorenson Forensics.  
<http://sorensonforensics.com>



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### [Drug policy talks open in Denver as Colorado prepares for ...](#)

Washington Post

Colorado is preparing to play host for 1,000 drug policy experts and legalization backers at the International Drug Policy Reform Conference. More business ...

### [Ohio police record big jump in meth-lab seizures](#)

Albany Times Union

The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer (<http://bit.ly/17dN00A>) reported the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation numbers Tuesday, noting that meth is ...

### [New Jersey's Drug Court Program: Making the Sentence Fit the Crime](#)

NJ Spotlight

As U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder was unveiling policy changes this summer that would cut the amount of time a nonviolent drug offender spends in federal ...

### [TN toxicology tests under scrutiny as TBI investigates lab worker](#)

WSMV Nashville

For people accused of driving under the influence, their fates could rest on the results of a toxicology test. But a man who performs those tests for the state is now ...

## *Training*

No-cost, NIJ Medicolegal Death Investigation online training program. The information available online at: <http://www.nfstc.org/apply-now-for-online-medicolegal-death-investigation-course/>

The **West Virginia University Forensic Science Initiative** invites you to utilize their FREE webinar series on a variety of topics in forensic science! Experts in the field will present on a wide range of forensic science topics from the reliability of eye witness identification to fire scene investigation. Sign up now for the Texas Forensic Science Commission: Justice Through Science

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## *Employment Opportunities*

[Forensic Scientist I / II / III](#), City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: November 4, 2013

[Forensic Scientist III – DNA](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage Alaska, Expires: November 21, 2013

[Crime Lab Scientist \(EL\) – Firearms](#), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Columbus, Georgia, Expires: November 7, 2013

[Crime Lab Scientist \(EL\)-Chemistry and Toxicology](#), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Georgia, Expires: November 7, 2013

[Forensic Scientist II](#), City and County of Denver, Denver, Colorado, Expires: November 16, 2013

[Crime Lab Trainee / Technician](#), Omaha Police Department Crime Laboratory, Omaha, NE, Expires: November 4, 2013

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Prints](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: December 31, 2013

[Forensic Scientist 2- Drug I.D.](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: January 11, 2014

[Crime Lab Forensic Scientist 2- Toxicology](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, Tennessee, Expires: January 11, 2014

[Forensic DNA Analyst](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, UT, Expires: January 11, 2014

[Forensic Lab Manager – Biology/DNA Detail](#), Las Vegas Metro PD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: December 2, 2013

[Criminalistics Manager, Police Laboratory](#), NYPD, New York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014  
[Manager – Case Management, Training and Professional Development Section](#), NYPD, New York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014

[Forensic Science Faculty](#), Arcadia University, Glenside, PA, Expires: November 29, 2013  
[Latent Print Examiner Supervisor](#), Orange

presentation. Follow the [link](#) for a list of upcoming webinars.

Try your CSI skills at the Basic Crime Scene Investigation for Legal Professionals course at West Virginia University's forensic crime scene complex. This four day course will offer hands-on training specifically for the legal professional. Learn how to properly identify, collect, and preserve evidence at a crime scene. To better assist each student, class seating will be limited. For more information, click [here](#).

[ASCLD-LAB Training](#) Training classes to help forensic laboratory personnel understand the requirements of *ISO/IEC 17025 General Requirements for the Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*.

**Cal State Fullerton Certificates in Crime & Forensics.** Contact Veronica Martinez at 1-657-278-3123 or see <http://extension.fullerton.edu/professionaldevelopment/Crime-Forensic>.

**RTI International's Center for Forensic Sciences Continuing Education** is pleased to offer a second premium online course for legal professionals, titled "*Managing Quality and Reliability in the Crime Laboratory: A Lawyer's Perspective*". This low cost training was developed with the support of ASCLD/LAB, the North Carolina District Attorney's Association and the National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators. This course is designed for legal professionals who interface with scientific experts and/or present scientific evidence in courts of law. The course provides information about how accredited crime laboratories control quality, ensure the reliability of results, and work to maintain a high level of customer satisfaction and confidence in the reliability of laboratory services. It is recommended, but not required, that users have taken the course; An Introduction to the Crime Laboratory - Understanding its Role and Purpose before attempting this course.

County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: December 5, 2013  
[Tenure Track Faculty Position in Forensic Biology](#), Indiana Univ Purdue Univ Indpls (IUPUI), Indianapolis, IN, Expires: December 31, 2013  
[Assistant/Associate Professor in Forensic Sciences](#), Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona, Expires: December 6, 2013  
[Crime Scene Sciences Supervisor \(Unit Manager\)](#), 202 727-8239, Washington, DC, Expires: December 23, 2013  
[Forensic Science Full-Time Faculty Position](#), Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA, Expires: December 23, 2013  
[Faculty \(Rank Open\) Trace Evidence Analysis](#), University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD, Expires: December 6, 2013  
[Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor, Criminalistics \(Generalist Position\)](#), California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: December 1, 2013  
[Security Systems Manager](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: November 15, 2013  
[Criminalist](#), The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013  
[Director](#), The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013  
[Forensic Scientist- Toxicology Unit](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013  
[Forensic Scientist- Firearm and Toolmark Unit](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013  
[Forensic Scientist- DNA/ Serology](#), Metro Nashville Police, Nashville, Tennessee, Expires: November 5, 2013  
[Forensic Scientist- Drug ID](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013

## Conferences

October 27-30, 2013 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Evaluate the work of a scientific expert
- Name the two types of scientific analyses
- Name the international body that governs crime laboratory accreditation
- Recognize authoritative documents and court rulings critical to forensic science
- List five warning signs signaling problems in a crime laboratory

If you know of a legal professional who may be interested in taking this course, please direct them to: <https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?moduleid=fdf2f9c6-4d9e-4e7c-a6fd-c5301474a49d>. In some states, this course has been approved for 1 hour of CLE and MCLE credits (<https://www.forensiced.org/training/clestates.cfm?cid=1128152721>).

Scientists, Santa Fe, NM. See <http://www.swafs.us> for more details.

October 28-November 1, 2013 Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Orlando, FL. See <http://www.soft-tox.org/meeting> for more information.

Nov 11-12, 2013 Crime Scene and Shooting Incident Reconstruction. 2 day seminar at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. See [http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/col\\_d\\_case.php](http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/col_d_case.php) for more details.

May 3-8, 2014 ASCLD Symposium at the Doubletree Resort, Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, AZ, See <http://www.asclد.org/meetings-list/> for more information.

May 21-23, 2014 European Conference on Child Abuse (EUCCAN) in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. See <http://www.euccan.eu/en/> for more information.

August 31 – September 4, 2014: 22<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences in Adelaide, South Australia. See <http://anzfss.org.au/international-symposium/> for more information.