

CLM May 11, 2015

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President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you know there have been some very exciting developments on the international level for the forensic community. ASCLD leads the United States Technical Advisory Group to the ISO Technical Committee 272 on Forensic Science. Mr. Kermit Channell is the Chair and Ms. Soraya McClung is the Secretariat for the US TAG. They have done an amazing job this past year of leading the standards development process for the United States on standards aimed at minimizing contamination during the manufacturing process for DNA consumables.

I have asked Mr. Channell to provide the following update for our members on the recent ISO TC 272 meeting held in conjunction with our 42nd Annual Symposium in Washington D.C. The future efforts and work products of this committee will have important implications for the forensic community as the committee transitions into considering standards for the broader forensic science industry. We will continue to provide updates on their progress and keep you informed of milestones reached.

ISO TC 272 Forensic Science Update

The 42nd Annual ASCLD Symposium recently concluded in Washington DC. This overwhelmingly successful meeting broke many previous symposium records and was also the first ASCLD symposium to host the International Committee on Forensic Science, ISO TC 272. Member countries attending included Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the UK and the United States.

ISO PC 272 was initially established with a limited scope to address issues related to DNA contamination in products used by DNA laboratories across the globe. Since these issues affect all the US laboratories, as well as the manufacturers that produce

DNA products, ASCLD decided to establish and Chair a US-Technical Advisory Group. This was ASCLD's ability to give our members a voice in the creation of a usable ISO standard, "Minimizing the risk of human DNA contamination in products used to collect, store and analyze biological material for forensic purposes".

As the US-TAG Chair, I am happy to say that the document that the US-TAG technical experts have been working on over the past few years has been submitted for ISO publication. This standard will provide guidance to those manufacturers that make products used in our DNA laboratories to help minimize the potential for DNA contamination and give our laboratories more confidence in the products we use.

So where do we go from here? Member countries of ISO have voted to convert ISO PC 272 Forensic Science to ISO TC (Technical Committee) 272 Forensic Science. With this conversion, the scope of the committee will now be expanded to include the creation of additional ISO Standards that impact forensic science.

How does this apply to ASCLD? The conversion of ISO PC 272 to ISO TC272 will give ASCLD, as the Chair of the US-TAG, an opportunity to continue to have a seat and voice at the table during the creation of newly created ISO Standards. It is an important opportunity for our organization to capitalize on the ongoing work currently being performed by NIST through the OSAC structure to create these globally relevant standards.

Kermit B. Channell II
U.S.-TAG Chair

Last week the National Commission on Forensic Science also met for their 6th meeting. There are several work products currently available for public comment. They are open for public comment 15 days prior to the Commission meeting and for an additional 15 days after.

The following documents are available for public comment. It is only through public comment that the Commission is educated about the impact of these documents. Please participate in providing feedback to the Commission on these documents.

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Pathologists

- Initial DRAFT Views Document on Testimony using the Term Scientific Certainty
- Initial DRAFT Views Document on Pretrial Discovery of Forensic Materials
- Initial DRAFT Recommendation on Root Cause Analysis
- Initial DRAFT Recommendation on National Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility for the Forensic Sciences
- Initial DRAFT Recommendation on AFIS Interoperability

- Initial DRAFT Recommendation on MECIN

For additional information please go to.

<http://www.justice.gov/ncfs>.

Thanks!

--Jody

Attorney General renewed the charter for the [National Commission on Forensic Science](#) for two more years. As part of that renewal, it was also announced that the Commission is soliciting applications for additional members, including a Commissioner and subcommittee members. A primary focus for the expansion is in the area of digital forensics. All interested parties are encouraged to apply.

Applications are due no later than May 28, 2015. All applications should be submitted to: Andrew Bruck, Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530, by email at Andrew.J.Bruck@usdoj.gov, or by phone at [\(202\) 305-3481](tel:(202)305-3481). The subject of the email should be NCFS Membership 2015.

Some of the 2015 ASCLD Symposium presentations are available on the ASCLD website. More will be added in the upcoming week. Click [here](#) to view a list of available presentations.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Manhattan District Attorneys Funding to Test Backlogged Rape Kits. Completed applications are due by June 1, 2015.

- View the full RFP [here](#)
 - Complete a profile and submit your application through our grant application [here](#).
-

Click [here](#) here to learn more about the IACP Forensic Committee's 2015 Vollmer Awards.



