



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors

### **"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER**

## **President's Message**

### **ASCLD Board of Director's Meeting**

We will be having a Board of Director's meeting this Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00 PM CST. We have several items to discuss and also some great committee work to report. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our activities.

### **NIST to host International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management - Detection, Measurement and Mitigation - JULY 2015**

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is planning to host the International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management: Detection, Measurement and Mitigation from July 20-24, 2015, in Washington, D.C.

"We anticipate that this symposium will draw global attention to best practices and scientific research for identifying and reducing errors in forensic science laboratories," said Mark Stolorow, deputy director of the NIST Special Programs Office. "We will be addressing quality assurance, bias and ethics topics relevant to every subdiscipline within forensic science."

Organizers are planning the meeting around several tracks:

- Criminalistics and Digital Evidence;
- Legal and Human Factors;
- Crime Scene and Death Investigation; and
- Lab Management and Quality Assurance.

For more information, please see the "Save the Date Announcement" at:

<http://www.nist.gov/forensics/news-save-date-symposium.cfm>

### **Visiting our sponsors...**

It wasn't too many years ago, as you may recall, when our organization was struggling to financially stand on its own. Today, I'm pleased to report that we have achieved a measure of conservative financial independence which has been due, in part, to the development of symbiotic partnerships with laboratory vendors. We're very fortunate to receive their support and I'm grateful that they recognize us as worthy of investing time, money and effort.

So, please, if you haven't already done so, click on the link(s) in the Crime Laboratory Minute and visit our vendor gallery. Check out their websites and show them our support!

### **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.ascldsymposium.com/#!abstract-submission/cdtk>

Have a good week,  
Brady Mills  
ASCLD President

### **Advocacy Corner: 4th Meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS)**

This Tuesday and Wednesday, the NCFS will have their 4th meeting in Washington, DC. While the first several meetings have been largely foundational and more administrative in nature, I expect that we will begin to see more substantive discussions on the views and recommendations that will proceed from the commission during the meeting this week. As we mentioned last week in the Crime Lab Minute and via email from our POCs, there are 6 documents posted for public comment on the NCFS website. Several of you have taken the time to comment (at the time of writing this article, there are 46 public comments - not necessarily all from crime lab directors - posted to the website). These documents have been placed on the agenda for discussion at the Commission meeting.

The National Commission has gone to great lengths to make the meetings accessible to the public. During the 4th meeting, they will be streaming the meeting live on the internet. I would encourage everyone to take the opportunity to watch the meeting (or at least listen) in order to remain informed about the current discussions that may affect forensic science in the near future.

The meeting will be Tuesday, Oct 28 from 12:30pm to 5:30pm and Wednesday, Oct 29 from 9:00am to 5:30pm.

The link to watch the live stream of the commission meeting is:

<http://www.justice.gov/ncfs/meetings>

(scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the information for Meeting 4)

The Agenda for the Meeting can be found here:

<http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/pages/attachments/2014/10/20/ncfs-mtg4-agenda.pdf>

That's all for this edition of the Advocacy Corner. Have a great week!

Jeremy Triplett  
ASCLD Advocacy 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>

## [News Around the Globe](#)

### [Jefferson County unveils new regional crime laboratory](#)

The Denver Post

GOLDEN — A new crime lab serving Jefferson County law enforcement agencies is now in operation and should greatly reduce the wait time on ...

### [LSP Crime Lab catches up on backlog of rape kits](#)

WAFB.com

The Louisiana State Police Crime Lab is now up to date, with no backlog of cases where the analysis of rape kits is involved. "We are now working ...

### [Dixie State University boasts top notch digital forensics crime lab](#)

Good4Utah

ST. GEORGE, Utah (ABC 4 Utah) - Cell phones are quickly becoming a criminal's weapon of choice. Detective Donnie Hovis is a forensic examiner St.

### [Backlog delays evidence processing at state crime labs](#)

Lynchburg News and Advance

Derek Price, a forensic scientist at the Virginia Department of Forensics located at Northside High School Road, works in a drug analysis station on

### [Missouri Southern opens new DNA lab](#)

Joplin Globe



Please mark your calendars; the **2015 symposium is April 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:jody.wolf@phoenix.gov).

Much of the basic equipment was initially used in Missouri Southern's crime lab, which opened in 1971 and processed 2,000 cases per year for local ...

#### [Crime lab's tents to shield bodies from gawkers](#)

Indianapolis Star

Indianapolis officials want to do a better job shielding such scenes from public view, said Mike Medler, director of the city's Forensic Services Agency, ...

#### [Manager at NC state crime lab quits after cheating on exam](#)

News & Observer

Donald James Faggart was a forensic science manager supervising 15 employees at the Triad Regional Crime Laboratory in Greensboro. On May 14 ...

#### [Heroin cases doubled in 2 years, says NH crime lab director](#)

Seacoastonline.com

CONCORD — Of all the drug evidence sent to the state crime lab for ... While forensic information hasn't confirmed the deaths as caused by heroin, ...

