



### President Message

Greetings Colleagues,

The following recap of the December National Commission on Forensic Science meeting is provided by Past President Dean Gialamas.

NCFS Committee Report:

Source: Dean M. Gialamas, MS, ASCLD Past President

The National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS) held its eighth meeting on December 7-8, in Washington, DC, and is scheduled to meet for its ninth meeting on March 21-22, 2016. The Commission is still moving forward with accomplishments, having 42 documents in some state of work with 15 documents approved by the Commission. The work products have focused on foundation, operational, and application-related issues.

Some highlights from the last meeting include:

CO-CHAIR COMMENTS: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Yates announced the completed review of six work products. Some work products were approved and others were not and were being sent back with comments. There was some disappointment by Commissioners on the DAG not sharing the comments with Commissioners prior to the meeting. There was also disappointment with the lack of support for the Medicolegal Death Investigation work products. DAG Yates also briefed the Commission on the status of their endorsement of mandatory accreditation by 2020. (You can find the press release here: <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-new-accreditation-policies-advance-forensic-science> < Caution-<http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-new-accreditation-policies-advance-forensic-science> > .) This announcement was a huge step for the Commission and a bold statement by the Department of Justice in supporting the efforts of the Commission.

	<p><a href="#">Justice Department Announces New Accreditation Policies to ...</a> <a href="http://www.justice.gov">www.justice.gov</a>   950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001. Footer Menu. Left Column. ABOUT. The Attorney General; Budget &amp; Performance; Strategic Plans</p>
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COMMISSION BUSINESS: The NCFS Subcommittee on Procedures and Operations (SPO) presented additional work on by-laws amendments since the last meeting. The changes were not voted upon due to some clerical errors in the draft document. Templates of the reports from subcommittees were introduced and will be used for keeping records of subcommittee activities. Future meetings will use electronic binders and they will be held at the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) offices again.

There was a strategy session held on the second day to discuss next steps for the Commission. Each subcommittee was asked to prioritize their work so the Commission can spend more time on topics and issues that are determined a high priority at each meeting. Documents will also be submitted with tracked changes so Commissioners and the public know how the documents have changed.

#### SUB-COMMITTEE WORK PRODUCTS:

##### Reporting and Testimony Subcommittee Report

Final Document PASSED by Vote: Views Document on Report Content

- \* Re-introduction of Draft Work Product Open for Public Comment: Views Document on using the term "Reasonable Degree of Scientific Certainty"
- \* Status Reports: Abstract on Access of Indigents to Defense Experts; Abstract on Notice and Demand Rules; Abstract on Judicial Vouching for Expert Witnesses

##### Scientific Inquiry and Research Subcommittee Report

- \* Introduction of Draft Work Products Open for Public Comment: 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 Report

- \* Introduction of Draft Work Products Open for Public Comment: Views document on a National Code of Professional Responsibility (re-introduction); Recommendation on Accessibility of Quality Management System Documents

##### Human Factors Subcommittee Report

- \* Final Document PASSED by Vote: Views document on Ensuring that Forensic Analysis is Based Upon Task-Relevant Information

##### Training on Science and Law Subcommittee Report

- \* Final Document PASSED by Vote: National Forensic Science Curriculum
- \* Status Report: Abstract on Assessment Tools; Abstract on Notification

##### Accreditation and Proficiency Testing Subcommittee Report

- \* Introduction of Draft Work Product Open for Public Comment: Views Document on Proficiency Testing in Forensic Science; Views Document on Critical Steps to Accreditation
- \* Status Reports: Abstract on Uniform Policy and Procedures for Accreditation Programs

The next Commission Meeting dates have been set, and they are:

- \* March 21-22, 2016
- \* June 20-21, 2016
- \* September 12-13, 2016
- \* January 9-10, 2017
- \* April 10-11, 2017

To stay up to date on the activities and work products of the Commission, members are encouraged to [visit Caution-www.justice.gov/ncfs](http://www.justice.gov/ncfs) < Caution-http://www.justice.gov/ncfs > .

Thanks!  
--Jody

Next ASCLD Board Teleconference: January 22nd.

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ASCLD's Training and Education Committee is hosting a webinar series titled: ASCLD "Train the Directors" Webinar Series. The series will consist of presentations on six forensic disciplines: Firearms, Toxicology, Controlled Substances, Digital and Multimedia Evidence, Latent Prints and DNA. The goal of the webinar series is to provide education to Directors and Supervisors who may not have performed work in or supervised those disciplines. Each webinar will provide a basic overview of the analysis performed in the discipline. It will also discuss discipline specific administrative/managerial challenges and address current

issues and/or challenges facing the forensic science community in the discipline.

