President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The workshops began yesterday and all indicators show that they were very highly rated. I want to thank the symposium planning committee for all of their hard work in delivering what is going to be a great symposium.

The ASCLD Board and Committees have been very busy this year working to represent the ASCLD membership in forensic issues as well as provide training and information regarding changes in our field. Since we want to share what we have been doing with the membership, the board and committee reports have been posted on both the ASCLD website member’s area and the symposium mobile app. We will only be presenting highlights of some of the activities at the business meeting since there is not enough time to cover everything. Please take time to review the full reports during the week leading up to the business meeting.

In closing…

This is my last Crime Lab Minute as President and I want to thank you for allowing me to represent ASCLD. It has indeed been an honor to serve the organization. The interaction with the board, the membership and other professionals has helped me to become a better laboratory director. I leave you in good hands. President-Elect Jody Wolf is very capable and will serve us well. Jody and the Board are dedicated professionals and I look forward serving as Past-President.

Thank you,

Brady W. Mills
ASCLD President

Click here to learn more about the Manhattan District Attorneys Funding to Test Backlogged Rape Kits

Completed applications are due by June 1, 2015. We will host an informational webinar on April 20, 2015 to provide further information about the program; applicants are strongly encouraged to participate in that information session.
• Register for the District Attorney's webinar [here](#).
• View the full RFP [here](#)
• Complete a profile and submit your application through our grant application [here](#).

Click [here](#) to learn more about the IACP Forensic Committee’s 2015 Vollmer Awards.

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**Wednesday, April 29th, 2015**  
6:00pm - 8:30pm in the Coolidge Room  
Located at the Wardman Park Marriott in Washington, DC
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
- Assertiveness Training for Technical Professionals
- Building A Winning Scientific & Technical Team
- Improving Communication Effectiveness
- Performance Management Excellence
- 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**

**Five Disturbing Things You Didn’t Know About Forensic “Science”**
The Intercept - First Look Media

“With the exception of nuclear DNA analysis … no forensic method has ... are often that real life mimics the television crime lab or police procedural.

**DA and Supervisors’ Chairman Clash Over DNA Lab Oversight**

**2015 Symposium April 26th-30th, 2015**

[Symposium Agenda]

The ASCLD Board and Committees have been very busy this year working to represent the ASCLD membership in forensic issues as well as provide training and information regarding changes in the forensic field. Since we want to share what we have been doing with the membership, the board and committee reports have been posted on both the ASCLD website members area files and the symposium mobile app. Please take time to review the reports before the Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, April 30, so you can come prepared with any questions you may have. We will only be presenting highlights of some of the activities at the Business Meeting since there is not enough time to cover everything.

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.
He pointed to testimony by a county crime lab scientist that DA prosecutors tried to ... The forensic scientist, Danielle Wieland, testified in a 2008 deposition that ... “It’s been a very powerful investigative tool,” Rackauckas said of DNA ...

**Uptick in Synthetic Marijuana Overdoses in Lehigh Valley**
NBC 10 Philadelphia
The Lehigh County Coroner’s Officer also suspected toxicology results would show eight recent deaths from the drug. Thoms said the patients on the ...

**AZ high court: Jury should consider Scottsdale DUI results**
KPHO Phoenix
The Court was asked to rule on questionable crime lab results from the city of Scottsdale. However, the Arizona Supreme Court decision will still have ...

**Wisconsin Supreme Court upholds drunken driving conviction**
Fox11online.com
Griep challenged his conviction, arguing that his right to confront a witness was violated because a crime lab supervisor testified about a co-worker’s ...

**CM opens forensic lab**
Daily Times
This laboratory would help judiciary by using, biological specimen such as blood, semen, saliva, urine, hair, teeth and boon for forensic DNA, ...

**Scandals in the crime labs**
Albany Times Union (blog)
New York State Police, meanwhile, seeks to fire 15 forensic scientists implicated in an alleged cheating scandal at the DNA lab in Albany. All were ...

**Phoenix Police seek grant to help with DNA analysis**
azcentral.com
If awarded, the Phoenix Police crime lab would receive $600,000 to aid in the
processing, recording, screening, and analyzing of forensic DNA and ...

**Students learn forensic science through KCPD crime lab**
KCTV Kansas City
About 30 students from Lincoln College Preparatory Academy were bused over to the Kansas City Police Department's crime lab on Troost Avenue.

**32 toxicology samples matched with wrong patients in Sask.**
News Talk 650 CKOM
The Ministry of Health says 32 samples that were undergoing toxicology testing in Saskatchewan were matched to the wrong patients. The problem ...

**Forensic science: The soil sleuth**
Nature.com
How microbes in soil can help solve crimes. ... Stam, who recently retired from the Riverside Crime Laboratory of the California Department of Justice

**Unease over police trial of hi-tech DNA machines amid fears that civil liberties could be infringed**
The Independent
“What we want is the data from this to go directly into the national database, so that you skip that step of having to have a forensic lab,” he said.

**Ball State students learn secrets behind cyber forensics**
The State
“Let's say you go to the crime scene and have a warrant to take this computer back to the lab,” he tells students enrolled in a digital forensics course.

**CSI for furry critters: Canadian DNA expertise helping catch poachers in East Africa**
National Post
They had found some butts from the hunting blind, testing them for DNA. ... conference room at Trent University's Wildlife Forensic DNA Laboratory one ...
Trent’s wildlife forensic lab is a world leader in the world of CSI for furry critters

**Bering Land Bridge site researchers trace evidence of prehistoric trade to Russia**

Daily Journal
ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Researchers at the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve have confirmed a second piece of evidence in four years that ...

