



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors

### ***"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER***



Dear colleagues,

This week I want to highlight the great work of our symposium planning committee. As you are all aware, the annual conference is at the Marriott Marquis hotel in Atlanta on May 20-24th 2018. Already we have 17% of the normal room block filled, therefore we urge you to book your room before the room block is gone. I have been regularly meeting with the symposium planning committee that is chaired by President-Elect Matthew Gamette. It is very exciting to see this meeting really coming together. We recently received a commitment from the Department of Justice to send Acting Assistant Attorney General and Office of Justice Programs Director Alan Hanson as a speaker at the symposium; see the link at: <https://ojp.gov/about/offices/oaag.htm>. More speakers will be announced in the coming weeks as the symposium planning committee reviews the abstract submissions and finalizes the program. Invited guests include high level leaders from a number of industries.

We are also planning a number of amazing workshops again this year. We have already received a commitment from Arbing Institute to teach a two-day course after the success of their one day seminar last year. We have also received a commitment for a high level workshop on media relations and crisis management. We are working on a new concept in the days before the symposium for a disaster planning exercise related to Rapid DNA. Making a debut this year is our inaugural "Bring Your Own Problem" (BYOP) session. This will be a unique way for us to discuss current topics of concern for laboratory leaders and hopefully leave with some new ideas to resolve them. The leadership academy will be back and with limited enrollment, so you will want to register early.

Please make plans to join us in Atlanta. It is a beautiful city with much to do. From our catered networking event with a backstage tour of the Georgia Aquarium to the multiple high profile keynote addresses, you will not want to miss the symposium this year! See you there!

Ray Wickenheiser

Dear Forensic Science Professionals,

The Forensic Science Training Institute is offering a workshop titled "Contextual Bias in Forensic Science" March 13-15, 2018.

The topic of "bias" and its implications for forensic practice has been hotly debated and researched in forensic and academic circles over the last decade. The 2009 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report on the state of forensic science in the USA and the 2016 President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) report on forensic science recommend that forensic practitioners address issues relating to bias in forensic science and provide evidence to the fact finder that they have done so.

This workshop uses an engaging and innovative mixture of lectures, case examples, and practical activities to educate participants on the theoretical concepts and practical implications of bias within forensic science. Participants will receive instruction on the various types of bias, how to identify its presence, how to mitigate its influence, methods on how to sequentially unmask data, procedures used to identify task-relevant information, concepts for the appropriate management of case-specific contextual information and how to appropriately document critical decision pathways.

This workshop is primarily aimed at forensic science practitioners both scene or laboratory based, especially

those involved in the early identification, collection and interpretation of evidence. It is however designed to benefit anyone who produces, uses or relies upon forensic science for decision making purposes within the justice system, including judges, district attorneys, defense lawyers, and detectives.

The workshop is \$395 per person.

For registration, please visit: <http://www.cedarcrest.edu/forensic/18/2.htm>

**Shaheen, Cornyn Call on DOJ to Provide Guidance on Boosting Support for Forensic Labs in Efforts to Combat Opioid Epidemic**

(Washington, DC) – Today, U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and John Cornyn (R-TX) [led a letter](#) with a bipartisan group of 30 senators to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, asking him to provide Congress with information detailing how the Department of Justice (DOJ) is supporting and prioritizing forensic science service providers across the nation as a part of a broader approach to combat the opioid epidemic.

“The opioid crisis knows no boundaries; it reaches into homes in every community in every region of this country. Stopping the flow of these drugs is critical to ending the crisis, but to do so requires the ability to trace the drugs to their source. This demands a forceful and vigorous effort by our forensic science community,” **wrote the senators**.

**The senators continued**, “The current opioid crisis has overwhelmed the nation’s collective laboratory systems with more than a 6000% increase in the last four years, according to National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) data provided by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors. Case backlogs and turnaround times are growing. Dangerous emerging drugs are not being scheduled to make them illegal, and deaths likely associated with drug overdose are not being investigated completely by medical examiners and coroners.”

The bipartisan coalition of senators call on the DOJ to provide a comprehensive list to Congress within 30 days, detailing how the Department is supporting and prioritizing forensic science service providers, and to also explain how the Department is including grant programs and technical assistance for providers at the state, county and local levels to help combat the public health crisis. The forensic science community plays a critical role in communities affected by the opioid epidemic. Labs and other forensic science service personnel help local law enforcement and federal agencies trace drugs to their source by helping to analyze evidence, find importers, manufacturers and distributors, and to determine causes of death in overdoses.

