

June 2, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

I would like to thank NIST again for ensuring that the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors has input in the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) structure. The ASCLD Board met the weekend before the symposium and developed our recommendation list for the slot on the Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB) reserved for a member of our organization. As a reminder, NIST will make the final appointment to all OSAC committees.

Our three recommendations for the FSSB are:
Dr. George Herrin Jr., Georgia Bureau of Investigation
Jeremy Triplett, Kentucky State Police
Matthew Gamette, Idaho State Police

<http://www.nist.gov/forensics/osac.cfm>

Please join me in reading our first ASCLD Advocacy Corner. Both Jeremy and I are very excited to start this new advocacy focused communication column in the Crime Lab Minute. Jeremy's first report outlines the second meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science, which was held on May 12th and 13th in Washington, D.C. Jeremy is also providing his notes taken during the Commission meeting for our review. Please note that these are his informal notes and are not meant to be an official record of the Commission meeting.

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

Finally, don't forget your Coverdell letters and calls.

Brady W. Mills
ASCLD President

ASCLD Advocacy Corner

Welcome to the 1st edition of the ASCLD Advocacy Corner! Forensic science is big news these days and there are a variety of legislative issues and forensic reform initiatives that seem to be in a constant state of flux. In the Advocacy Corner, we hope to keep you informed of the most recent news and information as we know it. Initially, we don't plan for this to be a weekly recurring column, but at the pace we've all been doing recently it just might be!

In the first week of the Advocacy Corner, I'd like to present to the membership the notes I took at the 2nd meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science. The meeting was held May 12th-13th in Washington, DC. The first day was reserved for presentations on cognitive bias and ethics and during the 2nd day each subcommittee gave a report of their work since the 1st meeting in February. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email me any time at jeremy.triplett@ky.gov

<http://www.asclد.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/National-Commission-Meeting-2-Notes.pdf>

Have a great week,
Jeremy Triplett

Forensic Research Committee

- Would you like to take part in developing best practices for using Rapid DNA in a forensic casework lab or in a booking station environment? If so, do you have or plan to have a Rapid DNA instrument for use within the next 12 months?
- Can you help in gathering information on unique validation studies or research projects done in forensic labs? Would you like to serve as a Point of Contact (POC) for your region?
- Would you like to be involved in setting R&D priorities for ASCLD that can be incorporated into discussions with NIJ and other funding entities?

If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, then consider joining the ASCLD Forensic Research Committee (FRC).

Please email ASCLD FRC co-chairs Stephanie Stoiloff (slstoiloff@mdpd.com) or George Herrin (george.herrin@qbi.ga.gov) by June 9, 2014 to express your interest and on which project you'd like to participate.

August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award

IACP recognizes the significant impact forensic science has on the criminal justice system.

The August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award has been created to honor the proactive, innovative use of forensic technologies by law enforcement.

Nominations for selection of the 2014 awards are now being accepted through June 2nd, 2014 in the following four categories:

- Current or Past Contribution by a Police Agency or Individual
- Current or Past Forensic Science Collaboration
- Innovation in Forensic Technology (by an Individual or Forensic Science/Private Sector Provider).
- Significant Investigative Value in a Major Crime

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REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: [Bode's 2014 DNA Technical Conferences](#), providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

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

Visit <http://www.theiacp.org/IACP-August-Vollmer-Excellence-in-Forensic-Science-Award> or contact Michael Rizzo at Rizzo@theiacp.org for more information

Crime Lab Report

John Collins and Jay Jarvis are announcing the expansion of their publication to a print newspaper format. Accredited laboratories can register to receive multiple copies of Crime Lab Report for no charge by registering at www.crimelabreport.com. The newspaper is distributed quarterly.

2014 Symposium Presentations

The presentations are available for review on the ASCLD website (<http://www.ascl.org/2014-symposium-presentations/>). If you have a presentation or poster not listed, please contact or send a PDF version to Sabrina.Cillessen@dfs.virginia.gov

News Around the Globe

Insider named new chief of State Crime Lab

WRAL.com

"I expect John Byrd to make sure that North Carolina's Crime Lab continues to meet the highest standards and use the latest science to pinpoint ...

FBI Crime Lab Whistleblower Featured on "The System with Joe Berlinger"

Whistleblowers Protection Blog (blog)

Washington, D.C. May 29, 2014. This Sunday, June 1, Dr. Frederic Whitehurst will be featured on "The System with Joe Berlinger." Dr. Whitehurst ...

Drug lab scam: 16 arrested so far, VB set to nab more

Hindustan Times

Drug lab scam: 16 arrested so far, VB set to nab more ... police, citing "inadequate seals" on the sample packets, sources in the forensic lab said

DNA extracted from crime scene exhibits and frozen decades ago cracks 35 sex crimes, with many ...

