



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear Colleagues,

Each of our Crime Labs typically work on thousands of cases each year. Each case we touch has its own unique story, a story we help to tell. Our findings frequently provide answers to questions regarding who did or did not commit a crime and circumstances surrounding a case, furthering investigations, judicial proceedings and giving closure to families. The valuable work performed every day becomes our norm, and we do not frequently take time to celebrate the successes that routinely occur along the way. Very importantly, the value of our work is most evident through the cases we impact, and the stories that we almost take for granted as "it is just part of our job" provide that illustration.

Please consider sharing one of your lab's great casework success with our community. RTI International in partnership with the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, a program of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice, produces a podcast called "Just Science". The Just Science podcast is designed to reach a broad audience of forensic scientists and other professionals who collaborate with the forensic science community. As part of the podcast series, the FTCoE would like to interview any ASCLD members who would like to share interesting or unusual criminal cases, now closed or adjudicated, where forensic science was critical to the outcome of the case.

The goal is to provide the audience with a positive view of the importance of forensic science in criminal investigations. The timing of the cases is not important, although preference will be given to cases involving some personal experience and that can be subject of an in-depth conversation. The audio-only recording usually takes 40 to 60 minutes, depending on the content, and all disciplines are welcome. We would like to do the recordings during the ASCLD annual symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. The available dates are Tuesday May 22 & Wednesday May 23, 2018 and we can accommodate your schedule. Please visit <https://forensiccoe.org/ascldpodcast/> to submit your bio, headshot, consent, and a short overview of the case and methods used. This is a great way to disseminate your, or your crime laboratory's work to a wide audience, hopefully sparking conversations, new ideas, and inspiring others within the field to approach cases in alternative ways.

For additional information contact Julian Lee at julianlee@rti.org or call 919-485-5624. We look forward to hearing your casework story. Please share so others can gain from your experience.

Ray Wickenheiser

ASCLD President

Guest-Speaker Line Up

In addition to the many outstanding speakers we have from within our own community, we have invited several guest speakers to share their perspectives and insights.

Director Alan Hanson
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Ambassador Thomas Miller
3-time U.S. Ambassador
Current CEO of International Executive Service Corps

Lt. General John Regni
Base Commander
Former Superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy

Nathan Bennett
Georgia State Business School—Managing poor performance

Fred Jewell
Author—We can't do it alone, building influence with simple strategies

Paul Speaker, PhD
WVU Business School—Business Metrics in Labs

Director Alan Hanson
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Converting to the 2017 Version of ISO 17025

The awaited switch to the new 2017 edition of ISO/IEC 17025 has finally happened, but are you ready for it? We will present strategies and priorities for bringing your laboratory into compliance.

[Register for 2018 ASCLD Symposium](#)



ASCLD Bring Your Own Slides Sign-up

Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (TENTATIVE – session length may be adjusted)

Location: Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel (Room TBD)

Bring Your Own Slides at ASCLD 2018

NEW to the ASCLD symposium in 2018 is an opportunity for crime laboratory leaders to Bring Your Own Slides and participate in an informal, evening discussion on shared challenges and solutions in our

laboratories.

The Bring Your Own Slides session will be held on Wednesday evening, May 23. If you would like to share a problem or a novel solution to a problem that you have encountered in your laboratory, please sign up to provide a brief (approximately 5 minutes) overview. Time will then be allotted for questions and discussion on the topic so that all attendees may benefit from each other's shared expertise.

Bring Your Own Slides topics should be:

- **Brief** – describe the problem or solution in approximately 5 minutes to allow time for questions and/or discussion
- **Unique** – describe a new/relevant problem or a novel solution to an old problem
- **Relevant** – topics should apply to managers within a crime laboratory

Space is limited to approximately 10-15 topics/presentations. Presentations will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis.

If you would like to sign up, please submit the form found [HERE](#) to Jeremy Triplett at Jeremy.triplett@asclcd.org.

Symposium Highlights

Laboratory Performance Metrics

In addition to several presentations that will cover the important topic of improving how laboratories monitor and measure their performance, we will have representatives also presenting from Business schools who will share strategies and tips for improving your laboratory's overall approach to business.

Social Events

For our more adventurous symposium attendees, we've arranged some fun and interesting leisure outings. These include a golf tournament and a visit to the Atlanta Aquarium where we will enjoy a catered dinner, networking opportunities, a scavenger hunt, a backstage tour of the large tank, and some important talks by emerging DNA technology companies.

Workshops

As is customary before the start of our symposium, the learning begins on Sunday and Monday during our workshop sessions:

- A2LA—preconference free webinars on preparing to transition to 17025:2017
- ANAB—conference workshop on transitioning to 17025:2017
- DVI workshop in conjunction with DOJ/NIJ/DHS
- Working with the Media and Crisis Communication
- Arbinger Institute—outward mindset workshop
- Getting into project FORESIGHT
- Quality Management topics (validation, root cause analysis, expert testimony)
- Management topics (working with government officials, SWOT, improving morale, using metrics)



BJA funded the CSG Justice Center to produce 50 state-specific workbooks that contain more than 60 data visualizations showing historical trends and data comparisons related to crime, arrests, recidivism, and correctional populations. Top officials from every state contributed to the research effort that culminated in these workbooks, which were developed to provide a framework for discussions that took place at the 50-

State Summit on Public Safety held in November 2017 in Washington, DC. These workbooks compliment a larger 50-State Report that will be released in the coming months.

See the state workbooks [here!](https://50statespublicsafety.us/)
<https://50statespublicsafety.us/>



We were honored to have the U.S. Ambassador, the President of the [Costa Rican Supreme Court](#) and the [Director of the Costa Rican Organization of Judicial Investigations](#) open the conference.

<http://fordhamlawreview.org/online/>

- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/scientific-excellence-in-the-forensic-science-community/
- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/scientific-validity-and-error-rates-a-short-response-to-the-pcast-report/
- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/the-reliability-of-the-adversarial-system-to-assess-the-scientific-validity-of-forensic-evidence/

Project FORESIGHT

ASCLD has arranged for a special workshop at the ASCLD symposium this year. We have been working with West Virginia University on Project FORESIGHT for quite some time. ASCLD further has been working on getting the LIMS vendors for more automated reporting of Project Foresight metrics. We want more labs to get involved in this project and we hope to show you how to start gathering this data and reporting it.

FORESIGHT and FORESIGHT 2020: A Formula for Success

How is your lab performing? Do you know--*really know*? What's your internal progress compared to last year or the year before or the last 5 years? Have you added or changed new processes? Has management or your administration changed and do you need to make arguments for better resources? Where does your lab stand compared to other labs of its size or caseload?

FORESIGHT was created in 2008 as a business benchmarking process for forensic laboratories to analyze, evaluate, and share their performance. Since then, it has been used by hundreds of laboratories around the world to improve effectiveness and efficiency of laboratory services to stakeholders. But many managers are unsure what might be required to participate, how to collect, submit, and (agonizingly) analyze the data they need to be part of FORESIGHT? This workshop will walk you through the process of FORESIGHT from start to finish, giving you the tools you need to fill out the Laboratory Reporting and Analysis Tool (LabRAT) and what the FORESIGHT 2020 project means for you. Using FORESIGHT has gotten easier as well and even basic input can yield useful operational information--you don't necessarily need every scrap of data you might think you need. With FORESIGHT 2020, a software project that links LIMS to FORESIGHT, it is now easier than ever to improve a laboratory's function, gain insights to process improvements, and make arguments for resources that persuade decision makers.

