



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors

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

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

Dear Members,

#### **US-TAG update**

I have asked Kermit Channell to provide us with an update on the US-TAG. His update is below.

Advances in the sensitivity of DNA technology have improved our ability to amplify small amounts of DNA. This improved sensitivity has also allowed our labs to amplify cellular material that might have been inadvertently left behind by manufacturers who provide products utilized in our DNA laboratories.

Due to the lack of specific International Standards that address products manufactured for forensic DNA use, Standards Australia (SA), in September of 2012, put forward a proposal for an ISO document, "Minimizing the risk of contamination in products used to collect and analyze biological materials for forensic DNA purposes".

When this ISO project was proposed, Forensic Networks from around the globe pledged support. Those networks included ASCLD, the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENSFI), the Asian Forensic Science Network (AFSN), and the Senior Managers of Australian and New Zealand Forensic Laboratories (SMANZFL). International consultation also included the UK -Forensic Science Regulator (FSR), the Biology Specialist Advisory Group (BSAG), and SWGDAM (Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods). Notably missing from this early group were representatives from the manufacturing community.

ASCLD initially assisted Standards Australia by providing comments to the draft documents. However, in 2013, we decided to become an active member of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) which enabled ASCLD to become active in the ISO process.

ASCLD then took the lead by establishing a United States Technical Advisory Group (US-TAG) and included manufacturers as US-TAG members and technical experts. Their expertise has been instrumental in the ongoing creation of the soon to be submitted ISO Standard, "Minimizing the risk of human DNA contamination in products used to collect and analyze biological material for forensic purposes", ISO PC (Project Committee) 272.

Recently, there was a vote by all ISO member countries to transform ISO/PC 272 into a TC (Technical Committee). The vote to make this change passed. This means that the existing Project Committee, PC 272 (which was established to develop the individual standard) changes to a Technical Committee. This new Technical Forensic Committee will have a broader scope and program of work. The US-TAG established by ASCLD can now continue its involvement as the leader for future “work proposals” in the ISO “space” of Forensic Science.

ASCLD will now have the ability to help influence and create ISO documents that are specific to Forensic Science in a way not to conflict with the ongoing work of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) that have been established by NIST.

### **Survey for West Virginia University Forensic Program**

Preparing future scientists for crime laboratories are becoming more challenging for colleges each year. Forensic programs are required to prepare students on a high level of professionalism to be competitive in the forensic job market. The Forensic & Investigative Science Program of WVU prepare students in three areas of emphasis: Forensic Chemists, Forensic Biologists and Forensic Examiners. We pride ourselves to be one of the leading forensic programs in the nation with 11 experienced faculty members with more than 90 years' experience, 18 000 square feet laboratory space, four crime scene houses and a crime scene garage.

For us to be able to continue to graduate high quality forensic scientists for the forensic community, we need to know what the need in crime laboratories is today. It will enable us to help crime laboratories with a more prepared scientist and less internal training required.

It is my request that you as a laboratory director/supervisor would take the time and complete the survey to the best of your knowledge. All surveys need to be back by March 10th 2015. Completed surveys can be sent to [Casper.Venter@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Casper.Venter@mail.wvu.edu) . I can also be contacted at 304 692 0422 for any questions.

All survey information will be treated confidential and no names of crime laboratories will be displayed. All data will be statistically calculated and converted to percentages. You can also request a full report of the survey to see the percentages per question answered.

### **LinkedIn**

ASCLD has joined the social media world and is now on LinkedIn. Using LinkedIn will allow us to better interface with stakeholders, media, legislative offices, and our members. Please connect with us. Below is our first post.

Message One

Subject: 2015 ASCLD Exhibit Floor 80% Sold

Don't wait any longer to secure your booth and to begin to receive your valuable benefits. Click [here](#) to learn more about exhibit and sponsorship opportunities:

<http://www.ascldsymposium.com/#!sponsors-exhibitors/c17jc>

Brady W. Mills  
ASCLD President

## [News Around the Globe](#)

### [Police chief answers on crime lab](#)

Pacific Daily News

Chief Fred Bordallo, left, speaks to senators at an oversight hearing for the Guam Police Department held yesterday at the Guam Legislature.