Herald Sun

Bode's solutions include [BodeDirect™](#), [BodeOutsourcing](#) and [Same-Day DNA Service™](#), and the [Bode Buccal DNA Collector™](#), a direct collection system, reduces processing time, saving money for crime laboratories.

Bode's newest offerings include:

[BodeLIMS™ – The First True Forensic DNA LIMS](#). BodeLIMS is a web-based LIMS that tracks samples from receipt through reporting. The software documents and captures the entire DNA analysis process and is completely configurable, thus adaptable to changing technologies.

[Bode LeanLab™](#) service utilizes Lean Six Sigma principles and delivers custom solutions to forensic labs improving efficiency, increasing throughput, reducing turnaround time and eliminating backlogs.

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Insight Editor Keith Moor has discovered DNA held by Victoria Police from 1982 is ...DNA recently extracted from a freezer full of decades-old crime scene ... ForensicServices department assistant director John Scheffer yesterday ...

[Insurer sued after Douglas County's ex-crime lab chief is unable to pay damage award](#)

The Republic

OMAHA, Nebraska — Two men wrongfully accused in a 2006 double murder are going after Douglas County's liability insurance carrier to recoup a ..

[Rape kit testing rules move forward in Legislature](#)

seattlepi.com

As analysis of those kits continues, lawmakers are considering legislation to speed up testing for future rape kits, which contain DNA and other ...

[Motivation Behind Proposal to move SBI Questioned](#)

TWC News

Senate Republicans want to move the State Bureau of Investigation and the State Crime Lab from DOJ to the Department of Public Safety.

[St. Louis County Wants to Expand Forensic Computer Lab to Fight Online Sex Trafficking](#)

Riverfront Times (blog)

Pat Washington, the county's director of communications, says expanding the forensics lab is a priority that came from the police department, where ...

[Police, Accused Wait Months for Results from State Lab](#)

Twin Falls Times-News

TWIN FALLS • Although TV crime dramas show many cases solved in a matter of hours or days, police and state lab workers know solving a case ...

[WVU's Forensic Program Receives \\$250000 Donation](#)

WSAZ-TV

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) -- West Virginia University's forensics program has received a \$250,000 donation from entrepreneur and philanthropist ...

[Good news for the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences](#)

The Huntsville Times - al.com (blog)

Under the accreditation, each ADFS employee involved in forensic case ... The spike in the use of synthetic cannabinoids, such as Spice, is posing ...

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WVU Center for Executive Education offers unique customized programs for forensic professionals interested in improving their individual and organizational knowledge of contemporary business practices.

Registration is now open for the 2014 Forensic Management Academy, a unique one-week management program geared specifically to current and aspiring forensic laboratory managers, law enforcement professionals and other forensic service providers. Instructors include forensic practitioners and college professors experienced in the field of forensics. The program will be offered September 14 – 19, 2014 in Morgantown, WV on the WVU campus. Please visit our website at <http://www.be.wvu.edu/execed/fma> for more information and to register.



Forensic Magazine® is the leading source of information on all aspects of forensic science technology, trends, equipment, services, and laboratory design. In every issue, Forensic Magazine® provides professionals working in forensic laboratories and crime scene investigation with the news and technical information they need—both in the lab and in the field. Forensic Magazine® covers forensics from evidence collection through processing, analysis, storage, and more. Forensic Magazine® features the latest technology, applications, and information for forensic scientists, crime scene investigators, and forensic specialists. Free subscriptions for the print/digital magazine and daily electronic newsletter are available at www.forensicmag.com

[Police methods for destroying drug evidence vary](#)

Chron.com

FILE - In this Jan. 16, 2014 file photo, Ohio Highway Patrol Lt. Anne Ralston stands in a storage area for boxes of drugs already tested by the Patrol's ...

[St. Louis jury awards \\$175000 to former police crime lab scientist in whistleblower suit](#)

The Republic

Ex-crime lab worker Margart Owens sued in May 2011 after she was fired the previous year, ending a 25-year career with the St. Louis Police ...

[New Funding Will Enhance DNA Analysis in New York](#)

Wall Street Journal

The New York City chief medical examiner's office will use an additional \$2.4 million in Mayor Bill de Blasio's executive budget to help lower ..

[Digital Forensic Examiner Course to be Held This July](#)

IT News Online

Seattle, WA, May 28, 2014 --(PR.com)-- CyberSecurity Academy today announced open enrollment for their Digital Forensic Examiner (DFE) course ...

[Arkansas officials hosting event to help families identify missing people through DNA samples](#)

The Republic

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — Arkansas authorities are collecting DNA ... and other agencies, including the state crime lab and Arkansas State Police, ...