This workshop will provide an overview of benchmarking and process improvement, FORESIGHT as a method for laboratory analysis and evaluation, and the uses of FORESIGHT 2020 to provide immediate and clear feedback about laboratory performance. Participants will gain a better understanding of how industries self-analyze, what the forensic enterprise has done to create a culture of improvement through benchmarking, and how FORESIGHT provides superior feedback in context for laboratories to achieve greater efficiencies. No experience with FORESIGHT is necessary--new users, experienced users, and "tire-kickers" are all welcome.

Learn how to use "big data" to your advantage, make the case for the resources you need, and deliver better services with greater efficiency using FORESIGHT. Join us for this workshop!

The FORESIGHT 2020 project needs volunteer labs using STaCS

Does your laboratory use STaCS software? Would you be willing to get great business process data from your system to compare to other labs? The FORESIGHT 2020 project needs volunteer labs using STaCS to have the FORESIGHT 2020 module installed and validated.

The project is funded by the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, so there is no cost to your lab.

If you're interested, contact Max Houck at mmhouck@forensicsintelligence.net or at [727-346-8285](tel:727-346-8285).

2LA – ASCLD Webinar Series

Presenters:
Brittney Bryant & Timothy Osborne

In the fall of 2017, a revision to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard for testing and calibration laboratories was published. The standard was revised to ensure consistency with other standards, such as ISO/IEC 17020 for inspection bodies (e.g. crime scene units), and includes several changes to the approach of conformity assessment and documentation of a management system.

To assist the forensic community, the A2LA forensic accreditation program and A2LA training program has partnered with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) to offer ASCLD members and their organizational staff a series of educational webinars focusing on the changes to and transition to the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard. These webinars are to be attended in series and act to prepare all levels of forensic personnel to transition to the 2017 version of ISO/IEC 17025.

This training will be offered free of charge for our membership by logging on to the following link on the ASCLD website:

<https://www.asclcd.org/meetings-and-training/forensic-conferences-training/>

This A2LA–ASCLD four-part webinar series will be present by Brittney Bryant and Timothy Osborne in two hour blocks. The schedule and course description are provided below.

Class 1 - April 17th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class focuses on business management changes to ISO/IEC 17025 (the Standard) that might affect an organization's structure, policies, processes or documentation.

4/17 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/i4iv3zduiv0n&eom>

Class 2 - April 19th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class emphasizes the significant changes between ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and 2017, with special focus on impartiality, confidentiality, the process and risk-based mindset, and continuous improvement.

4/19 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/iynpjfc6p6wh&eom>

Class 3 - April 24th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class is designed for bench-level staff and provides an outline of changes to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard from 2005 to 2017 that will directly affect day-to-day operations.

4/24 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/8y8tvj8ow2ho&eom>

Class 4 - April 26th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class is meant for all levels of laboratory personnel and builds on discussion held during the previous three courses. This seminar will focus on ISO's requirements for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 transition with emphasis on how the laboratory director, middle management, and laboratory staff work together as a team to identify opportunities for improvement, implement effective changes and ensure coordinated efforts are successful by identifying key metrics to manage success.

4/26 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/mtdzpcavazg2&eom>

Forensic Science in the News

[Scientists decry a lack of actual science in forensic methods](#)

"We wanted to alert people that this is a continuing and a major issue: that many of the forensic techniques used today to put people in jail have no scientific backing," says Casadevall, who chairs the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

[Forensic science has toolkit for identifying the unknown dead](#)

When investigators don't have any idea who the person is, they can work up a profile of age, gender and possibly other demographic information, and based on when they think the person died, search for missing person's cases matching the description. Then if they get hits they can match DNA from the body to samples provided by the missing person's relatives.

[Familial DNA Used to Solve Arizona Cold Case](#)

His arrest in Phoenix at 9:57 a.m. this morning marks the culmination of an intense three year investigation into Allison's senseless death. That investigation, and today's arrest was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Scottsdale Police Department, Arizona Governor's Office, Arizona State Attorney General's Office, Department of Public Safety and the Maricopa County Attorney's Office.

[Investigative Reporter Hsu Discusses 'Uncovering Forensic Flaws' at Law Review Symposium](#)

His 2012 series on weaknesses in forensic science was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize gold medal for public service. He reported that the Justice Department had been aware for years that certain forensic testing was flawed, which may have led to innocent people being convicted. The focus was on the unit dealing with microscopic hair analysis.

[Dhahi Khalfan Tamim opens Emirates Forensic 2018](#)

The Emirates International Forensic Conference and Exhibition was inaugurated by Dubai Deputy Chief of Police and Public Security and Emirates Forensic Honorary Chairman Lt. Gen. Dhahi Khalfan Tamim.

[Mystery solved of unknown justice portrait displayed in courthouse](#)

At an event at the John Adams Courthouse today, Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Ralph D. Gants welcomed members of the public who helped identify the mystery of the unknown justice as the Honorable Lemuel Shaw, where they were invited to view the portrait and the attachment of the name plate to the portrait frame. A direct descendant of Lemuel Shaw who reached out to the court after learning about the identity of the justice in the portrait also attended the event.

[Rape Kit Backlog Reaches Zero](#)

The Austin Police Department's notorious rape kit backlog is no more. Dana Kadavy, executive director of the department's Forensic Science Division, confirmed the department's remaining 2,251 untested kits have been sent out for testing to contracted labs.

[Argentine police claiming mice ate half a ton of cannabis sacked](#)

Eight police officers in Argentina's Pilar have been sacked after more than half a ton of cannabis kept in a depot went missing, the Guardian reported on Wednesday.

[After Decades on Death Row, William Montgomery Was Granted a Reprieve. Yet His Dubious Conviction Still Stands.](#)

Montgomery has insisted on his innocence for more than 30 years. In early March, forensic experts flew on their own dime to speak at his clemency hearing in Columbus. "As a forensic scientist, I normally do not get involved in petitions and politics," Richard Eikelenboom, of the Colorado-based Independent Forensic Services, wrote on his website, linking to a Change.org page created by Montgomery's supporters. "But in this case there is so much at stake."

[Is Lifetime's 'Twin Betrayal' Based On A True Story? Crime & Twins Have A Wild History](#)

According to Schmadeke, Smith had recently been convicted of armed robbery and murder and was already sentenced to 99 years in prison. He had nothing to lose by confessing to his brother's murder, and so decided to give it a shot. At the time the article was published, there was no word on whether or not Smith would be convicted and Dugar would be acquitted. The Illinois Department of Corrections reports that Dugar is still in prison, as is Smith.

[Lawmakers want to reduce 250-day backlog in Iowa crime lab](#)

A House Ways and Means subcommittee advanced a bill that, according to a fiscal analysis, would increase funds for court technology by \$8.4 million and the Division of Criminal Investigation crime lab by \$2.1 million.