Senator Shaheen, the lead Democrat on the Appropriations Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee, and Senator Hassan [introduced legislation](#) to help the State Police Forensic Laboratory and Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in New Hampshire and their counterparts across the country that are dealing with dramatically increased demands and serious backlogs as a result of the opioid epidemic. Earlier this month, Senator Shaheen [sent a letter to President Trump](#) with a group of 19 senators, calling on the President to support additional funding necessary to combat the opioid epidemic. Senator Shaheen has been a leader in Congress on combating the opioid crisis, and [was instrumental in efforts to obtain emergency funding](#) through the 21st Century Cures Act that was signed into law by President Obama last year. Earlier this year, [she helped secure over \\$700 million](#) in additional opioid treatment resources. Shaheen recently helped unveil legislation that would [provide \\$45 billion to respond to the opioid crisis](#), which is the largest response bill to combat the epidemic to date.

The bipartisan group supporting Senators Shaheen and Cornyn’s letter include Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Cory Booker (D-NJ), John Boozman (R-AR), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Thad Cochran (R-MI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Christopher Coons (D-DE), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Al Franken (D-MN), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), James Inhofe (R-OK), Angus King (I-ME), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), James Lankford (R-OK), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Joe Manchin (D-WV), Ed Markey (D-MA), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Rob Portman (R-OH), James Risch (R-ID), Mike Rounds (R-SD), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

The letter can be read in full [here](#).

# 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.

## Hotel Information

### Atlanta Marriott Marquis

Located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, within walking distance to renowned Atlanta attractions including the Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca-Cola and College Football Hall of Fame, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis is unparalleled in its splendor and convenience. The indoor MARTA access provides fast rail access to the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, while the downtown location offers first-class opportunities for experiencing Atlanta. During your stay, enjoy the iconic cocktail lounge Pulse, dine at the unique restaurants including Sear and High Velocity, and pamper yourself in the state-of-the-art full service spa.

265 Peachtree Center Avenue  
Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 521-0000

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



### Hotel Rate

- The room rate for this event is **\$135.00** plus taxes and fees
- The contracted rate will be available until 5 PM EST, Friday, April 27, 2018

### Reservation Process

Online:

- [Click here to book your hotel reservation](#)

Phone:

- Please contact the reservations desk at (404) 521-0000
- Make sure that you reference that you are attending the ASCLD Symposium

The room rate cut-off date is  
5 PM, EST, Friday, April 27, 2018.

*Last year the room block sold out early, so don't  
delay in making your hotel reservations!*

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

## Thank you to our 2018 Symposium Sponsors and Exhibitors!

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#### National Institute of Justice Awards

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.](#)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES (Hiring now)

- [Forensic Toxicologist](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: January 3, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II -DNA](#), Scottsdale Police Department Crime Laboratory, Scottsdale, Arizona, Expires: December 30, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances – Northern Lab](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: December 29, 2017
- [MSP Forensic Scientist Supervisor \(Firearms and Tool Marks\)](#), Maryland State Police Forensic Sciences Division, Pikesville, Maryland, Expires: December 14, 2017
- [Assistant Chief, Forensic Laboratories](#), Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory, Anchorage, Alaska, Expires: December 21, 2017
- [Assistant Laboratory Director](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Topeka, KS, Expires: December 20, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist Technical Leader CS\\_14 \(Fingerprint\)](#), Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: December 14, 2017
- [Latents Prints Section Supervisor](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: December 19, 2017
- [Assistant/Associate/Full Professor in Forensic Science](#), Arizona State University, Glendale,



Arizona, Expires: January 31, 2018

- [Assistant/Associate Professor](#), University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Assistant Biometric Records Manager](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Assistant/Associate Professor](#), University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist](#), InCadence Strategic Solutions, Forest Park, GA, Expires: January 31, 2018
- [Biometric Records Manager](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: December 25, 2017
- [Forensic Analyst – Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 15, 2017
- [Senior Firearm/Toolmark Examiner \(Senior Criminalist – Firearms\)](#), Tarrant County Medical Examiner Criminalistics Laboratory, Fort Worth, TX, Expires: January 5, 2018
- [Principal Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01597\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Senior Chemist \(01603\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Staff Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01610\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Associate Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01591\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Principal Microbiologist \(01601\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Senior Microbiologist \(1609\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Staff Microbiologist \(01596\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Associate Microbiologist \(01595\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science](#), Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Assistant /Associate Professor – Forensic Science M.S. Program, Digital Evidence Emphasis](#), Marshall University, Huntington, Expires: December 12, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 3 \(#01377\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 1 \(#01376\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 1 \(#01375\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 3 \(#01374\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Chemist \(#01373\)](#), ORAU, Oak Ridge, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Laboratory Manager/Theater Liaison \(#01365\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Laboratory Manager/Theater Liaison](#), MISS, Oak Ridge, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner – Firearms & Toolmarks \(#01378\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist I-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist IV-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018

