

March 10, 2014



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

President's Message

Webinar #7 – This Wednesday!!

Please register for [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 who is the Director of the Office of Forensic Services in New York. 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.

The archive of [Webinar #6](#), "**How to Increase your Staff without Increasing your Budget**" is available for access now. 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 2014 ASCLD Symposium is open at www.asclcd.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. **Submit your registration and payments before April 8, 2014 to avoid increased registration fees.**

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.

New ASCLD Board Position Statements

Your Board was very active last week. We issued two position statements: An update on CODIS access and another on Rapid DNA. We also issued a [press release](#) about the President's FY2015 budget which calls for funding to reduce the number of untested rape kits and assist in prosecution of sexual assault cases.

[CODIS Access](#) – The ASCLD Board recognizes that our private lab partners have played a significant role in building the CODIS program. Our intent with the position statement is not to categorize private labs as inferior to government labs but instead to clarify that their participation should be in the role permitted by the existing quality assurance standards and without direct access to CODIS. This approach best protects public safety from many angles.

[Rapid DNA](#) – The ASCLD board is excited by this new technology but urges caution and study to ensure that this technology is appropriately validated and does not compete with existing crime laboratory grant funding streams by completing a thorough cost/benefit study conducted prior to implementation. The article below for was published last week in a magazine targeted at law enforcement executives. [Bringing DNA profiling in-house: How grants could make it possible](#)

ASCLD Annual Business Meeting

On Thursday, May 8, 2014 the annual business will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. during our annual meeting. The 2014 Symposium will be held May 4-8, 2014 at the Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. The symposium schedule, workshop descriptions, registration form and hotel accommodations can be found on the ASCLD website at: www.ascl.org

We all look forward to seeing you in May. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jhenry@utah.gov.

Uncle ASCLD needs you!!

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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.

fill in May and we would like interested members to consider running. It's an amazing opportunity to serve and I promise that it will change and enhance your professional views of our field forever. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone, please contact Nomination & Award Committee Chair Sabrina Cillessen at sabrina.cillessen@dfs.virginia.gov.

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

This Week's Forensic Metric: \$1746.00

The median **cost** for a case in the investigative area of **DNA**. 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

[Drug Epidemic Spreading and Causing Deaths Throughout New England Area](#)

Science World Report

Heroin, an opiate drug that is derived from morphine, has caused increases in drug abuse across the United States, particularly on the East Coast and ...

[Convicted chemist was 'sole bad actor' at US drug lab](#)

Chemistry World

An investigation by the Massachusetts state inspector general has concluded that Annie Dookhan, the US forensic chemist imprisoned last year for ...

[Crime lab in Sudbury strives 'to get it right,' officials say](#)

Wicked Local Maynard

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.

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The Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab is in a much better position to prevent what disgraced state drug analyst Annie Dookhan did, ...

[Former Alaska crime lab analyst charged in alleged drug thefts](#)

Alaska Dispatch

The charges against Stephen Palmer accuse the former forensic lab analyst of adding adulterants to reference standards in an attempt to cover up the ...

[Crime lab chemist's cases under review after missing-drug allegation](#)

Sun-Sentinel

A chemist in the Broward sheriff's crime lab is the subject of an investigation into missing drugs, which has prompted prosecutors to review her cases ...

[Raises requested for State Police lab techs](#)

Charleston Gazette

Employees at the West Virginia State Police Crime Lab earn among the lowest average salaries among their peers nationwide ...

[Abu Dhabi Police Collaborates With West York Shire Police In Field Of Forensics](#)

Abu Dhabi City Guide

Colonel Al Hammadi presented a brief overview of the ongoing development processes at the forensic laboratories, which earned the Forensic ...

[On Politics: Building Commission approves expanding crime lab, UW-Madison projects](#)

Juneau County Star-Times

Among them, the commission approved expanding the Department of Justice's Madison crime laboratory to accommodate the DNA Databank ...

[DNA collection bill voted down](#)

KRMG

Under current law, DNA samples are taken after a conviction. Rep. Denney proposed that the DNA sample be taken after the arrest. Lawmakers raised ...

[Drug lab scandal leads to massive case backlog](#)

WCVB Boston

Team 5 Investigates was first to report on the scandal at the state drug lab in Jamaica Plain that has

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Employment Opportunities

- [Forensic Scientist Trainee – Controlled Substances](#), DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: March 21, 2014
- [Forensic Advisor/Instructor](#), Engility Corporation, Algiers, Algeria, Expires: April 7, 2014
- [Forensic Lab Manager](#), Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab, Lincoln, NE, Expires: March 31, 2014
- [Forensic Scientist-Latent Fingerprint](#), City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: March 31, 2014
- [Forensic Scientist-Firearms/ToolMark](#), City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: March 31, 2014
- [Forensic Scientist- Biology/DNA](#), City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: March 31, 2014
- [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](#)

wreaked havoc on the state's criminal justice ...

[Crime Lab Expanding in Baldwin County](#)

WKRG-TV

In time, Milroy hopes the lab will grow and make a difference in the time it takes to get from a crime scene to a court room. "Maybe start working the ...

[State senator from Affton proposes DNA samples for felony arrests](#)

[KMOV.com](#)

A Missouri state senator from Affton has filed a bill that would require DNA testing of people arrested for a felony. Under Senate Bill 879 ..

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](#)

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

2014 Spring Essentials of Forensic Science for Legal Professionals Program

Where: West Virginia University Downtown Campus, 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

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

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

- [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

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.asclid.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

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, 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

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 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.

- 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

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

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