

August 11, 2014



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

### General Announcements

#### President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

National Forensic Science Week has begun!

The National Forensic Science Week officially began on August 10th. During this week, all practitioners of forensic science are encouraged to engage their stakeholders in discussions about resource and policy needs as well as education and awareness about the role they play in the criminal justice system. It's also a great opportunity to showcase the good work that you do for your community. In Texas, we have tours scheduled for our customers and other stakeholders. We have also planned an afternoon of activities for just lab personnel and their families. Please remember to email us at [forensicscienceweek@gmail.com](mailto:forensicscienceweek@gmail.com) if you have news articles published, or events that we can add to the website. Please feel free to use the following website as a resource.

[www.forensicscienceweek.org](http://www.forensicscienceweek.org)

Brady Mills  
ASCLD President

#### DNA Mixture Interpretation Study

The ASCLD Forensic Research Committee supports the NIJ-funded DNA Mixture Interpretation Study coordinated by the Defense Forensics and Biometrics Agency and all interested laboratories are encouraged to participate. The purpose of this study is determine the variation that occurs in interpretation of DNA mixtures in 2-, 3-, and 4-person mixtures. Variations in allele calls will be evaluated intra- and inter-laboratory and allele calls will be evaluated both pre- and post-technical review. Participants will analyze

### Vendor Sponsors



The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) is pleased to announce the [Genome ID Forum 2014 - Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications](#); a conference to take place on September 9 and 10 at the Hilton Greenville, North Carolina. Genome ID Forum brings together thought leaders from forensic science, research, academia, law and technology development for an open on-going dialogue regarding emerging science, technology applications and adoption by the forensic community. The program includes **Dr. Tamyra R. Moretti**, Research Biologist, FBI Laboratory speaking on "*Emerging Technologies Developmental Validation - Questions and Concerns*". To foster open discussions, space is limited. Registration is available through our website at [www.genomeIDforum.com](http://www.genomeIDforum.com).



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five DNA mixture datasets that vary in the number of contributors and contributor ratios. Interpretations will be made using the laboratory's Standard Operating Procedures but with the thresholds provided based on the validation of the instrumentation used to generate the data set. Participants will receive the data in the form of .fsa files. The study will use quantifiable metrics to evaluate the participant's ability to identify the number of contributors, estimate the ratio of mixture components, evaluate the accuracy of the allele calls in each mixture, and examine the variations in the final statistics generated for the reported interpretations. The study is designed to take no more than 4 hours. Currently, eleven labs are participating.

To sign up, please email Roman Aranda at [roman.aranda3.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:roman.aranda3.ctr@mail.mil). Please use "DNA Mixture Interpretation Study" in the subject line. Registration closes **August 29, 2014** with all data to be returned to Dr. Aranda by September 29, 2014.

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<http://www.ssi.shimadzu.com/ASCLD>



## News Around the Globe

The County of San Diego just released a short documentary about a case solved by the San Diego County Sheriff's Regional Crime Lab.

<http://www.countynewscenter.com/video?v=154929>

[DNA confirms remains of WWII missing airmen.](#)

St. George Daily Spectrum

The remains of 1st Lts. William Bernier and Bryant Poulsen were identified through DNA and other evidence collected from the crash site in a forest on ...

[£400000 funding will help police use DNA to identify suspects fast](#)

The Visitor

DNA profiles could be obtained from Lancashire crime scenes in a matter of ... "The funding will give us the opportunity to "test out" RapidHIT DNA ... impact upon the way that forensic science supports policing in the future."

[Military Inaugurates DNA Centre](#)

AllAfrica.com

The minister stressed that the application of DNA technology has proven to be a valuable investigative tool to improve military identification ...

**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.

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

### [9 Questions You Should Ask About the Drug "Molly"](#)

NBC4 Washington

It's one of the most popular party drugs in circulation at the moment, but what is it? Is it a new danger or old news? There's a lot of misinformation out ...

### [Columbus crime-lab error might affect 38 cases](#)

Columbus Dispatch

At least 38 closed cases could be affected by a DNA-related mistake in the ... Since then, crime-lab workers have determined that 288 reports were ... The previous report said — and the forensic scientist testified at trial — that ...

### [Inside the mortuary with the UK's leading forensic scientists](#)

Financial Times

Black's own career as a forensic anthropologist has spanned the exhumation of mass graves in Kosovo and the analysis of photographs allegedly ...

### [UP to get 6 new forensic labs](#)

Times of India

LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh government will set up six new forensic laboratories by 2016. It is aimed at improving the poor conviction rate in criminal ...

### [Broward Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory: New Times Finds Lots of Missing Drugs and Botched ...](#)

New Times Broward-Palm Beach (blog)

Though the broad outlines of the scandal at the Broward crime lab have been made public -- two top staff members have resigned, and an internal ...

### [McCrary names acting SBI director](#)

WRAL.com

McLeod assumed command of the SBI following an outside investigation that determined analysts in the State Crime Lab had omitted, overstated or ...

### [RapidHit Human DNA Identification System helps Sheriff's Department get criminals off the streets](#)

Columbia Star

This is an important new crime fighting tool when it comes to saving time, ... The Richland County Sheriff's Department Crime Lab was able to match ...

