**Candidate Name:**

Steven O’Dell

**Organization:**

Baltimore Police Department

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**Education:**

2nd Year student PhD in Forensic Science

Master of Science in Forensic Science (MSFS)

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology (BS)

Bachelor of Science in Justice Studies (minor in Communication) (BS)

In addition, Certifications: Comprehensive Criminalistics Fellow (F-ABC), Molecular Biology Diplomate (D-ABC), Senior Crime Scene Analyst (IAI)

**Employment Experience:**

8/2013 – Present: Division Director, Baltimore Police Department

10/2004 – Present: Lead Assessor, Consultant, Trainer, ANAB/IACP/NFSTC

4/2013 – 8/2013: Senior Forensic Advisor, Bode Technology Group

12/2011 – 3/2013: Senior Forensic Laboratory Management Advisor, DoS/INL

3/2011 – 11/2011: Civilian Police Advisor-Analytical Forensics SME, DynCorp International

1/2010 – 10/2010: Advanced DNA Instructor, Ideal Innovations, Inc.

8/2004 – 3/2010: Crime Scene Section Supervisor, Phoenix Police Dept.

(2006-2008) DNA Technical Leader

2/2000 – 7/2004: Forensic Scientist II/III, AL Department of Forensic Sciences

**Adjunct Professor/Associate Professor/Faculty**

10/2001 – Present:University of Baltimore

Stevenson University (Graduate Program)

University of Maryland University College

Excelsior College

University of Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute

Axia College of University of Phoenix

Maricopa Community College District

National University (Graduate College)

Everest College

Everest College Phoenix Online University of AL at Birmingham Jefferson State Community College

**Prior ASCLD experience** **(previous Board member, committee member, meeting volunteer, etc.):**

Training and Education Committee member.

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

If elected to the Board of Directors I am very interested in the Advocacy Committee, and overall advocacy efforts. Forensics is a field where its overall size by number is not in alignment with its size of importance in the criminal justice system; advocacy must match this importance with a loud, strong, active voice to make up for its relatively small size. Crime Labs have a substantial impact on the criminal justice system, one that is often much more significant than many people can articulate, to include impact on social justice issues America faces today. Crime Labs, and forensic scientists, need a strong voice of support. Advocacy in forensic science and for professionals in our field is a passion I have, and one that I get to practice to much success in my day-to-day job. My interest in advocacy also includes the International Liaison Committee. Issues, and influence, that surround fair treatment and social justice for forensic scientists through systemic change is something I practice every day as a Director of a large, very busy, Crime Laboratory. My international experience built the fire I have for international outreach; I currently mentor international scientists. I am also interested in finance and ensuring the stability of the organization, which is an interest that may lead to my pursuing an MBA. Lastly, I have a strong interest in developing leadership and mentorship in the profession, which I currently have 2 active mentees, therefore the Training and Education Committee is something I would like to work on.

**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 would describe my ability to communicate ideas verbally and in writing, in as humble of a way as possible, as “excellent.” I teach in-person upper division University courses which has helped develop my speaking engagement skills, and I also teach a lot of online courses (undergraduate and graduate) which has helped develop my writing skills. I have a minor in communication that has served me well, and I have been fortunate to present classes around the world. The challenges of the language and cultural dimension in international work have improved my communication skills tremendously. I am regularly invited to speak at conferences/meetings which is one measurement of my self-described rating. As a Director I have been successful in writing and presenting my ideas that have resulted in off-trend budget increases, to include personnel and equipment plus-ups.

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

I am very committed to serving on the ASCLD board. I’m not sure anyone would give any other answer than a variation of “very committed,” but it is the truth. What I can say is that I have the flexibility and time to be a productive member of the board, and I bring a diverse background with a unique depth of experience in leadership to the table backed by a tremendous amount of energy and passion. Specific skills I bring to the table include leadership, communication, analytical, numeracy, technical and social media literacy, flexibility, stress tolerance, action planning, problem-solving, do’ing, teamwork, and self & multi-cultural awareness.

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

ASCLD should play an active role in developing a strong future for forensic science laboratories through advocacy and training and education. ASCLD should be visible, engaged, and leading in this effort per its nameplate. ASCLD should leverage the experience of its membership in making positive future change and policy comment and recommendations.