**2015 ASCLD Board of Directors Candidate Questionnaire**



**Candidate Name: Deborah A. Leben**

**Organization: United States Secret Service**

**Address:** 245 Murray Drive, SE Building T5

 Washington, DC 20223

**Phone Number:** 202-406-5269

**E-mail:** Deborah.Leben@usss.dhs.gov

**Education:**

M.S.T.M Master of Science in Technology Management, George Mason

 University, Fairfax, VA 22030

M.F.S. Master of Forensic Science, The George Washington

 University, Washington, DC 22052

B.A. Bachelor of Arts, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH;

 University of Akron, Akron, OH 44118

**Employment Experience:**

**Laboratory Director**  **January 2008– present**

United States Secret Service, Forensic Services Division

950 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20223

Operational Oversight**:** Serve a staff of 45 laboratory professional, technical, and administrative personnel; 7 forensic contractors; and student interns, support over 160 field offices. Oversee a variety of specialized scientific examinations, forensic technologies, and evidence-related matters. Manage administrative and human capital initiatives. Partner with stakeholders in policy development, and long-term, strategic planning efforts regarding research programs, operations, technology modernization, human resources, and funding.

Program Management: Oversee 5 programs in coordination with 6 organizational directorates and 18 divisions/branches. Programs include biometrics, laboratory accreditation, information technology solutions, environmental safety, strategic planning, workforce diversity, laboratory safety and security programs, and scientific services. Develop and manage business continuity and disaster recovery plans for information systems.

**Branch Chief – Forensic Automation October 2007 – January 2008**

United States Secret Service, Forensic Services Division

950 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20223

Modernize 2 major enterprise technology programs, manage and execute a multi-million dollar operational budget. Technically and administratively review forensic examinations in latent print examination and questioned document examination.

**Fingerprint Specialist**  **November 1991-October 2007**

United States Secret Service, Forensic Services Division

950 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20223

**If elected, I am interested in working on the following ASCLD issues/committees:**

I do have an interest in research; however, I am interested in working on any of the committees that need the most support. My objective is to serve in the area that has the greatest need.

**As a member of the Board, you may be asked to represent ASCLD at speaking engagements or develop written statements on behalf of the Board. How would you describe your ability to communicate ideas verbally and in writing?**

I have experience in speaking / teaching opportunities. I have served in 13 elected and 14 appointed positions and have provided over 75 lectures and workshops to promote partnerships, collaboration and support towards professional certification. These positions are as follows:

**National Commission on Forensic Science Subcommittees**

Accreditation, Certification and Proficiency Testing

 Human Factors

**International Association for Identification**

 Chair – Forensic Management Committee

 Chairman of the Board of Directors

 President

 1st through 4th Vice Presidential positions

 Board of Directors and committee appointments

 Standardization II Committee

 Chair - Committee to respond to the NAS Report

 Representative-National Law Enforcement Technology Committee

 Committee to Define an Extended Fingerprint Feature Set

 Editorial Review Board

 Chair-Twins Research Committee

 General and Innovative Techniques Committee

**Chesapeake Bay Division of the International Association for Identification**

 Chairman of the Board of Directors

 President

 1st through 3rd Vice Presidential positions

 Board of Directors and Editor

**Department of Homeland Security**

 Member-Biometric Coordination Group

**Toastmasters International:**

 Area Governor: Division D

 Lieutenant Governor of Education, Division D

 High Performance Leadership

 Vice President of Education

 Vice President of Public Relations

**How committed are you to serving on the ASCLD board? What skills will you bring to the table?**

I am committed to serving as a Board of Director in support of the ASCLD membership and have a history of serving on committees and leadership positions in organizations since 1993. I believe my experience and commitment to the forensic science community has broadened my perspective and awareness on the critical needs raised in multiple disciplines to include the challenges practitioners experience in their daily work and the administration of these specialized and technical areas.

**What role should ASCLD play in developing a strong future for forensic science laboratories?**

ASCLD has a unique opportunity serve as a nexus between laboratory’s, law enforcement agencies, legislative initiatives and various organizations by creating an environment that will cultivate partnerships, promote shared services, and initiate organizational change. Through this network, ASCLD can offer leadership and training that will encourage professionals to expand their capabilities through public/private networks, enhance technologies through research and innovation, and strengthen their overall commitment to serve the public good.