The webinars will be held Thursdays at 1:00 PM ET from January 14 to February 18, 2016. Registration links will be coming soon in the CLM and on ASCLD's website.

The first webinar on January 14 will be on the Firearms discipline and the speakers will be Col. Timothy P. Scanlan, Laboratory Services Commander, and Supervisor Jene' Rauch of Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

Nominations for the Board of Directors are now being accepted and will be voted on by the membership during the business meeting at the upcoming symposium in April 2016 in Bellevue WA. There will be three (3) vacancies to fill this year. If you are interested in getting more involved in the organization, this is a great way to do so. Please email your nominations to [cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us](mailto:cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us) by February 1, 2016.

It is also that time of year to submit nominations for the prestigious Briggs White Award. The award was established at the direction of past President Bill Hartner to recognize an ASCLD member, past or present, who demonstrated managerial excellence in forensic science. Nominations are being accepted and a recommendation from the committee will be forwarded to the Board of Directors. If the Board concurs with the committee's recommendation, the award plaque will be presented at the annual banquet. Please submit nominations through the ASCLD website by February 1, 2016 to be considered at this year's symposium.

If you have any questions please contact Nomination and Awards committee chair Cecilia Doyle at [cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us](mailto:cecilia.doyle@isp.state.il.us).





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## **News Around the Globe**

### Improving Evidence Testing at Crime Lab

Wheeling Intelligencer

Drug dealers should not be allowed weeks or even months of freedom before trial to pursue their evil trade - or flee from justice in West Virginia - while ...

### Local officials optimistic about locating forensic lab at UNA

Times Daily

28, to discuss the logistics of a proposal that would open a private forensic lab on the UNA campus. The proposal calls for the lab to initially do drug ...

## **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 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)

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Ron Smith & Associates Training

### **January 2016**

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

[Eastern Montana crime lab close to opening](#)

KTVH

HELENA, MT (AP) – Officials are preparing to open a new state crime lab to test and identify drugs in eastern Montana as soon as January.

[Florida eyes federal grants to help clear rape kit backlog](#)

Miami Herald

FDLE's crime labs are barely keeping up with the 2,400 rape kits it gets ... of increasing workloads and high turnover rates among lab personnel.

[Sheriff: Wake becoming distribution hub for drug lords](#)

WRAL.com

Wake County is attractive to large-scale drug traffickers because of the Triangle's population base, easy connections to Interstates 40, 85 and 95 and ...

[Number of FIRs: Islamabad Police claim reduction in crime](#)

The Express Tribune

The project of a forensic lab facility for capital police has been pending with the ... Currently, the Islamabad Police are getting forensic tests done by the ...

[Should state collect DNA on felony arrests?](#)

The Courier-Journal

Some of the kits, which contain samples of DNA, sat in evidence lockers, some sat on desks at the state police crime lab and others had been thrown ...

[Forensic lab gets its act together](#)

The Hindu

The Delhi government will now ensure that reports of all DNA samples collected from Friday will be prepared within 30 days of receipt of the sample ...

Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination

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 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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[Lawmakers pushing bill mandating DOJ destroy](#)

[DNA samples](#)

News8000.com - WKBT

A bipartisan group of Wisconsin legislators is trying to move a bill mandating the state destroy defendants' DNA samples if they're found innocent.

[An unsolved mystery in forensic toxicology](#)

separationsNOW.com

First synthesised in 1874, heroin is derived from morphine, a natural product of the opium poppy. The drug is internationally controlled and illegal to ...

[2015 In review: Drug overdoses continue to climb](#)

Mansfield News Journal

Editor's Note: This story is part of the News Journal's 2015 year in review. MANSFIELD - Drug overdoses and drug overdose deaths continued to rise ...

[Could bizarre skulls with 'non-human' DNA be proof of aliens on Earth?](#)

Express.co.uk

CLAIMS that bizarre skulls with elongated craniums that were dug up in complex burial chambers could be the remains of aliens are causing a store ...

[EXCLUSIVE: TSA seized a record 2442 firearms from carry-on luggage, pockets in US airports in ...](#)

New York Daily News

... seized a record 2,442 firearms from carry-on luggage and pockets in airports across the country in 2015, according to a Daily News analysis.

[Local DNA testing key in fighting crime](#)

Chronicle

"The lab is a critical weapon in fighting crime. We work with the Bulawayo CID Homicide in solving break-ins, rape and murder cases. We have worked ...

[Model drug testing laboratory to have int'l standard facilities: Secy](#)

Pakistan Today

Model drug testing laboratory to have int'l standard facilities: Secy ... other items will be purchased from company supplying these items to forensic lab.

