

December 9, 2013



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

### General Announcements

#### President's Message

##### Wow, what a great webinar!

I was very pleased with the first of seven ASCLD Webinars that began this past week. According to the technical staff, we had a 100% turnout which is something they had never seen before. John Collins did a great job of managing the event and likewise Brian Gestring was excellent at presenting the information and introducing us to the backlog challenge. Thanks to Beth Kroupa, Erica Fornaro, Josh Vickers and the rest of the RTI staff. Believe me, there was a lot of activity going on before we went live!

A surprise for me was the addition of the online polling. It was fun to ask a question on the spot and get a real-time response from the nation's crime laboratory leaders. By the way, we're still assembling the results of those polls and intend to make it available soon.

For those of you who couldn't attend last week, I have good news. RTI has made an archival link available which will allow you to get caught up before the December 18<sup>th</sup>, Webinar "**Managing Customer Expectations and Education**" with John Collins.

Link to register for the archival of Webinar #1:  
<https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?moduleid=c93af17d-77f7-4803-89b5-86f4fb013a71>

**The December 16<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Abstracts is nearing...**

If you have an idea for a workshop, poster or plenary session presentation and would like to have it considered for the ASCLD 2014 meeting in



#### Call for Workshops, Presentations and Posters!!

I'm excited to announce that President Elect Brady Mills and the Symposium Planning Committee are releasing the 2014 ASCLD call for presentation abstracts. The theme for this year's meeting is "The Efficiency of Quality". If you've got an idea for a workshop, the plenary session or poster, please download the form below and return by **December 16, 2013**.

[2014 ASCLD Symposium Abstract Form](#)

#### 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](mailto:brady.mills@dps.texas.gov).

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](mailto:Sabrina.Cillessen@DFS.Virginia.gov)

Scottsdale, please complete the attached abstract and return it to Brady Mills.

[2014 ASCLD Symposium Abstract Form](#)

### This Week's Forensic Metric: 36

The median turn-around time in days (36) for a toxicology ante mortem (excluding BAC) report with the timeline defined as beginning at the date of the first submission of evidence to report submission. This information is derived from those laboratories who participated in the 2011-2012 FORESIGHT program.

Jay Henry  
ASCLD President

## News Around the Globe

['Significant toxicological threat': A California company this year ...](#)

Daily Mail

... to inhaled marijuana smoke, possibly posing a 'significant toxicological threat. ... Pasadena, Calif., and published in the peer-reviewed Journal of Toxicology.

[Toxicologist: Even ER might not save victims of designer drug that ...](#)

Anchorage Daily News

Florida toxicologist Julia Pearson studied three of the first reported ... case report Pearson and others published last year in the Journal of Analytical Toxicology.

[Science and crime: Karachi gets 90 more forensic experts](#)

The Express Tribune

The first forensic science laboratory in Karachi was established in 1958 at the Central Police Office. Later, the Criminalistics Division was created by merging the ...

[VIDEO: CRIME SCENE LAB](#)

Luton Today

The flat in Luton town centre will now be the scene of hundreds of 'crimes' each week, following its transformation into the uni's new scene of crime

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laboratory.

[Wyoming OKs \\$100K for its own crime lab](#)

WOOD-TV

Frustration with slow results from the Michigan State Police Crime Lab is leading one suburban Grand Rapids police department to ...

[State police dispute slow testing times after Wyoming announces ...](#)

The Grand Rapids Press - [MLive.com](#)

WYOMING, MI -- As Wyoming police announced this week plans to start an in-house crime lab, state police are disputing claims they provide slow testing results.

[Call for DNA identification for all in India](#)

[India.Com](#) Health

DNA identification cards can be developed for Indian citizens to serve as a ... Noting that forensic tests were taking a long time, he also called for setting up a ...

[Middlesex, Union counties hire DNA analyst in shared-services deal](#)

The Star-Ledger - [NJ.com](#)

Under a new shared services agreement, Middlesex County has hired a DNA analyst who will work in the Union County Prosecutor's Forensic ...

[Police chiefs lead effort to prevent wrongful convictions by altering ...](#)

Washington Post

Those errors have been exposed in recent years by advances in DNA profiling. ... past convictions that may have relied on flawed forensic or other evidence.

[Home department probing poor show by forensic lab's DNA section](#)

Times of India

In a state where more than five cases of rape are reported on an average daily, only three DNA cases have been examined this year so far at the ...

[Stark Crime Lab to be restored as one-stop shop for law enforcement](#)

The-review

Plans to revitalize the Stark County Crime Lab and make it into a one-stop shop for law enforcement

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agencies in the community were announced during the ...

### [Rash of homicides tests city crime lab](#)

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Dyes are put on the gun and magazines to highlight the prints under the lights. ... Thursday morning, analysts were comparing a latent fingerprint collected from ...