[Billionaire Ken Griffin Donates \\$10M To Help Fight Chicago Crime](#)

Griffin's donation will help expand the collaboration between CPD and the University of Chicago Crime Lab, which has been working with the city to incorporate smart policing into the crime-fighting strategy through the strategic decision support centers.

[4,000 sexual assault kits remain untested in ABQ crime lab](#)

Albuquerque leaders say there are 4,000 untested rape kits at the city's crime lab. Mayor Tim Keller says 740 have been tested in the four months since he took office. Keller is asking city council to approve using \$2 million a year for two years to clear the backlog.

[3 On Your Side Investigates: Grave Consequences](#)

"They're doing external autopsies where they draw tox, take an x-ray, and look at medical records, and not cutting them, not doing a full examination to determine what was going on," Burton said. "I don't like it at all."

[DNA identifies decades-old Ohio homicide victim](#)

Authorities said they have identified a woman who was strangled to death and found beside Greenlee Road in April 1981 using ground-breaking DNA techniques.

[Until recently, police in Columbus, Ohio couldn't differentiate between rape kits and shopping carts](#)

Such is the case with the Columbus, Ohio Police Department, which until March 2017 used to categorize sexual assault evidence kits as "other," lumping crucial DNA evidence into the same category as shopping carts.

[Baltimore Civilian Review Board reports findings from Keith Davis Jr. case](#)

The review board pointed to a crime lab investigation that showed a gun that police say had Davis's

fingerprints on it was never fired and all the bullets fired on the scene were from officers.

[CA 'rape kit' backlog under fire](#)

Several California legislators are encouraging law enforcement agencies to test sexual assault kits at a faster rate and audit enormous backlogs. The Senate Public Safety Committee passed Senate Bill 1449 last week in an attempt to offer victims justice and stop serial rapists.

[Jane Doe no more: Miami County sheriff IDs cold case victim 37 years later](#)

"Law enforcement never forgets," Sheriff Dave Duchak said in announcing the identification made using new genetic genealogy tools by the nonprofit DNA Doe Project with confirmation by the Miami Valley Regional Crime Lab.

Probabilistic Genotyping: Theory and Implementation

Instructors: Dr. Michael Coble (NIST), Annette J. Ortiz (Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory), Kristen Schelling (Michigan State Police), and Brandon Good (Michigan State Police)

When: April 23 – 25, 2018 (8:00a – 5:00p each day)

Where: Brookfield, Wisconsin (Suburb of Milwaukee)

Training Location & Lodging: Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel, 375 S. Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005(\$104/night + tax; be sure to mention MAFS when reserving your room)

Cost: \$200 MAFS Member / \$350 Non-MAFS Member

Workshop Coordinator: Sharon Polakowski (polakowskim@doj.state.wi.us)

Cancellation Date*: March 23, 2018 (20 min / 35 max)

The first two days of the workshop will be presented by Dr. Michael Coble from NIST and cover the basics of probabilistic genotyping, including likelihood ratios. The remaining one day will be presentations by representatives from agencies who have implemented PG. They will discuss validation, training of analysts, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, and further 'nuts and bolts' of implementation, including some data.

Visit MAFS.net to register and for further details.

*The workshop will be cancelled if its minimum number of registrants is not met by the cancellation date. Registration will remain open after the cancellation date if the minimum is met.

Advanced Courtroom Testimony for the Drug Chemist

Instructor: Tim McKibben

When: May 7-8, 2018 (8:00am—5:00pm each day)

Where: Dayton, Ohio

Training Location & Lodging: Crown Plaza Dayton (\$101/night + tax; be sure to mention MAFS when registering for your room)

Cost: \$200 MAFS Member / \$350 Non-MAFS Member

Workshop Coordinator: Jennifer Watson (watsonj@mcohio.org)

Cancellation Date*: March 1, 2018 (30 min / 60 max)

This two-day workshop is aimed at educating drug chemists beyond the basics of testimony related to drug analysis. Topics covered may include but are not limited to: handling opposing experts in general, reviewing opposing expert's reports and what to focus on, Daubert (or Frye) hearings (how to get started, how to educate the attorney, etc), how to explain chemistry/chemical structures to a jury (related to analog and pharmacophore cases; what to do, what not to do), common opposing expert tactics and how to conquer them, how to aid in the prosecution's/defense's understanding of analog/pharmacophore cases, spectral interpretation as it relates to testimony, how to handle when an opposing expert "muddies" the water when testifying about chemistry related topics, case law that supports Dauberts (or Frye)/opposing reports etc, and how to introduce new technologies in court that have not previously been used in the area/district. The training will also include practical exercises.

This workshop is open to drug chemists working in local, state and federal laboratories.

Visit MAFS.net to register and for further details.

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FORENSIC SCIENCE RESEARCH DIGEST

Issue 11/12, December 2017/January 2018

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/4/#inbox/16245c56e76024ea?projector=1&messagePartId=0.3>



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FORESIGHT Overview

Managers of scientific laboratories see themselves as scientists first and managers second; consequently, they tend to devalue the managerial aspects of their jobs. Forensic laboratory managers are no different but the stakes may be much higher given the importance of quality science to the criminal justice system. The need for training and support in forensic laboratory management has been recognized for many years but little has been done to transition the tools of business to the forensic laboratory environment.

Project FORESIGHT Annual Report, 2015-2016

Forensic Science Initiative, College of Business & Economics, West Virginia University

Welcome to the Laboratory Reporting and Analysis Tool (LabRAT), part of the FORESIGHT project. The following worksheets address a variety of questions regarding the allocation of resources within your laboratory. With each worksheet, the requested items are highlighted in the yellow shaded cells. Other cells, with white background, may have data in the form of automated calculations. Do not worry about completion of items in those white background cells.

Organization (Data Source)

Initial Day of Fiscal Year (dd/mm/yyyy)

Final Day of Fiscal Year (dd/mm/yyyy)

Composing the La Rat



Laboratory Detail	Laboratory LabRAT project manager
<p>Jurisdiction (federal, state, local, private)</p> <p>Size Population Served</p> <p>Geographic Size Served</p> <p>Number of separate facilities</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Contact Information:</p> <p>Phone</p> <p>Fax</p> <p>email</p> <p>Mailing Address</p>

News for Upcoming Symposium

FORESIGHT Annual meeting at ASCLD Symposium

Please join us for our annual project FORESIGHT meeting at the 2018 ASCLD Symposium. Current participants, potential participants, and the curious are all welcome. We will meet from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm on Sunday May 20 in room M105.

Tentative Agenda

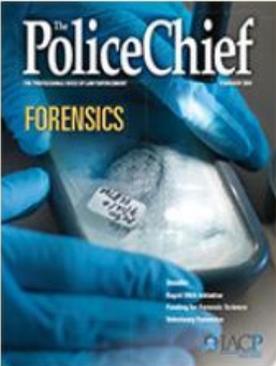
1. Project updates

- 2.FORESIGHT 20/20 implementation
- 3.OPA overview & update
- 4.Coordination with NIST and CDC
- 5.Topics from the audience



The Police Chief

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FEBRUARY 2018 ISSUE

Forensics

Forensic science dates back well over 200 years, when Scotland Yard first connected a bullet to the murder weapon (1835) and the first fingerprint classification system was developed (1892). The field has advanced significantly since then, and, when used effectively, forensic science-in all its many forms-can provide valuable contributions to law enforcement's pursuit of justice and public safety.