- [Forensic Scientist IV-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Chemistry/Controlled Substances](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Latent Prints](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018



G O B I E R N O D E  
**BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR**  
M E J O R F U T U R O

Links from the American Embassy in Mexico on U.S. supported forensic initiatives.

[https://mx.usembassy.gov/first-national-forensic-sciences-symposium/?\\_ga=2.27439093.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450](https://mx.usembassy.gov/first-national-forensic-sciences-symposium/?_ga=2.27439093.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450)

[https://mx.usembassy.gov/forensic-laboratories-puebla-receive-international-accreditation-merida-initiative-support/?\\_ga=2.60427364.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450](https://mx.usembassy.gov/forensic-laboratories-puebla-receive-international-accreditation-merida-initiative-support/?_ga=2.60427364.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450)

[https://mx.usembassy.gov/helping-consolidate-mexicos-new-criminal-justice-system-support-forensic-sciences/?\\_ga=2.107258955.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450](https://mx.usembassy.gov/helping-consolidate-mexicos-new-criminal-justice-system-support-forensic-sciences/?_ga=2.107258955.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450)

[https://mx.usembassy.gov/united-states-mexico-join-forces-ensure-correct-identification-secure-handling-fentanyl/?\\_ga=2.5571706.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450](https://mx.usembassy.gov/united-states-mexico-join-forces-ensure-correct-identification-secure-handling-fentanyl/?_ga=2.5571706.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450)

**Performance Measures for Protective Equipment  
by Jane Northup**

The elements of a Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) have been the subject over the last few weeks. The first installment was on the need for SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures). The second installment was on Criteria for Implementing Control Measures. This installment will be the third recommendation:  
*A 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.*

**Laboratory Safety Equipment**

**1. Chemical Fume Hoods**

Laboratory air should be continuously replaced. An exchange rate of 6 to 10 air changes per hour is normally adequate general ventilation if local exhaust systems such as hoods are used as the primary method of chemical exposure control. Air flow should be directed from non-laboratory areas into laboratories and then exhausted out of the building.

In the laboratory the chemical fume hood is the primary means of controlling inhalation exposures. Hoods are designed to retain vapors and gases released within them, protecting the laboratory employee's breathing zone from the contaminant. This protection is accomplished by having a curtain of air move constantly through the face (open sash) of the hood. The face velocity should be approximately 100 linear feet per minute. Chemical fume hoods can also be used to isolate apparatus or chemicals that may present

physical hazards to employees. The closed sash on a hood serves as an effective barrier to fires, flying objects, chemical splashes or spattering and small implosions and explosions.

When using a chemical fume hood keep the following principles of safe operation in mind:

- Keep all chemicals and apparatus at least six inches inside the hood (behind sash).
- Hoods are not intended for routine storage of chemicals. Materials stored in them should be kept to a minimum. Stored chemicals or apparatus should not block vents at the rear of the hood or alter airflow patterns. If the air returns are blocked contaminated air may be blown back into the laboratory and not exhausted up the ductwork. Personnel working at the front of the hood could receive an inadvertent chemical exposure from the fumes that are blown back.
- Keep the hood sash at a minimum height (2-3 inches) when not manipulating chemicals or adjusting apparatus within the hood. Keep the sash at a minimum of 4-6 inches if the hood does not have a flow bypass. A bypass hood provides an auxiliary air supply that provides make-up air when the sash is closed. The book "Prudent Practices" (National Academy Press, 1995) provides an excellent discussion of hood operation.
- Do not allow objects such as paper wipes to enter the exhaust ducts. This can clog ducts and adversely affect their operation. In some cases it would be appropriate to have a large-meshed screen at the back of the hood to prevent paper wipes and other small debris from being sucked up the hood exhaust duct. If the exhaust fan becomes clogged the hood will fail to function properly.
- The user must check that the hood is functioning properly before each use. It is a good idea to permanently affix a "telltale" to indicate air flow if the hood does not have an air-flow gauge.
- Sink drains in hoods must not be used to dispose of hazardous chemical waste. A protective berm or a sink drain plug is recommended to prevent inadvertent flow of chemicals into the hood sinks. If water cooling lines must drain to the sink special sink drain plugs can be used. Use appropriate secondary containment of apparatus and chemicals when using the fume hood to prevent discharge to the sink drain.
- The user must follow the chemical manufacturer's or supplier's specific instructions for controlling inhalation exposures with ventilation (chemical fume hood) when using their products. These instructions are located on the products SDS and/or label. However, it should be noted that these ventilation recommendations are often intended for non-laboratory work environments and must be adapted to suit the laboratory environment, as well as the specific procedure or process.

