

CLM December 7, 2015

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Greetings Colleagues,

This week marks the 8th meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science. For this meeting there are 7 NCFS DRAFT work products that are open for public comment. They can be found at <http://www.justice.gov/ncfs/draft-work-products-open-public-comment>.

They include the following:

**Reporting and Testimony Subcommittee**

Views Document on using the term “Reasonable Degree of Scientific Certainty”

**Scientific Inquiry and Research Subcommittee**

Views Document on Establishing the Foundational Literature within the Forensic Science Disciplines

Post-Doctoral Projects to Facilitate Translation of Research into Forensic Science Practice

**Interim Solutions Subcommittee**

Views document on a National Code of Professional Responsibility  
Recommendation on Accessibility of Quality Management System Documents

**Accreditation and Proficiency Testing Subcommittee**

Views Document on Proficiency Testing in Forensic Science  
Views Document on Critical Steps to Accreditation

I urge all members and colleagues to review these documents and provide comments to the Commission. It has never been more important to voice your opinions and provide needed input to the Commission. The absence of comment communicates tacit approval and endorsement by the forensic science

community. It is important to submit specific feedback to the Commission to include the impact these documents will have on the community upon implementation.

The ASCLD Board of Directors is currently reviewing these documents and collectively working to submit feedback on behalf of the membership, but both volume and content are important in sending a message to the Commission on these documents. As the Board of Directors submit these comments to the Commission, they will also be uploaded to the ASCLD website. All comments are due to the Commission by December 22, 2015.

Warmest Regards!

--Jody

Next Board Teleconference: December 18, 2015

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Registration for the Leadership Academy 2016 has opened. Click [here](#) to view for additional information about the Leadership Academy, as well as the links for registration.

Registration for the Leadership Academy 2016 also includes registration for the ASCLD Symposium. Attending the symposium is a great way to maximize your leadership training opportunity.

Any questions, please email or give a call to Director Kris Deters at [Kristine.deters@state.mn.us](mailto:Kristine.deters@state.mn.us) and 651-793-2994. Additional information about the symposium is also located on the ASCLD Symposium website.

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#### Fellowship Opportunity: Graduate Research in STEM

Research from science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines can have important implications for the U.S. criminal justice system. NIJ is looking for doctoral students with innovative research that aims to solve problems faced by criminal justice practitioners.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2016 Graduate Research Fellowship program, which provides a student stipend of \$35,000 annually, as well as up to \$15,000 annually to cover tuition and research expenses. Up to \$150,000 and three years of support are possible, with demonstration of continued enrollment and

satisfactory progress.

Students from PhD programs in all STEM fields are encouraged to apply, including but not limited to: the physical sciences, life sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering, mathematics and statistics. International students are also eligible. [Learn more about the NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship](#). Deadline: Dec. 15, 2015.



### **Forensic Training**

March 14-18 2016 the Maryland State Police will be hosting a the Forensic Management Academy presented by West Virginia University. This one week premier business program was designed for forensic professionals to strengthen their management competencies and be better prepared to meet the increasing demands of forensic laboratories. Contact Martina Bison-Huckaby at [martina.bison-huckaby@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:martina.bison-huckaby@mail.wvu.edu) or [\(304\)293-7926](tel:(304)293-7926) for additional information.

The course registration is \$2,250 and the enrollment link is [http://wvu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_41L3klo749uz3pz](http://wvu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_41L3klo749uz3pz)



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;

Ron Smith & Associates Training

**December 2015**

Essential Ridgeology Concepts

Location: Alachua, FL

Class Dates: 12-07-2015 thru 12-11-2015

Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

Advanced Sequential Processing - A  
Hands On Workshop

Location: Denver, CO

Class Dates: 12-08-2015 thru 12-11-2015

Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 32

Introduction to the Science of Friction  
Ridge Examination

Location: Glendale, CA

Class Dates: 12-14-2015 thru 12-18-2015

Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

Understanding Exclusion and Sufficiency  
Decisions

Location: Clearwater, FL

Class Dates: 12-14-2015 thru 12-18-2015

Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 36

Digital Crime Scene and Evidence  
Photography

Location: Rio Rancho, NM

Class Dates: 12-15-2015 thru 12-17-2015

Tuition: \$400.00 | Hours: 24

**January 2016**

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.