### [Qatar moves to allow DNA evidence in court](#)

ArabianBusiness.com

DNA evidence could be admissible in Qatari courts for the time, after the government approved a draft law that specifies ways in which samples can be ...

### [Ballistic fingerprint program buried under mountain of casings](#)

CapitalGazette.com

Daniel Katz, the state police forensic sciences director, says the program needs changes, including more storage space and better education for law ...

### [Police join US effort to shield children from Internet crime](#)

Washington Times

One of the most important tools the crime lab employs is located inside a small, unassuming room. There are two desktop computers, and two small ...

### [King County court moves to close DNA loophole](#)

KING5.com

Convicted felons are required to provide DNA samples. ... then transferred to a card, sealed and sent to the Washington State Crime Lab to be entered ...

### [Walton County Sheriff's Office Use New DNA Company for Testing](#)

WJHG-TV

WALTON COUNTY-- Right now, all DNA testing for any case in Walton County is sent to



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.



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the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.  
"You have all the ...

### [The Law has Failed, Not Forensic Science](#)

Science 2.0 (blog)

It's quite revealing that Karen Kafadar and Anne-Marie Mazza (LiveScience Op-Ed on February 24, 2015, titled "Using Faulty Forensic Science, Courts ...

### [Detective pulled off case after crowdfunding DNA test](#)

USA TODAY

Forensic analyses show her killer was a man, because blood and semen were ... But Carter said local crime lab tests can take him only so far. He said ...

### [DNA testing opens new avenues for unsolved murders](#)

Appleton Post Crescent

But evidence found at the crime scene more than 36 years ago still is ... Evidence was submitted several months ago to the State Crime Lab for DNA ...

### [Washington lawmaker tries to tackle thousands of untested rape kits in state](#)

Bellingham Herald

The main reason for not testing the kits was because the Washington State Patrol crime labs didn't have enough money or time for testing, said Sgt.

### [Moot advocates DNA testing labs at district-level](#)

The Nation

Speakers at the National Conference on Forensic Medicine and Toxicology on Friday underlined the need for the establishment of DNA testing ...

### [Pleasanton Company's DNA Profile Machine Slashes Processing Time For Alameda County ...](#)

CBS Local

Rape kits are more sophisticated, so those tests will still have to be conducted at a crime lab. But the D.A. says police investigators will now be able to ...

## **Employment Opportunities**

[Forensic Analyst – Trace](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 10, 2015

[Criminalist II-DNA](#), County of San Diego, San Diego, CA, Expires: March 18, 2015

[Firearms and Toolmarks Lab Supervisor](#), Cuyahoga County Medical Examiners Office, Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 23, 2015

[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

[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

[Forensic Scientist Latent Prints](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science

[Coroner to continue search for new crime lab location](#)

WKRC TV Cincinnati

It could be that after a number of years we end up with our crime lab BCI doing the DNA for the whole state. We do most of it already but maybe the ...

[Even the best DNA databank might not put names to the missing](#)

The Globe and Mail

The construction of a useful DNA database requires substantial resources and require broad support. There is a reason that forensic scientists have ...

[Forensic samples rot in lab](#)

Calcutta Telegraph

In January, when the state government appointed 30 assistant scientists to cushion the manpower crunch at the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in ...

[Thousands of untested rape kits gathering dust in Kentucky, lawmakers told](#)

Lexington Herald Leader

Each agency would report its findings to officials at the state police forensic lab by Sept. 1. The lab would compile the information and provide it to the ...

[Dutch DNA database makes 25000th criminal hit](#)

NL Times

The Netherlands' DNA database made its 25,000th match last night. ... The DNA database for criminal cases is run by the Netherlands Forensic ...

[Getting forensic on forensics at the Wellcome Collection](#)

Time Out London

A new exhibition opening today at the Wellcome Collection explores the intricate methods of forensic science. Ashleigh Arnott is one of the first on the ...

[The Godfather of CSI: How Forensics Changed Crime-Solving](#)

Daily Beast

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who had created Holmes in 1886, was among the admirers of

Laboratory, Topeka, KS, Expires: March 3, 2015

[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



[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.