**A brief history of forensics**

Washington Post
In fact, over the last several years there seems to be a new crime lab in crisis about once a month. A big part of the problem is misplaced incentives.

**New state rape kit test mandate could reduce unsolved cases**

WWMT-TV
A sexual assault evidence kit collects possible DNA from the crime. ... One concern is that this could create an even bigger backlog at crime labs.

**Ecuador May Become The Next Country To Decriminalize Drug Use**

Huffington Post
Ecuador is in the process of considering a groundbreaking piece of legislation that would decriminalize the use of illegal drugs, including marijuana ...

**Lab test confirms prosecutor’s staff given pot brownies**

Dothan Eagle
BAY MINETTE — A laboratory test has confirmed that a batch of brownies ... WKRG-TV reports Dixon now says a lab test found THC, an intoxicating ...

**FBI chief tours Vermont college digital lab, says bureau needs digital crime fighters**

Daily Journal
BURLINGTON, Vermont — The head of the FBI used a Friday visit to Vermont to urge college students studying ways to fight cybercrime and conduct ...

**Former Roanoke resident’s invention**
streamlines drug analysis for state lab
Roanoke Times
The Virginia Department of Forensic Science lab in Roanoke now has one ... “The FBI lab uses this to detect currency pack dye,” said Cody, a former ...

Greeneville PD sends off four untested rape kits to TBI for forensic testing
WJHL
GREENEVILLE, TN (WJHL) - The Greeneville Police Department sent four untested rape kits to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's forensic lab ...

The science (and lack thereof) behind the FBI's retreat on hair analysis
Ars Technica
Donald Eugene Gates served 27 years in prison for armed murder and rape, seven years past the length of his minimum sentence. He was sent to ...

Committee agrees on deal for Eastern Montana Crime Lab
The Missoulian
Others have cited the crime lab testing needs in Yellowstone County, the state's most populous county. Backers of the Eastern Montana Crime Lab ...

Editorial: Scandals in the crime labs
Albany Times Union
THE ISSUE: Scandals rock the FBI and New York State Police crime labs. THE STAKES: Without understanding of why this happened, it will be hard to ...

Arizona Supreme Court to rule Thursday on Scottsdale crime lab's DUI blood-test results
Daily Journal
Arizona Supreme Court to rule Thursday on Scottsdale crime lab's DUI ... on the reliability of blood-testing equipment used by the Scottsdale crime lab.
Arizona Supreme Court to rule on Scottsdale DUI results - Arizona Daily Sun

Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 23, 2015
Crime Scene Investigator, Flagler County
Sheriff's Office, Bunnell, Florida, Expires: May 22, 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
Firearms and Toolmarks Lab Supervisor, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiners Office, Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 23, 2015
Crime Scene Investigator, Flagler County
Sheriff's Office, Bunnell, Florida, Expires: May 22, 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

Bode Cellmark Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.
Bode's newest offerings include:

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program
**Phoenix Police seek grant to help with DNA analysis**

azcentral.com
If awarded, the Phoenix Police crime lab would receive $600,000 to aid in the processing, recording, screening, and analyzing of forensic DNA and ...

**First DNA lab in Sindh opening today**

DAWN.com
The forensic, toxicology and molecular biology lab for DNA test was established at the Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS) ...

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**Forensic Training**

The application period for admission to the 2015-2016 session of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA) is open to all qualified candidates. It is important to note that in addition to personal qualifications, trainees must be assigned to an established firearms section within the State and local agency laboratory. Agencies must also have an experienced firearm and toolmark examiner on staff to mentor and continue training upon completion of the NFEA.

The NFEA provides training for apprentice/entry level firearm and toolmark examiners from Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The Academy curriculum is composed of the fundamentals of firearms & toolmark examinations and serves as a basis for the trainee, under supervision, to develop into a qualified firearm and toolmark examiner. The application deadline for the 2015 - 2016 session of the NFEA is August 21, 2015. It is anticipated that the class will start in October 2015 however the training schedule is dependent on the receipt of funding 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.

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**Accreditation Training**

[ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)](#) ANAB is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. ANAB 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 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies**

- **June 22-23, 2015**, Durham, NC
- **October 29-30,2015**, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $600, non-ASQ member $650

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

- **October 26-28, 2015**, Alexandria, VA
Cost: ASQ member $750, non-ASQ member $800

For more information about these workshops, contact ANAB at 703-836-0025, ext 208. To register, please click on any of the dates above.
and may be adjusted accordingly.

Additional information and the application form can be found at: http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-enforcement/national-firearms-examiner-academy-course-id-frms-pg-0002

Questions can be directed to either:
Sheila Hopkins
NFIA Program Manager
202-648-6061
Sheila.Hopkins@atf.gov
or
Jodi Marsanopoli
NFIA Laboratory Coordinator
Firearms and Toolmark Examiner
202-648-6116
jodi.marsanopoli@atf.gov

**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 submitted from property crimes for DNA analysis.

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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**

**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.

**Forensic Conferences**

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.
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**

**ASCLD Webinar Series: Managing Customer Expectations and Education – Archival Version**

**ASCLD Webinar Series: Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction – Archival Version**


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.