Register today: [www.ForensicBio2015.Eventbrite.com](http://www.ForensicBio2015.Eventbrite.com)

Learn more: [www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse](http://www.ForensicScienceEducation.org/FBioCourse)



Shimadzu's triple quad GCMS-TQ8040, providing exceptional sensitivity, selectivity, and specificity for detection and quantitation of

Introduction to the Science of Friction  
Ridge Examination  
Location: Bethlehem, PA  
Class Dates: 01-18-2016 thru 01-22-2016  
Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

### **February 2016**

Essential Ridgeology Concepts  
Location: Bourne, MA  
Class Dates: 02-08-2016 thru 02-12-2016  
Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

Forensic Examination of Violent Crime  
Scenes  
Location: Cumming, GA  
Class Dates: 02-16-2016 thru 02-18-2016  
Tuition: \$400.00 | Hours: 24

Fundamentals of Crime Scene  
Examination and Evidence Collection  
Location: Grand Forks, ND  
Class Dates: 02-22-2016 thru 02-26-2016  
Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

### **March 2016**

Scientific Analysis (ACE-V): From the  
Laboratory to the Witness Stand  
Location: Dallas, TX  
Class Dates: 03-07-2016 thru 03-11-2016  
Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

Introduction to the Science of Friction  
Ridge Examination

targeted drugs in the presence of background interferences, is the most powerful choice for your toxicological applications. It enables the analysis of more than 400 compounds in one run, and features automatic method creation, scan/SIM acquisition mode, and an MRM optimization tool.

The Smart Forensic Database includes hundreds of compounds with optimized transitions and collision energies, CAS registry numbers and retention indices (RI). The database supports simultaneous high-sensitivity analysis of samples using GC-MS/MS, eliminating the need to configure complicated analysis conditions.



IntegenX, headquartered in Pleasanton, California, is the market leader of Rapid human DNA identification technology. IntegenX technology platforms integrate advanced fluidics, optics, and biochemistry capabilities to produce sample-to-answer products for DNA-based human identity testing for

Location: Melbourne, FL  
Class Dates: 03-21-2016 thru 03-25-2016  
Tuition: \$600.00 | Hours: 40

Palm Print Comparison Techniques  
Location: Bethlehem, PA  
Class Dates: 03-22-2016 thru 03-24-2016  
Tuition: \$400.00 | Hours: 24

New courses and class locations are added daily so be sure to check the website at:  
[www.RonSmithandAssociates.com/Training](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com/Training)

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The Houston Forensic Science Center offers a variety of training opportunities.

**February:**

Crime Scene Investigation class will provide participants with hands-on instruction in a unique training environment, a house specifically designed to teach such courses. Click [here](#) for details.

One-day Sig Sauer Pistols. Armorer Certification. Click [here](#) for details.

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On-demand Webcast: The Public Health Challenge of Synthetic Cannabinoids

This one day symposium, recorded live

forensics and law enforcement applications.



**ASCLD/LAB** is a not-for-profit corporation specializing in the accreditation of public and private forensic laboratories. Since 1982, we have been committed to the ongoing accreditation, support, education and oversight of forensic organizations striving for excellence in forensic analysis. Visit our website to learn more about our accreditation programs, the assessment process and training opportunities.

on September 30th, 2015, addresses different aspects of synthetic cannabinoid use, including pharmacology, clinical symptoms, assessment and treatment of synthetic cannabinoid use and laboratory testing related to these compounds. Click [here](#) for additional information.

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The Forensic Technology Center of Excellence Presents  
ASCLD: FBI Allele Frequency Amendments - Technical Discussion  
On-Demand (Approximately 75 Minutes)

Click [here](#) for registration information.

