



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Dear Members,

ASCLD Board of Director's Meeting

We will be having a Board of Director's meeting this weekend. There are several items to discuss and we will use this in-person board meeting to develop our strategic plan for the next year. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our activities going forward.

ASCLD Bylaws - Suggested Changes

With only a few hours left in the response period for our first electronic vote we were able to reach the needed votes to validate the process. The three proposed bylaw changes mostly about our process for electing the Board of Directors did pass. Thank you to all that participated in this process.

- Instead of requiring the Nominating Committee to identify two nominees for every vacancy, they can limit the number to one more nominee than there are vacancies (e.g. old way, 3 vacancies = 6 nominees; new way, 3 vacancies = 4 nominees).
- The rules regarding the size and make-up of the Nominating Committee Membership will be more flexible.
- The BoD will, by a majority vote, be able to immediately fill BoD vacancies rather than wait for the next Symposium annual election.

NIJ Training Update: Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons

How many false positives and false negatives are made by examiners when comparing fired cartridge cases?

Get the answer on February 26 at 1 pm EST during a new NIJ Forensic Technology Center of Excellence webinar on the results and implications of an error rate study of cartridge case comparisons. The study included determinations of the rate for poor mark reproduction and of rate uncertainties. Results show a significant variation in how the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners range of conclusions is implemented.

<https://forensiccoe.org/module/registration/Default.aspx?moduleid=5ADC265F-09F4-4376-9129-A679CEEB5872>

DNA Mixture Interpretation Tool study

The NIJ Forensic Technology Center of Excellence at RTI International is conducting a landscape report covering DNA mixture interpretation software tools. Our study will result in a report that provides insight to the forensic community on:

- The impact of DNA Mixture interpretation software tools on forensic laboratories,

- Factors affecting successful implementation of these tools, and
- Software features and support currently available to end users.

The study will be conducted by reviewing available literature and reaching out to developers of the software tools, forensic laboratories currently using these software tools, and other key stakeholders for discussion. To that end, we would like to interview technical leaders and directors of crime laboratories to gather their input on the key elements in the decision and implementation process for a DNA mixture interpretation software tool. Our goal is to provide this much needed information to the community in an expedited manner; therefore, we would like to schedule interviews over the span of the next few weeks and sincerely appreciate the cooperation from the forensic community. For additional information, or to participate in the study, please contact Patricia Melton at pmelton@rti.org.

Brady W. Mills
ASCLD President

[News Around the Globe](#)

[Urgency at crime lab is needed](#)

Pacific Daily News

Meeting delegates talked at length about our crime lab. The issue was raised in no uncertain terms: the inability of Guam to properly maintain a police ...

[\\$26M crime lab gleams, but lacks key funding](#)

Shreveport Times

The crime lab pays for all of its operations — salaries, utilities, etc. — through court costs such as fees from traffic violations. At the time the state ...

[Billings could be home to new eastern Montana Crime Lab](#)

KPAX-TV

The driving force behind the proposal is the backlog of cases piling up at the Montana State Crime Lab in Missoula, now six to seven months in arrears ...

[Beltsville lab plays role in fire investigations across the country](#)

Baltimore Sun

The forensic science lab employs scientists and engineers who handle all manner of criminal analysis for ATF investigations, such as fingerprints, ...

[How the common blowfly can help investigators fight crime](#)

The Canberra Times



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.

How the common blowfly can help investigators fight crime ... and had taken a job cleaning the New Zealand government forensic labs to support her ...

[FDA Reverses Course on 23andMe DNA Test in Move to Ease Restrictions](#)

New York Times

The genetic testing company 23andMe on Thursday took a step toward being able to offer consumers health-related information again, winning ...

[Lawmaker wants to 'fix' Prop. 47's effect on DNA collection](#)

News10.net

"Forensic DNA is the greatest tool ever given to law enforcement to find the guilty and to exonerate the innocent," Sacramento County District Attorney ...

[Rethinking The Relationship Between Forensic Evidence And The Law](#)

Science 2.0

This was illustrated recently in a violent crime case in the US when a court refused to grant admissibility to a particular type of DNA evidence because ...

[Special Report: State crime labs below national standards for autopsy reports](#)

4029tv

How long is too long for you to know the autopsy results after losing a loved one? Federal officials say Arkansas and Oklahoma are below the national ...

[Special Report: Delayed Justice](#)

WALB-TV

ATLANTA, GA (WALB) - Evidence in thousands of criminal cases has been sitting for months in GBI crime labs waiting to be analyzed. What caused ...

