



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Dear Colleagues;

International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management

When you hear the names of exonerated defendants Todd Willingham, Brandon Mayfield and Earl Washington– what is your first reaction? World class forensic science solves millions of criminal cases but the publicity is paled by the press coverage accusing crime labs of making mistakes. Forensic science error is a term that means a lot of different things to different people.

On behalf of NIST and its partners, we are announcing the first-ever international symposium devoted exclusively to the topic of forensic science error management. Join us in Washington, DC, July 20-24, 2015 for the International Symposium on Forensic Science Error Management – Detection, Measurement and Mitigation. Speakers, panels and posters addressing the ways to detect, measure and mitigate forensic science errors will open dialog about these taboo topics. The symposium promises to be an eye-opening candid appraisal of root causes and possible solutions to help identify and reduce forensic science errors.

The technical program will cover eight tracks: death investigation, crime scene investigation, human factors, criminalistics, digital evidence, legal factors, quality assurance and laboratory management. Each track will consist of plenary lectures, poster sessions and panel discussions.

Please register (the fee is only \$192) and submit an abstract (deadline is April 13). The home page of the Symposium is

http://www.nist.gov/director/international_forensics_home.cfm

CFSO newsletter

On February 24, 2015 the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO) elected new leadership for the organization. The CFSO Board of Directors voted Mr. Matthew Gamette M.S. (ASCLD board member) as the new Chair of the organization.

The mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. Their March newsletter can be found at the following link

http://www.thecfso.org/advocacy/CFSO_Newsletter_201503.pdf

CLM March 16, 2015

Brady W. Mills

ASCLD President

Dear Colleagues;

The membership committee has completed a review of membership categories. In that review and Board discussion, it was determined that membership categories should remain unchanged. The Board did decide that as the minimum number of candidates for the Board has been reduced, that a proposal for minimum requirements for Board candidates be discussed with the ASCLD Membership. The Chair of the Membership Committee Ray Wickenheiser volunteered to solicit member opinion on a minimum Board candidate proposal. The proposal for minimum requirements in order to run for the ASCLD Board up for discussion is as follows:

- 3 years ASCLD regular membership and
- 2 ASCLD meetings attended as a regular member and
- 1 committee or event participation as a volunteer

This information is being provided to membership in advance of the annual meeting to obtain their opinions and input. The proposal will be provided through the Crime Lab Minute, the ASCLD website and a presentation at the ASCLD Annual Meeting (for discussion only). Pending the input from the membership, if generally favorable a vote will follow at a later date. Please provide any and all feedback to Ray Wickenheiser at Ray.Wickenheiser@troopers.ny.gov or drop by the ASCLD Board Booth at the Annual Meeting. We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Ray Wickenheiser

Membership Chair



Top-Rated Technical Leadership Short Courses Presented Live at Crime Lab Facilities.

Bring these nationally acclaimed 2-day courses to your lab and help to quickly transform your crime lab managers, forensic supervisors, and technical professionals into outstanding technical leaders and teams:

- Effective Leadership of Scientists, Engineers & the Technical Team
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- Building A Winning Scientific & Technical Team
- Improving Communication Effectiveness
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- Conflict Management Techniques
- Presentation Skills Workshop

Learn more by visiting our website www.davidgootnick.com.

Contact us to discuss your needs and how these technical leadership short courses can help your people to quickly develop the critical leadership and people skills that drive technical success.

[News Around the Globe](#)

[A look inside the Ottawa police forensics lab](#)
CBC.ca

The Ottawa police forensic crime lab is only accessible by crime scene investigators. This is the first time media has been allowed inside the facility.

[Lawmakers Seek Answers On Rape Kit Backlog](#)

Alaska Public Radio Network



2015 Symposium April 26th-30th, 2015

[Symposium Agenda](#)

Click [here](#) to view the updated new member candidate list.

The only way to register this year is online, click [here](#) to complete your registration.



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Orin Dym is the forensic laboratory manager, and he explained that in emergencies, they can turn around kit results in 24 hours. But usually, it takes ...

[Omaha prosecutors' memo delves into crime lab controversies over suspended director, fingerprint ...](#)

Omaha World-Herald

The memo sheds new light on allegations against Douglas County Crime Lab Director Tracey Ray, who has been on paid leave since October.

[Inside the Deep Web Drug Lab](#)

Backchannel

She is holding the lab's latest delivery of a drug bought from the "deep web," the clandestine corner of the internet that isn't reachable by normal ...

[Dutch security service kept illegal DNA database](#)

NL Times

The General Intelligence and Security Service (AIVD) kept a DNA database that ... The report states that data was kept where names were linked to DNA ... in which the AIVD conducted a biological forensic investigation since 2002.

[Vermont State Police forms unit for big cases and old ones](#)

Barre Montpelier Times Argus

Harry Jeppe, physical comparison supervisor at the Vermont Forensic Laboratory, examines a shell casing last week at the lab in Waterbury. The lab ...

[How SPERM could protect your home from fire: Scientists use DNA from herring to develop new ...](#)

Daily Mail

And in a series of experiments, the researchers coated cloth in the DNA from herring sperm cells and found it converts to a ceramic-like material when ...