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

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

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

[VersionASCLD Rapid DNA Webinar 2 – Archival VersionASCLD](#)

[Rapid DNA Webinar 3 – Archival VersionASCLD Webinar Series:](#)

## **[Employment Opportunities](#)**

[Postdoctoral Research Associate – Genomics](#), University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, Expires: March 1, 2016

[Criminalist I](#), St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, ST LOUIS, Expires: December 18, 2015

[Toxicologist, Senior](#), State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, Madison, WI, Expires: December 28, 2015

[Chief Toxicologist](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist](#), City and County of Denver-Police Department Crime Laboratory, Denver, Colorado, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Senior Scientist](#), Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., Lorton, Expires: February 23, 2016

[Forensic Analyst- Toxicology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Toxicology Discipline – Forensic Scientist 1](#), Idaho State Police, Pocatello, Idaho, Expires: December 3, 2015

[Latent Print Examiner I, II, III, or Senior](#), Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: December 18, 2015

[Forensic Scientist \(Biology\) I, II, or III](#), Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: December 18, 2015

[Criminalist IV – Quality Assurance Manager](#), City of Long Beach, Long Beach, CA, Expires: December 4, 2015



**Ron Smith And Associates, Inc.**  
is your #1 source for:

- Forensic Evidence Training**
- Forensic Consulting Services**
- Backlog Reduction/Elimination Services**
- Attorney Services**
- Multi-Level Competency Testing for LPE's**
- Proficiency Testing for LPE's**
- ISO Accreditation Mentoring**

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Contact us today to discuss your specific needs.

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www.RonSmithandAssociates.com

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### **News Around the Globe**

[New Dundee University centre to address forensic 'crisis'](#)

BBC News

"Forensic science is a highly valued

[Forensic Analyst- Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Non-tenure faculty position](#), Penn State, Forensic Science, University Park, PA, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Forensic Scientist I/II – Latent Prints](#), Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Las Vegas, Expires: December 7, 2015

[Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science](#), Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2015

[Senior DNA Examiner](#), PAE, Fort Gillem, Georgia, Expires: December 8, 2015

[Senior Latent Print Examiner](#), PAE, Fort Gillem, Georgia, Expires: December 8, 2015

[Laboratory Manager I – Forensic Chemistry Unit](#), Delaware Division of Forensic Science, Wilmington, DE, Expires: February 27, 2016



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

**Bode's newest offerings include:**

[Bode's Annual DNA & Investigators Conference](#), November 9-12, 2015 in



component of the criminal justice ...  
fingerprinting to DNA analysis and we  
have to raise the bar in the standards of ...

[Why forensic evidence may not be as certain as we'd like to think it is](#)

Irish Times

Since then he has worked with forensic labs and police services around the world, including the FBI and London Metropolitan Police, in an effort to ...

[Drug task forces cut short after lack of funding, denied grants](#)

whnt.com

COLBERT COUNTY, Ala. (WHNT) - After budget cuts hit state agencies a few months back, most drug task forces got cut short.

[How a unique drug test at the Hamilton County Crime Laboratory can change federal case outcomes](#)

WCPO

The lab has five divisions — trace evidence, DNA, toxicology, firearms and drugs. “Essentially they can’t go to court without a forensic lab report, so our ...

[Crime lab fees to nearby counties to increase dramatically](#)

13WHAM-TV

Yet the sometimes-complicated tests

Old Town Alexandria, providing DNA training on the latest techniques and technologies to the forensic scientific community.

[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.

[\*\*Forensic Conferences\*\*](#)

February 22-27, 2016: [American Academy of Forensic Science](#) – Las Vegas, NV

March 14-15, 2016: [Genetics in Forensics Congress](#) – London

April 3-8, 2016: [International Association for Chemical Testing](#) – Orlando, FL

performed at the Monroe County Crime Lab come with a hefty price tag that will sky-rocket to almost double next ...

[5000 Rape Kits Untested in New Mexico: Seattle Streetcar Line Nears Finish Line](#)

Route Fifty

The Associated Press reports that at least 5,000 “rape kits” are sitting untested in the state's crime labs and that it would take years and millions of ...

[Ohio AG updates sexual assault kit testing initiative](#)

Gallipolis Daily Tribune

The law also requires that all newly collected rape kits be submitted to a crime lab within 30 days after law enforcement determines a crime has been ...

[Police look for money for new cop](#)

Wisconsin Rapids Tribune

State Crime Lab numbers show Wood County has heroin numbers that compare more closely to Milwaukee, Dane and Brown counties, Detective-Lt.

