



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to announce the opening of registration for our Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, from May 20-24, 2018. The link to the symposium website is: <https://www.ascldsymposium.com/>. Please take this opportunity to plan to meet with your fellow forensic leaders, to share new ideas, issues and solutions, to hear engaging presentations and also to share some comradery, network and enlarge your list of contacts. As a leadership group, we bear responsibility to be stewards of our field of forensic science, which includes sharing resources to bring the best of the forensic world back to our home jurisdictions and cases.

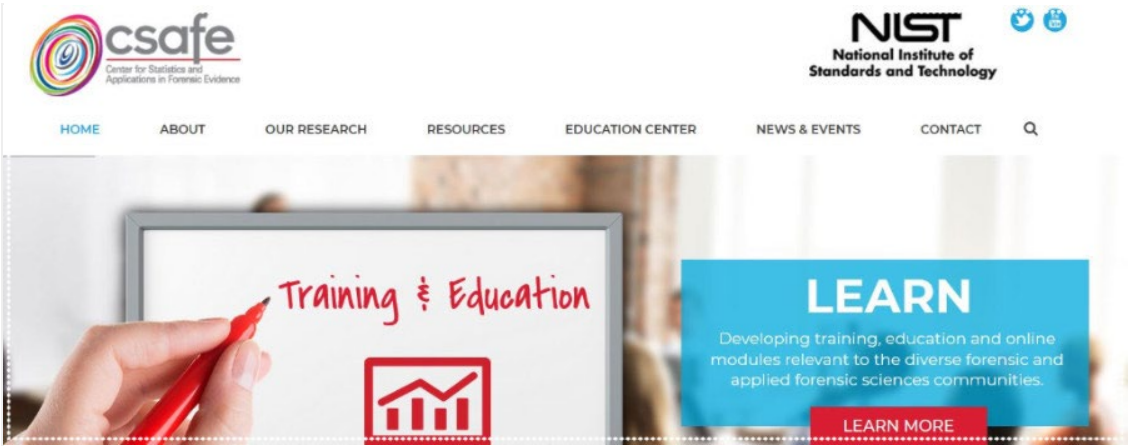
Along with registration, the meeting agenda has also been posted at: <https://www.ascldsymposium.com/agenda-cqfe>. The focus of this year's meeting is leadership, with our theme Leading Forensic Advancement; A Formula for Success. You will see the topic of leadership evident throughout the array of engaging and informative workshops scheduled for Sunday and Monday, followed by an outstanding plenary session Tuesday through Thursday. Highlights of the plenary session include high level outside speakers and panels on accreditation and developing staff.

This year we have made notable schedule changes, including moving the Awards Banquet luncheon to Thursday from 1:30-3:00 to ensure maximum attendance. Please include attending the Banquet in your travel plans as we will present an expanded set of awards and special speakers. A lot of planning and effort goes into our annual meetings, to ensure you have the best experience possible, including arming you with the best tools to take back to improve your lab. Please join your colleagues in Atlanta. See you there!

Ray Wickenheiser

ASCLD President

Register for 2018 ASCLD Symposium



Subject: CSAFE Survey on Current Forensic Reporting Practices

[You are being asked to participate in a research study on forensic reporting practices.](#) The purpose is to understand how forensic results are being reported in crime laboratories right now.

The survey is being administered by [The Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence \(CSAFE\)](#).

As you probably know, CASFE was named a Forensic Science Center of Excellence by the National Institute of Standards and Technology to "support NIST's efforts to advance the utility of probabilistic methods to enhance forensic analysis." CSAFE has partnerships with many forensic laboratories including the Midwest Forensic Resource Center.

You will be compensated for your participation in this research study with attractive CSAFE mementos.

The results of the survey will be analyzed by CSAFE and potentially published. However, individual participants will not be identified. We are required to report the results only in an aggregate manner that prevents associating responses with any particular laboratory or individual.

The survey is expected to take around 1 hour, although that will vary according to the answers given.