Advanced Topics for Human
Identification & Data Interpretation

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is the largest, multi-discipline accreditation body in the U.S., having accredited over 3,500 labs to various ISO standards over its 35-year history. A2LA is a non-profit, membership organization and its accreditations to ISO standards are recognized and accepted world-wide. The A2LA Forensic Accreditation Program offers accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 for forensic testing laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 for crime scene units. In addition, A2LA offers a diverse training program.


Don't miss A2LA's workshop, "ISO/IEC 17025: Non-conformances and Strategies to Prevent Recurrence" which will be presented by Program Manager, Karin Athanas, at the ASCLD Symposium in April.

December 2-5, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

This 4 day course will offer training for forensic biologists and technicians involved in testing and testimony for forensic human identification. Each day will focus on issues of current interest in the field and conclude with an open dialogue panel discussion. Topics Include: Current issues with variability in the interpretation of complex mixtures, designing internal validation studies and interpretation guidelines, alternate approaches to mixture interpretation for challenging samples, evaluation of statistical models for mixed sample sources, and the use of novel techniques. Distinguished faculty include: John Butler, PhD, Niels Morling, MD, DMSc, Michael Coble, PhD, Charles Brenner, PhD, Charlotte Word, PhD, and other forensic biology professionals.

Register today:

www.ForensicBio.Eventbrite.com



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News Around the Globe

Expansive new crime lab will speed testing

Columbus Dispatch

Expanding the section for forensic biology and DNA analysis means the ... has to send some of its DNA evidence to the state crime lab for analysis.

Lawmakers Seek Audit Of State Crime Lab

Alaska Public Radio Network

Lawmakers have approved an audit of the state crime lab to see if it is ... calls from current and former crime lab employees, alleging mismanagement.

Budget includes funding to transfer crime lab

Blue Springs Examiner

The Missouri State Highway Patrol is set to take over the operations of the Independence Police Department crime lab, a cost-saving move the city has ...

The FBI's flawed justice

Washington Post

But the confirmation of long-held suspicions about hair analysis, the inability of courts to keep junk science out of courtrooms (and hair analysis is not ...

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley warns

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Employment Opportunities

DIRECTOR: Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS), Government of the

District of Columbia, Washington, DC, Expires: July 31, 2015

Forensic Science Instructor or Assistant Professor, Marian University, Fond du

Lac, Wisconsin, Expires: May 26, 2015

Crime Lab Quality Assurance Manager,

Metro Nashville Police Department-Crime Laboratory, Nashville,

TN, Expires: July 22, 2015

Forensic Science Trainee – Trace

Evidence, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: May 5, 2015

Forensic Scientist – Trace Evidence,

Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: May 12, 2015

Forensic Scientist – Controlled

[Huntsville crime lab will close without tax hike](#)

AL.com

Robert Bentley warned this afternoon that the state crime lab in Huntsville, which handles autopsies, DNA and toxicology analysis for 22 counties, ...

[Kenya forensic lab to fight wildlife crime](#)

News24

"The establishment of the laboratory is critical to yielding convictions in courts of law and thus deter wildlife crimes," said KWS, the government body ...

[A setback for forensic science](#)

Washington Post

The top managers of the District's highly regarded crime laboratory were forced to resign or terminated last month after a dispute between the crime ...

[Portland seeks \\$2 million grant to tackle rape kit backlog](#)

Daily Astorian

(AP) — About half of the rape kits collected by Portland police during a 29-year span have never been submitted to the state crime lab for testing.

[Bill would expand DNA collection from felony suspects](#)

WRAL.com

Raleigh, N.C. — Suspects arrested for a violent felony would have their DNA collected if a bill passed Thursday by the Senate Judiciary II Committee ...

