President's Message

Dear colleagues,

Members of the Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers invite you to participate in a brief survey to capture the current landscape of accreditation and certification in forensic laboratories. The seven questions of the survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete. Once the survey is closed the results will be compiled, analyzed and built into a presentation which will be available to the forensic science community. Only aggregate data will be presented to show current status and trends.

To complete the survey please follow this link, or copy and paste the text into your browser:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CD9D7ZW

Brady Mills
ASCLD President

News Around the Globe

Embattled St. Paul police crime lab earns accreditation
TwinCities.com-Pioneer Press
The crime lab earned accreditation in forensic testing, which includes crime-scene inspection, evidence collection, and latent fingerprint processing ...

Cuyahoga County forensic lab to offer free services to most local law enforcement
cleveland.com
Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner Dr. Thomas Gilson shows off the new ballistics room of the new Cuyahoga County Forensics Lab in Cleveland ...

2 Denver Crime Lab Get First-Hand Dangerous Experience With ‘Spice’
CBS Local
DENVER (CBS4) – Two crime lab workers in Denver were rushed to the hospital after inhaling what's often called synthetic marijuana on Monday.

New regional forensic center opens in Knox Co.
WBIR-TV
Officials welcomed a new regional forensics center to Knoxville on Tuesday. The center will perform autopsies and other investigative operations for

Updated: Connecticut Police Chiefs Association lauds improvements at state crime lab
theday.com
Chronic understaffing at the crime lab coupled with a huge spike in DNA evidence submissions had led to at one point 12,000 pieces of untested ...

WV State Police Crime Lab gets high marks
West Virginia MetroNews
“This is the highest achievement you can attain as a forensic laboratory,” crime lab acting director Sheri Lemons said Monday. “We've been working ...

Employment Opportunities

Forensic Scientist I (Agent) Toxicology,
Colorado Department of Public Safety, Grand Junction, CO, Expires: January 2, 2015

Forensic Scientist II (Agent) Toxicology,
Colorado Department of Public Safety, Grand Junction, CO, Expires: January 2, 2015

SD crime lab reduces DNA test turnaround times
Rapid City Journal
PIERRE | South Dakota's Criminal Investigation Division says it has significantly reduced the average turnaround time for forensic testing this year.

Delta College opens new crime scene lab
Monroe News Star
CSI: Delta College will kick off next semester with a new crime scene lab to aid students in forensic investigation. The lab opened in early December ...

Just Ask Us: Why does Wisconsin 'outsource' some DNA testing?
Madison.com
If a 'hit' occurs, the sample is then re-analyzed using the retained sample by a trained forensic scientist within our Madison Crime Laboratory and a ...

DNA forensics helping crack more property crimes
Minneapolis Star Tribune
They've found DNA in saliva on half-eaten food left at crime scenes, ... of the 1,500 DNA cases handled at the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office crime lab ... The Tri-County Regional Forensic Lab at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office ...

Forensic Science Is Not CSI, in Ferguson or Anywhere Else
Huffington Post
A 2009 report from the National Research Council went into exhaustive detail on the
substantial unreliability of forensic science. Essentially, DNA ...

North Louisiana crime lab to be complete by end of 2015
Shreveport Times
The new building of North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory is taking shape, with the arched spine of its atrium visible from the corner of Linwood ...

Bills OK’d to require DNA from felony suspects
UpNorthLive.com
The Michigan Legislature has approved bills to expand the collection of DNA samples to include people arrested on suspicion of any felony charge.

Columbus Police Push Legislation That Would Require DNA Samples For Sex Crimes
10TV
COLUMBUS, Ohio - Columbus Police are pushing a change in Ohio law, that they believe will help connect serial predators to their crimes. There are ...

Half of rape kits stored by NOPD don’t require testing, Harrison says
The New Orleans Advocate
Of the 429 sexual assault kits in the NOPD Crime Lab & Evidence Division, 209 require additional investigation by the department and may require ...

Applied DNA Sciences Invited to Serve on
AATCC Fiber Analysis Test Committee
IT Business Net
STONY BROOK, NY--(Marketwired - December 18, 2014) - Applied DNA Sciences, Inc. (NASDAQ: APDN), (Twitter: @APDN), a provider of ...

Crime Lab New York will help promote evidence-based policies to prevent crime, violence
UChicago News
Falco said the timing of Crime Lab New York’s creation presents a wide variety ... “Crime Lab New York is thrilled to be partnering with New York City.

State forensic lab clears enormous backlog
theday.com
Chronic understaffing at the crime lab coupled with a huge spike in DNA evidence submissions had led to at one point 12,000 pieces of untested ...

State crime lab cuts down on backlog
FOX CT
... sampled more than 2,000 agencies to analyze their crime lab backlogs. ... forensics laboratory reduced wait times on testing DNA from two years to 60 ... and Dr. Guy Vallaro and other staff members from the state’s forensic lab.