## 2. Ductless Chemical Fume Hoods

Ductless chemical fume hoods (hoods which recycle air to the laboratory after passing it through a filter) are now being offered by a variety of manufacturers. Manufacturers claim that these devices are safe and extremely energy efficient because no air is exhausted from the laboratory. These systems typically have a particulate filter and/or a charcoal filter for the removal of organic vapors. These systems must be used with extreme caution.

The primary safety concern with these devices is their filtering mechanism. Charcoal filters are not 100% efficient at removing organic vapors. Thus, some organic vapor will always be returned to the laboratory atmosphere. Charcoal filters have a limited ability to adsorb organic vapors and become saturated in a matter of months. Most hoods do not have a method for detecting when the filters are saturated and breakthrough of organic vapors begins. Those that have monitors depend on non-specific chemical sensors, which will respond at different concentrations for different substances.

Applications where ductless chemical fume hoods might be appropriate include the control of particulate and nuisance odors. Ductless hoods should not be used to protect laboratory workers from toxicologically significant concentrations of hazardous chemicals. A careful assessment of the suitability for a particular project must be conducted before purchasing this type of hood. The user must provide the manufacturer with a list of the potential chemicals to be used in the ductless hood and their anticipated quantities of usage prior to purchase to determine the appropriate type of unit that should be purchased.

Where ductless hoods are installed their use must be monitored to ensure that usage does not change over time and that proper procedures are followed. A laboratory supervisor or safety officer should maintain a run-time log as part of the laboratory documentation that indicates the type and quantity of chemical that has been used and its duration. The log should include a record of maintenance and cartridge change. In addition a service contract should be purchased from the vendor to perform the annual hood certification and perform any needed maintenance. The run-time log will determine the appropriate information for the hazardous waste label that will be required for disposal of the filters. All hazardous waste disposal of the hood cartridges must be to an EPA-permitted facility.

## 3. Glove Boxes

The ventilation in a negative pressure glove box must be at least 2 volume changes/hour and the pressure must be at least 0.5 inches of water. Thoroughly check a positive pressure glove box for leaks before each use. In either case if the exit gases are hazardous they should be trapped or passed through an appropriate filter before they are released into the hood.

## 4. Eyewashes and Safety Showers

Whenever chemicals have the possibility of damaging the skin or eyes, an emergency supply of water must be available. All laboratories where hazardous chemicals are handled and could contact the eyes or skin resulting in injury must have readily available access to eyewash stations and safety showers. As with any safety equipment, these can only be useful if they are accessible and operational, therefore:

- Keep all passageways to the eyewash and shower clear of any obstacle (even a temporarily parked chemical cart).
- Eyewashes must be checked routinely by laboratory personnel to be certain that water flows through them. If the eyewashes are plumbed to a drain allow them to run for several minutes once per week to clear out the supply lines, remove dust and prevent bacterial contamination. Eyewashes should have protective covers that come off when the water is turned on.
- Showers should be checked routinely to assure that access is not restricted and that the pull chain is within reach.
- The water flow through the safety showers must be tested to ensure sufficient flow (approximately 30 gallons per minute). Safety showers (and eye washes that are not plumbed to a drain) should be inspected annually

### 5. Fire Safety Equipment

Fire safety equipment must be readily accessible to the laboratory and must include an appropriate size and type of fire extinguisher (generally type ABC) for the type and quantity of chemicals stored in the laboratory. Other equipment may include fire hoses and automatic extinguishing systems. Fire extinguishers should be located within 35 feet of high hazard laboratories and 70 feet for other laboratories. NFPA Guide 10 provides specifications for portable fire extinguishers.

**NFPA Website:**

<http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=10>

**OSHA Fact Sheet:**

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

**CHP Template:**

[http://www.dsp.wi.gov/Documents/Industry%20Services/Forms/Public%20Sector%20Employee/Template-Chemical\\_Hygiene\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.dsp.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!**

Please click on the course title below for more information!

