



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS, INC.**

139 A Technology Drive Garner, NC 27529

December 22, 2015

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Attn: Scientific Inquiry and Research Subcommittee

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors represents more than 600 members of crime laboratory directors and forensic science managers dedicated to providing excellence in forensic science through leadership and innovation. The membership represents both private and public institutions from all 50 states in the U.S. and eighteen countries from across the globe. Our mission is to promote the effectiveness of crime laboratory leaders throughout the world by facilitating communication among members, sharing critical information, providing relevant training, promoting crime laboratory accreditation, and encouraging scientific and managerial excellence in the global forensic science community.

ASCLD is dedicated to advancing forensic science through a multitude of initiatives including the National Commission on Forensic Science. ASCLD currently has twenty-five members serving on the Commission and its subcommittees. The efforts of the Commission are important and have significant implications for the entire criminal justice community. As a result, the ASCLD Board of Directors offers the following comments, recommendations, and impact statements for consideration by the subcommittee for the "Establishing the Foundational Literature within the Forensic Science Disciplines".

ASCLD remains ready to be a continuing resource to assist the Commission and the Department of Justice in the development of these important work products for the forensic science community so that a broader based acceptance and implementation of these products may be realized.

Regards,

ASCLD Board of Directors



The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

"Excellence Through Leadership in Forensic Science Management"

ASCLD Board Comments

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

The ASCLD Board of directors supports the view of the NCFS on **Establishing the Foundational Literature within the Forensic Science Disciplines**" and requests that it be made a Directive Recommendation to the Attorney General and incorporates the following recommendations.

1. **"The NCFS recommends that the Attorney General task NIJ with a comprehensive literature review in forensic science using the criteria put forward in this document. It is further recommended that NIJ be tasked with partnering with groups such as national crime lab leadership organizations, national and regional forensic organizations, researchers, and other experts with technical expertise to evaluate each article using a defined value rating criteria or matrix."**
2. **"The NCFS recommends that the Attorney General provide funding and direction to NIJ to provide an access portal to scientific research for public federal, state, and local FSSPs and FSMPs. This could be accomplished by treating public FSSPs and FSMPs as a small university for access into journals through a commercially available licensing agreement or through some other means identified by NIJ."**
3. **"The NCFS recommends that the Attorney General requests more funding in the DOJ budget request for NIJ to accomplish basic and applied forensic science research."**

ASCLD is dedicated to the advancement of forensic science and the path forward must include efforts and resources for foundational research and investigation. Additionally, it is critical this information is continually made available to all practitioners and organizations responsible for the practice of forensic science at no cost to ensure the information is being disseminated across the community.

ASCLD Board of Directors