President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I hope everyone had an amazing holiday weekend celebrating our nation's independence! This week our President Elect Jeremy Triplett, Director Adam Becnel, and Executive Director Jean Stover will be traveling to Bellevue, WA to conduct a site visit of our 2016 symposium site. Our planning activities for next year have already begun and we are looking forward to all that this next year will bring!

I have also asked our Training and Education Chair, Director Kris Deters, to provide a re-cap of last week's webinars in this week's Crime Lab Minute. These were the highest attended webinars to date and provided great information to the community. As a result of the high attendance and related technology issues, we crashed the server that was used to host the webinars. Unfortunately, the second technical webinar could not be completed and our T & E Committee is working hard to reschedule this webinar. A special thanks goes to RTI's Forensic Science Center of Excellence for their support in bringing these webinars to you!

I also want to thank our Board and our Committees for working very hard to bring you relevant information. We look forward to their continuing efforts!

Regards,

Jody

On June 30, ASCLD sponsored two webinars.

The first webinar, ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments Overview - Managers Perspective and Legal Considerations, was a great success. There was over 450 participants. Tina Delgado from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Gary Sims of California Department of Justice, Ray Wickenheiser of the New York State Police Crime Laboratory System and Matt Redle, Sheridan WY County and Prosecuting Attorney, presented.

This presentation was designed to assist Crime Lab Management to provide timely assessment, correction, notification, reporting and documentation; enabling Crime Labs to continue to earn and keep public trust. This webinar provided a high level overview of the issue by the FBI including history on the errors, their detection, correction, and the dissemination of information. It also included the laboratory directors’ perspective and legal issues that laboratories may need to consider.

It will be available on ASCLD’s website at http://www.ascld.org/meetings-and-training/forensic-conferences/ by July 10.
The second webinar was ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments - Technical Discussion. Presenters were Tamyra Moretti of the FBI Laboratory, John Buckleton of the Institute of Environmental Science & Research Ltd in Auckland, New Zealand and Bruce Budowle of the Institute of Applied Genetics, University of North Texas Health Science Center. Also scheduled were Steven Myers of the California Department of Justice, Alyson Saadi, DNA Technical Leader for the Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory and Cyndi Hall, Quality Manager, Idaho State Police Forensic Services Laboratory. There were over 700 registrants and we hit the capacity of 500 for the Adobe Connect room. Unfortunately the RTI had technical difficulties with the server and the webinar was not able to be completed.

ASCLD is hoping to reschedule the webinar so that a Question & Answer period can be conducted. If that is not possible, the webinar will be recorded and be available on ASCLD’s website at http://www.ascld.org/meetings-and-training/forensic-conferences/. Further information about the webinar details will emailed to members and posted in the Crime Lab Minute.

This presentation will assist quality managers, DNA technical leaders and forensic scientists to provide timely assessment, correction, notification, reporting and documentation; enabling Crime Labs to continue to earn and keep public trust. It will provide for a technical discussion of the issue by the authors of the FBI’s Erratum. It will also include presentations by a quality manager and technical leader on how they have handled the issue in their laboratories.

**Free Access to Public Safety and First Responder Standards & Guides**

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is now providing free access to ASTM standards to public safety professionals and first responders. Allowing agencies to easily identify and incorporate best practices into their operations, this portal includes standards and practice guides on a variety of topics, including:

- Standard Guide for Credentialing Access to an Incident or Event Site.
- Standard Practice for Radiological Emergency Response.
- Standard Guides for Emergency Operations Center Development and Management.
- Standard Guide for Operational Guidelines for Initial Response to a Suspected Biothreat Agent.

By registering for access, a user will be able to view and download ASTM standards, practices and test methods, which normally cost up to $49 each; compare them to previous versions; and annotate documents online free of charge.

[Get your free access to the ASTM Compass portal.](http://www.ascld.org/meetings-and-training/forensic-conferences/)
The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) is the largest, multi-discipline accreditation body in the U.S., having accredited over 3,500 labs to various ISO standards over its 35-year history. A2LA is a non-profit, membership organization and its accreditations to ISO standards are recognized and accepted world-wide.

The A2LA Forensic Accreditation Program offers accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 for forensic testing laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 for crime scene units. In addition, A2LA offers a diverse training program.

Don't miss A2LA’s workshop, “ISO/IEC 17025: Non-conformances and Strategies to Prevent Recurrence” which will be presented by Program Manager, Karin Athanas, at the ASCLD Symposium in April.