**[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Internal Auditor](#)**

February 6-9, San Diego, CA

**[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Assessor Training \(Testing\)](#)**

January 8-12, Largo, FL

**[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Preparation for Testing Labs](#)**

January 8-10, Largo, FL

Also available as web-based training!

**[Forensic Measurement Confidence](#) (MC100)**

January 16-18 (Online)

**[Practical Applications for Forensic Measurement Confidence](#) (MC150)**

March 13-14, Alexandria, VA

**[Root Cause Analysis for Forensic Service Providers](#)**

January 29 - February 1 (Online)

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

April 11-12, San Francisco, CA

**Quick Links to ANAB**

ANAB offers training courses to forensic agencies on ISO standard requirements and concepts. Please click on the course title below for more information, including upcoming public training dates.

[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Internal Auditor Training](#)

[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Assessor Training \(Testing\)](#)

[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Assessor Training \(Calibration\)](#)

[Root Cause Analysis for Forensic Service Providers](#)

[Forensic Measurement Confidence - Web-based \(MC100\)](#)

[Practical Applications for Forensic Measurement Confidence \(MC150\)](#)

[Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Preparation for Testing Laboratories \(Web-based\)](#)

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

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**2018 National Institute of Justice Forensic Science Symposium**

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## Forensic Science in the News

### [What better forensic science can reveal about the JFK assassination](#)

Six years before the National Research Council's 2009 report, I was on a panel of the council that looked at a particular forensic technique used to match bullets found at crime scenes (typically murders) to bullets found in a suspect's possession. That procedure, called comparative bullet lead analysis, was first used in the investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963. What the panel found 40 years after the event contradicted the FBI's analysis of the evidence at the time, and caused the bureau to stop using the technique altogether.

### [Scientists create new forensic technology](#)

New forensic technology created by scientists at Loughborough University will make it 'impossible' for criminals erase their fingerprints from crime scenes.

### [Privatisation in the dock over 'the biggest forensic science scandal for decades'](#)

While most successful crime dramas rely on unexpected twists, many forensic scientists watching the growing scandal unfolding in their field may feel the situation is unfortunately all-too-predictable.

### [The Teen Detectives Using DNA to Stalk Invasive Fish](#)

Through Cornell's FishTracker program, funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, teams of life-jacket-clad teenagers leaned out over docks to scoop water samples from the Hudson River. They plunged plastic bags into the water column, trying to avoid both the surface muck and mud stirred up from the bottom. They then stabbed each bag with a toothpick, and let the trickle drip through a filter, which went back to the lab.

### [Forensics Report Shows What Guns Are Mostly Used For In Harris County](#)

Less than a month ago, Devin Kelley walked into a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas and opened fire killing 26 people. An armed neighbor wounded Kelley who later turned his gun on himself.

### [Globetrotting drug detective races against rising opioid death toll](#)

When he's not traveling, Logan can be found at National Medical Services (NMS) Labs in Willow Grove, Pa. He acts as vice president of forensic science initiatives and chief forensic toxicologist.

### [Military IDs 100 killed on USS Oklahoma in Pearl Harbor](#)

Officials exhumed the bodies after determining that advances in forensic science and genealogical help from families could make identifications possible. The buried Marines and sailors have been classified as missing since World War II.

### [Medical Examiner Trying to ID Child Seeks Public Help](#)

A county medical examiner trying to identify a boy whose remains were found in the backyard of a Cleveland home in September is asking for the public's help.

Cuyahoga (ky-uh-HOH'-guh) County Medical Examiner Thomas Gilson said Wednesday his office has "exhausted all of its efforts" to identify the remains of a boy estimated to be 4 years old.

### [Mother, boyfriend charged with murder in child-abuse death of 3-year-old Evan Brewer](#)

Three months ago, police found Evan's body encased in concrete in his south Wichita rental home. Dwayne Haukap, the landlord who found the concrete slab poured into a form, said Tuesday that the body appeared to be wrapped in wire mesh over some sort of cloth. He said the slab was about 4 feet long and about 2 feet tall and 2 feet wide. The heavy concrete left marks on the floor where it had been moved.

### [Crime lab funding crucial to justice system](#)

The state crime lab and medical examiner's offices are facing nearly \$300,000 in combined cuts which was part of the legislative budget committee recommendations for fiscal year 2019. While it should be noted that the budget recommendations are not final, having adequate resources are essential for accurate and timely investigations of deaths of public interest. Even as state officials have warned staffing shortages in these departments are bringing Mississippi to the brink of a public safety crisis, Mississippi counties rely on the coordination of the state in investigating deaths.