READ CURRENT ISSUE

Call for Nominations

ASCLD is excited to announce the addition of new awards to be debuted at the symposium this year. There are so many wonderful initiatives ASCLD and its members are involved in that we are pleased to be able to recognize more of them.

Awards include:

- ASCLD Member of the Year – ASCLD member who has made significant contributions to the organization in the past year. (Nomination form will be distributed to membership in advance of the symposium.)
- FORESIGHT – Most innovative success story epitomizing the tenets of FORESIGHT.
- Symposium Presentations by a member – The best presentation as voted by the audience.
- Symposium Attendee with longest membership.
- Best Capstone presentation from the Leadership Academy – voted upon by Leadership Academy participants and instructors.
- FTCoE / NIJ / ASCLD Webinar of the Year – Attendance and audience feedback will be key indicators for selection of this award.

- Briggs White - Exceptional competence and achievement in any area of public administration, leadership shown in the direction or development of programs, creativity and resourcefulness, adherence to the basic principles of enlightened public service, integrity and dedication to duty. (<https://www.ascl.org/nominations/>)

In addition to the existing and new awards, ASCLD will be recognizing members in other new areas. Please be sure to join us for this year's Awards Banquet in Atlanta!

45th Annual ASCLD Symposium

Advancing Forensic Science requires leadership, which includes taking initiative, motivating employees, and applying resources creatively to the complex problems presented by today's forensic casework and issues. Leaders lead by example and encouragement, building on success and learning from their past experiences and that of others.

Please join us in Atlanta, Georgia, May 20-24th for the 2018 ASCLD Symposium where you will learn about exciting initiatives to advance forensic science. New and experienced managers and directors will be presented with innovative tools to sharpen their leadership skills. Presentations from experts and leaders, both inside and outside the forensic science community, will cover various aspects of leadership. Our goal is to invigorate you with techniques and information to increase your leadership capacity in both life and occupation.

[Make your Reservation](https://aws.passkey.com/event/49236454/owner/321/home) - <https://aws.passkey.com/event/49236454/owner/321/home>

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/atlmq-atlanta-marriott-marquis/>

<https://www.ascldsymposium.com/education>

Before the show, get caught up on the latest news: <http://www.evidencemagazine.com/>

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RTI International in partnership with the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, a program of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice, produces a podcast called "Just Science". The Just Science podcast is designed to reach a broad audience of forensic scientists and other professionals who collaborate with the forensic science community. As part of the podcast series, the FTCoE would like to interview any ASCLD members who would like to share interesting or unusual criminal cases, now closed or adjudicated, where forensic science was critical to the outcome of the case.

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Please visit <https://forensiccoe.org/ascldpodcast/> to submit your bio, headshot, consent, and a short overview of the case and methods used. This is a great way to disseminate your, or your crime laboratory's work to a wide audience, hopefully sparking conversations, new ideas, and inspiring others within the field to approach cases in alternative ways.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (Hiring now)

Due to a recent upgrade with the newsletter software, visit <http://www.ascl.org/jobs2> to link and view details about job announcements listed below.

- [Supervisor – Forensic Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2018
- [Forensic Pathologist](#), MS, Memphis, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Computer Evidence Specialist III](#), Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Medicolegal Death Investigator](#), The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Expires:

July 31, 2018

- [State Dept Antiterrorism Assistance Program Worldwide Investigator / Examiner / Trainer](#), PAE, Washington, D.C., Expires: July 10, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II – DNA \(may be underfilled with Forensic Scientist I\)](#), Scottsdale Police Department Crime Laboratory, Scottsdale, AZ, Expires: May 6, 2018
- [Forensic Account Manager or Forensic Account Representative](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Utah, Expires: June 1, 2018
- [Forensic Technician](#), Broward County Sheriff's Office, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science](#), University of New Haven, West Haven, CT, Expires: May 22, 2019
- [Director Office of Forensic Services](#), NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, Albany, NY, Expires: May 15, 2018
- [Physical Section Supervisor – Forensic Scientist IV](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: April 18, 2018
- [Assistant CODIS Administrator](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 28, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Accreditation Manager](#), ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board, Cary, NC, Expires: June 26, 2018
- [Computer Evidence Specialist](#), Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: April 16, 2018
- [Crime Scene Supervisor](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 15, 2018
- [Criminalist 1 and 2 \(recruiting for one position in Toxicology\)](#), Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, Nevada, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Latent Fingerprint Examiner](#), MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT (MDPD), Doral, Florida, Expires: April 16, 2018
- [ICITAP Worldwide Forensics Advisor 15 -Washington DC](#), Engility Corp, Washington DC, Expires: May 26, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist](#), Rapid City Police Department, Rapid City, SD, Expires: May 18, 2018
- [Associate Medical Examiner](#), Arkansas State Crime Laboratory, Little Rock, Arkansas, Expires: May 31, 2018
- [Faculty – Forensic Science – College of Science, Engineering and Technology](#), Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Expires: May 1, 2018
- [Forensic Analyst – Multimedia](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 30, 2018
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 3 01377](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 1 01376](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 1 01375](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 3 01374](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist 2 01373](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Forensic Examiner Fire Arms & Toolmarks 01378](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Laboratory Manager/Theater Liason 01365](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA, Expires: April 26, 2018
- [Latent Print Examiner](#), InCadence Strategic Solutions, Forest Park, GA, Expires: May 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018

- [Forensic Scientist IV-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist IV-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Chemistry/Controlled Substances](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Latent Prints](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner, East Meadow, NY, Expires: July 31, 2018

The Need for Safety Officers and a Health and Safety Committee

The elements of a Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) have been the subject over the last few weeks. Previous topics have been 1) the need for SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), 2) Criteria for Implementing Control Measures, 3) requirement to ensure that fume hoods and other protective equipment are functioning properly and identify the specific measures the employer will take to ensure proper and adequate performance of such equipment, and 4) Required Information to be provided to lab personnel working with hazardous substances. This week's topics are 5) *the circumstances under which a particular laboratory operation, procedure or activity requires prior approval from the employer or the employer's designee before being implemented*, and 6) *Designation of personnel responsible for implementing the CHP, including the assignment of a Chemical Hygiene Officer and, if appropriate, establishment of a Chemical Hygiene Committee.*

5) *The circumstances under which a particular laboratory operation, procedure or activity requires prior approval from the employer or the employer's designee before being implemented.* Prior to any new work being conducted in a lab that uses a hazardous chemical, prior approval must be acknowledged. Prior approval would normally come from the Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO) or Safety Officer in your lab. Many procedures use chemicals that require special considerations. Additionally, some labs may not have the proper storage or work area for its use. Also, the chemical must be added to the chemical inventory, all personnel who will work with or come in contact to the chemical must read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Having a plan where an employee has read the SDS and understands the hazards by signing a review sheet or some other acknowledgement is a good way to improve compliance. Additionally, ordering and purchasing hazardous chemicals should go through one person or a team so that proper storage locations, policies, and procedures can be appropriate for chemicals ordered.