#### [Contractor lands crime lab job](#)

Santa Clarita Valley Signal

AMG & Associates Inc. of Valencia landed an \$11.1 million contract to build a Sheriff's Forensic Crime Laboratory for the county of San Bernardino

#### [One cent sales tax could put drug dealers away quicker](#)

WBTV

If approved, portions of the money collected would create Lancaster's own crime lab. Currently the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office has to send drug ...

#### [Pre-Medical Test scam: Impersonators used duplicate thumb impression of candidates](#)

Times of India

Experts at state forensic laboratory avoided this angle when PMT answer sheets were sent to them. I have sent some samples to forensic lab at my ...

#### [Spice – the synthetic drug gaining a grip on Russia](#)



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## **Employment Opportunities**

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

[Forensic Scientist I, II, III](#), City of Mesa,  
Mesa, AZ, Expires: October 30, 2014

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

[DNA Analyst](#), Colorado Springs Police  
Department, Colorado  
Springs, Expires: October 27, 2014

The Guardian

Hardly a day goes by without a fresh horror story of adolescents dying from the drug. Earlier this month a refugee from Luhansk in east Ukraine died ...

#### [Forensic laboratory gains accreditation](#)

Niagara Gazette

The lab was accredited through the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board and the New York State ...

#### [Future scientists get a look at UAAlbany's RNA Institute](#)

Albany Times Union

Though Casey doesn't want to be an engineer, her dream of becoming a crime lab analyst like in many popular TV shows makes volunteering at ...

#### [NOPD Second District investigations supervisor promoted to lead Crime Lab](#)

UptownMessenger.com

As leader of the crime lab, Eckert will manage all evidence and property collected during NOPD investigations. "I look forward to what I have to do," ...

#### [Ex-Pennsylvania State Police trooper new head of Lehigh County digital forensics lab](#)

The Express-Times - lehighvalleylive.com

Lehigh County has tapped a former state police trooper with extensive experience with digital technology crimes to head the county's digital forensics ...

#### [Virginia's DNA Database](#)

WVTF

In recent years, Virginia's DNA database has tripled in size, due to state ... including so-called familial DNA, something Virginia added to its forensic ...

#### [Forensic toxicologists gather in Grand Rapids](#)

WZZM

With all of the crime shows on television, the world of forensic toxicology has gotten a lot of attention. How does what we see on TV compare to the real ...

#### [Becker crime lab named after professor](#)

Worcester Telegram

[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

[Deputy Forensic Toxicologist \(DOH/SLD #55101\)](#), NM DOH Scientific Laboratory Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Expires: November 3, 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

[Criminalist](#), Ohio State Highway Patrol Crime Lab, Columbus, OH, Expires: October 31, 2014

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

WORCESTER — Becker College will dedicate its new crime lab in honor of a longtime law professor at the school at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 210 ...

#### [Wisconsin now using controversial DNA testing to solve crimes](#)

fox6now.com

crime lab 7 I was sleeping in the bed with my momma for almost 7 months after this happened," she told FOX6 in an exclusive interview. She says a ...

#### [Harris County breaks ground on new forensic sciences center](#)

KPRC Houston

The Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences said the 200,000-square-foot, nine-story tower is slated to finish in early 2017. The building will be on ...

#### [Las Vegas Receives Funding To Catch Up On Untested DNA](#)

KNPR

More than 4,000 rape kits sit untested in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department lab. New laws that require more DNA evidence to be collected ...

#### [Oklahoma law officers want more DNA collection after misdemeanors](#)

Daily Journal

Since 2009, Oklahoma law has allowed police to take DNA samples from people convicted of serious misdemeanors, but the Oklahoman newspaper ...

#### [Hodgson Blasts Kilmartin For Breaking Crime Lab Promise](#)

GoLocalProv

The state crime lab, responsible for conducting firearms examinations in all ... "Swiftly and effectively prosecuting gun crimes is a cornerstone of any ...

#### [New Nevada DNA swab law sees little pushback](#)

Las Vegas Review-Journal

Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS, administrator Julie Marschner .... Metro's forensic lab, directed by Kimberly Murga, has collected more than ...

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

[Chemist](#), Brazoria County S.O., Angleton, Texas, Expires: October 31, 2014

[Forensic Chemist / Toxicologist](#), Brazoria County S.O., Angleton, Texas, Expires: October 31, 2014

[Program Director, Forensic Chemical Science](#), Washburn University, Topeka, KS, Expires: October 27, 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

[Latent Print Examiner-Forensic Scientist III/Quality Assurance Specialist](#), City of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: November 3, 2014

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

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](http://www.ForensicBio.Eventbrite.com)

Learn more: [www.ForensicScienceEducation.org](http://www.ForensicScienceEducation.org)



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 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.

[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](http://www.bodetech.com) or email [bode.service@bodetech.com](mailto:bode.service@bodetech.com) for more information.



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## **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-



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As the innovative market and technology leader, QIAGEN creates sample and assay technologies that enable access to content from any biological sample.

Our mission is to enable our customers to achieve outstanding success and breakthroughs in life



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.

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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](http://www.ocpe.gmu.edu/programs/legal/cold_case.php) for more information on this exciting

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.

## **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*.

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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

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### **ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS**

FQS is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. FQS

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

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

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**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](#)

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

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

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.



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: [23<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences](#) (ANZFSS) in Auckland, New Zealand.