

September 22, 2014

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## ***President's Message***

Dear Colleagues:

### ASCLD Board of Director's Meeting

We will be having a Board of Director's meeting this Friday, September 26<sup>th</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 Announces Competition to Create Forensic Science Center of Excellence

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has announced a competition to create a Forensic Science Center of Excellence dedicated to collaborative, interdisciplinary research. The Center's mission will be to establish a firm scientific foundation for the analytic techniques used in two important branches of forensic science, pattern evidence and digital evidence. NIST anticipates funding the new center at about \$4 million annually for five years, with the possibility of renewing the award for an additional five years. Funding is subject to the availability of funds through NIST's appropriations. For more information go to:

<http://www.nist.gov/coe/forensics/forensic-081914.cfm>

### National Conference of State Legislatures- Forensic Science Database

The National Conference of State Legislatures has a forensic science database online. I wanted to share this great resource to the membership. It contains a lot of information as many of us move into our state legislative sessions.

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/civil-and-criminal-justice/dna-database-search-by-state.aspx>

### NIJ and FBI Partner to Help Labs Test Sexual Assault Kits (SAKs)

To help find the best strategies, methods and procedures for dealing with SAKs, the FBI and NIJ have formed a research partnership to develop improved practices and policies for law enforcement and crime labs.

State and local law enforcement agencies will submit their eligible SAKs to the FBI, and NIJ will gather facts and data about the processing of the cases. The goal is to develop more effective tools and strategies for evaluating the methods and procedures now used, improve practices, and inform future policies and decisions.

The FBI will enter eligible DNA profiles into the National DNA Index System (NDIS), a component of the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Experts believe that increasing the number of profiles in CODIS will

increase the potential to solve other crimes.

Learn more about the partnership and how to submit sexual assault kits. <http://nij.gov/topics/law-enforcement/investigations/sexual-assault/Pages/nij-fbi-sak-initiative.aspx>

Have a good week,

Brady Mills  
ASCLD President

## ***Advocacy Corner***

### COVERDELL Information

In this week's Advocacy Corner I want to give you an update on the status of the Paul Coverdell grant. With any grant from the Federal government there are two actions that must occur for the funding to move forward. First, the legislation must be created that authorizes the grant and then it must be re-authorized approximately every 5 years or the grant expires and technically can no longer be funded. Secondly, it must be funded each year by Congress or "appropriated." In the case of the Paul Coverdell Act, both are at stake this year and we need your help.

First, Coverdell's authorization expires this year and it needs to be re-authorized. That authorization is part of the larger Justice for All legislation. Unfortunately, like everything else in Congress right now, it is mired in politics. The Debbie Smith Act has been pulled from the larger Justice for All bill and was made into a stand alone piece of legislation. Since the Debbie Smith Act is the largest component of the Justice for All Act (JFA) its removal has made JFA vulnerable. On Thursday of last week the Debbie Smith Act passed the Senate and since it had previously passed the House it will now be sent to the President for Signature. Let me be clear - we don't mind Debbie Smith passing separately and we are very supportive of it! We are deeply concerned, however, about the fate of the Paul Coverdell grant now that Debbie Smith is no longer part of the JFA. We urge you to write your Congressman and Senator asking them re-authorize the Paul Coverdell Grant.

Secondly, the budget process (as you hear every day in the news) is stalled and Congress has passed a continuing resolution to fund the Federal government until December 11th. There are additional rumors that it \*may\* last until March! The Department of Justice, again, did not fund Coverdell nor did the House of Representatives, but the Senate funded it at \$12 million for FY15. The House and Senate will have to reconcile the difference in their numbers for a final budget, whether it is in December or March. To that end, we ask that you write your Members of Congress and request that they recede to the Senate number of \$12 million.

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

Jeremy Triplett

ASCLD Advocacy Chair



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).