[Ancestry.com shares DNA with police](#)

WND.com

Someone else's DNA sample, a few Facebook friends who lived over 1,500 ... Fortunately for Usry, EFF notes, the

[Substances](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: May 8, 2015

[Director of Forensic Toxicology](#), NYC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Expires: July 21, 2015
[Laboratory Accreditation Specialist 2](#), New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Albany, NY, Expires: May 15, 2015

[Training Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 15, 2015

[Forensic Analyst- Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Digital/Computer Forensic Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Digital/Computer Forensic Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist 4 – Latent Fingerprint](#), Idaho State Police, Meridian Idaho, Expires: May 4, 2015

[Crime Lab Director](#), City of Canton, Canton, OH, Expires: May 29, 2015

[Division Director, Forensic Science](#), Kern County, Bakersfield, California, Expires: June 9, 2015

[Analytical Statistician](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: June 12, 2015

[Deputy Forensic Toxicologist \(DOH/SLD #55101\)](#), State of New Mexico – Department of Health – Scientific Laboratory Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Expires: July 8, 2015

[Temporary Part-Time Lecturer in Justice Systems](#), Truman State University – Justice Systems Department, Kirksville, MO, Expires: June 30, 2015

forensic sample came from semen, probably from a single suspect, making it easy for investigators to eliminate him.

[Dr. Alexander Rich, who proved the shape of the DNA molecule, dies at 90.](#)
[The New York Times ...](#)

NOLA.com

Dr. Alexander Rich, who used X-rays to confirm the spiral shape of the DNA molecule, died April 27 in Boston, The New York Times reported. He was ...

[New marijuana breathalyzer could detect "drugged" drivers](#)

MyFoxOrlando.com

Goldberger's day job is running the toxicology lab at the University of Florida's College of Medicine, where they are processing more and more ...

['Innocence Fraud is Real' Warns Crime Lab Report's Chief Managing Editor](#)

PR Web (press release)

A stern warning was issued to crime laboratory administrators that some post-conviction exonerations may have been secured by innocence activists ...

[How to reform forensics](#)

Washington Post

My favorite story of forensics malfeasance emerged from the North Carolina state crime lab a few years ago. I wrote about it at the time:.

[Arizona Department of Public Safety is First NDIS Lab to Upload DNA Profiles to National ...](#)

PharmiWeb.com (press release)

IntegenX announced today that the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Crime Laboratory is using Rapid

[FORENSIC UNIT SUPERVISOR,](#)

Washington County Sheriff's Office, Hillsboro, OR, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice,](#)
Gannon University, Erie, PA, Expires: June 22, 2015

[Crime Lab Director,](#) Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, NV, Expires: May 4, 2015

[Director of Methods and Validation,](#)
Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015
[Forensic Analyst- Toxicology,](#) Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 15, 2015

[Forensic Analyst- Audio/Video,](#) Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist 3- Firearm and Toolmark Identification Unit,](#) Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Madison, TN, Expires: June 18, 2015

[Firearms and Toolmarks Lab Supervisor,](#) Cuyahoga County Medical Examiners Office, Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 23, 2015

[Crime Scene Investigator,](#) Flagler County Sheriff's Office, Bunnell, Florida, Expires: May 22, 2015



Bode Cellmark
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.....
LabCorp Specialty Testing Group

[Bode Cellmark](#) Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode's newest offerings include:

DNA technology to test DNA from ...

[Many rape kits untested in Oregon: 'They can be serial predators'](#)

KVAL

Sending a rape kit to the state crime lab can cost \$1,200. ... provide funds to help send rape kits to outside labs for testing through September 2018.

[Inside the forensic files: NYPD shows PIX11 how it's tracking evidence](#)

New York's PIX11 / WPIX-TV

The forensic files were later moved to an off-site facility in Queens. This was likely during the time when a new, forensic lab was being built on 26th ...

[D.C. crime lab chief paints pricey future](#)

Washington Times

The interim director of the District's Department of Forensic Sciences says it could cost up to \$800 per case to outsource DNA testing after a national ...

[DNA and the FBI](#)

New York Times

This is a pretty safe bet when you consider that faulty microscopic hair analysis was a contributing factor in 22 percent of the 329 DNA exonerations ...

[Civilians seen as option for forensic units; union disagrees](#)

New Haven Register

Dr. Brooke Kammrath, a professor of forensic science at the University of New Haven prepares a specimen of automotive paint for viewing under a ...

[Forensic science experts present latest research, new technologies](#)

FIU News

[Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program](#) streamlines processes to eliminate backlogs of untested sexual assault kits.

[Bode Buccal 2™](#) is uniquely designed to improve DNA databanking collecting and automate processing. The Bode Buccal 2 is a **DIRECT COLLECTION SYSTEM** that requires minimal training. There is **NO Transfer Step Required**.