6) *Designation of personnel responsible for implementing the CHP, including the assignment of a Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO) and, if appropriate, establishment of a Chemical Hygiene Committee.* Designating a person, such as a CHO or Safety Officer for day-to-day administration of chemical issues is paramount and crucial for accreditation. A CHO will provide reports at the department Safety Committee meetings on chemical hygiene activities performed. Additionally, a CHO will work with others to develop, review and approve Standard Operating Procedures which detail all aspects of proposed laboratory activities that involve hazardous materials. A Chemical Hygiene Committee, commonly known as a Safety Committee (or Health and Safety) in forensic labs is also a requirement for accreditation. Health and Safety committee members should establish a committee structure and process and develops an action plan for the year that identifies a few priority health and safety issues to work on. The concerns would be addressed at safety committee meetings and the executive management meeting(s).

Jane B. Northup
Quality Assurance Officer
RI State Crime Laboratory
Certified Chemical Hygiene Officer

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1450

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/CFR-2011-title29-vol6/CFR-2011-title29-vol6-sec1910-1450/content->

[detail.html](#)

The National Registry of Certified Chemists

<http://nrcc6.org/>

OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Training

https://www.osha.gov/dep/facosh/osha_training_guidelines2014.pdf

OSHA Fact Sheet:

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/laboratory/OSHAfactsheet-laboratory-safety-chemical-hygiene-plan.pdf>

CHP Template:

http://www.dsps.wi.gov/Documents/Industry%20Services/Forms/Public%20Sector%20Employee/Template-Chemical_Hygiene_Plan.pdf

Examples of CHPs:

University of California, Santa Barbara: <http://www.ehs.ucsb.edu/labsafety-chp>

University of Rhode Island: <http://web.uri.edu/ehs/files/ChemicalHygienePlan.pdf>

Crime Lab Safety Plans:

Raleigh/Wake City County, Bureau of Identification: <https://www.forensicmag.com/article/2004/06/osha-and-forensic-laboratory>

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



In 2018, the Forensic Science Training Institute will be offering a week-long course in Advanced Fabrics Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Training on March 19-23.

The class size is limited to twelve, so please register early to ensure your seat.

For registration and full details on the course requirements, visit the Forensic Science Training Institute website here: <http://www.cedarcrest.edu/forensic/16/1.htm>

Recorded Training:

Episode 9 Podcast!!

Just Blood Spatter

In episode nine of Just Science, funded by the National Institute of Justice's Forensic Technology Center of Excellence [Award 2016-MU-BX-K110], we spoke with Dr. Marc Smith, from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Smith's NIJ funded research in blood spatter has connected computational fluid dynamics with empirical studies to improve the understanding of blood spatter onto solid, slanted surfaces. His work looks at many variables, including droplet size, speed, surface roughness and wettability. [Listen and Subscribe HERE.](#)

Subscribe to the channel at:

- [Google Play](#)
- [iTunes](#)
- [Stitcher](#)
- [Soundcloud](#)

ASCLD/RTI Backlog Series

Archival versions of the ASCLD/RTI Backlog Series can be found at the following links:

- [The Paradox of Backlog Reduction – How Doing Less Can Be Doing More](#)
- [Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction](#)
- [Managing Customer Expectations and Education](#)
- [How to Increase your Staff without Increasing Budget](#)
- [Efficiency Improvements](#)
- [Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management](#)
- [Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines](#)

ASCLD/RTI Rapid DNA Series

Archival versions of the ASCLD/RTI Rapid DNA Series can be found at the following links:

- [Rapid DNA: The QAS and NDIS](#)
- [Rapid DNA: Arizona DPS and Richland County, SC](#)
- [Rapid DNA: Booking Stations and CODIS](#)

ASCLD /RTI DNA Standards and Guidelines Webinar Series

SWGDM Interpretational Guidelines

<https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/ascl-d-webinar-dna-standards-and-guidelines/>

Proposed Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) changes

<https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/ascl-d-webinar-series-dna-standards-and-guidelines-webinar-part-2/>



Forensic Training in 2018!

Quick Links to ANAB

[Forensic ISO/IEC Internal Auditor Training](#)

May 8-11, 2018, Cary, NC

[Forensic ISO/IEC Assessor Training \(Testing\)](#)

May 7-11, 2018, Chandler, AZ

June 11-15, 2018, Milwaukee, WI

August 20-24, 2018, Denver, CO

[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Preparation for Testing Laboratories \(Classroom\)](#)

May 7-9, 2018, Chandler, AZ

June 11-13, 2018, Milwaukee, WI

August 20-22, 2018, Denver, CO

*Web-based courses also available

[ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation for Forensic Agencies](#)

May 31-June 1, 2018, Houston, TX

October 8-9, 2018, San Antonio, TX

Let me know if you have any questions.

For more information about these workshops, contact training@anab.org or 414-501-5466 for more information. For registration, click the links for each training course above.

2018 National Institute of Justice Forensic Science Symposium

The Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) at the Department of Justice through a partnership with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is working with NMS Labs to identify newly emergent Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) found in seized drug samples entering the United States. You have been identified as a stakeholder in the process of notifying US public health and public safety agencies, and other international entities of the appearance of these novel substances, to allow for appropriate public health policy development and public safety actions through enforcement and interdiction.

Although the priority for this project is to identify emergent opioids and fentanyl derivatives and precursors, other drug classes including benzodiazepines, stimulants (cathinones and amphetamine derivatives), hallucinogens and cannabinoids have also been identified. The purpose of this email is to announce the identification of:

N-Methyl Norfentanyl

N-methyl norfentanyl is classified as a suspected fentanyl precursor. Fentanyl precursors are modified based on the structure of fentanyl with the absence of notable functional groups or structural features. Fentanyl precursors such as Benzylfentanyl are often used in the synthesis of fentanyl and its analogues. testing.

5F-EDMB-PINACA

5F-EDMB-PINACA is classified as a synthetic cannabinoid. Synthetic cannabinoids have been reported to cause psychoactive effects similar to delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Synthetic cannabinoids have caused adverse events, including deaths, as described in the literature. 5F-ADB (5F-MDMB-PINACA) is a structurally similar synthetic cannabinoid. 5F-ADB is a Schedule I substance in the United States.

5CI-AKB48 and 5Br-AKB48

5CI-AKB48 (5CI-APINACA) and 5Br-AKB48 (5Br-APINACA) are classified as synthetic cannabinoids. Synthetic cannabinoids have been reported to cause effects similar to delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Synthetic cannabinoids have caused adverse events, including deaths, as described in the literature. Structurally similar compounds include AKB48 (PINACA) and 5F-AKB48 (5F-APINACA). AKB48 and 5F-AKB48 are Schedule I substances in the United States.

Details are contained in the attached document. Through this service we are reporting only novel compounds not previously reported in the published NFLIS reports, or for which SWGDRUG has not yet issued a monograph. If reference standards are commercially available, they are indicated in the report.

If you have questions about the substance(s) involved, or do not wish to receive future notifications please contact me directly at barry.logan@nmslabs.com.

