



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

President's Message

ASCLD Leadership Academy

Request for Instructors

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) is now accepting applications from members interested in serving as instructors for the upcoming ASCLD Leadership Academy in 2015.

After a resounding success in 2014, the 2nd ASCLD Leadership Academy will be held in early 2015. The Academy will again target new supervisors in the forensic science field or supervisors who have previously had limited opportunity for structured forensic management education and training.

Academy instruction will be delivered via webinar-style online sessions during the months of February, March, and April and will conclude with live, instructor-led training at the 2015 ASCLD Symposium in Washington, DC. Each month of web-based instruction will be centered on a topical theme and will include 4, weekly 2-hour sessions. The in-person "Capstone" sessions in Washington will incorporate the key learning themes from each monthly topic. A link to the 2015 request for instructors information packet and application is located below.

<http://www.ascl.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/ASCLD-Leadership-Academy-Request-for-Instructors-2015.docx>

2015 ASCLD Symposium

The planning for the 2015 ASCLD Symposium is in full swing, if you are interested in submitting an abstract for a presentation please use the link below.

<http://www.asclsymposium.com/#!/abstract-submission/cdtk>

Have a good week,

Brady Mills

ASCLD President

Advocacy Corner: NCFs Reopens Public Comment Period

Based on feedback from the forensic science community, the National Commission on Forensic Science has re-opened the public comment period for the six recently published draft work products. These draft documents include the following:

[Views Document on Defining Forensic Science and Forensic Science Service Providers](#)

[View Document on Scientific Literature and Support of Forensic Science and Practice](#)

[Policy Recommendation on Discovery](#)

[Policy Recommendation on Expert Testimony](#)

[Policy Recommendation on Universal Accreditation](#)

[Policy Recommendation on Accreditation of Medicolegal Death Investigation Offices and Certification of Medicolegal Death Investigation Personnel](#)

Thank you so much to those who have already taken the opportunity to comment and provide input from our community on these documents. So far, the documents have garnered more than 130 public comments from a wide variety of stakeholder perspectives. If you haven't yet, I would encourage you to read the documents and provide feedback – in the form of both positive and constructive criticism. In attending the meetings of the NCFS, I get the strong impression that many of the Commissioners actively want feedback from the community in all forms. We have a responsibility to be active partners in this process and I know that our Commissioners from the forensic science community would appreciate the support as well.

To provide comments on the draft work products, please visit:
<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=DOJ-LA-2014-0006>

Have a GREAT week.
Jeremy Triplett
ASCLD Advocacy co-chair

Dear ASCLD Member,

I am a Ph.D. student in the School of Criminal Justice at the University at Albany. I have a M.S. degree in forensic biology and for my Ph.D. dissertation, I am conducting research on the impact of court decisions on crime laboratories in the United States. The goal of the study is to better understand both the practical implications of court decisions for crime labs as well as how labs implement court decisions.

If you are a regular or retired ASCLD member from the U.S., I am writing to invite you to participate in an online survey for my dissertation research. The survey is expected to take approximately 10 - 15 minutes to complete. Please click on the link below to go to the survey website (or copy and paste the survey link into your internet browser).

The person who responds to this survey should have an understanding of policy implementation in the laboratory. Ideally, this understanding should come from an administrative, supervisory, or managerial role in the lab.

The survey is completely voluntary and strictly anonymous. No identifying information will be requested. The survey software will not collect or store your computer's IP address, your email, or any geo-data about your location.

Survey Link: <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/Court-Decisions-and-Crime-Labs>

Your experience and knowledge are instrumental to furthering insight into the impact of court decisions on crime laboratories. Please consider participating in my research study by completing the survey—it would really help me out. I will provide a copy of my completed dissertation to ASCLD, so that the final results of the study are available to you.

If you have any questions about the survey or my research, please feel free to contact me or my dissertation committee chair, Dr. James R. Acker. We can be reached at cbonventre@albany.edu and jacker@albany.edu, respectively.

The original date for completion of the survey was October 15, 2014. However, the date has been extended so the survey is still available through **November 30, 2014.**

News Around the Globe

[Running the world's only forensic animal crime lab](#)

Al Jazeera America

When was the last time you thought of a bird or a tree as a victim of a crime? Or if the leather used in a purse is actually skin from an endangered sea ..

[Forensic analysis technology to increase in Marshall Co](#)

WAFF

Budget cuts to state forensic labs across the Alabama are prompting communities to figure out ways ... Marshall County has opened it's own crime lab.

[Local Contractor to Build Crime Lab Expansion](#)

SCVNEWS.com

scientific_investigation AMG & Associates, Inc., a Santa Clarita-based construction company, has been awarded an \$11.1 million contract to expand ...