[Expeditionary forensics support intelligence](#)

The Fort Campbell Courier

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's Defense Forensics Science Center has an expeditionary forensics lab capability that is a battlefield ...

[Khyber Pakhtunkhwa achieving justice through forensic evidence](#)



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Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist](#), Oregon State Police,
Pendleton, Or, Expires: March 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic
Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: March 11,
2015

[Crime Scene Investigator](#), Flagler County
Sheriff's Office, Bunnell, Florida, Expires: May
22, 2015

[Forensic Analyst- Digital Evidence](#), Houston
Forensic Science Center, Houston,
TX, Expires: April 15, 2015

Central Asia Online

A forensic science laboratory (FSL) specialist works at the scene of a terrorist attack in Peshawar last September. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa ...

[Prisoners' DNA to be stored](#)

Independent Online

Speaking at the 3rd forensic service conference at the CSIR on Wednesday, Phahlane said the DNA samples would be collected through a simple, ...

[Hair Dye 'CSI' Could Help Police Solve Crimes](#)

Lab Manager Laboratory News (press release) (registration) (blog)

Hair dyes could turn into valuable clues at crime scenes. American Chemical Society Scientists have found a way to analyze hair samples at crime ...

[University preparing for 10th CSI camp](#)

Observer-Reporter

WAYNESBURG – Waynesburg University will host its 10th annual Crime Scene ... He served as a forensic scientist and lab system quality specialist in ...

[Rare look inside Pinellas Mobile Crime Lab, a specialized unit like no other in the state](#)

ABC Action News

The 12-member Forensic Science Unit with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office is essentially the special ops of CSIs. They are ready to go anywhere at ...

['Forensic services play a vital role in solving crime'](#)

Eyewitness News

Police say forensic services in South Africa contribute to the successful ... is a perception that there's a major backlog in solving cases using DNA.

[Scottsdale holding free science, tech festival](#)

azcentral.com

Scottsdale Crime Lab — It's a real-life "CSI." Meet the Police Department's forensic scientists and take a turn testing some of the equipment the Crime ...

[Fate of Scottsdale DUI cases now in hands of state Supreme Court](#)

[Crime Scene Specialist](#), Durham Police Dept., Durham, NC, Expires: February 27, 2015

[Experienced Forensic Controlled Substances](#)

[Analyst](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2015

[Asst/Assoc/Full Professor, Forensic Science](#),

UIC, Chicago, IL, Expires: March 16, 2015

[Research Assistant Professor](#),

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, Expires: March 2, 2015

[Postdoctoral Fellow in Forensic Science](#),

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, Expires: March 2, 2015

[Lecturer, Forensic Science](#),

Arizona State University, Phoenix, Expires: March 5, 2015

[Toxicology Laboratory System Quality](#)

[Specialist](#), Pennsylvania State Police, Harrisburg, PA, Expires: February 23, 2015

[Forensic Scientist Biology/DNA](#),

Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Great Bend, KS, Expires: February 25, 2015

[Forensic Scientist Drug Chemistry](#),

Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Great Bend, Kansas, Expires: February 25, 2015

[Forensic Scientist Latent Prints](#),

Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, KS, Expires: March 3, 2015

[Laboratory Accreditation Specialist 2](#),

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Albany, NY, Expires: February 27, 2015

[Forensic Scientist III \(Tox or Latents\)](#),

Scottsdale Police Department Crime Laboratory, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: February 22, 2015

KPHO Phoenix

... the blood testing machine in the Scottsdale crime lab can't be used because of data drops, mislabeling, and a staff that knew about those problems

[Stray bullet starts fire at NYPD forensic lab](#)

New York Post

Fire officials say the fire began shortly before 2 p.m. at an NYPD crime lab building on Jamaica Avenue. The fire appears to have started after a bullet ...

[The other side of justice](#)

Columbus Dispatch

Last year's big number is due in part to the fact that Texas ruled out 33 cases because crime-lab analyses had proved to be wrong in detecting illegal ...

[Fighting crime and disease, one lab sample at a time](#)

The News Journal

Myron Sasser describes his Newark-based company as a simple toolmaker. Except the tools developed by MIDI Inc. over the last 28 years have been ...

[Forensic scientists helping Michigan State Police crack cases in Saginaw and Flint](#)

MLive.com

BRIDGEPORT, MI -- The Michigan State Police Crime Lab solves cases with science, and the laboratory operating in Bridgeport has additional staff ...