[AOS zero-contact fingerprint recognition system now FBI-certified](#)

Biometric Update

This is the first non-contact fingerprint system to be certified by the FBI. ... problems associated with contact devices

May 5-7, 2016: [2nd Annual Middle East Congress of the International Association of Law and Forensic Sciences \(IALFS\)](#) – Istanbul, Turkey

May 17-20, 2016: [Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientist \(MAAFS\)](#) – Richmond, VA

May 28-June 3, 2016: [The Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners](#) – New Orleans, LA

Aug 7-13, 2016: [International Association for Identification](#) – Cincinnati, OH

Sep 18-23, 2016: [International Symposium on the Forensic Sciences](#) – Auckland, New Zealand

Oct 3-7, 2016: [Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientist \(MAFS\)](#) – Branson, Missouri

Oct 10-14, 2016: [15th Annual AFQAM Conference](#) – Little Rock, AR

**Accreditation Training**

**ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)** ANAB is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands. ANAB provides

due to the lack of latent prints.

[Lyon University signs MoU with Manipal University on Forensics research](#)

Times of India

The MoU also envisages conducting joint ventures in Toxicological lab, ... of France, also Head of Forensic Medicine in University Lyon I (Lyon Sud), ...

[State official: At least \\$1.7M needed to process untested rape kits](#)

taosnews

John Krebsbach, director of the Albuquerque police crime lab, said part of the reason that untested rape kits date as far back as the late 1980s is that ...

[Erie County has to solve toxicology lab delays that threaten to impact criminal cases](#)

Buffalo News

The Erie County toxicology lab has been struggling to process a flood of new cases that is creating an alarming backlog that could compromise ...

[IUPD investigates increased number reported sexual assaults](#)

Indiana Daily Student

Bed sheets, pillowcases and underwear are among items commonly sent to a state police crime lab to be processed for DNA

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**

Cost: ASQ member \$600, non-ASQ member \$650

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

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.

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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](#)

evidence, Stephenson ...

[John A. Byrd and Joseph R. John Sr.:  
Crime lab progress lauded; flaws of past  
exaggerated](#)

Fayetteville Observer

In short, North Carolina State Crime Lab forensic scientists follow precise ... In addition, the lab has added robotic DNA extraction to significantly ...

[County toxicology lab swamped by surge  
in drug cases, fatal overdoses](#)

Buffalo News

It is taking longer for Erie County's toxicology lab to provide test results because of a surge in drug cases and fatal overdoses, as well as newer ...

[Drug map reveals the substances YOUR  
country is addicted to: Scotland is hooked  
on cocaine ...](#)

Daily Mail

From the number of users, to how many people die from drug overdoses, a map has been created that shows the extent of addiction across the globe

[Forensic artist creates faces, helps to  
solve mysteries](#)

Timesonline.com

Michelle Vitali, a forensic artist and professor of art at Edinboro University, is

[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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[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.

helping to identify an embalmed head found in Economy a year ago.

[GOP calls for expanding DNA sampling for violent crimes](#)

Delaware First Media

State representative Ron Gray argues in the latest GOP message that Delaware's DNA sampling requirement should be expanded to include those ...

[Even As Guns Proliferate In The US, Official Data On Firearms Remain Scarce](#)

International Business Times

Franco is a cancer epidemiologist, not an expert in firearms and public ... maintains on car safety and accidents, including analysis of crash scenes.

[Pending cases pile up at forensic laboratory](#)

Ahmedabad Mirror

The forensic sciences lab at Gandhinagar has as many as 188 cases of forensic examination pending in the questioned documents section this year, ...

[Drug crime rate highest in Polson](#)

Daily Inter Lake

At the time, the Montana State Crime Lab had a backlog for evidence analysis that resulted in an average of a nine-month wait from the time someone ...

[New East Patrol police facilities will help solve crimes and revive neighborhoods](#)

Kansas City Star

The state-of-the-art equipment and spacious, naturally lighted interior of the Kansas City Police Department's new East Patrol Division and crime lab ...

[Cuyahoga County opens regional fingerprint lab](#)

cleveland.com

CLEVELAND, Ohio - The Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory has opened a fingerprint lab to handle cases at no charge for all ...

[NYC Medical Examiner's DNA lab gets perfect score on accreditation review for the first time ever](#)

New York Daily News

The city's Medical Examiner's DNA lab received a perfect score for the first time on ... After a thorough on-site assessment of the ME's forensic biology ...

[Cut to police DNA testing triggers feud between province and municipalites](#)

CBC.ca

A dispute between cities and the British Columbia government over funding of police DNA testing has erupted into a nasty public sparring match.

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