[Independent Validation Services](#) are customized to meet your laboratory's needs. Validation services provide completely unbiased analysis on your equipment, chemistries, or process.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN:

[Bode's 2015 DNA Technical Conferences](#), providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

Forensic Training

Itiel Dror's "Cognitive Factors in Forensic Decision Making" 2-day workshop June 30 & July 1 at the Houston Forensic Science Center. Click [here](#) for additional information.

The application period for admission to the 2015-2016 session of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA) is open to all qualified candidates. It is important to note that in addition to personal qualifications, trainees must be assigned to an established firearms

FIU's International Forensic Research Institute (IFRI) is hosting its annual ... physical appearance from DNA, marine and underwater

Accreditation Training

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)

ANAB is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. ANAB provides accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 forensic test laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 forensic inspection agencies and a wide variety of training, workshops, and academic programs.

ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies

[June 22-23, 2015](#), Durham, NC

[October 29-30, 2015](#), Alexandria, VA

Cost: ASQ member \$600, non-ASQ member \$650

ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Test Agencies

[October 26-28, 2015](#), Alexandria, VA

Cost: ASQ member \$750, non-ASQ member \$800

For more information about these workshops, contact ANAB at 703-836-0025, ext 208. To register, please click on any of the dates above.

ASCLD-LAB Training

Training classes to help forensic

section within the State and local agency laboratory. Agencies must also have an experienced firearm and toolmark examiner on staff to mentor and continue training upon completion of the NFEA.

The NFEA provides training for apprentice/entry level firearm and toolmark examiners from Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The Academy curriculum is composed of the fundamentals of firearms & toolmark examinations and serves as a basis for the trainee, under supervision, to develop into a qualified firearm and toolmark examiner. The application deadline for the 2015 - 2016 session of the NFEA is August 21, 2015. It is anticipated that the class will start in October 2015 however the training schedule is dependent on the receipt of funding and may be adjusted accordingly.

Additional information and the application form can be found at:

<http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-enforcement/national-firearms-examiner-academy-course-id-frms-pg-0002>

Questions can be directed to either:

Sheila Hopkins

NFEA Program Manager

[202-648-6061](tel:202-648-6061)

Sheila.Hopkins@atf.gov

or

Jodi Marsanopoli

NFEA Laboratory Coordinator

Firearms and Toolmark Examiner

[202-648-6116](tel:202-648-6116)

jodi.marsanopoli@atf.gov

The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

laboratory personnel understand the requirements of *ISO/IEC 17025 General Requirements for the Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*.

[ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Testing Laboratories](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Breath Alcohol Calibration](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Internal Auditor Training Course](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Testing Laboratories](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Calibration Laboratories](#)

[American Association for Laboratory Accreditation \(A2LA\)](#)

A2LA's Training Program provides a variety of courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards.

[False-Positive and False-Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Efficiency Improvements – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: How to Increase your Staff without Increasing Budget – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Managing Customer Expectations and Education – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: The Paradox of Backlog Reduction – How Doing Less Can Be Doing More – Archival Version](#)

Forensic Conferences

May 18-22, 2015: [Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic](#)

[Scientist](#) in Chesapeake Bay
Cambridge, MD

May 24-29, 2015: [The Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners \(AFTE\)](#) in Dallas, TX.

May 26-29, 2015: [14th Annual DNA Technical Workshop - Bode East](#) in Orlando, FL

July 20-24, 2015: [NIST to Host International Symposium on Forensic](#)

Science Error

Management in Gaithersburg, MD.

August 2-8, 2015: 100th International Association for Identification (IAI) in Sacramento, CA.

August 8-13, 2015: The 2015 Annual General Meeting of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Toronto, Canada.

August 31- September 5, 2015: The 26th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG) will be held in Krakow, Poland.

September 20 - 25th, 2015: Midwestern Association Forensic Scientist fall meeting will be held in Mackinac Island, Michigan.

October 6-9, 2015: 14th Annual AFQAM Training Conference will be held in Pensacola Beach, FL

October 12-16, 2015: Southern Association Forensic Scientist (SAFS) Annual 2015 Meeting in Atlanta, GA.

October 18-25, 2015: Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) in Atlanta, GA.

October 19 - 23, 2015: Southwestern Association of Forensic Science (SWAFS) in Oklahoma City, OK.

October 2015: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists in Spokane, WA

April 3-8, 2016: International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Orlando, FL.

September 18-23,

2016: 23rd International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences (ANZFSS) in Auckland, New Zealand.

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