### [Sheriff upset over proposed change for Hennepin County Crime Lab](#)

A possible shakeup at the Hennepin County Crime Lab is drawing criticism from local law enforcement agencies across the metro who depend on the service.

### [New state crime lab is a step toward swifter justice in the mountains](#)

Faster turnaround times for all crime testing is the goal for the Western Regional Crime Lab that Monday hosted more than 200 regional law enforcement dignitaries from district attorneys to police chiefs to highway patrol deputies.

[6,000 drug cases linked to "rogue chemist" at Mass. crime lab to be dismissed](#)

Massachusetts prosecutors said Thursday that they will dismiss more than 6,000 convictions tied to a former chemist who authorities say was high almost every day she worked at a state drug lab for eight years.

[Green Bay police crack 2 separate cases with help from State Crime Lab](#)

Police are crediting the State Crime Lab with helping solve two separate cases recently.

[Iowa Crime Lab sees sharp spike in drug submissions](#)

The Iowa Crime Lab has received a lot more drug samples to test this year than last, stretching its resources and leading to a backlog for local law enforcement agencies waiting on results.

[These new state hires could help cut down North Carolina's rape kit backlog](#)

Attorney General Josh Stein traveled to Henderson County this weekend for the ribbon-cutting at a new State Crime Lab office for western North Carolina. There has been a regional lab in Asheville since the 1980s but the new one in Edneyville is twice as big and will be able to handle more types of evidence.

[Growing caseload impacting turnaround time at state crime lab](#)

From fingerprinting to toxicology, the Idaho State Police Crime Lab analyzes it all; but with an increase in case submissions, the lab's forensics team says its tough to stay ahead of the backlog.

[Victim seeks answers amid Oregon's crime lab backlog](#)

Nearly a year after telling police she was sexually assaulted by an acquaintance who she suspects drugged her with LSD, an Oregon woman is still waiting for the lab results and for authorities to conclude their investigation of the alleged attack.

[State Crime Lab Plays Vital Role in Life-Saving Organ Transplants](#)

"It started with somebody giving me their liver to be able to help others out here," Alley says.

[Butane extraction lab. 300 pounds of marijuana found in El Dorado County home](#)

El Dorado County Sheriff's Office detectives found multiple commercial vacuum ovens, a closed-loop butane oil extraction system, several five-gallon cylinders of butane and a commercial decanter in a house in the 5000 block of Monte Vista Way in Camino, according to a department news release.

[The Latest from Day 2: Retired forensic examiner, crime lab tech testify about evidence](#)

Kenneth Crawford, a retired forensic document examiner, and Steven Robertson, a DPS crime lab tech, testified to their analysis of evidence submitted in the case.

[Kate Steinle Case Alternate Juror: 'The Outcome Might Have Been Different'](#)

The bullet fired from the stolen .40-caliber Sig Sauer pistol was fired from about knee height, and the bullet struck the concrete 12 feet from where Garcia Zarate was sitting, ricocheting and striking the 33-year-old Steinle in the back about 78 feet away, Van Stockum explains. The immigrant, who had no documented history of violence, contended that he found the gun near the park bench wrapped in clothing or cloth, picked it up, and it accidentally discharged from his inadvertent touch.

[White Ex-cop Gets 20 Years in Prison for Fatal Shooting](#)

A white former South Carolina officer was sentenced to 20 years in prison on Thursday for fatally shooting an unarmed black motorist in the back in 2015, wrapping up a case that became a rallying cry for the Black Lives Matter movement.

[Exploring Virtual Reality as a Forensic Tool](#)

Virtual reality (VR) offers unparalleled capabilities to support and facilitate forensic activities. VR and other related technologies, like augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR) have been around for more than half a century, but it is only in the last few years that it has shown the potential to go mainstream.

[Unreported missing boy's bones found in bag at vacant Cleveland home, officials say](#)

A bag of bones hidden in shrubs in the backyard of a vacant home in the city's Longmead-Puritas neighborhood belong to a young boy who has not been reported missing, officials said on Wednesday.

[AG Sessions Urges International Forensic Cooperation at Asset Recovery Forum](#)

The interconnected world has broken down borders for economics—and crime, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said in a speech Monday, urging countries to share more crime-solving know-how and information.