### [Western Crime Lab Progress](#)

WLOS

Ellen Pitt with Mothers Against Drunk Driving listened intently on the progress for the western crime lab planned for the Justice Academy in Edneyville

### [St. Louis Count crime lab already paying dividends](#)

to forensic labs improving efficiency, increasing throughput, reducing turnaround time and eliminating backlogs.

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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.

fox2now.com

CLAYTON, MO (KTVI) – The St. Louis County Crime Lab has been open about nine months and already the people that work in the lab are making ..

[. The key to some major endangered species crime investigations is a small lab in Oregon](#)

Public Radio International

The US Fish & Wildlife Service's Forensic Lab in Ashland, Oregon includes a collection of reference samples of protected wildlife species. Lab staff say ...

[More than 8000 rape kits submitted for DNA testing in Ohio, with over half processed so far](#)

The Republic

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Attorney General Mike DeWine says Ohio's crime lab has received 8,381 untested rape kits as it seeks DNA matches that could ...

[North metro crime lab earns accreditation, will ramp up DNA work](#)

Minneapolis Star Tribune

The accreditation by the Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board clears the way for the lab to connect to the FBI's DNA index ...

[Crime lab in Pendleton faces possible shutdown](#)

Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

Keith Kerr, director of the Pendleton crime lab, said the issue now is strictly being driven by the budget. Forensic labs are expensive to operate, he said ...

[Call go merge pathology and forensic services](#)

Belfast Newsletter

Merging pathology and forensic services in Northern Ireland into a single overarching body could address recurring delays in reporting post-mortem ...

[Clouded Perspective on Forensic Science](#)

The National Law Review

The National Institute of Standards and Technology

## *Training*

**A2LA** courses are designed with forensic professionals in mind, including a new courses to be hosted in Minnesota this September on ISO/IEC 17025 and 17020. See the below link for a full listing with dates and topics.

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.



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## *Employment Opportunities*

[Forensic Scientist- Chemist](#), Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, Beaufort, South Carolina, Expires: September 1, 2014

[http://www.a2la.org/training/course\\_schedule.cfm](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm)

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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.

[September 22-24, 2014](#), Alexandria, VA  
[October 27-28, 2014](#), Worcester, MA

- 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.

[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.

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### [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*.

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George Mason University's Office of Continuing Professional Education in Virginia is hosting a 2-day seminar:

Sexually Violent Crime: The Body as Evidence  
Taught by Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush  
November 3-4, 2014

Sexually violent crime continues to challenge investigators and concern the general public. It has been estimated that every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. In many cases, sexual assault results in homicide. Dr. Henry

[Forensic DNA Analyst](#), Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, Beaufort, South Carolina, Expires: September 1, 2014

[Crime Laboratory Analyst](#), State of Florida, Havana/Midway, Florida, Expires: August 19, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner-Forensic Scientist III/Quality Assurance Specialist](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: November 3, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Fort Worth Police Dept, Fort Worth, Texas, Expires: August 27, 2014

[Sheriff's Forensic Services Bureau Manager II](#), Ventura County Sheriff, Ventura, CA, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Forensic Toxicology Analyst](#), St. Tammany Parish Coroner's Office, Lacombe, LA, Expires: September 12, 2014

[DNA Analyst III](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Laboratory Quality Assurance Manager](#), Tri County Regional Forensic Laboratory, Andover, MN, Expires: August 19, 2014

[Quality Assurance Coordinator](#), The City of Lakewood, Lakewood, Colorado, Expires: August 29, 2014

[Criminalist, IB](#), NYC Office of Chief Medical Examiner, New York, NY, Expires: August 23, 2014

[Chief Medical Examiner](#), Travis County, Austin, TX, Expires: September 23, 2014

[Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: October 23, 2014

Lee and Dr. Leah Bush, two of the country's top forensic scientists, will share their individual and collective expertise to help the participants understand the importance of the body as evidence as it relates to sexually violent crimes.

Please visit our course page at [http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold\\_case.php](http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php) for more information on this exciting opportunity to learn from two of the top forensic scientists in the country!

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Forensic and Investigative Science Outreach is pleased to provide quality, continuing education courses for forensic professionals. We would like to announce several on-site courses which will be offered for FREE at West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia. Please feel free to visit our [website](#) for additional registration information and to share this information with other interested individuals.

Continuing Education Courses – Summer 2014

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### **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](#)

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

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**Cal State Fullerton Certificates in Crime & Forensics.** Contact Veronica Martinez at 1-657-278-3123

[Forensic Analyst – Biology-DNA](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30, 2014

[Forensic Scientist I or II](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: September 3, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: August 31, 2014

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

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

## **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: 22<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences in Adelaide, South Australia. See

or see

<http://extension.fullerton.edu/professionaldevelopment/Crime-Forensic>.

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**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 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>).

<http://anzfss.org.au/international-symposium/> for more

September 9-10, 2014: Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications – genomID forum In Greenville, NC. See [www.advancedforensicsdna.com/corporate/snpforum/](http://www.advancedforensicsdna.com/corporate/snpforum/) for more information.

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