

August 19, 2013



American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

General Announcements

Vendor Sponsors

Reminders...

Firearm's Black box Study –

As we near the end of August, the deadline for participating in the firearm's black box study is quickly approaching. My understanding is that Dr. Baldwin has a little more than 1/3 of the needed participants to conduct a meaningful error rate study. I would encourage every ASCLD member laboratory with a firearms discipline to participate. For your reference, I'm including the original announcement with applicable attachments:

"The Midwest Forensics Resource Center (at the USDOE Ames Laboratory) is conducting a firearms error rate study funded by the Defense Forensic Office. The study is designed to measure rates of false positives and false negatives in comparing questioned cartridge cases to known samples, as well as uncertainties in these rates. The possibly very low rate of errors in these comparisons require that a large number of examiners participate to obtain useful results. As such, they are seeking volunteers who are practicing firearms examiners from the ASCLD membership to participate in this study. A letter of invitation, a description of the study, and a consent form can be found at <https://www.ameslab.gov/files/DOD-Study-Greeting-Pkg-snd.pdf> <<https://www.ameslab.gov/files/DOD-Study-Greeting-Pkg-snd.pdf>> . The results will be published in a peer reviewed journal so that they may be used during legal proceedings requiring an understanding of the error rates of this type of analysis. Interested applicants should send their completed consent forms by email or mail to the addresses provided with the consent letter as soon as possible or by no later than August 31, 2013."



Loyola University New Orleans

Designed in response to the growing need for leadership in forensics, the Forensic Science Administration specialization of the Master's in Criminal Justice Administration (MSCJA) prepares you with the advanced skills needed to lead forensic labs and crime scene investigation departments from the crime scene to the courtroom.

Topics of study include:

- Develop an advanced understanding of operations, management and administration
- Bridge the gap of understanding between scientists and laypersons, judges and lawyers
- Learn the role of ethics in forensic science, including general principles and training requirements
- Learn effective techniques and communication skills to improve expert testimony

A Member's request—

We also have a fellow member, Jefferson Parish Crime Laboratory Director Tim Scanlan who is conducting research for his doctoral thesis via a survey mechanism. Although this is not an official ASCLD Board of Directors request, I'm sure Tim would greatly appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete his survey. Here's the request and the link below:

*“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 NAS Report on U.S. crime laboratories.”*

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://surveys.questionpro.com/a/t/AGGeDZPwOB>

The National Institute of Forensic Science/Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency is conducting a study on manufacturer DNA contamination. A survey ([download the](#)



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>

[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

News Around the Globe

[Drug agents: Heroin use rising](#)

Times Daily

"Heroin, like all illegal drugs, is a very dangerous drug and more and more people overdose on it. I asked if anyone knew someone who had overdosed on ...

[Drug addiction not a criminal issue, says chief medical officer](#)

The Guardian

Sally Davies: 'Addiction is a medical problem ... and our society is choosing to treat that as a criminal justice issue.'

[These cops aggressively go after child porn worldwide](#)

Barre Montpelier Times Argus

Indiana State Police Lt. Chuck Cohen is shown in a mobile crime lab in Indianapolis. The lab is used by an Indiana task force that is building a national ...

[Leading Chinese forensic scientist quits just days ahead of Bo Xilai](#)

Telegraph.co.uk



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 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.

Wang Xuemei posted a video on Youtube resigning both her position as a forensic expert at the Supreme People's Procuratorate, China's top prosecutors' office, ...

[Colo. toxicology lab's work holding up in retests](#)
[9NEWS.com](#)

DENVER (AP) - The Colorado health department says independent tests so far have confirmed the reliability of blood-alcohol testing by a state toxicology lab, ...

[Drug scourge worse than apartheid - Zille](#)

Independent Online

Premier Helen Zille and Social Development MEC Albert Fritz at the provincial legislature during a press conference on progress made in reducing drug- and ...

[Science lab gets planning approval](#)

Belfast Telegraph

... will help FSNi to respond to the ever changing demands of forensic science, ... The equipment in Northern Ireland will be housed in a temporary lab at the ...

[Ex-Mass. chemist wants statements to police tossed](#)

Seattle Post Intelligencer

Authorities have set up special court sessions to manage fallout from the lab scandal, whose effects have been felt through Massachusetts' criminal justice ...

[Backlog at SBI lab hinders Cumberland County drug cases](#)

Fayetteville Observer

Delays at the State Bureau of Investigation's crime lab in Raleigh have stalled hundreds of felony drug cases from going to trial in Cumberland County.

[Familiar DNA leads to arrest in Virginia, forensic tool authorized in ...](#)

Washington Post

A familial DNA search has helped authorities in Virginia to find and arrest a suspect. The Virginia Department of Forensic Science confirmed the arrest.

Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#),

Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: September 13, 2013

[Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor, Criminalistics \(Generalist Position\)](#),

California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: December 1, 2013

[Section Supervisor – Breath Alcohol](#),

Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: September 17, 2013

[Forensic Toxicologist](#),

Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: September 10, 2013

[Forensic Scientist- DNA](#),

The Ohio Attorney General's Office, Richfield, OH, Expires: September 2, 2013

[Forensic Scientist- DNA](#),

The Ohio Attorney General's Office, London, OH, Expires: August 28, 2013

[Latent Print Section Supervisor](#),

Austin Police Department, Austin, Texas, Expires: October 18, 2013

[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

[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- DNA/ Serology](#),

Metro

[State drug lab scandal widens, 40000 defendants may be affected](#)

Boston Herald

More than 40,000 defendants may be affected by the alleged drug tampering of “rogue” chemist Annie Dookhan, a sign the state's massive drug lab scandal ...

[Lack of resources at state crime lab causing delays in drug case ...](#)

[WRAL.com](#)

State and local law enforcement officials say a backlog of evidence awaiting testing at the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory is delaying ...

[Palm Prints Solving More Crimes In Utah](#)

KUTV 2News

At the Utah State Crime Lab, scientists analyze all types of criminal evidence ... More and more, they are hoping to solve crimes with palm prints – police ...

[Medical licensing board unsure if doctors ready to conduct annual ...](#)

Journal and Courier

Indiana's Medical Licensing Board is considering delaying for one year a proposed new rule that would require physicians to conduct annual ...

[International drug bust nets 750kg of cocaine](#)

Sydney Morning Herald

Australian Federal Police agents joined Australian customs concealment experts and US officials in Port Vila on Monday to examine the massive drug bust, one ...

[Forensics Expert Shoji Horikoshi Dies at 86; Led SFPD Crime Lab](#)

The Rafu Shimpō

Shoji Horikoshi, former director of the San Francisco Police Crime Lab, which now bears his name, died on July 16 after a five-month battle ...

[DUI tests thrown out in Scottsdale, hundreds of other case could be ...](#)

[ABC15.com \(KNXV-TV\)](#)

Hundreds of DUI cases could be affected after a judge ruled the instrument the Scottsdale Crime Lab uses to test blood alcohol levels is ...

Nashville Police, Nashville, Tennessee, Expires: November 5, 2013

[Forensic Scientist- Drug ID](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: November 5, 2013

[Laboratory Director](#), Oregon State Police, Central Point, OR, Expires: August 25, 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

[Multiple Postions](#), 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

[Criminalist – Firearms](#), Houston Police Department Crime Lab, Houston, Texas, Expires: September 13, 2013

[Forensic Chemist III](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, TX, Expires: September 11, 2013

[Forensic Scientist III/Quality Assurance](#)

[Specialist-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: September 10, 2013

[Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: September 10, 2013

[Criminalist – Toxicology](#), Houston Police Department Crime Lab, Houston, Texas, Expires: September 7, 2013

[Criminalist – Serologist](#), Houston Police Department Crime Lab, Houston, Texas, Expires: September 7, 2013

[Ark. officials encourage relatives of missing people to allow officials ...](#)

The Tribune

FILE - In April 25, 2012, file photo, boxes containing human skeletal remains sit on shelves at the Arkansas State Crime Lab in Little Rock, Ark. Authorities in ...

[Council Passes Controversial Contract, Tables Crime Lab Bonds](#)

KCUR

A controversial \$12 million contract won the approval of the Kansas City city council Thursday, but not without some spirited debate. City Hall staff had a lot of ...

[New technology at DPS returns DNA profiles in 2 hours](#)

MyFox Phoenix

The crime lab wants to use it for those time-sensitive cases when every minute counts. This is where criminalists analyze DNA samples from notorious Arizona ...

[Ohio says number of seized meth labs growing](#)

San Francisco Chronicle

Authorities report a jump in the number of methamphetamine labs seized this year, and state officials attribute much of the increase to the ...

[Meth problem resurgent in northwestern Wis.](#)

San Francisco Chronicle

The number of suspected meth samples submitted to the state crime lab for analysis rose 86 percent last year to 440. For the first half of 2013 that figure was on ...

['Crazy Clown' drug sends eight users to the hospital](#)

KPLC-TV

A drug called 'crazy clown' caused eight users to have violent reactions.

Training

No-cost, NIJ Medicolegal Death Investigation online training program. The information available

Conferences

September 2-6, 2013 – 25th World Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics in Melbourne, Australia. For more information see: <http://isfg2013.org/>

September 23-26, 2013 2nd Annual Advanced DNA Technical Workshop – Bode Mid-Atlantic, Charlottesville, VA. See [Bode Mid-Atlantic Conference](#) for more details.

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

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

October 7-10, 2013 International Symposium on Human Identification in Atlanta, GA. See <http://ishinews.com> for more information.

October 7-11, 2013 Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) Annual Training Conference, at The Genesee Grande Hotel in Syracuse, NY. Additional details are posted at www.afqam.org.

October 20-24, 2013 Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, Huntsville, AL. [Click here for more information.](#)

October 27-30, 2013 35th Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, Santa Fe, NM. See <http://www.swafs.us> for more details.

online at: <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 in forensic science! 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](#).

[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_

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

Nov 11-12, 2013 Crime Scene and Shooting Incident Reconstruction. 2 day seminar at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. See http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php for more details.

May 3-8, 2014 ASCLD Symposium at the Doubletree Resort, Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, AZ, See <http://www.asclد.org/meetings-list/> 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.