President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Last week I testified in front of the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations in Washington, D.C. on HR 320, the Rapid DNA Act. I have attached my oral statement and my written testimony that was provided for the record. If you missed the hearing, here is the link to the recording. http://judiciary.house.gov/index.cfm/2015/6/hearing-h-r-320-the-rapid-dna-act.

It was an honor to represent ASCLD and CFSO at the hearing for a discussion on Rapid DNA. The other two witnesses were Ms. Amy Hess, Executive Assistant Director of Science and Technology for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Ms. Natasha S. Alexenko the founder of Natasha's Justice Project. The discussion was fruitful and we expect to continue to assist the Members on revising this important legislation.

I want to thank all of the ASCLD Board members, the ASCLD FRC, and our members who offered their expertise on Rapid DNA technology which allowed ASCLD and CFSO the opportunity to share the potential of this technology and how best to ensure it is implemented in an appropriate and collaborative manner.

Kindest Regards,

--Jody

Next Board Teleconference: July 10, 2015

NIST Seeks to Fill Three Vacancies on Forensic Science Standards Organization

The Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) has announced the intention to fill three vacancies in the organization. There is one vacancy on each of the following committees: the Forensic Science Standards Board, the Legal Resource Committee, and the Biology Scientific Area Committee. Please see the information at the following link for additional information, including how to apply.

http://www.nist.gov/forensics/osac-vacancies.cfm
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.

Advanced Topics for Human Identification & Data Interpretation

December 1-4, 2015 | Philadelphia, PA

This 4 day course will offer world-class training for experienced forensic biology practitioners, technicians, and technical leaders involved in testing and testimony for forensic serological and human identification related testing. 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; strategies for the implementation of Rapid DNA technology and sexual assault backlog reduction; alternate novel approaches to biological fluid identification; evaluation of statistical models and probabilistic modeling for mixed sample sources; improved methods for recovery of low template DNA; and legal implications of new strategies and developments in the field. Distinguished faculty include: John Butler, PhD, Niels Morling, MD, DMSc, Michael Coble, PhD, Mechthild Prinz, PhD, Jack Ballantyne, PhD, JoAnne Bright, PhD, and other forensic biology professionals.

Learn more: www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse

Forensic Training

Online Basic Fire Debris Analysis Course
July 6-31, 2015.
Click here for registration.
ncfs.ucf.edu

The Forensic and Investigative Science Outreach, at West Virginia University, is offering many onsite forensic science courses and workshops through September 30, 2015, as part of an award from the National Institute of Justice. Click here for additional information.

Itiel Dror’s “Cognitive Factors in Forensic Decision Making” 2-day
workshop June 30 & July 1 at the Houston Forensic Science Center. Click here for additional information.

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
Women's Leadership Institute
Branson, Missouri
August 2-7, 2015
Click here for additional information.

Ron Smith & Associates – National Latent Print Examiner Training Academy
October 2015
Camp Shelby, MS
Click HERE for more information.

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 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
NFEA Program Manager
202-648-6061
Sheila.Hopkins@atf.gov
or
Jodi Marsanopoli
NFEA Laboratory Coordinator
Firearms and Toolmark Examiner

Employment Opportunities

Forensic Lab Technician (Biology/DNA), NLT Management Services, LLC, Beltsville, MD, Expires: September 16, 2015

Quality Assurance Specialist, NLT Management Services, LLC, Beltsville, MD, Expires: September 16, 2015

Quality Assurance Specialist, NLT Management Services, LLC, Atlanta, GA, Expires: September 17, 2015

Quality Assurance Specilaist, NLT Management Services, LLC, Walnut Creek, CA, Expires: September 17, 2015

Forensic Scientist Manager (DNA), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: June 25, 2015
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**

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**News Around the Globe**

ESU instructor developing new forensics science master's program begins crime lab internship

The Republic

Bailey has been working with the major crime labs in Kansas and the Kansas City metropolitan area in designing the 40-hour program. During her ...

Rapid DNA Analysis

LawOfficer.com

The “swab in–profile out” Rapid DNA instruments are intended to automate all of the DNA processing steps that take place in a forensic laboratory.

FBI's Plans for the Use of Rapid DNA Technology in CODIS

Federal Bureau of Investigation (press release) (blog)

Historically, forensic examinations were performed by laboratories if ... The FBI provides the CODIS software to public forensic DNA laboratories that ...