# New Narcotics Protection Kit as You Face the Dangerous Opioid Epidemic

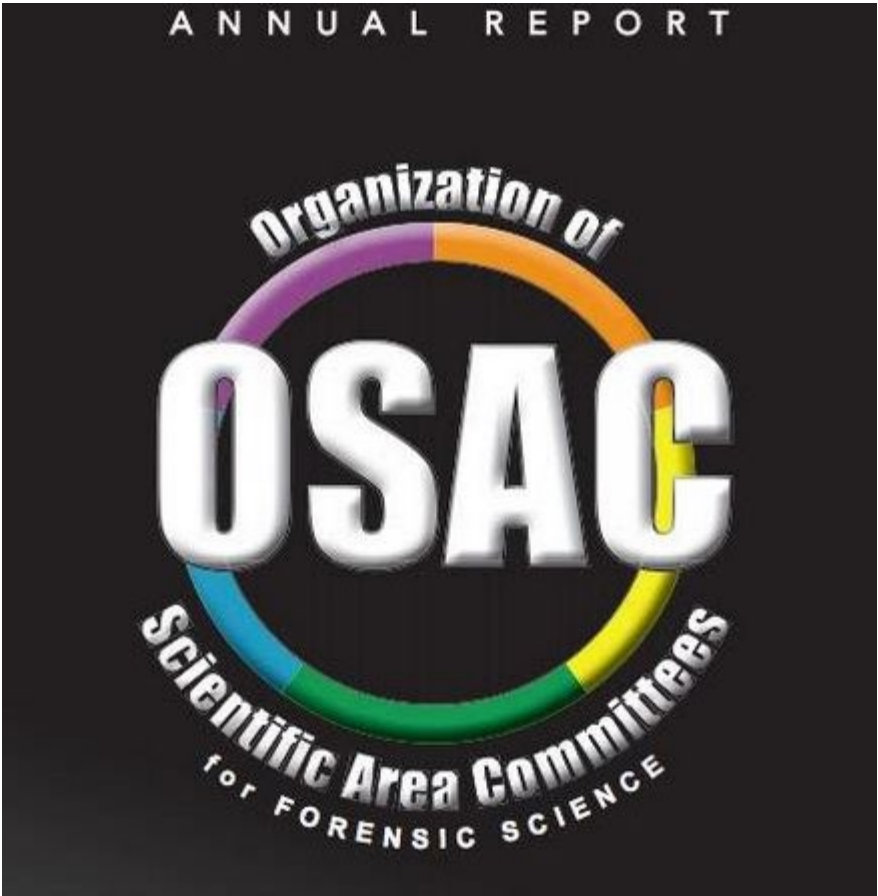
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Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science  
Annual Report 2017







**Accreditation and Training**  
developed specifically for the  
forensic community

[www.anab.org](http://www.anab.org)

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



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LabCorp Specialty Testing Group

[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.

[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.



**Genetics in Forensics Congress**  
Oxford Global Conferences: [www.oxfordglobal.co.uk](http://www.oxfordglobal.co.uk)  
Oxford Global Training Seminars:  
[www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk](http://www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk)



**Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations**


**Establishment of an Office of Forensic Sciences and a Forensic Science Board Within the Department of Justice**  
Revision 2/14/17

[http://thecfso.org/advocacy/20170214\\_CFSO\\_OFS\\_Proposal\\_Rev.pdf](http://thecfso.org/advocacy/20170214_CFSO_OFS_Proposal_Rev.pdf)

Formed in 2000, CFSO is an association of six forensic science professional organizations: American Academy of Forensic Sciences; American Society of Crime Lab Directors; International Association for Identification; International Association of Forensic Nurses; National Association of Medical Examiners; and Society of Forensic Toxicologists - American Board of Forensic Toxicology. These professional organizations together represent more than 21,000 forensic science professionals across the United States.

[Read the CFSO Newsletter here.](#)

**The Forensic Science Leadership Series**  
at Cedar Crest College  
2018 Workshops



Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania  
March 19th to 23rd, 2018

Course Instructors  
Dr. Mark Reynolds  
Mr. Edmund (Ted) Silenieks

Introduction

This course is designed primarily for practitioners who routinely examine blood stained clothing and other textiles and are required to assess, interpret, and report on bloodstain patterns as part of those examinations. The course is delivered

Grant Assistance for DNA

through a combination of “face to face” instruction and self-directed learning. A minimum 80 hours of structured learning activities is required, inclusive of a 40 hour “face to face” residential component. The course will review the underpinning principles of BPA, and apply these principles to the analysis and interpretation of bloodstains on clothing and other textiles.

