Some movement…

Senator Leahy’s Senior Counsel, Chan Park, attended the International Association for Identification (IAI) conference in Providence, RI earlier this month and announced that Senator Leahy plans to re-introduce his bill on forensic reform in September. IAI is also a member of the CFSO. It is unclear what changes will be made to the Bill but according to Leahy’s staff at IAI it will be similar to the July 2012 version. In addition-- perhaps of more encouragement-- was the fact that Republican Minority Whip and Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator Cornyn, has agreed to co-sponsor the legislation.

Switching topics, I hope you had a valuable national forensic science week. I heard about several different ways that departments were choosing to interact with their community. Check out the news blog here:

http://www.forensicsscienceweek.org/news.html

Have a great week!

Jay Henry
ASCLD President

International Initiatives
The International Forensic Strategic Alliance (IFSA) has created a survey to determine how it can add value to your network. Thank you for taking the time in answering this survey which includes 18 questions. Your answers will help IFSA define a strategic plan for meeting the needs of your organization. Please click on the link below to start the survey

http://www.forensicsscienceweek.org/news.html

Sorenson Forensics provides forensic DNA casework services for federal, state and local crime laboratories; law enforcement agencies; and assists Officers of the Court in individual criminal cases. Sorenson Forensics is a unique private forensic DNA laboratory. We are built upon a foundation of collaborative forensics with law enforcement agencies, advanced lab technology and our unique experience. More than 500 law enforcement agencies have turned to Sorenson Forensics for individual casework and DNA testing services. We provide comprehensive biological screening, including: blood, semen, and saliva identifications. We also offer Y-screening (using Plexor HY), a more sensitive alternative to traditional screening that directly detects the presence of male DNA. Sorenson Forensics scientists and technicians have extensive public lab work experience, creating an environment empathetic to the issues which public labs face. Our veteran team with combined public and private lab work history have decades of forensic DNA experience and have completed thousands of individual cases. Some of the highest profile cases in the country have been sent to the Sorenson laboratory because of this unique expertise. The growing reputation for excellence has spread internationally with a world-wide clientele now using Sorenson Forensics.
http://sorensonforensics.com

Calibrate, Inc. founded the pipette calibration industry in 1983 and remains North America’s leader in the business. No one knows pipettes better. ISO 17025 Accredited since 2004 (by the
The National Institute of Forensic Science/Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency is conducting a study on manufacturer DNA contamination. A survey (download the spreadsheet form here) has been developed which will capture information to map out the issue and identify possible sources and points of product contamination. The results will be used in the development of the ISO Standard "Minimizing the risk of human DNA contamination in products used to collect and analyze biological material for forensic purposes". Preliminary results will be presented at ISFG in September and full results will be presented at the ISO PC/272 Meeting in February.

Please send your responses to Dr. Linzi Wilson-Wilde, General Manager at NIFS by August 21, 2013 if possible. linzi.wilson-wilde.nifs@anzpaa.org.au

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey

Soraya McClung
International Liaison Committee Chair

Member Submission
Timothy Scanlan, Jefferson Parish Crime Lab Director and ASCLD member, submitted the following request:

As a member of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) you are invited to participate in a survey, regarding major challenges facing forensic science administrators. The purpose of this study is to test the theory that the United States Supreme Court ruling in Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals (Daubert Ruling), the CSI Effect, and the National Academy of Sciences 2009 report on forensic science (NAS Report) have a significant impact on the field of forensic science, from the examination of evidence, through the reporting of results and the testimony by members of the forensic science community. Your input is valuable as this research may provide insight about the impact of Daubert, the CSI effect and the American Association of Laboratory Accreditation, or A2LA, a signatory to the ILAC MRA, our focus is on quality.

We work nationwide and in eastern Canada, either on-site or in one of our three mail-in laboratories.

Pipette service is available for all makes and models of pipettes as well as bottle-top dispensers and pipet-aids. We offer an extended warranty on all parts and labor, and are known for delivering high quality work and excellent customer service. We solve problems. It was for these reasons that we were recently chosen by Business Leaders magazine as a 2009 Business Champion.

Visit us on the web at http://www.pipetpeople.com or email us at forensics@pipetpeople.com for more information about how our quality pipette services can help you create a bullet-proof pipette calibration program at your facility today.

