



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear colleagues,

Impressing on forensic staff the critical nature of quality assurance is a never-ending task. We seek to put systems in place that provide structure and protect quality, generating a familiar routine. Yet, familiarity can cause complacency.

This challenge harkened me to an incident some time ago where a refrigerator failed in our lab. As a result, some reagents and casework items were compromised. In completing our corrective action, we looked back at the temperature logs. The logs had been dutifully completed, however showed fluctuating elevated temperatures several months in advance of the eventual failure. When questioned regarding the information conveyed by the elevated readings, it was clear that the individual competing the task had lost sight of the purpose for the daily or weekly routine.

A task as simple as taking temperature readings on a refrigerator can be looked at two ways. The first, an employee is putting in time conducting menial tasks necessitated by a regulatory system. The second, by ensuring proper operation of the refrigerator, the employee is safeguarding the integrity of critical reagents and casework material. Our casework is the most precious item entrusted to us at the crime laboratory.

Every task we undertake, however basic and routine it may seem, places upon us that same mantle of responsibility.

Unintentional quality fails such our refrigerator incident, are opportunities to improve. They should be blame free teachable moments to get better, as improvement is a continuous process.

Ray Wickenheiser

ASCLD President

Forum Announcements		Last Post Info
 Forum Rules <small>Topics: 1 Posts: 1</small>		 Forum Rules <small>By admin, 2 months ago</small>
General Forums		Last Post Info
 Management Discussion <small>Discussion on any topic concerning management within a forensic laboratory</small> <small>Topics: 0 Posts: 0</small>		Forum is empty
 Research Discussion <small>Forensic research related discussion</small> <small>Topics: 0 Posts: 0</small>		Forum is empty
 The ASCLD Organization <small>Announcements, questions, and feedback from membership on the organization itself</small> <small>Topics: 0 Posts: 0</small>		Forum is empty
 The Water Cooler <small>Discussion on any topic non-management, research, or ASCLD related</small> <small>Topics: 0 Posts: 0</small>		Forum is empty

ANNOUNCING THE ASCLD MEMBER FORUM!

The Member Resources committee is excited to announce the creation of the ASCLD Member Forum on the ASCLD website. The ASCLD Member Forum is a place for ASCLD members to interact with colleagues to ask questions, share ideas, and engage in professional discourse about management in forensic science. It is our hope that the ASCLD membership will use the forum as a place where everyone can benefit from the exchange of ideas.

As a member of ASCLD, you already have access to the Forum. Simply visit the ASCLD website and look under the "Member" tab. You can also directly access the Forum by going to: www.asclcd.org/forums/. Because this is a member benefit, you will need to sign into the website before you can view or post on the Forum. Please use this as a place to ask and answer questions, to share ideas, and engage with colleagues as we all pursue excellence in forensic science management!

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.asclcd.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!

THE ASCLD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



The ASCLD Leadership Academy is a training program offered by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors for managerial personnel in forensic science laboratories. It is designed to deliver training of the highest quality at a cost that recognizes the current strained budgets of labs across the US. The Academy is open to ASCLD members and non-members, alike.

The mission of the ASCLD Leadership Academy is to train *managers* to become *LEADERS*. Continuing into its 4th year, the ASCLD Leadership Academy will again offer a 100-level course designed specifically for newly appointed supervisors and supervisors who have had little opportunity for previous formal management training and education in early 2017. The Academy is a blended training model, combining weekly lecture-style webinars with a "Management Lab" at the annual ASCLD symposium where students will participate in hands-on, practical exercises to develop their skills.

THROUGH

4

YEARS

TOTAL OF

295

STUDENTS

FROM

35

STATES

AND

5

COUNTRIES

2018 Academy Calendar

LEADERSHIP – Ben Swanholm

February 22 – Leadership

March 1 – Leadership

March 8 – Transition from Peer to Supervisor & Conflict Management

March 15 – Cultural Change & Self-Leadership

COMMUNICATION – Col. Tim Scanlan

March 22 – Communication Styles

March 29 – Personality & Conflict Management

April 5 – Team Building

April 12 – Communication as a Leadership Tool for

Laboratory Issues

LABORATORY OPERATIONS – Jody Wolf &

Jeremy Triplett

April 19 – Strategic Management

April 26 – Process & Performance Management

May 3 – Quality Management & HR/Legal

Management

May 10 – Customer / Stakeholder Management

CAPSTONE

May 20-21, 2018: In-person workshop at the 2018 ASCLD Symposium,

Atlanta, Georgia

ASCLD LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

To register, please visit or share the following link: <https://www.regonline.com/ASCLDSymposium2018>.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the 5th annual ASCLD Leadership Academy to be held in Spring 2018. Twelve weekly, online webinars will be offered from February to April and will cover a wide range of essential leadership topics for forensic science supervisors and managers. The Academy will then finish with two intensive days of on-site, hands-on instruction at the ASCLD symposium in Atlanta, Georgia.