For more information about this program, please contact the program sponsor, AUSA MJ Menendez, at OCDETF (MJ.Menendez@usdoj.gov)

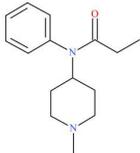
Fentanyl Analogue



NMS
LABS

NMS Labs
2300 Stratford Ave
Willow Grove, PA 19090

N-methyl Norfentanyl



Latest Revision: **April 10, 2018**
Date Received: **February 12, 2018**
Date of Report: **April 10, 2018**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

IUPAC Name: N-(1-methyl-4-piperidyl)-N-phenyl-propanamide

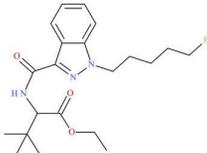
InChI String: InChI=1S/C15H22N2O/c1-3-15(18)/7(13-7-5-4-6-8-13)/4-9-11-16(2)/12-10-14/4-8,14H,3,9-12H2,1-2H3



NMS
LABS

NMS Labs
2300 Stratford Ave
Willow Grove, PA 19090

5F-EDMB-PINACA



Latest Revision: **April 10, 2018**
Date Received: **February 12, 2018**
Date of Report: **April 10, 2018**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

IUPAC Name: Ethyl 2-[[1-(5-fluoropentyl)indazole-3-carbonyl]amino]-3,3-dimethyl-butanoate

InChI String: InChI=1S/C21H30FN3O3/c1-5-28-20(27)18(21(2,3)4)23-19(26)17-15-11-7-8-12-16(15)25(24-17)14-10-6-9-13-22/h7-8,11-12,18H,5-6,9-10,13-14H2,1-4H3,(H,23,26)

NMS LABS
NMS Labs
2300 Stratford Ave
Willow Grove, PA 19090

5Cl-AKB48 and 5Br-AKB48

5Cl-AKB48
Latest Revision: April 10, 2018
Date Received: February 16, 2018
Date of Report: April 10, 2018

ClCCCCCN1C2=CC=CC=C2C(=O)N1C3C4C5C3C4C5

5Br-AKB48

BrCCCCCN1C2=CC=CC=C2C(=O)N1C3C4C5C3C4C5

New Narcotics Protection Kit as You Face the Dangerous Opioid Epidemic

We designed this single-use kit following DEA & CDC guidelines

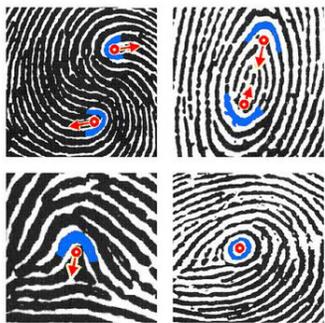
Small amounts of Fentanyl can cause an overdose, a significant threat to you & your department. We designed this kit to help you stay safe.

[Buy Now](#)



<http://www.sirchie.com/nark-ppe-kit-available-in-med-large-x-large-2xl.html#.WaNzc-mQxPb>

OSAC Catalog of External Standards and Guidelines



The OSAC Catalog of External Standards and Guidelines is a collection of standards, guidelines and other documents applicable to forensic science. None of the documents in the catalog have been developed or approved by OSAC (the Organization of Scientific Area Committees). The catalog was compiled by NIST staff in early 2015 for OSAC members to assess existing standards, guidelines and best practices that are already publicly available.

The catalog was updated in April of 2017. The catalog is available to download as a [sortable Excel spreadsheet](#) (link opens an Excel .xlsx file). It contains the titles and source information for more than 700 standards, guidelines and related documents. The catalog also lists web addresses for documents that are available online.

Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science

[OSAC Standards Bulletin, April 2018 Now Available](#)

This Bulletin provides an update on forensic science standards that are moving through the development process at Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs), and those that are moving through the Registry Approval Process at the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC)

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/organization-scientific-area-committees-osac>

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-standards-and-guidelines>

Intent to Add to the OSAC Registry – Items Open for Comment

The intent of the open comment period is to collect opinion on inclusion of the standard to the OSAC Registry (OSAC is not soliciting potential revisions to the documents themselves.) Comments should be specific as to why the document should or should not be on the OSAC Registry.

ASTM E1610-18, Standard Guide for Forensic Paint Analysis and Comparison
[Read the standard \(link is external\)](#) or [submit a comment \(link is external\)](#) by May 9, 2018, 11:59pm EDT.

ASTM E2937-18, Standard Guide for Using Infrared Spectroscopy in Forensic Paint Examinations
[Read the standard \(link is external\)](#) or [submit a comment \(link is external\)](#) by May 9, 2018, 11:59pm EDT.

Standards in Comment Adjudication Phase

The comment period is closed for the following standards as OSAC units review and adjudicate comments received.

[ASTM E2329-17 Standard Practice for Identification of Seized Drugs \(link is external\)](#)

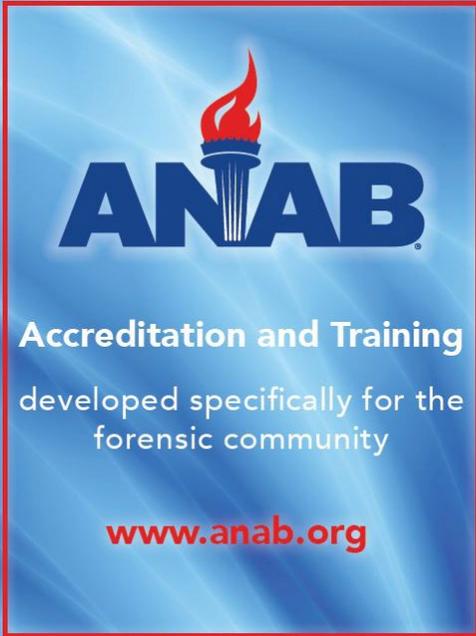
This practice describes minimum criteria for the qualitative analysis (identification) of seized drugs.

Standards at FSSB for Vote

[ASTM E2330-12 Standard Test Method for Determination of Concentrations of Elements in Glass Samples Using Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry \(ICP-MS\) for Forensic Comparisons* \(link is external\)](#)

One objective of a forensic glass examination is to compare glass samples to determine if they can be discriminated using their physical, optical or chemical properties (for example, color, refractive index (RI), density, elemental composition). If the samples are distinguishable in any of these observed and measured properties, it may be concluded that they did not originate from the same source of broken glass. If the samples are indistinguishable in all of these observed and measured properties, the possibility that they originated from the same source of glass cannot be eliminated. The use of an elemental analysis method such as inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry yields high discrimination among sources of glass. This test method covers a procedure for quantitative determination of the concentrations of magnesium (Mg), aluminum (Al), iron (Fe), titanium (Ti), manganese (Mn), rubidium (Rb), strontium (Sr), zirconium (Zr), barium (Ba), lanthanum (La), cerium (Ce), neodymium (Nd), samarium (Sm), and lead (Pb) in glass samples.

* This document has been sent back to the standards developing organization for the addition of two references. The FSSB will reconsider the vote once the document is republished.



ANAB

Accreditation and Training
developed specifically for the forensic community

www.anab.org

OSAC Subcommittees
<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-subcommittees>



NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

The summary for the NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics grant is detailed below. This summary states who is eligible for the grant, how much grant money will be awarded, current and past deadlines, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numbers, and a sampling of similar government grants. Verify the accuracy of the data FederalGrants.com provides by visiting the webpage noted in the [Link to Full Announcement](#) section or by contacting the appropriate person listed as the [Grant Announcement Contact](#). If any section is incomplete, please visit the website for the National Institute of Justice, which is the U.S. government agency offering this grant.