Employment Opportunities

Security Systems Manager, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: November 15, 2013
Regional Crime Laboratory Manager, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Moultrie, Georgia, Expires: August 26, 2013
Sheriff's Supervising Forensic Scientist (Firearms and Toolmark), Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: August 30, 2013

**News Around the Globe**

India's first Cyber Forensic Lab set up in Tripura
Times of India
AGARTALA: India's first Cyber Forensic Laboratory (CFL) has been set up in ... The lab, established at the Tripura High Court will provide court case related ...

Public welcome to visit State Crime Lab on Thursday in Missoula
The Missoulian
In conjunction with National Forensic Science Week, the State Crime Lab in Missoula plans a public open house Thursday, Aug. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m

New Hanover County Sheriff's Office crime lab receives international ...
Port City Daily
The New Hanover County Sheriff's Office recently received its accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors Laboratory Accreditation ...

A look at the work of a crime lab technician
MyFox Phoenix
It's National Forensic Science Week and we're getting a rare look inside the Phoenix Police Department's crime lab. It looks like something straight out of a TV ...

NC State Crime Lab Toxicology Tests Backed Up
WFMY News 2
That's why prosecutors and even defense attorneys all over the state are frustrated the State Crime Lab has become so backed up. It's taking more than a year, ...

Columbus Crime Lab To Get $11 Million Facelift
10TV
"That will give us the opportunity to add more resources, more people, more instrumentation, so that we can better address crime and analysis of evidence that ...

Sheriff's Forensic Scientist II/III Toxicology/Blood Alcohol, Ventura County Sheriff’s Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: September 6, 2013
Criminalist, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013
Director, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: November 6, 2013
Forensic Scientist- Toxicology Unit, Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013
Forensic Scientist- Firearm and Toolmark Unit, Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013
Forensic Scientist – Toxicology, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: August 22, 2013
Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: August 22, 2013
Sheriff’s Forensic Scientist Trainee/Forensic Scientist I – Latent Print Examiner, Ventura County Sheriff’s Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: August 30, 2013
Forensic Scientist – Latent Print Examiner, DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: September 6, 2013
Crime Lab Scientist (Entry-Level), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia, Expires: August 20, 2013
Multiple Positions, NMDPS Forensic Laboratories, Multiple NM Locations, Expires: September 30, 2013
Latent Print Examiner Supervisor, Orange County Sheriff’s Office, Orlando, Florida, Expires: October 22, 2013
DNA Analyst, Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Utah, Expires: September 9, 2013
Forensic Services Laboratory Technician (NIBIN), City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: September 28, 2013
Criminalist – Controlled Substances, Houston Police Department Crime Laboratory, Houston, Texas 77002, Expires: September 20, 2013
Mesa police show off their Forensic Services lab  
**ABC15.com** (KNXV-TV)  
The Mesa Police Department's Forensic Services lab employs over 70 people that process over 35,000 requests every year. The full service crime laboratory ...

Forensics 'not glitz and glamour'  
**Suffolk News-Herald**  
The department's Eastern Laboratory in Norfolk evaluates evidence for crimes ... tour of the lab on Tuesday in recognition of National Forensic Science Week.

Vegas police hosting forensic science event  
**KVUU Las Vegas**  
The public will have the opportunity to learn and ask about life in Las Vegas Metro's Forensic Lab during a special event Tuesday. In the event titled "Forensic ...

Canton to hand over crime lab operations  
**Canton Repository**  
The agency that funds the Canton-Stark County Crime Lab is being asked to take over its daily operations and make decisions over the hiring and firing of ...

Details emerge about KC East Patrol crime lab's busted budget  
**KCTV Kansas City**  
Controversy continues to grow over Kansas City's plans to tear down some east side homes to build a new crime lab and East Patrol substation. Some residents ...

City takes step closer to fully funding new East Patrol crime lab  
**KSHB**  
KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Kansas City remains $6 million short of the $80 million it would need to build a new crime lab police have asked for, with less than a month ...

Holder seeks to avert mandatory minimum sentences for some low ...  
**Washington Post**  
Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. is set to announce Monday that low-level, nonviolent drug

Conferences


September 29 – October 4, 2013 Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists Fall Meeting Dayton, Ohio. See [www.mafs.net](http://www.mafs.net) or [MAFS_2013](http://www.mafs.net) for more details.

October 5-11, 2013 11th Indo Pacific Association of Law, Medicine and Science in Malaysia. See [http://inpalms.org](http://inpalms.org) for more information.

offenders with no ties to gangs or large-scale drug organizations ...