The 2018 Academy will again focus on providing quality instruction to new supervisors in the forensic science field and supervisors who have previously had limited opportunity for structured forensic management education and training. Between affordable registration costs and high quality instructors, ASCLD is confident that laboratories will see a valuable return on investment in a time when training budgets are lean across the US.

2018 Academy Calendar

LEADERSHIP – Ben Swanholm

February 22 – Leadership

March 1 – Leadership

March 8 – Transition from Peer to Supervisor and Conflict Management

March 15 – Cultural Change and Self-Leadership

COMMUNICATION – Col. Tim Scanlan

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April 12 – Communication as a Leadership Tool for Laboratory Issues

Laboratory Operations – Jody Wolf & Jeremy Triplett

April 19 – Strategic Management

April 26 – Process & Performance Management

May 3 – Quality Management & HR/Legal Management

May 10 – Customer/Stakeholder Management

CAPSTONE

May 20 – 21, 2017: In-person workshop at the 2017 ASCLD Symposium, Atlanta, Georgia

For additional information or to register for the academy, please go to <http://www.asclcd.org/meetings-and-training/asclcd-leadership-academy/>



**COLD CASE
CONFERENCE**
February 5-6, 2018



ARIZONA'S COLD CASE CONFERENCE

This cutting edge two-day seminar will provide practitioners with a comprehensive overview of cold case homicide investigations. Local and national experts' presentations designed for detectives, prosecutors, and lab analysts who work forensic cases. The seminar includes relevant case studies, methodologies, cutting-edge DNA technology and techniques. Discover successful ways to approach victims and suspects in cold cases. Learn how the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Cold Case detectives and prosecutors can work with law enforcement to ensure successful prosecution.

Date: February 5 – 6, 2018
Time: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. each day
Location: Black Canyon Conference Center
9440 N. 25th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021



**To Register: azhia.com/training.html
Seating is Limited**

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.

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 dont
delay in making your hotel reservations!*

[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!

★ Repeat Sponsor!

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.asclid.org/jobs2> to link and view details about job announcements listed below.

- [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
- [Laboratory Operations Analyst](#), Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, DC, Expires: February 3, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II – Toxicology](#), Metro Nashville Ploce Department Crime Laboratory, Nashville, TN, Expires: February 4, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist IV](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: February 2, 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 Scientist \(Biology\)](#), Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, Expires: February 2, 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/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
- [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

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.

[Navigating the New ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – Comparison to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 \(Web-based\)](#)

ONLINE
Cost: \$200

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

February 6-9, 2018
San Diego, CA
Cost: \$850

May 8-11, 2018
Cary, NC
Cost: \$850

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

April 9-13, 2018
Springfield, VA
Cost: \$1,195

[Practical Applications for Forensic Measurement Confidence](#)

March 13-14, 2018
Alexandria, VA
Cost: \$600

[Root Cause Analysis for Forensic Service Providers \(Web-based\)](#)

January 29- February 1, 2018
ONLINE
Cost: \$395

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

April 9-11, 2018
Springfield, VA
Cost: \$695

Web-based courses also available.

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

April 11-12, 2018
San Francisco, CA
Cost: ASQ member \$650, non-ASQ member \$700

October 15-16, 2018
Cincinnati, OH
Cost: ASQ member \$650, non-ASQ member \$700

[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

[Heiress Plotted 19 Grisly Crimes. Investigation Underway.](#)

Ms. Lee was not a schooled artist. She was a rich, frustrated woman in her 60s when she began them, and almost belligerent in her pursuit of a place in the infant field of forensic science. Lee shared its passion about the deceptions of crime and the need for truth in investigation. Entry to this professional realm was a double-locked door: men, and in particular police, held the keys. The majority of the victims in the Nutshells are women, found in their homes.

[Houston's Forensic Crime Lab Showing Efficiency Despite Its Plagued Past](#)

"In 2014, when the Houston Forensic Science Center took over services from the Houston Police Department, this crime lab had been under so much pressure and had such a poor reputation nationally, because of scandals that had plagued it in the past," said Plushnick-Masti. "It was very hard to attract people."