Forensic science specialist was passionate

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**Senior Forensic Technologist, Physical Sciences**, Ontario Public Service, Toronto, Ontario, Expires: June 25, 2015

**Crime Lab Scientist- Toxicologist**, GA Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, Georgia, Expires: June 26, 2015

**Forensic Scientist III (Digital Evidence)**, DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: June 22, 2015

**Forensic Scientist Technical Leader (DNA)**, DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: June 22, 2015

**Computer/Digital Examiner**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015

**Supervisor- Biology/DNA section**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015

**Forensic Firearms Examiner I, Forensic Firearms Examiner II, Forensic Firearms Examiner III**, City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: June 25, 2015

**Fingerprint Technician**, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Crime Lab, Saint Louis, Expires: July 31, 2015

**Forensic Scientist – Toxicology**, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: June 25, 2015

**Forensic Analyst- Trace**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: August 31, 2015

**Criminalist II Latent Print Examiner**, University of Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory, Kingston, RI 02881, Expires: June 24, 2015


**Sheriff's Forensic Scientist II/III – Firearm & Toolmark Examiner**, Ventura County Sheriff’s Office, Ventura, CA, Expires: July 22, 2015

**Forensic Laboratory Supervisor**, Oregon State
Anita Kay Wonder, a forensic science specialist and founder and director of The Wonder Institute, died May 30 of natural causes. She was 72.

**Documents show N.J. regional medical examiner's office failed accreditation review in 10 areas**

NJ.com

The most troubling failure, according to the on-scene investigator's report, was the fact that the state's toxicology laboratory is unaccredited by the...

**GBI officials meet with coroners, lawmakers about crime lab concerns**

The Augusta Chronicle

The meeting had been in the works since January, when members of the Augusta delegation were advised that some toxicology and autopsy results...

**Report: Drug overdose death rates increase in 26 states**

USA TODAY

Drug overdose death rates have increased in 26 states and Washington, D.C., and overdoses continue to outpace car crashes as the leading cause...

**Police agencies across Oregon counting their untested sexual assault kits**

OregonLive.com

Yet with a state crime lab that's working at capacity now, and already has a backlog of more than 1,150 DNA samples that are waiting to be analyzed...

**PNP unveils new fingerprint ID system**

ABS CBN News

PNP Crime Laboratory head Chief Supt. Theresa Ann Cid said the new system, which will replace the manual system, can hold up to five million...

**Marijuana 'Dabbing' Is 'Exploding onto the Drug-Use Scene'**

Yahoo Health

People often use modified water pipes (bongs) to smoke the dab, but dabs can also be put into an e-cigarette and be vaped. (Photo: Getty Images).
US Prosecutor Now Sending Criminal DNA Testing In DC To Lab Run By His Girlfriend
Yahoo News
... forensics litigation in the District of Columbia stopped sending cases to the city's independent forensics lab in January, in favor of a private lab run by ...

UAF researcher takes forensic look at 'spice'
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
I want to become a forensic scientist because I enjoy the idea of conducting ... with all the drug bans and added, “Lab report available upon request.

Senate nibbles at House justice, public safety budget
News & Observer (blog)
Crime lab: Both budgets would pay for six new technicians at the State Crime Lab, freeing up scientists to focus on more complicated cases and ...

Digital Forensics Poses Challenges for Texas Law Enforcement
Government Technology
Digital forensics — the analysis of phones, tablets and other personal .... FBI regionalforensic labs — which can perform phone, server and laptop ...

Catching Up
Shreveport Times
To cost just over $26 million, the state-of-the-art lab will allow testing and forensics to be done so the work won't have to be contracted out of state

Cheney crime lab prepares to test influx of rape kits
KREM.com (subscription)
CHENEY, Wash. -- The Washington State Patrol crime lab in Cheney is preparing to test an influx of new cases in a state-wide push for rape kit testing.

Jefferson Co. wants funds to test 1300 rape kits
Beaumont Enterprise
Linda Johnson, director of the county crime lab, said most of the samples are from the 1990s and early 2000s, when DNA testing was not readily ...

Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, Gannon University, Erie, PA, Expires: June 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 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 (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.
Forensic Conferences

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.

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.

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.
April 3-8, 2016: International Association for Chemical Testing (IACT) in Orlando, FL.