Please complete this survey by March 31, 2018

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.asclد.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!

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>

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/>

Thank you to our 2018 Symposium Sponsors and Exhibitors!

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Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Volunteer Opportunity

The American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), provider of accreditation to forensic organizations and other testing and testing related providers, is seeking forensic science practitioners to serve on a voluntary basis on the A2LA Forensic Examination Advisory Committee (FEAC) and A2LA Accreditation Council (AC). Participation is primarily through electronic communication (e.g. teleconferences, emails, online portal) and benefits of membership include: networking opportunities with other practitioners and technical experts from other fields, increased knowledge of the accreditation process, ability to provide technical input in areas of accreditation and quality assurance, and an invitation to attend the A2LA Technical Forum and Annual Meeting. Additionally, Accreditation Council (AC) members become honorary members A2LA, the association, and gain access to unique presentations and trainings such as ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and similar. For additional information, please see the <https://www.a2la.org/genweb/tac.cfm> page to learn about A2LA's Technical Advisory Committees or <https://www.a2la.org/AC/Join-Accreditation-Council.cfm> for information on the A2LA Accreditation Council."

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (Hiring now)

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

- [Forensic DNA Analyst](#), DNA REFERENCE LAB, Inc., San Antonio, Expires: April 2, 2018
- [Forensic Analyst – Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 6, 2018
- [DNA Supervisor-Principle Executive Manager E](#), Oregon State Police, Portland, OR, Expires: February 19, 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
- [Experienced Crime Scene Investigator](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2018
- [Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2018
- [Assistant Technical Lead – Forensic Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: March 31, 2018
- [Latent Print Examiner](#), InCadence Strategic Solutions, Forest Park, GA, Expires: May 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II – Toxicology](#), Metro Nashville Ploce Department Crime Laboratory, Nashville, TN, Expires: February 4, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Digital & Multimedia Evidence](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: February 15, 2018
- [Biometric Records Manager \(A.F.I.S – Automated Fingerprint Identification System\)](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: March 1, 2018
- [Faculty Position in the MS Program in Biomedical Forensic Sciences](#), Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, Expires: April 10, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist I/II](#), NMS Labs, Fayetteville, NC, Expires: April 1, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist](#), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Expires: February 28, 2018
- [Forensic Biologist – Crime Lab Scientist](#), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, GA & Moultrie, GA, Expires: February 28, 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

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

ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB)

[ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board \(ANAB\)](#) is a member of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board family of brands and the new home of ASCLD/LAB. ANAB provides accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025 forensic test laboratories and ISO/IEC 17020 forensic inspection agencies and a wide variety of training, workshops, and academic programs.

[Introduction to ISO/IEC 17025:2017](#)

April 9-10, 2018, San Francisco
October 10-11, 2018, San Antonio, TX

[Internal Auditing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017](#)

March 26-28, 2018, Austin, TX
May 21-23, 2018, Baltimore, MD
September 17-19, 2018, Minneapolis, MN

[ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Lead Assessor Training](#)

February 12-16, 2018, Tampa FL
August 20-24, 2018, Washington, DC

[Fundamentals of Measurement Uncertainty](#)

March 29-30, 2018, Austin, TX
May 24-25, 2018, Baltimore, MD
September 20-21, 2018, Minneapolis, MN

[Internal Auditing to ISO/IEC 17020](#)

March 13-15, 2018, Alexandria, VA

[ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 Training](#)

April 16-18, 2018, Phoenix, AZ

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

October 15-16, 2018, Cincinnati, OH

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

May 8-11, 2018, Cary, NC

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

April 9-13, 2018, Springfield, VA
May 7-11, 2018, Chandler, AZ

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

April 9-11, 2018, Springfield, VA

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

April 11-13, 2018 (1:00 pm - 3:00 pm ET) - Online

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

March 13-14, 2018, Alexandria, VA

[Roadmap to Transition: Forensic AR 3028](#)

Available as an on-site course
Contact training@anab.org or 414-501-5466 for more information

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

Forensic Science in the News

[American Academy of Forensic Sciences Holds 70th Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, Washington](#)

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences' (AAFS) 70th Annual Scientific Meeting will take place Feb. 19-24, 2018, at the Washington State Convention Center. Themed "Science Matters" by AAFS President Betty Layne DesPortes, JD, MS, more than 4,000 national and international forensic professionals are expected to present breaking advances in the forensic sciences and hold discussions on issues facing the profession.