## **Employment Opportunities**

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

[Grand Junction Forensic Laboratory-Assistant Director](#), Colorado Department of Public Safety,  
Grand Junction, Expires: October 8, 2014

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

[Criminalist II](#), San Mateo County Sheriff's Office  
Forensic Laboratory, San Mateo, CA, Expires:  
September 25, 2014



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)

[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

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Durham Police  
Department, Durham, NC, Expires: September  
26, 2014

[Forensic Science Technician \(FSL\)](#), Department  
of Forensic Sciences (DFS), Washington,  
D.C., Expires: October 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

[Forensic Chemical Science Program Director](#),  
Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, Expires:  
October 20, 2014

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

[Forensic Scientist – DNA Analyst \(Part-time,  
Grant Funded\)](#), DuPage County Forensic Science  
Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: October 17, 2014

[Crime Lab Director, Sheriff](#), Los Angeles County  
Sheriff, Los Angeles, California, Expires:

## **News Around the Globe**

### **[NIST Webinar on the Forensic Science Center for Excellence](#)**

#### **[Columbus buying software to improve crime DNA analysis](#)**

Columbus Dispatch

Columbus will upgrade technology to fix  
problems with how the Police  
Division's crime lab processes DNA. The  
Columbus City Council yesterday ...

#### **[DNA of sex offenders being tested in cold cases](#)**

KIRO Seattle

There's a new effort to find cold-case killers  
and rapists, including whoever was  
responsible for the rapes and murders of  
Michella Welch and Jennifer ...

#### **[Houston Forensic Science Center awarded high-level accreditation](#)**

Your Houston News

The lab, formerly known as the Houston  
Police Department Crime Lab, has been  
managed by Houston Forensic Science  
Center, Inc., a separate legal ...

#### **[Synthetic LSD a deadly new drug in Omaha](#)**

KETV Omaha

“(It) increases the heart rate tremendously  
and causes respiratory problems,” said Mike  
Sanders, an assistant special agent for  
the Drug Enforcement ...

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[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

[Sheriff's Forensic Services Bureau Manager II](#),  
Ventura County Sheriff, Ventura, CA, Expires:  
September 30, 2014

[DNA Analyst III](#), Harris County Institute of  
Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires:  
September 30, 2014

[Forensic Scientist II-Latent Print Examiner](#), City  
of Saint Paul, Saint Paul, MN, Expires: October  
23, 2014

[Forensic Analyst – Biology-DNA](#), Houston  
Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires:  
September 30, 2014

[Latent Print Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science  
Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30,  
2014

[Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science  
Center, Houston, TX, Expires: September 30,  
2014

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

[URI Center for Chemical, Forensic Sciences  
to Benefit from Generosity of Global  
Scientific ...](#)

Lab Manager Magazine

The instruments will become part of the  
Center for Chemical  
and Forensic ... labs and an additional visit  
each year to the research laboratories.

[Bill stuck so cannot create DNA data bank:  
Centre to SC](#)

Indian Express

The Centre has informed the Supreme Court  
that the Human DNA Profiling Bill was  
currently held up and hence it ... personnel  
who are capable of handling forensic  
DNA testing for identification of unidentified  
dead bodies," it said.

[Scientists mapping coffee's DNA get a jolt](#)

The Courier-Journal

Scientists who analyzed the DNA of coffee  
found that what people love about it — the  
caffeine — is a genetic quirk, not related to  
the caffeine in ...

[Review of old rape cases turns up three  
evidence kits worth testing](#)

Salt Lake Tribune

New details of unprocessed rape kits in Salt  
Lake City show potentially valuable DNA  
evidence was not tested in one child rape  
case and two cases of ...

[Ohio's Innocence Protection Act expands  
access to DNA testing after conviction](#)

Jackson County Times-Journal

Its goal was to help prevent wrongful  
convictions and make it easier to obtain DNA  
testing when testing might undermine  
confidence in a "guilty" ...



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## ***Forensic Training***

[NIST DNA Analyst Webinar Series: Probabilistic Genotyping and Software Programs \(Part 2\)](#) September 18, 2014, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm (EDT)

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California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center has partnered with the California District Attorney's Association to offer the

[Fowl play? Scientists investigate wildlife crime in secret Oregon lab](#)

Today.com

Imagine a high-tech crime lab where investigators use forensics to solve cases — in which the victims are animals. It's not a TV spinoff, but a real-life ...