[Daniel Brühl Visited Dark Places for 'The Alienist'](#)

It only took until the late 1800s to get there. "This whole story is also about interior journeys, so it's not only some guy is a psychologist hunting a serial killer. It's also a trip right into the heart of darkness of each one's characters, and facing your own demons and your own traumas," Brühl says. "And so spending so much time with a character who thinks like that, inevitability you try and analyze yourself and go back and think about your own demons and dark chapters that you had in your life. All of us are burying secrets, evilness is in all of us. And I guess that's why we're so intrigued with these stories about serial killers, because it's a mystery and yet it's something so human."

[TV forensic shows offer no clues for committing a perfect murder](#)

A new psychological study finds no link between exposure to popular forensic science shows and the ability to conceal a crime.

[Medical examiner on Heights bones case: 'We really do believe that she is Mary Cerruti'](#)

It is unlikely anyone will ever know how exactly the person whose bones were found in the wall died. There wasn't enough evidence left to analyze. But Derrick still hopes to confirm whether the remains are Cerruti's - and she believes they are.

[Prints from severed hand lead to identity](#)

Homicide police investigating a severed right arm found in the sea off Matura beach on Sunday and a severed leg on Monday went to the Forensic Science Centre on Tuesday with a fingerprint expert and were able to identify the victim.

[Mock retrial for last man to be hanged in Dundee](#)

William Bury was found guilty of murdering his wife Ellen and was hanged on 24 April, 1889, after initially claiming to be Jack the Ripper. Bury's conviction rested largely on medical evidence which drew uncertainty from the jury at the time. The evidence will be re-tested in the mock trial by today's forensic science standards.

[Israel's eye detection tech to replace lie detection test](#)

The lie detection test that is used to cross-examine the accused in criminal cases will soon become a history. Gujarat Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) is developing a technique to detect the crime through eye-detection method, with the cooperation of Israel-based company. The method of eye detection will be more precise giving actual results of crime detection and that will be applied soon in Gujarat.

[Crime lab expedites blood evidence in the Blaze Bernstein death](#)

Crime-lab technicians on Thursday were fast-tracking DNA tests on blood evidence gathered in the homicide case of 19-year-old Blaze Bernstein, a University of Pennsylvania sophomore who disappeared Jan. 2 while in Lake Forest on winter break.

[Crime lab to serve Mindanao's DNA test needs](#)

THE Regional Crime Laboratory Office (RCLO) said that its new building comes equipped with modern deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) equipment and that they will be using this by the end of this month, to serve the DNA tests requirements for crime scene investigations for the whole Mindanao.

[Albuquerque mayor pushes police to clear rape kit backlog](#)

The mayor signed an executive order Wednesday calling upon police and the Albuquerque Sexual Assault Evidence Response Team to present a plan by mid-March that specifies the funding needed to process about 4,000 evidence kits in the city's crime lab. They have remained untested despite an audit more than a year ago detailing the scope of the problem.

[DA close to decision on officer-involved shooting](#)

Glynn County District Attorney Jackie Johnson said Wednesday a decision should be forthcoming on whether action will be taken against David Sepanski, a Glynn County Police Officer who shot and wounded a man Oct. 24 during a struggle following a traffic stop.

[Lab technician's work history is allowed at trial of man accused in '85 slaying of DuPage teen](#)

Over the objection of DuPage prosecutors, Judge George Bakalis said he would allow attorneys for Michael R. Jones to ask the technician about a disciplinary incident that occurred years after the technician handled DNA in the case against Jones.

[Crime lab backlog delays Godbolt indictment on 8 counts of murder](#)

The understaffing at the state crime lab may be reaching a crisis level. Medical Examiners are fleeing the agency, leaving cases like a multi-fatal shooting in Lincoln County in limbo.

[Rise in fentanyl trafficking prompts Oregon State Police to drop field tests](#)

No state trooper in Oregon so far has reported ill effects from handling fentanyl – often found in pill form but sometimes also in a powder. But in isolated cases across the country, officers have unintentionally ingested the drug while on the job, including an Ohio officer who was treated for an overdose after powder landed on his uniform.

[Mayor signs executive order to deal with rape kit backlog](#)

The City of Albuquerque has a lot of work to do when dealing with a backlog of rape kits. On Wednesday, Mayor

Tim Keller announced he will issue an executive order, but his plan does come with some challenges.