Pileup at the Morgue
Cincinnati CityBeat
She and Crime Lab Director Mike Trimpe would like to continue running what has become a

Crime Laboratory Director, Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: January 7, 2015

Senior Forensic Analyst - Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 29, 2014

Manager of Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 29, 2014

Chemist, Brazoria County S.O., Angleton, Texas, Expires: January 31, 2015

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.
dependable, sought-after forensic lab. That's a big ...

Bode LeanLab™ service utilizes Lean Six Sigma principles and delivers custom solutions to forensic labs improving efficiency, increasing throughput, reducing turnaround time and eliminating backlogs. Visit www.bodetech.com or email bode.service@bodetech.com for more information.

Forensic Magazine® is the leading source of information on all aspects of forensic science technology, trends, equipment, services, and laboratory design. In every issue, Forensic Magazine® provides professionals working in forensic laboratories and crime scene investigation with the news and technical information they need—both in the lab and in the field. Forensic Magazine® covers forensics from evidence collection through processing, analysis, storage, and more. Forensic Magazine® features the latest technology, applications, and information for forensic scientists, crime scene investigators, and forensic specialists. Free subscriptions for the print/digital magazine and daily electronic newsletter are available at www.forensicmag.com

Accreditation Training
The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have created a webinar series designed to investigate the validation, current use, and future implementation of Rapid DNA.

This three-part series will begin on November 6th and conclude on December 9th.

ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 - Archival Version
ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 - Archival Version

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

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS
FQS is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. FQS provides accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 forensic test laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 forensic inspection agencies and a wide variety of training, workshops, and academic programs.

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. All of the elements will be reviewed. The standard’s applicability, origin, purpose and marketplace will be discussed. Some of the more important concepts will be reviewed such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement and method witnessing.
March 23-25, 2015, Tampa FL
September 7-9, 2015, Alexandria, VA

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. Individual elements of the standard will be reviewed; the standard’s applicability to forensic police agencies, origin, purpose and marketplace will also be discussed. Some of the more important concepts, such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement, and method witnessing will be reviewed.
March 26-27, 2015, Tampa FL
June 22-23, 2015, Durham, NC
September 10-11, 2015, 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.

ASCLD-LAB Training
Training classes to help forensic laboratory personnel understand the requirements
Webinar #6: 
*Increasing Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget*

Webinar #7: 
*Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management*

**Forensic Conferences**

February 16-21, 2015: AAFS 67th Annual Scientific Meeting in Orlando, FL

April 19-24, 2015: International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Newport, Rhode Island

May 18-22, 2015: Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientist in Chesapeake Bay Cambridge, MD

May 24-29, 2015: The Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) in Dallas, TX.

July 20-24, 2015: NIST to Host International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management in Gaithersburg, MD.

August 2-8, 2015: 100th International Association for Identification (IAI) in Sacramento, CA.

August 8-13, 2015: The 2015 Annual General Meeting of the American Society of Questioned


ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Testing Laboratories

ASCLD/LAB-International Assessor Training Course for Breath Alcohol Calibration

ASCLD/LAB-International Internal Auditor Training Course

- San Antonio, TX February 3-6, 2015

ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Testing Laboratories

ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Calibration Laboratories

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**American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)**

A2LA’s Training Program provides a variety of courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards.

**Title:** Fundamentals of Force Calibration and Measurement Uncertainty Boot Camp

March 23 - 24, 2015 - York, PA ($500 one-day, $750 two-days)

(This course is held at in partnership with Morehouse Instrument Company, Inc.)
Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Toronto, Canada.

September 20 - 25th, 2015: **Midwestern Association Forensic Scientist** fall meeting will be held in Mackinac Island, Michigan.

October 12-16, 2015: **Southern Association Forensic Scientist (SAFS) Annual 2015 Meeting** in Atlanta, GA.

April 3-8, 2016: **International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT)** in Orlando, FL.

The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) would like to thank all the attendees that came to their Genome ID Forum 2014 - Emerging Forensic Genomic Applications held on September 9 and 10, 2014 in Greenville, North Carolina. Thought leaders from forensic science, research, academia, law enforcement, legal and technology development came together for an open dialogue regarding emerging science and technology applications and adoption through the forensic community. Over 65 forensic scientists, lawyers and researchers across the United States and England attended to discuss the implementation of new technologies and scientific applications in forensic human identification, new challenges in adoption, compliance and acceptance in a court of law. The presentations focused on research on emerging science and technology and the effect these emerging science and technology applications may have on forensic science practitioners. The program included thoughtful roundtable discussions that provided a meaningful exchange of ideas related to the direction of the forensic community concerning emerging technologies. The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis™ plans for the 2015 Genome ID Forum have already begun.

As the innovative market and technology leader, QIAGEN creates sample and assay technologies that enable access to content from any biological
Our mission is to enable our customers to achieve outstanding success and breakthroughs in life sciences, applied testing, pharma, and molecular diagnostics. We thereby make improvements in life possible.

Our commitment to the markets, customers, and patients we serve drives our innovation and leadership in all areas where our sample and assay technologies are required.

The exceptional talent, skill, and passion of our employees are key to QIAGEN's excellence, success and value.