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:](#)



Postmortem Interpretive Toxicology

Where: Philadelphia, PA

When: January 25-29, 2016

Course Fee: \$1,500

The Center for Forensic Science Research & Education presents its 4<sup>th</sup> annual in-depth course in interpretive postmortem toxicology. This is one of the most challenging areas of forensic science, given the complex range of considerations that need to be applied in performing analysis, and reporting and interpreting results. Factors from choice of samples, collections tubes, postmortem redistribution, analytical approach, drug-drug interactions and tolerance all play a part in providing accurate and reliable interpretive input for the pathologist or medical examiner.

Register today:

<http://forensicscienceeducation.org/postmortem-interpretive-toxicology/>

Learn

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



[Saskatchewan's lone forensic pathologist a voice for the dead](#)

Saskatoon StarPhoenix

As a forensic pathologist in Pittsburgh, it wasn't uncommon for Dr. Shaun Ladham to perform as many as seven autopsies a day. Homicides happened ...

[Labour claims 2500 drug cases unsolved due to forensic service cuts](#)

Glasgow South and Eastwood Extra

"We have invested £73 million to create the Scottish Crime Campus at Gartcosh and Scotland now has one of the leading DNA facilities in Europe as a ...

[Medical Marijuana Lawyers Want Crime Lab Removed From Michigan State Police](#)

WEMU

A group of criminal defense attorneys says the Michigan State Police should no longer oversee the state crime lab. Jake Neher reports.

[DC forensics lab to resume DNA testing in January](#)

FOX 5 DC

Dr. Smith, who at one time was the FBI's DNA unit chief, said she found a ... When the crime lab first opened, sources familiar with the way it was ... this is really a good news story for the entire forensic DNA community," said Smith.

[Puerto Rico to allow convicts to request certain DNA testing](#)

Yahoo News

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Puerto Rico's governor has signed a law that will allow convicted criminals to request DNA analyses on certain types ...

[Forensic crisis as lone pathologist falls ill](#)

Trinidad Guardian

Operations at the mortuary at the Forensic Science Centre ground to a halt yesterday as the lone pathologist on duty called in sick. It was not until after ...



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

A dark blue rectangular graphic with a gold border. At the top, the words "COMMITTED", "CONNECTED", and "FOCUSED" are stacked in white, bold, uppercase letters. The letter "O" in "FOCUSED" is replaced by a magnifying glass icon. Below the text is the circular logo of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Laboratory Accreditation Board, which features a red and gold design with the letters "ALAB" in the center. At the bottom, the text "Learn more about our accreditation programs and learning opportunities by visiting us online." is written in white, followed by the website address "ascld-lab.org" in a larger white font.

[Cities seek new deals for crime lab services](#)

MyDaytonDailyNews

A contract reached between the city of Dayton and the Miami Valley Regional Crime Lab underscores the challenges facing the lab and might ...



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 forensics and law enforcement applications.

## [Employment Opportunities](#)

[Forensic Toxicologist](#), Travis County, Austin, Texas, Expires: January 17, 2016

[Forensic Program Chief – Career Executive](#), Wisconsin Department of Justice, Wausau, Crime Laboratory, Expires: January 11, 2016

[ASCLD/LAB Accreditation Program Manager](#), ASCLD/LAB, Garner, NC (an off-site work location may be approved at the discretion of the Executive Director), Expires: January 8, 2016

[Forensic Scientist III – Controlled Substance Unit](#), City of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: January 24, 2016

**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.



[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 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.



[Quality Assurance Manager \(Forensic Scientist IV-Supervisor\)](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: January 4, 2016

[Criminalist Trainee/II \(recruiting for one position – open at all levels\)](#), Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, Expires: February 1, 2016

[Criminalist II/Senior](#), City of Thornton, Thornton, CO, Expires: January 11, 2016

[Forensic Scientist – Firearms & Toolmarks](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: January 5, 2016

[Forensic Science Expertise Opportunities \(DNA, Toxicology/Chemistry, Toolmarks/Firearms, & Latent Prints\)](#), National Forensic Science Technology Center, Atlanta, GA and/or various OCONUS locations based on government requirements, Expires: March 11, 2016

[Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science](#), Department of Forensic Science, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, Expires: December 31, 2016

[Forensic Laboratory Director](#), Solano County, Fairfield, CA, Expires: January 12, 2016

[Supervisor – Biology Section](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: January 6, 2016

[Supervisor – Chemistry Section](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation Forensic Science Laboratory, Topeka, Kansas, Expires: January 6, 2016

[Forensic Scientist – Questioned Documents](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: January 31, 2016

[Forensic Scientist – Firearm Examiner](#), Fort Worth Police Crime Laboratory, Fort Worth,

## **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

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 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

Texas, Expires: March 8, 2016

[Forensic Scientist – Trace Evidence Examiner](#),  
Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory, Dayton,  
OH, Expires: January 22, 2016

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

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

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

### **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 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.

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