

December 30, 2013



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors Crime Lab Minute

### General Announcements

#### President's Message

#### Get ready for Webinar #3

Remember to please consider joining your colleagues for ASCLD's webinar on Wed Jan 8, 2014: Partnering with your Customers and Stakeholders featuring John Collins. Updated reminders with current links will be forwarded in the coming week.

**We need your feedback by no later than January 10th!**

To date, we've heard from about one third of you. As you may recall from the last symposium, we discussed some proposed language changes and realized that we needed to do a better job of understanding the viewpoints of the members, hence, the survey. Please, if you haven't done so already, take a few minutes to share with us your thoughts.

The link for the survey

is: <http://questionpro.com/t/AGGeDZQb9c>

#### ASCLD Leadership Academy

Thank you for responding to Jeremy's announcement. So far, we've had a tremendous response which indicates that we're on the right track. If you or your line supervisors or managers are interested, please get your applications in soon!!

[ASCLD Leadership Academy Registration Announcement.pdf](#)

There's more information on the new Leadership Academy page on the ASCLD website at <http://www.asclcd.org/academy>.

Have a Great New Year!



#### Call for Posters!!

The deadline for submitting abstracts for posters and workshops has passed, but there is still time to submit one for a poster. The theme for this year's meeting is "The Efficiency of Quality". If you've got an idea for a poster, please download the form below and return by **March 1, 2014**.

[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).

#### Symposium Details...

In the next couple of weeks, we will be releasing the registration information for the Scottsdale meeting. Suffice to say, we're excited about having the membership come together again and are looking forward to an amazing conference. If you have any questions, please contact Brady 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

Jay Henry  
ASCLD President

## This Week's Forensic Metric: 68

The median turn-around time in days (68) for a DNA 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.

## News Around the Globe

### [Failing forensic lab - Audit reveals several concerns in operations of ...](#)

Jamaica Gleaner

All is not well at the state-run Forensic Services Laboratory (FSL), leading to fears that test results, whenever they are finally done, could be ...

### [Local Police Collect DNA Samples From Crime Victims](#)

WPEC

Riviera Beach police told mom and son that they had to collect DNA ... How does the county's crime lab handle it as evidence, and are privacy rights ..

### [Cost a concern for Oklahoma DNA database](#)

The Lawton Constitution

Jolley's bill did not set aside funding to pay for additional DNA tests, ... Ryan Porter, a forensic biology supervisor with the Oklahoma State Bureau of ... said it costs \$15.10 for the state's crime lab to process a convicted-offender ...

### [The Meth Menace: W.Va. lawmakers seek fix for drain on crime ...](#)

Charleston Gazette

West Virginia lawmakers are reviewing a six-year-old law that allows the state to reimburse property owners for meth lab ...

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)

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[Scientists discover new drug that may reverse muscular aging](#)

Fox News

A newly discovered drug may someday help dramatically slow muscular aging, according to BBC News. In a study published in the journal Cell, ...

[Judge revoke bail for accused drug lab worker Sonja Farak](#)

[MassLive.com](#)

... Hampshire Superior Court for an August hearing related to her case of evidence tampering and larceny from the UMass crime lab where police drug ...

[A magnetic nanoparticles-based method for DNA extraction from the ...](#)

[Phys.Org](#)

PCR products of methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase C677T DNA samples extracted with magnetic nanoparticles using saliva samples (lanes 1; ) ...

[Conn. university to test pot for contaminants](#)

Houston Chronicle

Heather Miller Coyle, a forensic botanist and associate professor at the ... to detect contaminants in marijuana through DNA profiling and analysis.

[Staffing shortages hit KC police civilian units](#)

Kansas City Star

The crime scene investigation unit is operating at two-thirds staffing with nine ... The crime lab also has trained members of specialized units, such as ...

[St. Paul crime lab problems aren't leading to overturned convictions](#)

Minneapolis Star Tribune

State public defenders have had little success getting drug-related convictions re-examined following a court case that exposed widespread

[Outsourcing](#) and [Same-Day DNA Service™](#), and the [Bode Buccal DNA Collector™](#), a direct collection system, reduces processing time, saving money for crime laboratories.

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failings at ...

[Computers work overtime in crime lab](#)

Greensboro News & Record

In North Carolina, DNA is collected from all convicted felons. Since 2011, it has also been collected from people arrested on the following 11 ...

[Indiana Supreme Court limits right of defendants to confront witnesses](#)

[nwitimes.com](#)

Adopting a narrow reading of the Sixth Amendment right to confront witnesses, the state's high court said a crime lab technician who transferred blood ...

[DNA results do not prove innocence, judge rules in gruesome St ...](#)

[STLtoday.com](#)

A single hair on a blanket helped convict Rodney Lincoln of a 1983 slaying that left two young girls motherless and with life-long wounds.

[College's DNA lab may help bring WWII soldier home](#)

[ArmyTimes.com](#)

The University of Wisconsin's DNA lab may help bring the final member of a World War II unit home. Pfc. Lawrence Gordon, 28, from Canada, was a ...

[Portable drug test a new addition at New Year's DUI checkpoints](#)

Los Angeles Times

The upcoming New Year's crackdown on drunken driving will include a new test for many people who are pulled over — an oral swab that checks for ...

[Forensic examinations of rape victims plummet](#)

The Independent

The number of forensic examinations carried out on victims of rape and serious sexual assault in



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London has plummeted despite a dramatic rise in ...

today.

## 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](#)

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>.

**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

## Employment Opportunities

[Latent Print Examiner II](#), City of Oakland, Oakland, CA, Expires: January 24, 2014  
[Quality Assurance and Technical Manager – Toxicology](#), Ontario Public Service, Toronto, ON, Expires: January 6, 2014  
[Latent Print Examiner Supervisor](#), Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, FL, Expires: March 4, 2014  
[Firearms & Toolmarks Examiner – FTE position](#), Wisconsin Department of Justice – Milwaukee State Crime Lab, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Expires: December 31, 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  
[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](#),

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=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>).

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

## 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 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 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.