**Drug dealers now being charged for causing overdose deaths**

*abc13.com*

The popular prescription drug OxyContin has also been reformulated to make it ... prosecutors are employing the state's little-used "strict liability for drug death" ...

**World drug market is growing more than ever**

*GlobalPost*

U.S. Border Patrol agents inspect a pickup load of marijuana seized from drug smugglers near the U.S.-Mexico border on April 10, 2013 in Hidalgo, Texas. Drug ...

**Billion dollar drug haul by Customs**

*TVNZ*

The street value of the drugs is between $740 million and $1 billion while the drug harm prevented is calculated to be $410 million, Mr Williamson said.

**DNA reveals details of the peopling of the Americas**

*Science News*

The first people to settle the Americas had a distinctive genetic style, and additional waves of migrants added regional flair, a new analysis of mitochondrial DNA ...

**DNA bill gets nod from MPs**

*Independent Online*

The Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Amendment Bill provides, among other things, for the taking of DNA samples from certain people for use during ...

**Family DNA Searches Hold Potential for Racial Bias**

*LiveScience.com*

When a suspect leaves DNA at a crime scene, the police will scour existing databases for a match. If they can't find a direct hit, they'll often look for siblings or ...

**Study probes DNA search method that led to 'Grim...**

Additional details are posted at [www.afqam.org](http://www.afqam.org).

October 20-24, 2013  Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, Huntsville, AL.  Click here for more information.


October 28-November 1, 2013  Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Orlando, FL.  See [http://www.soft-tox.org/meeting](http://www.soft-tox.org/meeting) for more information.


**Training**

No-cost, NIJ Medicolegal Death Investigation online training program. The information available online at: [http://www.nfstc.org/apply-now-for-online-medicolegal-death-investigation-course/](http://www.nfstc.org/apply-now-for-online-medicolegal-death-investigation-course/)

The West Virginia University Forensic Science Initiative invites you to utilize their FREE webinar series on a variety of topics...
The state of California has been a leader in the use of familial DNA searches -- investigations that seek out crime suspects by taking unidentified crime scene DNA samples and comparing them against DNA profiles in databases. These searches can help identify suspects even when the victim has already passed away.

San Jose Mercury News
A federal appeals court in December will reconsider a legal challenge to California's law allowing the collection of DNA from people who are arrested, this time focusing on the constitutionality of the practice.

HOUSTON, TX – Dr. Daniel Garner has been appointed the new President and CEO of Houston's Forensic Science Center, also known as the Crime Lab.

A state-of-the-art Orange County criminal investigations lab opened its doors Wednesday in celebration of National Forensic Science Week! Experts in the field will present on a wide range of forensic science topics from the reliability of eye witness identification to fire scene investigation. Sign up now for the Texas Forensic Science Commission: Justice Through Science presentation. Follow the link for a list of upcoming webinars.

Try your CSI skills at the Basic Crime Scene Investigation for Legal Professionals course at West Virginia University's forensic crime scene complex. This four day course will offer hands-on training specifically for the legal professional. Learn how to properly identify, collect, and preserve evidence at a crime scene. To better assist each student, class seating will be limited. For more information, click here.

Training classes to help forensic laboratory personnel understand the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 General Requirements for the Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories.

Contact Veronica Martinez at 1-657-278-3123 or see http://extension.fullerton.edu/professionaldevelopment/Crime-Forensic..
Bemidji laboratories in 2012 received over 63,300 pieces of ...

New York State toxicology lab receives major upgrades
YNN
It took more than one month for Drue to be charged due to the delay of the toxicology report. As YNN's Megan Cruz reports, an upgrade to the State Police lab ...

Drug screening, hit-and-run laws among new measures soon to take ...
LubbockOnline.com
Laid-off Texas workers seeking unemployment benefits will soon have to be tested for illegal drug use before getting weekly payments of as much as ...

Montana State Crime Lab shows off real-life forensic work
Billings Gazette
MISSOULA — The Montana State Crime Lab doesn't operate like the lab on the hit television show "CSI: Las Vegas." Faces of criminals don't magically pop up..

Attorney General Mike DeWine again adding lab staff for testing ...
Plain Dealer
View full size
Sign on the door of the DNA extraction lab at the Bureau of Criminal Investigation crime lab in Richfield where rape kits are being processed.