[University of New Haven cyber lab to help solve crime](#)

New Haven Register

University of New Haven cyber lab to help solve crime. Dr. Henry C. Lee, UNH professor of forensic science, Dora B. Schriro, Connecticut ...

[CBI to move metro-area forensics lab from Lakewood to Arvada](#)

The Denver Post

ARVADA — A steady increase in demand for DNA analysis of crime-scene evidence is driving the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to move its ...

[Forensic unit reaches back to distant past](#)

Perth Now

"In some ways the developing forensic capability is similar to the IT world ... "There is a lot of focus on DNA technology obviously, but we continue to ...

[Guest commentary: Governor's signature of 'rape kit' bill would be step toward justice](#)

Contra Costa Times

When a survivor of sexual assault agrees to undergo a forensic exam, his or her body is the ... DNA analysis costs between \$500 and \$1,500 a kit.

[Researchers develop improved means of](#)

below listed webinars. Please click the [here](#) for additional information.

Touch DNA in Sexual Assault Cases: Practical Considerations and Unanswered Questions  
Date: September 30, 2014 Time: 12:00 pm—1:30 pm

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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 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.

#### [detecting mismatched DNA](#)

EurekAlert (press release)

The discovery, they say, could increase the ability of forensic scientists to match genetic material in some criminal investigations. It could also prevent ...

#### [Forensic scientists and police investigators gather in Albany](#)

WNYT

Many of the best forensic crime scientists and police investigators from across the country and Europe are gathering in Albany Monday. They come to ..

#### [Inside an Iraq morgue, where forensic pathologists seek answers in a land of death](#)

Sydney Morning Herald

The only solid information about his death was in a vial that Dr Aysa, a forensic pathologist, was holding in the air. "Two bullets in the chest and one in ...

#### [ADP Showcase the Mobile Ballistic Lab at ADIHEX](#)

Business Wire India (press release)

The Machinery and Firearms Section at the Forensic Evidence Department showcased the Mobile Ballistic Laboratory for the first time as part of its ...

#### [Barsley named to forensic science panel](#)

Knoe.com

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Dr. Robert Barsley has been appointed to the crime scene/death investigation scientific area committee by the National Institute ...

#### [Exonerating the innocent](#)

Toledo Blade

**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.** Contact Veronica Martinez at 1-657-278-3123 or see

<http://extension.fullerton.edu/professionaldevelopment/Crime-Forensic>.

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***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

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine started calling for old DNA evidence in late 2011, encouraging Ohio's 800 law enforcement agencies to clear ...



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

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=df2f9c6-4d9e-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>).



**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,

## Forensic Conferences

September 23-26, 2014: [Southern Association Forensic Scientist \(SAFS\) Annual 2014 Meeting](#) in Savannah, GA.

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 6-8, 2014: [3rd International Conference on Forensic Research and Technology](#) in San Antonio, TX.

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

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Rapids, MI. See <http://www.soft-tox.org> for more information.

October 19-23, 2014: [36th Annual Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists \(SWAFS\)](#) in South Padre Island, TX.

October 20-24, 2014: Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists in Rohnert Park, CA. See <http://www.nwafs.org/meetings.htm> for more information.

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

May 18-22, 2015 Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists in Cambridge, MD. See <http://www.maafs.org/#!/annual-meeting> for more information.

May 24-29, 2015: [The Association of](#)

**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.

## ***Accreditation Training***

**A2LA** courses are designed with forensic professionals in mind, including a new courses to be hosted in Minnesota this September on ISO/IEC 17025 and 17020. See the below link for a full listing with dates and topics.

[http://www.a2la.org/training/course\\_schedule.cfm](http://www.a2la.org/training/course_schedule.cfm)

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



The Center for Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis (CAFDA) would like to thank all the attendees that came to

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The **ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS** offers 2 workshops for accreditation preparation to the forensic community.

- 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.

[September 22-24, 2014](#), Alexandria, VA  
[October 27-28, 2014](#), Worcester, MA

- 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.

[September 25-26, 2014](#), 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.

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### **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*.

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.

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