[SLCPD gets DOJ grant for cold-case, rape kit DNA testing](#)

Salt Lake Tribune

A \$270,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will help the Salt Lake City Police Department to test both cold-case DNA and rape kits.



Please mark your calendars; the **2015 symposium is April 26th-30th, 2015** at the **Washington Marriott Wardman Park**, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

If you are interested in serving on the Symposium Planning Committee, please contact President Elect Jody Wolf at jody.wolf@phoenix.gov.

[Australian police in DNA access deal with British counterparts](#)

The Australian DETECTIVES investigating terrorist offences, murders, rapes and other major crimes will be able to search DNA databases held by British police ...

[Historic figures from forensic medicine including Dr Crippen are featured in Anatomy of Crime ...](#)

Daily Mail

But, with the gritty details of forensic examinations and police investigations often ... But nearly 100 years later, U.S. scientists called the pathologist's findings into question, with DNA testing revealing the flesh had more than likely ...

[Former crime lab employee suing City of Columbia for \\$3 million](#)

WIS

A former employee of the Columbia Police Department crime lab is suing the city for \$3 million. In the suit, Brenda Toomer-Frazier says she has ...

[Long Beach Police Department crime lab wins accreditation](#)

MyNewsLA.com

The Long Beach Police Department crime laboratory won accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, city officials said ...

[Another Wave of Fentanyl Overdoses Hits Vermont](#)

Seven Days

Reports from a crime lab confirmed what police suspected: The victims hadn't injected only heroin — it was tainted with fentanyl, an extremely potent ...

[State forensic agency will no longer process misdemeanor marijuana evidence](#)

Lynchburg News and Advance

The department plans to hire two forensic scientists in its laboratories; one of ... These types of cases can include DNA evidence and fluid analysis.

[Virginia forensic agency labs will no longer process misdemeanor marijuana evidence](#) - The

Republic

[Va. labs will no longer process some pot](#)



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Employment Opportunities

[Associate/Full Professor of Forensic Science,](#)

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2014

[Forensic Scientist II – Blood Alcohol,](#)

Scottsdale Police Department, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: November 16, 2014

[Forensic Scientist III – Latent Prints,](#) Alaska

Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: November 13, 2014

[evidence](#) - Richmond Times-Dispatch

[Justifying Mobile Device Forensics](#)

Officer.com

Whether you're a detective relying on digital forensics lab services, a forensic examiner providing them, or even someone spearheading an effort to ...

[THT 10 YEARS AGO: DNA lab set up to help solve criminal cases](#)

Himalayan Times

The laboratory will analyse body fluids, blood and hair samples from the crime scene and try to match the DNA with that of the suspect's. "We hope that ..

[LBPD Crime Lab Receives International Accreditation](#)

Long Beach Post

The LBPD crime lab began preparing for international accreditation in ... "Forensic analysis supports our ability to investigate crimes, and is a vital law ...

[Dallas District Attorney Gets First Ever Digital Forensics Lab](#)

NBC 5 Dallas-Fort Worth

The Dallas County District Attorney's Office has opened a new digital forensics lab. The first of its kind lab focuses on technology like analyzing cell ...

[Crime Investigation - No More 'Baby Steps' in Forensic Infrastructure](#)

The Guardian

Yet, as at the last count, the nation of over 170 million people (with an arguably high crime rate) has no functional forensic lab, even after over two ...

[Cumberland County, Fayetteville weigh plan for local crime lab](#)

Fayetteville Observer

The state crime lab, which does testing for law enforcement agencies across North Carolina, is overwhelmed, local officials say. Test results can take ..

[Garner: Independent forensics lab on way to becoming model](#)

Houston Chronicle

A little over six months ago, the city of Houston,

[Criminalist Supervisor](#), Iowa DCI Criminalistics Lab, Ankeny, Iowa, Expires: November 10, 2014

[Forensic Scientist](#), Tulsa Police Department Forensic Laboratory, Tulsa, OK, Expires: January 14, 2015

[Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2014

[Firearms Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2014

[Forensic Analyst – Controlled Substances](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2014

[Crime Laboratory Director](#), Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: January 7, 2015

[Assistant Professor](#), Emporia State University, Emporia, KS, Expires: November 11, 2014

[Assistant Professor](#), Emporia State University, Emporia, KS, Expires: November 11, 2014

[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

[Crime Laboratory Director](#), State of Wyoming – Attorney General – Department of Criminal Investigation, Cheyenne, WY, Expires: November 28, 2014

[Vis Analytic Forensic Toxicology Specialist](#), UIC, Chicago, IL, Expires: November 15, 2014

beset with controversy over problems with the Houston Police Department's crime lab, started down a ...

[CSI Baghdad: Meet the small forensics team struggling to deal with a new wave of violence in Iraq](#)

GlobalPost

A technician at Baghdad's main forensics laboratory in Al-Wal military base analyses a set of samples. It is here where all the evidence gathered from ...