Locard who thronged to see the forensic lab in operation.

### [Chemistry course explores real-life CSI](#)

Cornell College News

Teague utilizes a variety of teaching methods in the course, from analyzing TV episodes, to a field trip to the Iowa state crime lab, to interactions with ...

### [Harvey county death highlights KBI backlog](#)

KSN-TV

It can sometimes take eight months or more to get lab results back on ... The Kansas Bureau of Investigation operates four forensic labs across the ...

### ["Justice is not swift": TBI crime labs struggling to overcome big backlog](#)

WJHL

That's even with the opening of an additional TBI crime lab in Knoxville in ... for DUIs involving narcotics is to blame for the backlog in its crime labs.

### [How Many Crimes Could Testing Rape Kits Prevent?](#)

The Atlantic

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder tours the state police crime lab in 2014, before signing a law mandating timely testing of rape kits. (David Eggert/AP).

### [Using Faulty Forensic Science, Courts Fail the Innocent \(Op-Ed\)](#)

Live Science

Historically, forensic science has had a huge impact on identifying and ... Of those methods, only DNA analysis arose not out of a forensic need but ...

### [Hundreds of DNA matches as Houston clears rape kit backlog](#)

KXAN.com

HOUSTON (AP) — Evidence from more than 6,600 rape kits that went untested for years in Houston have turned up 850 hits in the FBI's nationwide ...

[Houston tests 6600 rape kits, finds 850 DNA matches](#) - New York Daily New

### [Bill Could Expand Collection Of DNA](#)

KTUL

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**

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

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

### **ISO/IEC 17025 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Test Agencies**

Attendees of this three-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17025 as it relates to forensic test agencies. All of the elements will be reviewed. The standard's applicability, origin, purpose and marketplace will be discussed. Some of the more important concepts will be reviewed such as document control, internal auditing, proficiency testing, traceability and measurement and method witnessing.

[March 23-25, 2015](#), Tampa FL

[September 7-9, 2015](#), Alexandria, VA

### **ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies**

Attendees of this two-day workshop will obtain a general overview of ISO/IEC 17020 for forensic police agencies. Individual elements of the

The Oklahoma House has approved a bill allowing Oklahoma district attorneys to collect DNA samples for the state offender database from defendants ...

[Alaska arson investigation costs going up](#)  
KTUU.com

Agencies from around the state will no longer be able to turn to the state crime lab for free fire debris analysis, they will now have to pay for the work to ...

[Forensic department obtains complete structure of bone powder samples](#)

The National  
The tests were conducted at Charles University in collaboration with the Forensic DNA Service (FDNAS) and other international institutes of ...

[Scientists show DNA evidence can be faked!](#)

Free Malaysia Today  
KUALA LUMPUR: DNA evidence is key to the conviction or exoneration of suspects ...  
Adopting an authentication assay for casework samples as part of the forensic procedure is necessary for maintaining the high credibility of DNA ..

## **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/>

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The Baltimore Forensic Institute of Technology and Innovation

**Course Title:**  
Shooting Incident Reconstruction  
**Instructor:**  
Cory Latham & Troy Wilson  
**Location:**

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.

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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*.

[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](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Testing Laboratories](#)

[ASCLD/LAB-International Preparation Course for Calibration Laboratories](#)

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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

[dell@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:dell@baltimorepolice.org)

Richard Remy

[Richard.remy@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:Richard.remy@baltimorepolice.org)

**Webpage:**

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

**[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.)*

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**“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](http://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](http://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

**[Forensic Conferences](#)**



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.

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The American Society of Crime Lab Directors, along with RTI, have made the below webinars available.

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Efficiency Improvements – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: How to Increase your Staff without Increasing Budget – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Managing Customer Expectations and Education – Archival Version](#)

[ASCLD Webinar Series: Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction – Archival Version](#)

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.

[ASCLD Webinar Series: The Paradox of Backlog Reduction – How Doing Less Can Be Doing More – Archival Version](#)

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

October 6-9, 2015: [14<sup>th</sup> 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: [23<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences \(ANZFSS\)](#) in Auckland, New Zealand.