### [Report Details the Extent of a Crime Lab Technician's Errors in ...](#)

New York Times

The crime lab technician mislabeled samples, using "the victim's name instead of suspect's name," her evaluation said. Her supervisors disqualified her from ...

### [California's DNA collection law in key legal test](#)

San Jose Mercury News

Armed with a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling, a federal appeals court on Monday will revisit a controversial legal challenge to California's law allowing ...

### [New Santa Cruz County crime lab, coroner's building aids ...](#)

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Santa Cruz County sheriff's leaders unveiled a new crime lab and coroner's facility on Soquel Avenue on Friday, touting it as a way to streamline ...

### [RCMP forensic identification specialists small in number](#)

Edmonton Sun

DNA Sgt. Nolan Losness with the RCMP Forensic Identification Section demonstrates swabbing a cup for DNA, as he poses for a photo in a lab at RCMP K ...

### [Russian drug krokodil not verified in US, despite Ohio report](#)

Columbus Dispatch

With its exotic nickname and deservedly ghoulish reputation overseas, krokodil has become this fall's drug horror story. The drug began grabbing headlines in ...

### [DNA Testing Cold Cases Better, Not Perfect](#)

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## **Employment Opportunities**

[Forensic Technician – Latent Print Processor](#),

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Crime Lab, Minneapolis, MN, Expires: December 11, 2013

[Forensic Scientist III/Quality Assurance](#)

[Specialist-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: March 2, 2014

[Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: March 2, 2014

[Information Technology Specialist \(LIMS\)](#), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: February 24, 2014

[Firearms Examiner](#), Dallas County Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences, Dallas, TX, Expires: February 26, 2014

[Forensic Toxicologist or Trainee](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Norfolk, VA, Expires: January 6, 2014

[Assistant Professor](#), Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, Expires: January 31, 2014

[Chairperson](#), Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Expires: February 18, 2014

[Forensic Scientist – Firearms](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Laboratory, Topeka, KS, Expires: December 13, 2013

[Tenure-Track Position in Forensics](#), Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Expires: December 31, 2013

[Crime Scene Analyst – Denver](#), Colorado Department of Public Safety, Denver, CO, Expires: December 31, 2013

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Prints](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: December 31, 2013

[Forensic DNA Analyst](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, UT, Expires: January 11, 2014

[Criminalistics Manager, Police Laboratory](#), NYPD, New York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014  
[Manager – Case Management, Training and Professional Development Section](#), NYPD, New

## WISC TV

After years with no answers, investigators sometimes look to DNA testing to help solve a cold case, but experts say the testing process is very different from what television shows portray.

### [DNA first used in Canada in Edmonton court 25 years ago](#)

Edmonton Sun

Twenty five years ago, DNA evidence was used for the first time in a ... an RCMP crime lab analyst testified he compared a DNA profile of the crime scene ...

## Training

**FTCOE 2D/3D Crime Scene Imaging Knowledge Transfer web based Event: Dec 18, 2013 @ 1:00 pm EST** for crime scene management and practitioners in your service area;

The Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCOE) at RTI International is pleased to host the web based discussion panel 2D/3D Crime Scene Imaging: A Practitioner's Perspective on December 18th at 1:00 pm EST. The panel consists of forensic practitioners who have adopted and implemented one of three panoramic crime scene imaging technologies; SceneVision-Panorama, Panoscan MK-3, and Leica ScanStation C10. Please register for free at:  
<https://www.forensiced.org/training/viewcourse.cfm?moduleid=30e8776f-7326-471a-a72b-8b12633fc043>.

The goal of this event is to provide participants with access to adopting practitioners' perspectives and hear firsthand what has worked and what hasn't in their real world implementations. Panelists will present a brief overview of their implementation and then there will be time for discussion among the panel and questions from attendees. Access an executive summary of the FTCOE technology evaluation report at <https://rti.connectsolutions.com/p48gn4fh4wi/>. Many thanks to Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Forensic Sciences for their excellent work on behalf of NIJ's FTCOE!

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

York, NY, Expires: January 6, 2014

[Tenure Track Faculty Position in Forensic Biology](#), Indiana Univ Purdue Univ Indpls (IUPUI), Indianapolis, IN, Expires: December 31, 2013

[Crime Scene Sciences Supervisor \(Unit Manager\)](#), 202 727-8239, Washington,

DC, Expires: December 23, 2013

[Forensic Science Full-Time Faculty Position](#), Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA, Expires: December 23, 2013

## Conferences

February 17-22, 2014: American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Seattle, WA. See <http://www.aafs.org/aafs-66th-annual-scientific-meeting> for more information.

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

May 3-8, 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 19-23, 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

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>.

**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

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

August 31 – September 4, 2014: 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 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.

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=fdf2f9c6-4d9e-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>).