[Plans to establish Forensic Science Professional Day in Belarus](#)

Plans to declare a new holiday, the Forensic Science Professional Day, were discussed during a meeting between Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko and Chairman of the State Forensics Committee Andrei Shved, BelTA has learned.

[Forensic analyst fired for shredding records in homicide case](#)

A Houston Forensic Science Center analyst was fired last week after it was discovered she shredded original case notes from a homicide, the agency confirmed Wednesday.

[Forensic scientists have a blast in Happy Valley](#)

To a common observer, a crime scene may seem like an impossible puzzle; but in the eyes of a forensic scientist, it is a complex and incomplete record of past events — difficult to interpret, but decipherable through science.

[Police foot the bill after collapse of forensics firm](#)

Police have been forced into a multimillion-pound bailout of a private forensics company whose collapse jeopardised thousands of cases that include rape and murder, The Times has learnt.

[Promoting careers in forensics](#)

Of the many graduate programs that attract students to UC Davis, the forensic science program does not have as high of a profile as some, but it is no less successful.

[New forensic science laboratory faces delay](#)

The reason given to Fianna Fáil justice spokesman Jim O'Callaghan was "owing to the complexity of the project and recent changes in international forensic laboratory standards, it will be necessary to add further material to the tender documentation".

[Caught on tape? Judge to decide if junk science put Texas man behind bars for 10 years](#)

On Tuesday, Powell sat in a Bell County courtroom and watched images of the 2008 armed robbery that put him away for nearly a quarter of his life. After a decade in prison and years fighting for his release, his wrongful conviction case now hinges on whether the judge agrees junk science landed him in prison.

[Silent Witness inspiring young forensic scientists](#)

Amanda Burton was the original female character so pivotal in its crime stories around forensic science and pathology and Emilia Fox succeeded her in 2004 to become its longest-serving actor.

[Becoming a digital forensics practitioner](#)

In an increasingly connected and digital world, littered with sophisticated attackers and underground cyber criminal organisations, it would be impossible to uncover and gather the evidence needed to investigate online crimes, without digital forensics.

[Bone experts offer how-to video for forensic professionals](#)

Advances in recent years allow forensic practitioners to use bone mineral density to extract more information from human remains -- but many forensic experts are unfamiliar with the techniques and technology.

[Capistrano District Students Reenact Murder For OCSD Explorers](#)

Capistrano Unified School District is helping local law enforcement this week through a training exercise that mixes high school actors with Orange County Sheriff's Department explorers program. On Monday morning, OCSD vehicles were seen around Aliso Niguel High School, drawing attention to the exercise.

[Aasma rape-murder case: Samples of 243 suspects sent for DNA test](#)

In the latest development in the ongoing investigation against the brutal incident, Mardan Regional Police Officer DIG Awal Khan said the police has received the DNA test report on the case and has sent samples of 243 suspects to the laboratory for cross matching.

[REVEALED: Scientists find man with 'perfect smile' in 3,500 year-old BRONZE AGE SKELETON](#)

A "CATCH for the ladies" man, described as having the "perfect smile", has been found by scientists examining the remains of a young Bronze Age male with better teeth than many modern-day Britons, it has been revealed.

[Top Detective Blows Whistle On Drug War, Prison System](#)

Before he was Ron Paul and Rand Paul's head of security, John Baeza was a cop's cop. Coming from a family tradition of public servants, Baeza started his career as a corrections officer in New York's infamous Sing Sing prison. He later became an undercover narcotics detective in Manhattan during the height of the 80s crack craze. It was there that Baeza had a Road to Damascus experience: after almost losing his life in an undercover drug buy, he realized the futility of the drug war and all victimless crime laws.