- Start-Up Business Funding
- Federal Grant For Single Moms
- Apply For College Grants
- Grants For Education
- Apply For Free Grants
- Free Money Grants
- Bad Credit Personal Loans

NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics: The Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GRF-STEM) provides awards to accredited academic institutions to support graduate research leading to doctoral degrees in topic areas that are relevant to ensuring public safety, preventing and controlling crime, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States.



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[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.

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Genetics in Forensics Congress

Oxford Global Conferences: www.oxfordglobal.co.uk

Oxford Global Training Seminars: www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk

Evidence Technology Magazine
<http://www.evidencemagazine.com>

The new year is upon us. Invest in yourself in 2018 by attending one of the upcoming programs hosted by the WVU Center for Executive Education

[Forensic Management Academy](#)
September 9 - 14, 2018
Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office
Pittsburgh, PA

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Lean Six Sigma Certification for Forensic Science Professionals](#)



CONSORTIUM OF FORENSIC SCIENCE ORGANIZATIONS (CFSO)

FLASH BRIEF
FALL 2017/WINTER 2018

The mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level, and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. The primary focus of the CFSO is local, state, and national policymakers, as well as the United States Congress.

Advocacy - <http://thecfso.org/advocacy/>

<https://judiciary.house.gov/hearing/examine-state-forensic-science-united-states/>

March 20 - September 11, 2018
Via online webinar with one face-to-face class held on September 11, 2018 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in Pittsburgh, PA at the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh International Airport.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

For more information on the Forensic Management Academy and Lean Six Sigma programs, please visit business.wvu.edu/execed or email Martina Bison-Huckaby at Martina.Bison-Huckaby@mail.wvu.edu.

West Virginia University Forensic Management Academy

Membership:
For Membership information:
matthew.gamette@thecfso.org

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-Ken Melson, JD Representing AAFS kmelson01@aol.com

-Yale Caplan, PhD Representing ABFT fortox@aol.com

-Beth Lavach, Legislative Liaison bethlavach@elsandassociates.com



National Institute of Justice's latest Graduate Research Fellowships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. NIJ has made 20 new awards in 2017 for STEM fellows, totaling \$960,861 for graduate students working towards advancing NIJ's mission. The GRF-STEM program funds dissertation research across a wide range of topics to criminal justice, including the forensic sciences.

[See a full list of awards and descriptions, awardees, and dollar amounts.](#)
[Sign up to get email notices when NIJ releases GRF and other funding solicitations.](#)

Grant Assistance for DNA

Federal Grant Assistance for Rapid DNA	State Grant Assistance for Rapid DNA
<p>Rapid DNA is included in two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Authorized Equipment Lists (AEL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07BD-02-DNRN: Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection • 09MY-01-DNAK: Kit, DNA Tools <p>These AEL's are in these FEMA grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Stonegarden • Port Security Grant Program • Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program • Transit Security Grant Program • Urban Areas Security Initiative Program • Homeland Security Grant Program • State Homeland Security Program <p>Grants.gov discusses these FEMA Grants and other Federal Grant opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of these are submitted through your State – see other side of this card <p>How to find applicable Grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On Grants.gov, under Search Grants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Keyword search with terms: DNA, identity, biometric, security, mass casualty, etc. b. Use checklists to limit number of grants, e.g., Eligibility, Category c. Select a grant by Opportunity Number <p>View Grant Opportunity page for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Synopsis – key information, e.g. dates, FOC ii. Package – under Actions-Apply provide email to get info on application package <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. On Grants.gov, under Search Applicants: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use Register to apply for Workspace as either Organizational or Individual b. Get your DUNS number from your organization's finance office or call DUNS at: 1-866-705-5711 c. Use Apply tab under Applicants for Workspace instructions d. Complete required forms e. Submit and track application 3. Get alerts for new or revised grants at: apply07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find contact information for your State Emergency Management (EM) Office at: www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies 2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Request information on FEMA and other Federal grants. b. Request a contact in the EM Office for grants. 3. If EM Office cannot help, find a contact who works with grant applications in your State. Key offices to contact: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Administration b. Finance c. Budget 4. Identify appropriate grant(s). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Apply under all applicable grants. b. Comply with Open-Close times. 5. Request proper forms. 6. Complete forms. Cite the proper FEMA AEL Item ID: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07BD-02-DNRN - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection • 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools 7. File forms on time 8. Periodically monitor <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Call or email your State contact b. Call or email the contact given in the grant announcement 9. Request feedback on your application and apply the next year. Many are successful on their 2nd or 3rd year <p>Contact the Rapid DNA vendors for assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE (NetBio): www.ANDE.com 817-705-4055 • IntegenX www.IntegenX.com sales@integenx.com

Sexual Assault Cases: Exploring the Importance of Non-DNA Forensic Evidence Investigating and prosecuting sexual assault crimes is much more complicated than simply performing DNA testing.

Canadian Forensic Science Journal



Since 1995, JusticeTrax has produced a suite of products geared specifically toward the law enforcement and forensic community. Over the years,

Latest Newsletter:
<http://www.criminalistics.com/abc-newsletter.html>



<https://forensiccoe.org/leadership-series/>

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Deputy Chief Timothy P. Scanlan

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Jeremy Triplett

Modules: Leadership Theories and DiSC Styles, Founding Fathers on Leadership



our applications have gained increasing acceptance among city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Our applications are designed by forensic scientists and are the most comprehensive case management tools available.

With installations ranging from small, single-site laboratories of five users, to extremely large multi-site installations with 500+ users, we are honored to serve some of the most sophisticated crime laboratories in North America, Australia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East. Of these 175+ laboratories, greater than 95% are accredited to the ISO/IEC 17025 International Standard.

JusticeTrax is an ISO 9001:2015 certified company.

The JusticeFacts newsletters are found at <http://JusticeTrax.com/sales/newsletters>



NIJ Forensic Science R&D Reports for ASCLD Crime Lab Minute Vol 11

These research reports have been submitted by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) especially for their relevance to crime laboratory activities. ASCLD has not reviewed nor does it necessarily endorse the findings of this research.

[NIJ-FBI Fingerprint Partnership Identifies 200 Missing Persons](#)

In March of this year, a new collaboration began between the National Institute of Justice and the FBI Laboratory. Fingerprints from unidentified missing persons are sent to the FBI where a new technology, known as Next Generation Identification, along with enhanced processing protocols, is improving the odds of identification. Identifications are increasing even with poor quality prints or with those that have been searched in the past.

[National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach](#)

The National Institute of Justice recently released a report on National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach in response to the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting (SAFER) Act of 2013, which focuses on the accurate, timely, and effective collection and processing of DNA evidence in sexual assault investigations. A practitioner working group developed 35 recommendations that provide a roadmap for collecting, transferring, preserving, storing and analyzing sexual assault kits. The recommendations apply to medical professionals, members of law enforcement, victim advocates, prosecutors and laboratories. A coordinated, collaborative and multidisciplinary approach to sexual assault investigations helps reassure and support victims of sexual violence, encourages victim engagement and increases the potential for just legal resolutions.

