

March 3, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

Webinar #7 – “Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management”

Please register for [ASCLD Webinar #7, "Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management"](#) offered **Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 1:00 pm EST** by presenter and ASCLD member Brian Gestring from the New York State Police Crime Laboratory. This is the final webinar in our series, "*Confronting Crime Laboratory Backlogs: Causes, Solutions, Expectations.*" The webinar series team of presenters, Dr. Cecelia Crouse, John Collins and Adam Becnel will join Brian during the final Q&A session to take your questions on any of the material we have covered to date. You can send questions in advance of the March 12th webinar, to me at jhenry@utah.gov at your earliest convenience.

Archival of Webinar #6, "How to Increase your Staff without Increasing your Budget" can be accessed now at [ASCLD Webinar #6](#). Thanks to everyone who participated in last week's webinar. Certificates of attendance for past webinars in our series can still be downloaded by accessing the archive links located on the ASCLD website under Jobs & Training, Training Opportunities tab. If you need additional assistance, please email Cameron Johnson at RTI customer service at cfs-forensic-ed@rti.org.

We look forward to receiving your input on other topics of interest to feature in future ASCLD webinars in the March 12th webinar survey.

Registration for the 41st Annual ASCLD Symposium is now open!!!

The 2014 Symposium will be held May 4-8, 2014 at the Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. The symposium schedule, workshop descriptions,



Registration for the 2014 ASCLD Symposium is open at www.asclد.org. The theme of this years meeting is 'The Efficiency of Quality'. The scheduled workshops and talks offer something for individuals at every level of crime lab management. You can pay registration fees online via Paypal after using the new online form or print out a registration form to send in to the ASCLD office with credit card information. Register soon and make your hotel reservations to avoid the last minute rush.

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.

Seeking Candidates for the ASCLD Board of Directors

We will be electing new members to the Board of Directors at the business meeting to be held at the Symposium. If you or someone you know is a regular member and is interested in becoming a candidate for the ASCLD Board, please contact Sabrina.Cillessen@DFS.Virginia.gov.

registration form and hotel accommodations can be found on the ASCLD website at: www.ascl.org

President-elect Brady Mills and the symposium planning committee have put together a fantastic conference including a variety of workshops and an exciting plenary session. Don't miss out!

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

This Week's Forensic Metric: \$326.00

The median **cost** for a case in the investigative area of **fingerprints**. The **cost** includes allocations for capital, wages & salary, benefits, overtime & temporary hires, chemicals, reagents, consumables, gases, travel, quality assurance and accreditation, subcontracting, service of instruments, advertisements, non-instrument repairs and maintenance, equipment leasing, utilities, telecommunications, overhead, and other expenses. This information is derived from those laboratories who participated in the 2011-2012 FORESIGHT program.

News Around the Globe

[Synthetic drug cases fell sharply after 2012](#)

Bismarck Tribune

With the state of North Dakota becoming better informed about the synthetic drug problem and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem issuing ...

[Government lab says pressure for fast results contributed to mistakes](#)

Sydney Morning Herald

The state government's forensic science and chemical laboratory, which has been involved in some of the highest-profile environmental ...

[State's western forensics lab begins \\$40 million expansion](#)

Richmond Times Dispatch

The \$40 million project will add to and renovate the

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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

Virginia Department of Forensic Science's Western Laboratory, as well as the Western District ...

[Crime lab to address mixtures of DNA](#)

Pittsburgh Post Gazette

The Allegheny County crime lab wants to create its own local DNA database to speed the analysis process, save money and increase the integrity of ...

[The Fifth Circuit turns its back on a huge forensics scandal in Mississippi](#)

Washington Post

This story should really be one of the bigger criminal justice scandals in recent ... It potentially affects thousands of cases, both criminal and civil. ... in a medical lab, but from the basement of a funeral home owned by Rankin County ...

[Richland sheriff's department's new machine analyzes DNA in 90 minutes](#)

The State

The Richland County Sheriff's Department forensic lab can now confirm a suspect from evidence such as a discarded ...

[Tacoma Police Department turns up heat on cold cases](#)

[TheNewsTribune.com](#)

More than 200 pieces of evidence have been submitted to crime labs in ... Institute for Justice to investigate violent crime cold cases in recent years.

[Senate panel endorses bill allowing DNA sampling upon felony bookings](#)

Deseret News

Elizabeth Smart spoke in favor of proposed law Friday that would allow police in Utah to collect DNA samples from people booked into jail on any ...

[Judge says defense expert can monitor DNA testing in capital murder case](#)

[Kansas.com](#)

Judge says defense expert can monitor DNA testing in capital murder case ... When prosecutors said DNA swabs taken from those items would be ... County Regional Forensic Science Center, where the tests are performed.

[W.Va. Senate approves 30 percent raises for State](#)

community.