**Forensic Training**

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

**Employment Opportunities**

**Crime Lab Superintendent**, City of Tucson, Tucson Police Department Crime Lab, Tucson, Arizona, Expires: July 30, 2015

**Firearms Examiner (II and III)**, City of Tucson, Tucson, Arizona, Expires: July 26, 2015

**Tenure-track Faculty Position**, Texas Southern University, Houston, Expires: July 11, 2015

**Forensic Scientist III – Latent Print**, Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory,

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](http://www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse)
MAFS is announcing a Forensic Anthropology Workshop hosted by the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office Criminalistics Laboratory in Olathe, Kansas on September 1st - September 3rd. Click here for additional details.

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.

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/firearm

Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: July 30, 2015

Forensic Scientist Supervisor, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Madison, Wisconsin, Expires: July 16, 2015

Forensic Scientist, Columbus Police Crime Lab, Columbus, Ohio, Expires: July 17, 2015

Forensic Scientist I – Postmortem Toxicology, MA State Police Forensic Services Group, Maynard, Massachusetts, Expires: July 17, 2015


Forensic Scientist Supervisor, City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: July 9, 2015

Criminalist II – DNA Section, Boston Police Department Crime Laboratory, Boston, Massachusetts, Expires: September 1, 2015

Biology / DNA Analyst, City of Albuquerque Police Crime Lab, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: July 24, 2015

Forensic Scientist (Quality Control Manager), Grade 25, Montgomery County Police Department, Gaithersburg, Maryland, Expires: July 7, 2015

Forensic Firearms Examiner I – III, The City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: July 25, 2015

Criminalist – Arson/Trace, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, Ankeny, Iowa, Expires: July 21, 2015

Forensic Scientist – Trace Evidence, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: July 6, 2015

Firearm / Tool Mark examiner, City of Albuquerque Police Crime Lab, Albuquerque, NM, Expires: July 20, 2015

Forensic Scientist I – Drug Unit, Massachusetts State Police Forensic Services Group, Springfield, MA, Expires: July 17, 2015

Criminalist, City of Long Beach, Long Beach, CA, Expires: July 17, 2015
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
202-648-6116
jodi.marsanopoli@atf.gov

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**
- **ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 1 – Archival**
- **ASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival Version**
- **ASCLD Webinar Series:**
  - 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 Specialist, NLT Management Services, LLC, Walnut Creek, CA, Expires: September 17, 2015
  - Forensic Scientist Manager (DNA), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: July 30, 2015
  - Forensic Scientist Technical Leader (DNA), DC Government – Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: July 30, 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
  - Fingerprint Technician, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Crime Lab, Saint Louis, Expires: July 31, 2015
  - Forensic Analyst, Trace, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: August 31, 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 Police, Springfield, Or, Expires: August 18, 2015
  - Forensic Laboratory Director, Oregon State Police, Central Point, Oregon, Expires: August 18, 2015
  - Firearms Examiner, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: July 31, 2015
RS&A Quicklinks

CLICK HERE TO VISIT RS&A ONLINE
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News Around the Globe

SHS students design forensic lab with assistance from Harvard
Woburn Daily Times
Juniors Courtney Casavant, Megan Laham, and Brianna McCarthy designed a forensics laboratory instructional lab that they presented to Greeta..

'Under-probe' secy delaying NAB forensic lab
The Nation
ISLAMABAD - The forensic lab of NAB is still unable to go functional as the top baboo of Interior Ministry, who is being probed for illegally getting a plot ...

Bode Cellmark Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets. Bode’s newest offerings include:
Wood
Popular Science
NPR with Oregon Public Broadcasting reports that a wildlife forensic lab has managed to start identifying illegal wood samples using a DART-TOF.

Colorado Bureau of Investigation – CBI Director Set to Retire on July 3
North Denver News
All five CBI Forensic Services Laboratories received international accreditation through the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory...

Governor signs law that expands access to post-conviction DNA testing
OregonLive.com
Forensic Scientist Heather Feaman tests samples at the Oregon State... The governor has signed a bill that would expand access to DNA testing for...

Former DA George Kennedy, crime lab director honored
San Jose Mercury News (blog)
As any government bureaucrat knows, it can be tough to get your department new printers, never mind a spankin’-new million crime lab that costs $75...

Montana to outsource autopsies in July
The Spokesman Review
In total, the State Crime Lab performs autopsies on about 500 individuals each... Kemp cited serious concerns about his employment at the crime lab.

Photos: Ground broken on laboratory for 3 state agencies
Deseret News
Photos: Ground broken on laboratory for 3 state agencies... of Agriculture and Food, Utah Department of Health, as well as the Utah State Crime Lab.

DNA forensics not as infallible as investigators claim—But not because of science
Genetic Literacy Project
And the Germans got their suspect. The problem was, the “phantom” wasn’t a criminal at all, but a female worker in a crime lab. Her DNA contaminated...

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.

ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation Workshop for Forensic Police Agencies
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...
The risk we take with Charlotte's rape kit backlog
Charlotte Observer
... the federal government estimates that there are hundreds of thousands of rape kits nationwide that have never been sent to a crime lab for testing.