[Scientists: Married Couples Have DNA in Common](#)

Sci-Tech Today

What do you look for in a husband or wife? Genetic similarity may be something you're seeking without even knowing it. New research finds that ...

Training

ASCLD Webinars:

Links to these webinars can also be found on the ASCLD [Training Opportunities](#) webpage.

Webinar #1: [Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction](#)

Webinar #2: [The Backlog Paradox: Doing Less is Doing More](#)

Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist](#), Fort Worth Police Department, Fort Worth, Texas, Expires: August 30, 2014

[Fingerprint Specialist \(Latent Print Examiner\)](#), ATF, Walnut Creek, CA, Expires: June 4, 2014

[Forensic Scientist III – Drug Unit](#), MA State Police Crime Laboratory, Sudbury, MA, Expires: June 24, 2014

[Forensic Scientist-Blood and Breath Alcohol](#), Idaho State Police, Meridian, Idaho, Expires: June 11, 2014

[Senior Forensic Chemist](#), Vermont Forensic Lab, Waterbury, VT, Expires: June 15, 2014

[Forensic Scientist \(Toxicology\)](#), Washington State Patrol, Seattle WA, Expires: June 19, 2014

[Firearms Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science LGC, INC., Houston, TX, Expires: August 12, 2014

[Lead Forensic Scientist \(DNA\)](#), DC Government/Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: July 31, 2014

[Asst/Assoc/Full Professor, Forensic Science](#), UIC, Chicago, IL, Expires: June 20, 2014

Webinar #3: [Managing Customer Expectations and Education](#)

Webinar #4: [Case Acceptance, Policies and Guidelines](#)

Webinar #5: [Efficiency Improvements](#)

Webinar #6: [Increasing Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget](#)

Webinar #7: [Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management](#)

[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.

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

[Forensic Scientist \(Crime Scene\)](#), DC Government, Washington, DC, Expires: July 17, 2014

[Forensic Scientist 3](#), Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Nashville, TN, Expires: July 14, 2014

[Forensic Scientist 2- Drug Unit](#), Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory Division, Nashville, TN, Expires: July 14, 2014

[Crime Scene Investigator](#), Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Criminalistics Laboratory, Olathe, Kansas, Expires: June 20, 2014

[Sheriff's Supervising Forensic Scientist \(Firearms and Toolmark\)](#), Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: June 17, 2014

[DNA Analyst](#), Indian River Crime Laboratory, Fort Pierce, Florida, Expires: June 12, 2014

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>).

The ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS offers 2 workshops for accreditation preparation to the forensic community.

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

Attendees of this three-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17025 as it relates to forensic test agencies. All of the elements will be reviewed. The standard's applicability, origin, purpose and marketplace will be discussed. Some of the more important concepts will be reviewed such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement and method witnessing.

[September 22-24, 2014](#), Alexandria, VA

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

Attendees of this two-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17020 for forensic police agencies. Individual elements of the standard will be reviewed; the standard's applicability to forensic police agencies, origin, purpose and marketplace will also be discussed. Some of the more important concepts, such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement, and method witnessing will be reviewed.

[September 25-26, 2014](#), Alexandria, VA

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

Conferences

August 10-16, 2014: International Association for Identification in Minneapolis, MN. See

<http://www.theiai.org/conference/2014/index.php>
for more information.

August 11-15, 2014: The [2014 Annual General Meeting](#) of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. The meeting will be a joint meeting with the [Australasian Society of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.](#)

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

September 23-26, 2014: [Southern Association Forensic Scientist \(SAFS\) Annual 2014 Meeting](#) in Savannah, GA.

October 4-10, 2014: Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists in St. Paul, MN. See <http://www.mafs.net/news-feeds-1/mafs-2014> for more information.

October 13-18, 2014: World Forensic Festival in Seoul, South Korea. See <http://www.wff2014korea.org/info/index.php> for more information.

October 14-17, 2014: Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers in Vancouver, B.C. See <http://afqam.org/wp12/annual-training-conference/> for more information.

October 19-24, 2014: Society of Forensic Toxicologists in Grand Rapids, MI. See <http://www.soft-tox.org> for more information.

October 19-23, 2014: [36th Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists \(SWAFS\)](#) in South Padre Island, TX.

October 20-24, 2014: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists in Rohnert Park, CA. See

<http://www.nwafs.org/meetings.htm> for more information.

November 3-6, 2014: [Annual DNA & Investigators Workshop– Bode Mid-Atlantic](#) in Crystal City, VA

November 3-6, 2014: [Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientist \(NEAFS\) Annual Meeting](#) in Hershey, PA.

February 16-21, 2015: [AAFS 67th Annual Scientific Meeting](#) in Orlando, FL