[Investigators begin piecing together 'puzzle' in Toronto serial killer case](#)

Earlier this week, police discovered dismembered remains of at least three people in the bottoms of large planters after searching a property at Mallory Crescent in midtown Toronto. They believe those cases are connected to the presumed deaths of two men who went missing from downtown Toronto.

[Investigators focusing on backyard of home linked to alleged serial killer](#)

Investigators have set up a large green tent in the backyard of a home where murder suspect Bruce McArthur stored his landscaping equipment where they hope to thaw the ground enough to begin excavating the property.

[Lake County commissioners put crime lab levy on May ballot](#)

The existing levy annually costs taxpayers \$7.51 per \$100,000 home valuation. If approved, the new levy would cost voters an additional \$14 annually per \$100,000 home valuation, according to the Lake County Auditor's Office.

[Crime lab didn't find usable DNA on guns victims in May 2016 shooting handled](#)

A state DNA analyst said no DNA from either of the victims in a May 2016 double slaying was found on guns they allegedly handled, but admitted under cross-examination that it is rare to find so-called touch DNA on firearms.

[Community invited to tour campus crime lab](#)

Faculty, staff, and students in the criminal justice program will show the equipment and demonstrate what they teach and learn in the lab, in the East Building, Room 103. It will be open from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

[Jurors hear from crime lab technicians](#)

On Friday, jurors in the George Walker murder trial heard from witnesses from the Kentucky State Police crime lab about evidence they analyzed in connection with the murder of Alison Walker.

[Houston forensic analyst fired for shredding homicide documents](#)

The agency said the violation "only pertains to one case," but that it will audit all of the former employee's work. The agency also said it will redo the forensic analysis in the homicide case "to ensure law enforcement and prosecutors have accurate, reliable information."

[Orange County prosecutors cast a bigger net to review DNA cases than San Diego county did](#)

When the San Diego District Attorney's Office last week began notifying lawyers for 254 convicted defendants that rule changes for DNA evidence could affect their case, it wasn't the first time that a prosecutor's office had re-examined closed cases that relied on such forensic evidence.

[Jurors in trial of Joe McKnight's accused murderer head to crime lab to see car at center of case](#)

The 12 jurors and four alternates spent about 10 minutes looking at and in Gasser's blue Infiniti as Judge Ellen Kovach, prosecutors Seth Shute and Shannon Swaim and defense attorneys Gerard Archer, Matt Goetz watched.

[Millsboro mom calls cops over son's meth lab](#)

Elijah Cantrell, the 39-year-old son, fled the home before police arrived and now is wanted for operating a secret laboratory and possessing drug paraphernalia.

[Thousands of criminal cases reviewed after DNA rules changed](#)

The extensive review, ordered by District Attorney Tony Rackauckas in 2011, a year after a national science group changed the way DNA mixtures are interpreted, resulted in reduced charges in just two serious crimes, prosecutors said. Dozens more were found to include evidence in which the defense might have benefited under the new DNA standards.

[HumanDocs series returns with "I Am Evidence"](#)

The documentary showcased testimonies of women in the three cities who were victimized first by rape and then by the system's neglect. They waited as long as 15 years to see progress on their cases and eventually grew to expect that nothing would happen.

[Culture: Made Museum](#)

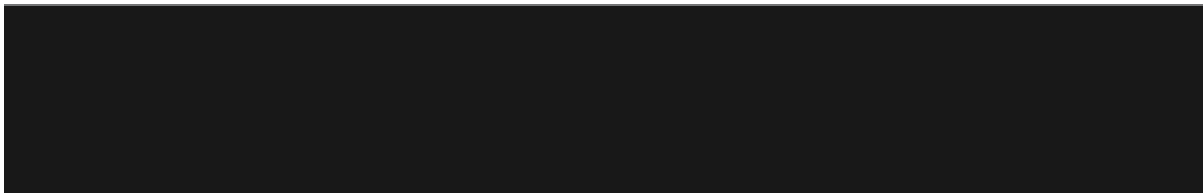
Everyone calls it the Mob Museum, but the other half of its mission — technically, it's the National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement — will see its share of the spotlight grow come February 14, when the museum debuts a \$9.2 million renovation.