[The Fingerprint Sourcebook is Now Available in Spanish](#)

NIJ has released a Spanish-language version of The Fingerprint Sourcebook, which aims to be the definitive resource on the science of fingerprint identification. The Sourcebook was prepared by the International Association for Identification and topics covered include the anatomy and physiology of friction ridge skin; techniques for recording exemplars from both



Research Training Webinars



LEAP
Bridging the gap

The goal of the Laboratories and Educators Alliance Program (LEAP) is to facilitate collaborative research between academia and forensic science laboratories. This joint effort between the American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) and the Council of Forensic Science Educators (COFSE) identifies forensic science needs and provides a platform for laboratories, researchers, and students to seek projects aligning with their mutual research capabilities.

Laboratories	Academia
Expands the research climate within the laboratory, leading to meaningful contributions to forensic science practices.	Promotes impactful research by providing a list of forensic science needs and research interests that can lead to future collaborations.
Provides educational opportunities, such as conference presentations and guest lectures.	Enriches the knowledge base of university faculty with limited or no prior forensic laboratory experience.
Supports the laboratory through hosting student interns to assist in validation and evaluation projects.	Enhances academic achievements through the valuable internship experiences provided to students.
Facilitates the connection between the laboratory and university programs, potentially assisting with future hiring actions and research needs.	Streamlines vital connections and collaborations between universities and forensic science laboratories as required for accreditation.

Solicitation Announcement
 NIJ Research and Evaluation on Drugs and Crime FY2018
 Solicitation:
<https://nij.gov/funding/Documents/solicitations/NIJ-2018-13682.pdf>
Applications Due: April 25, 2018

NIJ's drugs and crime portfolio supports research on law enforcement efforts to deter, investigate, prosecute, and address illegal drug trafficking, markets, and use. This FY2018 solicitation will seek investigator-initiated proposals to conduct applied research on evidence-based tools, protocols,

living and deceased subjects; AFIS; latent print development, preservation and documentation; equipment and laboratory quality assurance; perceptual, cognitive and psychological factors in expert identifications; and legal issues.

[Forensic Identification Using Individual Chemical Signatures](#)

NIJ-funded researchers developed an approach to translate chemical signatures recovered from personal objects such as phones into a lifestyle sketch of the owner, using mass spectrometry and informatics approaches.

[Quantifying Error Rates for the Measurement of Human Skeletal Remains](#)

NIJ-funded researchers revised forensic anthropology procedures to include an "error metric" for the measurement of human skeletal remains. This article summarizes findings from that study.

[Designing Methods to Identify Evolving Designer Drugs](#)

This article describes an NIJ-supported research project focused on issues of resolution and discriminatory capabilities needed to increase the reliability and selectivity of forensic evidence and analytical data for new bath salt-type drugs of abuse.

[Standardized Process Developed for Identifying Dyes in Fibers](#)

This article summarizes method with the twofold purpose of producing a novel, reliable, and useful microfluidic system for fabric dye extraction and increasing the knowledge needed to guide criminal justice policy and practice related to the forensic analysis of dyed fabric.

[The Most Important Features for an Effective Sexual Assault Response Team](#)

Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) hold the promise of improving victim experiences, increasing prosecution rates, and reducing the prevalence of sexual assault. To understand how an effective SART works, NIJ-funded researchers studied the structure and operations of SARTS across the United States.

[Identifying Ignitable Liquids in the Aftermath of A Fire](#)

In a wide-ranging analysis of the effects of weathering and biological degradation on ignitable liquids, NIJ-supported researchers at the University of Central Florida's National Center for Forensic Science studied and classified 50 liquids in the Ignitable Liquids Reference Collection database.

[Scale Modeling in Fire Reconstruction](#)

After reviewing scaling theory used in fire research, this project developed scaling rules for design fires and enclosure material boundaries, followed by the full-scale testing of a gas burner, heptane pool fire, pine wood crib, and polyurethane foam, and the scaling theory was applied to the full-scale scenario and a 1/8 scale compartment.

[Evaluation of the Use of a Non-Contact 3D](#)

and policies for State, local and tribal jurisdictions. The two drug priorities are: 1) opioid-related criminal investigation, prosecution, drug intelligence, and community surveillance; and 2) illegal marijuana markets and drug-related violent crime. Opioid research proposals should address narcotics law enforcement, forensic science, and/or medicolegal death investigations; and opioids include heroin, fentanyl, diverted pharmaceuticals, synthetic drugs, and analogues.

See The National Institute of Justice's Role in the Strategy to Combat Heroin and Other Opioids at <https://www.nij.gov/topics/drugs/Pages/nij-role-in-the-strategy-to-combat-heroin-and-other-opioids.aspx>

General information on applying for NIJ awards can be found at www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/welcome.aspx. Answers to frequently asked questions that may assist applicants are posted at www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/faqs.aspx. For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation (NIJ-2018-13682): toll-free at 1-800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>.

Dear Colleagues,

New Solicitation: Research and Evaluation of Technologies to Improve School Safety

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals for projects to demonstrate and evaluate the application of technologies to improve school safety. This solicitation is part of the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (CSSI).

NIJ is interested in funding a single evaluator who will have the capabilities to assess the effectiveness of a few promising technologies that can enhance safety within K-12 schools. Evaluations should consider the school environment and use cases as well as the kinds of data that might be collected or used as a result of the technology intervention.

Applicants are encouraged to explore technologies that have worked for use cases in other ecosystems that may translate well to the K-12 school environment.

All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 10, 2018.

Review the solicitation.

Applicants must [register with Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application.

[Learn how to become an NIJ proposal peer reviewer.](#)

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants.

Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service: 1-800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax 301-240-5830; or web chat <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>. See also NIJ.gov's [solicitation FAQ page](#)

[Scanner for Collecting Postmortem Fingerprints](#)

Historically, the recording of postmortem fingerprint impressions from decedents is a manual and labor-intensive process. 3D scanners are potentially an important tool to help forensic scientists address the challenges of postmortem fingerprint recovery due to the contactless scanning capabilities, as well as the ability to scan complex surfaces and capture scale. This NIJ-supported study evaluated the potential for using a contactless, 3D fingerprint scanner to capture examination-quality postmortem fingerprints and facilitate rapid identification of the deceased.

[Evidential Value of Particle Combination Profiles on Common Items of Evidence](#)

This project used the analytical tools and statistical methods developed in previous research funded by NIJ to measure the evidential value of very small particle (VSP) profiles found on four common types of physical evidence: handguns, cell phones, drug packaging, and ski masks.

[Method Development and Validation of Toolmark Imaging, Virtual Casings Comparison, and In-Lab Verification using a GelSight-Based Three Dimensional Imaging and Analysis](#)

Stemming from a previous project that developed a 3D surface topography imaging and analysis system for casings based on the GelSight scanning technology and custom feature-based image comparison, this NIJ-supported project aimed 1) to develop the ability to scan and compare firing pin impressions; 2) to examine the use of the imaging and analysis technology in a live lab experiment; and 3) to investigate Virtual Microscopy, the use of measured 3D surface topographics as a substitute for physical casings.

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<http://www.anzpa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/newsletters>



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