[Special unit based in Meriden investigates state cyber crime](#)

Meriden Record-Journal

The Forensic Science Laboratory on Colony Street also investigates major ... Lopes-Phelan, deputy director of identification at the state crime lab.

[Crime scene investigator provides detectives with evidence](#)

Quad-Cities Online

State CSIs typically completes nine months to a year of on-the-job training learning to identify evidence, from latent prints and footprints to potential ...

[Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 22, 2015

[Firearms Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 22, 2015

[DNA Analyst/Crime Scene Examiner](#), Lake County Crime Laboratory, Painesville, OH, Expires: March 20, 2015

[Forensic Unit Supervisor](#), Washington County, Washington County, Oregon, Expires: March 15, 2015

[Senior Forensic Scientist-Deployable](#), Integrated Forensic Laboratories, TBD, Expires: March 6, 2015

[Latent Fingerprint Examiner](#), Metro Nashville Police Department, Nashville, TN, Expires: February 26, 2015

[Toxicology Fellow / Toxicologist IV](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: February 28, 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:

[San Diego County Seeing Deaths Caused By New Synthetic Drugs](#)

KPBS

New synthetic drugs that either killed San Diegans or contributed to their deaths have been turning up in toxicology screenings conducted by the ...

[Forensic cop to be tried for withholding evidence in high profile cases](#)

Times LIVE

Allegations surfaced that Constable Thabiso Kubyane had been calling family members of suspects, offering to assist them to make the case go away.

Forensic Training

Palm Beach County Sheriff personnel will be presenting the below webinars.

April 16: Synthetic Drug Investigation

April 29: Property Crime and DNA testing

Register at :

<http://www.justiceclearinghouse.com/>

The Baltimore Forensic Institute of Technology and Innovation

Course Title:

Shooting Incident Reconstruction

Instructor:

Cory Latham & Troy Wilson

Location:

Baltimore Police Department Laboratory Section
601 E. Fayette St,
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dates:

March 16-20, 2015

Times:

8:00 am – 5:00 pm EST (lunch breaks given)

Registration:

\$650

Contact Info:

Steven O'Dell

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.

Accreditation Training

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

dell@baltimorepolice.org

Richard Remy

Richard.remy@baltimorepolice.org

Webpage:

<http://goo.gl/3hM2K2>

**“Legal” Drug Use through Chemistry:
An Overview of the Synthetic Drug
Dilemma**

Date: Thursday, April 16 @ 1pm EDT

Cost: FREE

Registration Link:

attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6725142344836578305

This webinar provides an overview of the most common synthetic drugs including their origin, marketing strategies, pharmacology, and current legal status in an effort to provide a better understanding of the danger these drugs pose to our communities and the difficulties they pose to the law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and judicial system tasked with protecting the public's safety. Case studies will be presented demonstrating the typical signs of impairment presented by individuals under the influence of these drugs.

Outsourcing Property Crime for DNA

Analysis:

An Eleven Year Perspective

Date: Wednesday, April 29 @ 1pm EDT

Cost: FREE

Registration Link:

attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/923382323833360129

The presenters will give a brief background on the reasons the analysis of evidence from property crimes is important, a historical perspective of the FBU's experiences with outsourcing and the current state of the outsourcing program, including the importance of the DNA database (CODIS). Lastly, the presenters will share the results of a recent study that examined data trends that supported a revision to the FBU's policy on the types of evidentiary samples that may be submitted from property crimes for DNA analysis.

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 of *ISO/IEC 17025 General Requirements for the Competency of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*.

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

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](#)

[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.)

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](#)

Forensic Conferences

March 30 - April 2, 2015: [12th Annual Bode Technical Workshop in Coronado, CA](#)

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.

May 26-29, 2015: [14th Annual DNA Technical Workshop - Bode East](#) in Orlando, FL

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.

August 31- September 5, 2015: [The 26th Congress of the International Society for Forensic Genetics \(ISFG\)](#) will be held in Krakow, Poland.

September 20 - 25th, 2015: [Midwestern Association Forensic Scientist](#) fall meeting will be held in Mackinac Island, Michigan.

October 6-9, 2015: [14th Annual AFQAM Training Conference](#) will be held in Pensacola Beach, FL

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

October 18-25, 2015: [Society of Forensic Toxicologists \(SOFT\)](#) in Atlanta, GA.

October 19 - 23, 2015: [Southwestern Association of Forensic Science \(SWAFS\)](#) in Oklahoma City, OK.

October 2015: [Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists](#) in Spokane, WA

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.