[Mandatory submission of rape kits for DNA testing is smart legislation: editorial cleveland.com \(blog\)](#)

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Employment Opportunities

[Forensic Scientist](#), Iredell County Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory, Statesville, NC, Expires: April 2, 2015

[Forensic Scientist III \(Materials Analyst\)](#), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: April 5, 2015

[Forensic Scientist – Latent Prints – Eastern Lab](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Norfolk, VA, Expires: April 17, 2015

[Forensic Scientist Supervisor \(Materials Analyst\)](#), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: April 4, 2015

[Additional Director General](#), Punjab Forensic Science Agency, Pakistan (Lahore), Expires: April 30, 2015

[Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice](#), Gannon University, Erie, PA, Expires: June 22, 2015

[Forensic Toxicologist or Trainee](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: April 10, 2015

[Crime Lab Director](#), Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, NV, Expires: May 4, 2015

[Director of Methods and Validation](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Forensic Analyst- Toxicology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 15, 2015

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The state legislature should be commended for taking a tougher stance on the submission of untested rape kits for DNA analysis. Under a law passed ...

[PAPD's Crime lab integral to case solving](#)

The Port Arthur News

A forensics lab capable of processing fingerprints as well as collecting and cataloging evidence has been a factor in clearing criminal cases for the city ..

[House committee passes budget with major cuts, fee increases](#)

WMUR Manchester

The state crime lab would lose a pair of specialist positions for analyzing fingerprints and illicit drugs. "We have an opiate crisis," Rep. Kathi Rogers ...

[DNA tests rarely used in sexual assault cases](#)

Jakarta Post

DNA forensic expert Herawati Sudoyo said DNA test results could be used as strong scientific evidence to prove whether an alleged perpetrator was ...

[Klatzow wants legacy of 'forensic heresy' carried on](#)

Independent Online

Cape Town - South Africa's pre-eminent independent forensic scientist ... series about forensic scientists, such as CSI – DNA tests, along with other ...

[TBI Gives Inside Look At Forensics Lab](#)

WTVC

When mobile crime labs arrive at a scene, they collect anything and ... Forensics lab assistant director Mike Lytle explained the system they tap into ...

[Analysis: Why Quebec faces a difficult task in rebuilding its long gun registry](#)

Globalnews.ca

By most estimates, they never registered all non-restricted firearms." Gun control activist Heidi Rathjen sees the project as practical – provinces have ...

[Evidence Technician](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 30, 2015

[Forensic Analyst- Audio/Video](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist 3- Firearm and Toolmark Identification Unit](#), Metro Nashville Police Department- Crime Laboratory, Madison, TN, Expires: June 18, 2015

[Supervising Criminalist](#), Sacramento County, Sacramento, CA, Expires: April 6, 2015

[Forensic Scientist E7, Latent Print Identification Unit Supervisor](#), Indiana State Police, Indianapolis, IN, Expires: April 3, 2015

[Latent Print Examiner II](#), Oakland Police Department, CA, Oakland, California, Expires: April 10, 2015

[Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: April 2, 2015

[Sheriff's Supervising Forensic Scientist – Fingerprint Comparison](#), Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura, Expires: April 10, 2015

[Forensic Scientist II – DNA](#), Tri County Regional Forensic Laboratory, Andover, MN, Expires: March 31, 2015

[Deputy Forensic Toxicologist \(DOH/SLD position #55101\)](#), NM Department of Health – Scientific Laboratory Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Expires: April 2, 2015

[Forensic Specialist I](#), Montgomery County Department of Police – Personnel Division, 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, Expires: March 30, 2015

[Editorial: Conrad's DNA samples bill goes too far](#)

Winston-Salem Journal

In this space, we've long promoted the use of DNA testing to find the guilty and free the innocent. ... And the state's crime lab is already overloaded

Forensic Training

**“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

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

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

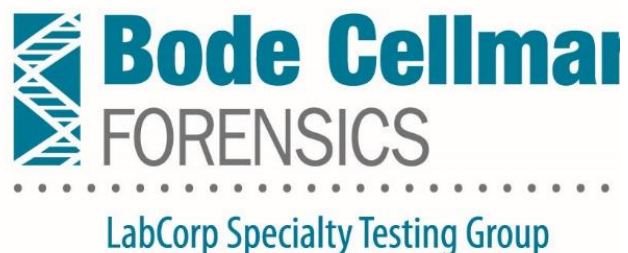
[Forensic Analyst- Digital Evidence](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 15, 2015

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

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

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

[Latent Print Laboratory Director](#), New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Albany, NY, Expires: April 7, 2015



[Bode Cellmark](#) Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode's newest offerings include:

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.

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

[False-Positive and False-Negative Error Rates in Cartridge Case Comparisons](#)

[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](#)

[Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program](#) streamlines processes to eliminate backlogs of untested sexual assault kits.

[Bode Buccal 2™](#) is uniquely designed to improve DNA databanking collecting and automate processing. The Bode Buccal 2 is a **DIRECT COLLECTION SYSTEM** that requires minimal training. There is **NO Transfer Step Required**.

[Independent Validation Services](#) are customized to meet your laboratory's needs. Validation services provide completely unbiased analysis on your equipment, chemistries, or process.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: [Bode's 2015 DNA Technical Conferences](#), providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

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.

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

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

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

Forensic Conferences

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

[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 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.

[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](#)

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

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

[American Association for Laboratory Accreditation \(A2LA\)](#)

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Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE) will be held in Toronto, Canada.

A2LA's Training Program provides a variety of courses designed to help organizations achieve and maintain accreditation to international standards.

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.

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