When examining clothing, the practitioner must be mindful of influences such as the fibre type, texture, treatments, all of which may affect the final appearance of bloodstains. The primary focus of the course is to develop those skills required for the examination of bloodstain patterns found on clothing items, including the use of microscopy to discriminate between spatter and transfer bloodstains

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

**FORESIGHT 20/20**

Greetings from the Project FORESIGHT team. We invite you to join us and submit data for the past fiscal year. FORESIGHT is a business-guided self-evaluation of forensic science laboratories across the globe. The participating laboratories represent local, regional, state/provincial, and national agencies. Faculty from the WVU College of Business and Economics provide assistance, guidance, and analysis. We link financial information to work tasks and functions. Laboratory managers can use these functions to assess resource allocations, efficiencies, and value of services—the mission is to measure, preserve what works, and change what does not. **FORESIGHT is open to any forensic laboratory that completes and submits a LabRAT form. There is no charge for participation.** Attached you will find an example of an individualized report prepared for a participating laboratory.

To participate, simply complete the attached LabRAT workbook and submit to Paul Speaker at email [paul.speaker@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:paul.speaker@mail.wvu.edu). Please send any questions to the same email address. For additional information, please visit the program web site <http://be.wvu.edu/forensic/foresight.htm>. We are targeting a submission date of December 15, 2017.

Foresight 20/20

Impression, Pattern and Trace Evidence  
Symposium January 22-25, 2018

**Federal Grant Assistance for Rapid DNA**

Rapid DNA is included in two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Authorized Equipment Lists (AEL):

- 07BD-02-DNRN - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection
- 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools

These AEL's are in these FEMA grants:

- 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

[Grants.gov](http://grants.gov) discusses these FEMA Grants and other Federal Grant opportunities

- Some of these are submitted through your State—see other side of this card

How to find applicable Grants:

1. On [grants.gov](http://grants.gov), under Search Grants
  - 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
2. On [grants.gov](http://grants.gov), under Search Applicants
  - 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: [app07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do](http://app07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do)

**State Grant Assistance for Rapid DNA**

1. Find contact information for your State Emergency Management (EM) Office at: [www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies](http://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies)
2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office.
3. If EM Office cannot help, find a contact who works with grant applications in your State. Key offices to contact:
  - a. Administration
  - b. Finance
  - c. Budget
4. Identify appropriate grant(s).
  - 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:
  - 07BD-02-DNRN - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection
  - 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools
7. File forms on time
8. Periodically monitor:
  - 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 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year

Contact the Rapid DNA vendors for assistance:

- ANDE (NetBio):  
[www.ANDE.com](http://www.ANDE.com)  
[sales@ANDE.com](mailto:sales@ANDE.com)  
817-705-4055
- IntegenX  
[www.integenX.com](http://www.integenX.com)  
[sales@integenX.com](mailto:sales@integenX.com)

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<http://www.chemcentre.wa.gov.au/Our-Services/Forensic-Science>

**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

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

[releases GRF and other funding solicitations.](#)

**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**

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 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.

**NIFS Newsletter --**  
<http://www.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/newsletters>

Dear Colleagues,

The ANZPAA NIFS Research and Innovation Strategy and Roadmap are now available for



download from the ANZPAA NIFS website:

<http://www.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/projects/research-and-innovation-project>

The Roadmap details the priority areas of focus for research and innovation in forensic science, identified by the Australia New Zealand forensic science community. Each priority area of focus has been aligned to a strategic policing priority, to highlight the importance of forensic science research and innovation initiatives in the broader law enforcement environment. It is anticipated that this document will be a resource for the forensic science community to focus research and innovation initiatives towards end user requirements and reduce duplication of effort by identifying opportunities for collaboration.

The specific project questions under each area of focus are detailed in a separate document that is updated annually by ANZPAA NIFS in consultation with the forensic science community. This document is not available on the website but anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the current project questions can do so by contacting ANZPAA NIFS ([secretariat.nifs@anzpaa.org.au](mailto:secretariat.nifs@anzpaa.org.au)).

The Strategy has been developed to provide a mechanism for ANZPAA NIFS to provide funding and in-kind support for externally managed projects that aim to address one or more of the Roadmap questions. Applications for ANZPAA NIFS support are accepted on a continuous basis and application requirements are detailed in the Strategy.

If you have any questions about the documents please do not hesitate to contact the ANZPAA NIFS team.

Kind regards,

Secretariat NIFS

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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