[More drug defendants cleared of charges because of investigation into FBI agent](#)

Washington Post

Thirteen defendants charged with or convicted of distributing large amounts of heroin in the District had their cases dismissed Friday because ...

[State panel awards discredited SBI analyst back pay](#)

WRAL.com

A 2010 independent review of the crime lab concluded that SBI analysts had frequently misstated or falsely reported blood evidence in about 200 ...

[Federal funds help police reopen lab](#)

Burbank Leader

Two detectives, Aaron Kendrick and Stephen Turner, split their time between working in the lab while undergoing additional digital forensic training ...

[Community Foundation Of The Verdugos Unveils Campaign To Fund Glendale-Burbank DNA ...](#)

DigitalJournal.com

Since January of 2014, the Verdugo Regional Crime Lab has helped police investigators work smarter and faster – both in building cases against ...

[Forensic DNA Network, Member Manager](#), Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis, Greenville, NC, Expires: December 16, 2014

[Drug Chemist](#), City of Fort Worth Police Dept, Fort Worth, TX, Expires: November 14, 2014

[Forensic DNA Analyst](#), Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis, Greenville, NC, Expires: November 28, 2014

[Director of Forensic Investigations](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: November 21, 2014

[Forensic Management Analyst](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: November 14, 2014

[Forensic Scientist I \(Chemical\)](#), Suffolk County Crime Laboratory, Hauppauge, NY, Expires: November 14, 2014

[DNA Technical Leader](#), Idaho State Police, Meridian, Idaho, Expires: December 12, 2014



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: [Bode's 2014 DNA Technical Conferences](#), providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

[Bode Technology](#) provides advanced

It's all because of a massive backlog of cases at the state's only full service forensic lab at the West Virginia State Police Headquarters in South.



Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation

December 2-5, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

This 4 day course will offer training for forensic biologists and technicians involved in testing and testimony for forensic human identification. Each day will focus on issues of current interest in the field and conclude with an open dialogue panel discussion. Topics Include: Current issues with variability in the interpretation of complex mixtures, designing internal validation studies and interpretation guidelines, alternate approaches to mixture interpretation for challenging samples, evaluation of statistical models for mixed sample sources, and the use of novel techniques.

Distinguished faculty include: John Butler, PhD, Niels Morling, MD, DMSc, Michael Coble, PhD, Charles Brenner, PhD, Charlotte Word, PhD, and other forensic biology professionals.

Register today: www.ForensicBio.Eventbrite.com

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org

forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode's solutions include [BodeDirect™](#), [Bode 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.

[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.



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- Front-access source for easy maintenance

Learn more. Visit

<http://www.ssi.shimadzu.com/ASCLD>

Forensic Training

For many years RTI International, which hosts NIJ's Forensic Science Technology Center of Excellence, has offered a number of live and on-

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



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demand training courses free of charge. On October 1, 2014 RTI will begin charging nominal course registration fees for content.

Once registered, you will have a 90-day period to access as much on-demand content for that course as you desire and revisit the training as often as you like.

To view a list of affected course, visit the [All Courses webpage](#) and search for "RTI International" in both "Scheduled Event" and "On-Demand" course list.

George Mason University's Office of Continuing Professional Education in Virginia is hosting a 2-day seminar:

Sexually Violent Crime: The Body as Evidence
Taught by Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush
November 3-4, 2014

Sexually violent crime continues to challenge investigators and concern the general public. It has been estimated that every two minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. In many cases, sexual assault results in homicide. Dr. Henry Lee and Dr. Leah Bush, two of the country's top forensic scientists, will share their individual and collective expertise to help the participants understand the importance of the body as evidence as it relates to sexually violent crimes.

Please visit our course page at http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php for more information on this exciting

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

Accreditation Training

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*.

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

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.

opportunity to learn from two of the top forensic scientists in the country!

[Forensics@NIST 2014 to take place Dec. 3-4 in Gaithersburg, Md.](#)

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](#)

Webinar #6:

[Increasing Your Staff without Increasing Your Budget](#)

Webinar #7:

[Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management](#)

[Cal State Fullerton Certificates in Crime & Forensics.](#)

Computer Forensics I is a hybrid program with a combination of traditional face-to-face and

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.

online courses. The program includes hands-on experience using EnCase, the industry standard in computer forensic investigation technology, and Forensic Toolkit (FTK), a suite of technologies used to perform forensic examinations of computer systems.

Forensic Conferences

November 3-6, 2014: [Annual DNA & Investigators Workshop– Bode Mid-Atlantic](#) in Crystal City, VA

November 3-6, 2014: [Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientist \(NEAFS\) Annual Meeting](#) in Hershey, PA.

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 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.

September 18-23, 2016: [23rd International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences](#) (ANZFSS) in Auckland, New Zealand.