'Forensic Science Not Popular Among Students'
The New Indian Express
Prof T Sowmyya, Assistant Professor, Forensic Science at the University College of Science, Osmania University, says there is a huge gap between ...

Dakota County moves forward with plans for pre-conviction DNA samples
Minneapolis Star Tribune
State forensic scientists who will analyze the DNA say they are ready to pick up the work. Yet critics who still call the practice an unreasonable search ...

New Oregon DNA Testing Law Explained
Jefferson Public Radio
The measure is actually a re-write of Oregon's 2001 law governing post-conviction DNA testing. The Oregon Innocence Project helped write the new ...

Capitol Digest.
Mason City Globe Gazette
Currently, the state's DCI Crime Lab has the capability to analyze for drugs in urine, but not blood. For blood analysis, agencies are referred to private ...

State forensics lab submits report on untested evidence kits in rape cases.
Richmond Times-Dispatch
One of the reasons cited nationally for why many PERKs have not been submitted for testing has been that crime laboratories have significant ...

Ex-chemist may have tainted 10000 cases
Lowell Sun
Farak is charged with stealing drugs and tampering with evidence while working as a chemist in the State Crime Lab in Amherst. Farak pleaded not ...

How DNA testing is catching serial rapists

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

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
The grant from the National Institute of Justice pays for DNA testing and overtime "Other than identical twins, no one has the same DNA profile.

**R.I. expands DNA-testing law for anyone convicted of a crime**
The Providence Journal
Rhode Island was among the first states in the nation to pass a law allowing convicted criminals to seek DNA testing of evidence in an effort to prove ...

**Editorial: New forensic center expands education, outreach programs**
Knoxville News Sentinel
The first six months of the new Knox County Regional Forensic Center have been a success, drawing high praise from County Mayor Tim Burchett and ...

**Dr. Bowes advancing forensic pathology**
TheChronicleHerald.ca
But Dr. Matt Bowes, the province's chief medical examiner, says those depictions are deceptive — even forensic pathologists like him aren't always ...

**UTSA forensics science summer camp inspires high school students**
UTSA Today
... summer camp inspires high school students to pursue forensic career ... of forensic science at the UTSA Criminal Justice Forensics Summer Camp, held ...

**Local officials determining feasibility of bringing crime lab to area**
Hickory Daily Record
Evidence related to criminal investigations is sent to the state crime lab in Raleigh for analysis. WPCOG Executive Director Anthony Starr said there ...

**More than 5000 untested sex assault kits languish in Oregon**
OregonLive.com
Police also have said they didn't want to flood an overworked state crime lab with requests for kit tests. The lab currently is waiting to process more ...

**General Events**
- 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.
Former Secret Service official named state Homeland Security advisor
Sentinel & Enterprise
... that position, where he is responsible for providing leadership and oversight to the State Crime Lab and Forensic Services Group of the State Police, ...

New DNA Forensics Lab Launches in India
PR.com (press release)
The New DNA Forensic Laboratory has recently received certifications for DNA analysis and today announced the launching of forensic biology ...

EVERYONE living in Kuwait is ordered to supply a DNA sample to police
Daily Mail
All citizens in Kuwait will be legally required to give a DNA sample to the country’s police force in an attempt to make it easier for security services to ...

Rice County not sold on DNA collection of suspects
Southernminn.com
In Rice County, suspects are fingerprinted and booked when they’re charged. But the DNA doesn’t come until there is a conviction. Dakota County ...

Bill heading to Gov. Wolf aims to speed DNA testing in sex assault cases
PennLive.com
Newly passed state legislation designed to speed the testing of DNA evidence in sexual assault cases should be a help in dealing with those crimes, ...

CBI Begins Forensic Toxicology Services for Colorado
WesternSlopeNow
For many years the Colorado Department of Public Health conducted this service but officials believe toxicology is better suited in a forensic setting.

DNA testing identifies nearly 3000 suspected rapists across Ohio
newsnet5.com
In Cuyahoga County alone, DNA rape kit testing has led to more than 330 defendants being indicted. Get all your
local news right on your phone with ...

**Stakeholders agree: Funding for KSP's central laboratory key to resolving backlog of untested rape ...**
cn|2
Edelen referenced financial issues with KSP's crime lab, saying the public will know how such underfunding has impacted public safety in Kentucky.

**Failure of wall in forensic lab after Hurricane Isaac may lead to overturned convictions, suit says**
The Louisiana Record
GREtna – A contractor is being sued by the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office which claims criminal prosecutions and convictions may be in jeopardy ...

**New law expands Virginia's DNA database**
WDBJ7
Prior to Wednesday, the law required DNA samples from people who were convicted of sexual battery, ... of the mouth of a child with lascivious intent, according to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science's Department Counsel.