[City Club of Chicago: Crime in Chicago – Beyond the Headlines](#)

Between 2015 and 2016, homicide rates in Chicago increased by nearly 60%, undoing much of the progress the city made in reducing crime over the past 25 years since the peak of the crack cocaine epidemic in the early 1990s. What happened to crime rates in 2017? Has the problem gotten better or worse over the past year? What solutions have been tried, and how effective have they been?

[Test on recovered rifle could show if killer is still out there after 3 dead in Byromville](#)

The GBI is expediting tests on a rifle recovered Friday from the scene of three shooting deaths in Dooly County.



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 Standards Bulletin

January 2018

BULLETIN SUMMARY

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).

Please consider providing comments on documents that are open for comment.


OSAC Registry Standards items open for comment: 1 Item

SDO Documents open for comment: 4 Items

Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science


 Forward

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




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

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 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

Grant Assistance for DNA

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

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](#)
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

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](#) 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](#), 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. View Grant Opportunity page for:
 - i. Synopsis - key information, e.g. dates, POC
 - ii. Package - under Actions-Apply provide email to get info on application package
3. On [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
4. Get alerts for new or revised grants at: appt07@fema.gov or <http://www.fema.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-contacts
2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office.
 - 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:
 - 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 2nd or 3rd year

Contact the Rapid DNA vendors for assistance:

- ANDE (NetBio):
www.ande.com
sales@ande.com
817-705-4055
- IntegenX
www.integenx.com
sales@integenx.com



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

ChemCentre Expert Solutions
<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.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

NIJ

National Institute of Justice

STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

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Advanced Search

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.](#)

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

Forensic Technology

A program of the National Institute of Justice

HOME

ABOUT

CONTACT

FOOD COURT

FOOD COURT

FOOD COURT

FOOD COURT

FOOD COURT

LEADERSHIP SERIES

OVERVIEW

MODULES

INSTRUCTORS

OTHER RESOURCES

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

Leadership series instructors and modules available.

Jody Wolf
Modules: Generations, Cultural Diversity, Leadership Principles and Concepts

Dr. Terry Anderson
Modules: Personal Leadership, Practical Emotional Intelligence, Moral Compass

Dean Gialamas
Modules: Leadership and Ethics, Leadership and Power

Deputy Chief Timothy P. Scanlan
Modules: Leadership and Change, First-Line And Mid-Level Supervision

[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 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 a 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.

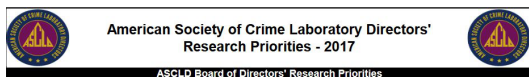
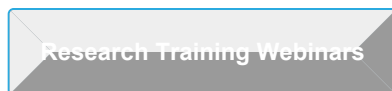
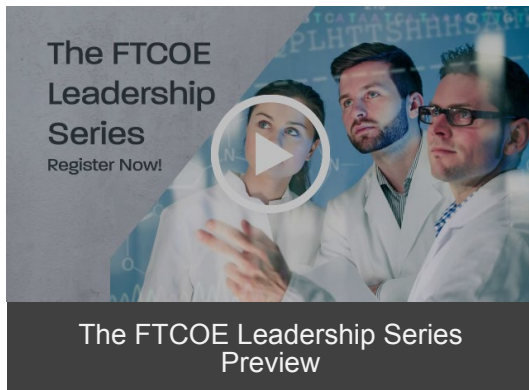
[Standardized Process Developed for Identifying Dyes in Fibers](#)

This article summarizes a 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

<https://mailchi.mp/519b95f47662/rvfrbk1gg9-1182505>[10/26/2018 10:24:15 AM]

Jeremy Triplett

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



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 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 Casing 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>



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.



American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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