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

Bode's solutions include [BodeDirect™](#), [Outsourcing](#) 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.

Visit www.bodetech.com or email bode.service@bodetech.com for more information.



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[Forensic Lab employees](#)

Daily Journal

The West Virginia Senate has voted to increase State Police Forensic Laboratory employee salaries by 30 percent.

[Forensic Chemistry Lab a big bloody mess](#)

Independent Online

A whistleblower leaked pictures of the conditions at the Department of Health forensic chemistry laboratory in Pretoria. This picture shows chemicals ...

[DNA bill likely to pass despite concerns](#)

Gainesville Times

In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court last year gave states the authority to collect DNA before suspects are convicted, and Georgia may do so. A bill to ...

[Lab issues lead to drug trial suspension request](#)

The News Journal

On Friday it was revealed that drugs have gone missing – or sometimes been replaced with fakes – in at least 15 criminal cases between 2010 and ...

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](#)

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

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

Webinar #5: [Efficiency Improvements](#)

2014 Spring Essentials of Forensic Science for Legal Professionals Program

Where: West Virginia University Downtown Campus,

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Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Prints](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: May 27, 2014

[Forensic Scientist III – DNA](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Expires: March 24, 2014

[Director, Forensic Sciences](#), Maryland State Police, Pikesville, Maryland, Expires: March 21, 2014

[DNA Analyst III/Serologist/DNA Operations Tech.](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

[DNA Analyst III](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

[DNA Analyst I DNA Operations Mgr.](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Forensic Genetics Laboratory, Houston, Texas, Expires: May 21, 2014

[Training Coordinator and Deputy Quality Manager](#), International Commission on Missing Persons, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Expires: March 14, 2014

[Forensic Manager Biology/DNA](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: April 10, 2014

[ICITAP Forensic Advisor](#), Engility Corporation, Algiers, Expires: March 5, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#), DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: March 4, 2014

[ICITAP Forensics Advisor/Trainer](#), Engility Corporation, Mexico City, Expires: March 17, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: March 4, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Firearms and Toolmarks](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: May 5, 2014

Morgantown, WV

When: March 11 – 12, 2014

The Forensic Science Initiative, in collaboration with the National Institute of Justice, is holding the 4th and final **FREE 2014 Spring Essentials of Forensic Science for Legal Professionals** program. The two day program will provide the basic precepts of forensic science training and supply the tools to effectively apply this information for trial to members of the legal community. Members of the academic community, lab personnel, and legal professionals will instruct and apply practical examples to the content presented. This is an excellent opportunity for the legal community to broaden their knowledge of important forensic science topics while also receiving continuing legal education.

Some topics include:

Relevant Questions to the Interpretation of Physical Evidence

Anatomy of a Wrongful Arson Conviction

Bias in Forensic Science Evidence

Frye, Daubert, and Their Application to Current Issues in Forensic Science

Basic Statistical Concepts in Forensics

and many more!

To find out more information, visit

<http://fsi.research.wvu.edu>.

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,

[Latent Print Examiner Supervisor](#), Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: May 2, 2014

[DNA Criminalist II](#), County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA, Expires: March 31, 2014

[Forensic and Molecular Genetics Research Fellow](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, TX, Expires: March 21, 2014

[Toxicologist](#), Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Criminalistics Laboratory, Olathe, Kansas, Expires: March 10, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner Supervisor](#), Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, FL, Expires: March 4, 2014

Conferences

April 6 -14, 2014: International International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Newport, CA. See <http://www.iactonline.org/> for more information.

April 14-17, 2014: [11th Annual DNA Technical Workshop – Bode West](#) in San Diego, CA.

May 4-8, 2014: ASCLD Symposium at the Doubletree Resort, Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, AZ, See <http://www.asclد.org/meetings-list/> for more information.

May 11-16, 2014: Association of Firearm and Toolmark Examiners in Seattle, WA. See <http://www.afte.org/TrainingSeminar/AFTE2014/announcements/afte2014.htm> for more information.

May 19-22, 2014: [13th Annual DNA Technical Workshop – Bode East](#) in Lake Buena Vista, FL.

May 19-23, 2014 Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists in State College, PA. See <http://www.maafs.org/#!annual-meeting> for more information.

May 21-23, 2014 European Conference on Child Abuse (EUCCAN) in Amsterdam, The

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 in taking this course, please direct them to: <https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?moduleid=fd2f9c6-4d9e-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.

[April 21-23, 2014](#), Tampa, FL

[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.

[April 24-25, 2014](#), Tampa, FL

[May 19-20, 2014](#), Milwaukee, WI

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

Netherlands. See <http://www.euccan.eu/en/> for more information.

August 10-16, 2014: International Association for Identification in Minneapolis, MN. See <http://www.theiai.org/conference/2014/index.php> for more information.

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 information.

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 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

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