[How #MeToo may bolster the case for testing all rape kits](#)

Morse suggested women who previously had been reluctant to pursue a case against an attacker may now be reconsidering and want to have their kits tested. "So I am encouraging this City Council to push even harder," she added.

[Blaze Bernstein's high school classmate charged with murder](#)

Woodward, who was taken into custody on Friday afternoon, was arrested after crime lab technicians determined that blood found on a sleeping bag in his possession belonged to Bernstein, the Register reported. The murder weapon reportedly has not been found.

[Their north Arlington meth-lab exploded, police say — with an infant inside](#)

Arlington police officers arrested two women at the Plantation Place Apartments in the 700 block of East Randol Mill Road after finding what Police Chief Will Johnson said on Twitter was "a drug lab" inside the unit where the walls shook after an explosion that blew out at least one window.

[Website to help victims track sexual assault kits' progress](#)

Utah officials says a new federal grant will allow the state to offer more resources to victims waiting as their sexual assault kits are going through the testing process.

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Coordinator Krystal Hazlett said Tuesday that Utah's Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice received \$2.2 million grant in October.

[New crime lab office inaugurated](#)

THE multi-million new Regional Crime Laboratory Office (RCLO-Davao Region) building at Candelaria St., Ecoland, Davao City was inaugurated Monday afternoon with President Rodrigo Duterte in attendance.

[Detroit awarded \\$1M for wrongful murder conviction](#)

A judge on Wednesday awarded \$1 million to a Detroit man who spent 25 years in prison after being wrongfully convicted of murder based on faulty ballistics evidence.

[State Crime Lab strapped for manpower as Mississippi faces rising homicide, crime](#)

Despite the \$30 million, state-of-the-art facility in Pearl it moved into a little more than two years ago, the Crime Lab now has the lowest number of trained forensic scientists it's had since 2004-2005, Howell said. Since 2012 alone, staff numbers have dropped from 101 to 83, and some of those are not forensic scientists.

[Texas Man, Convicted of Sex Crime, Gets Reversal of Fortune—From His Phone](#)

"If a pedophile had owned that phone it would have been wiped on a regular basis by performing a factory reset," Adams told Forensic Magazine. "Greg's phone was just the opposite of that. He was creating what would one day be the digital evidence that lit the fire under his exoneration."

[2 medical examiners offer opposing views at murder trial](#)

Two medical examiners offered opposing views Tuesday during the murder trial of Brent Houdeshell, an Arlington man accused of killing 2-year-old Breydon Ferrell in March 2016. The only witness called by the defense, Dr. Werner Spitz, a forensic pathologist and professor of pathology at Wayne State University in Detroit, said in his professional opinion, Breydon died of brain swelling caused by falling out of his crib and hitting his head on a carpet-covered concrete floor.

[Lawyer: Charges Possible in Connection with Vegas Shooting](#)

Charges could be filed in connection with the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, even though the gunman responsible for killing 58 people is dead, a lawyer for Las Vegas police told a judge Tuesday.

[Supreme Court to consider whether a lawyer can admit a client's guilt against his wishes](#)

English told McCoy he, "intended to concede to the jury" that McCoy was the killer. English admits, in sworn documents, that "Robert told me not to make that concession but I told him that I was going to do so. I explained that I felt I had an ethical duty to save his life, regardless of what he wanted to do."

[Parents Arrested After Children Found Chained in House](#)

The girl, who was so small officers initially believed she was only 10, called 911 and was met by police who interviewed her and then went to the family home in Perris, about 70 miles southeast of Los Angeles. They found several children shackled to their beds with chains and padlocks in dark, foul-smelling surroundings, according to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

[Danish Man Charged with Killing Reporter on His Submarine](#)

Madsen has offered a shifting variety of explanations for Wall's death. Initially, he told authorities he had dropped Wall off on an island several hours after their voyage began. Then he claimed that Wall died accidentally inside the submarine while he was on deck during the excursion and he had "buried" her at sea. However, he later admitted throwing her body parts into the sea.

[Records: FBI Knew Las Vegas Gunman Had Big Gun Stashes](#)

FBI agents knew the gunman behind the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history left behind big caches of guns, ammunition and explosives when they sought warrants to search his properties and online accounts, according to court documents released Friday.

[Man confesses to 1993 murder in emotional TV interview before turning himself in to police](#)

"Every minute of every day has been a nightmare," Hawkins told the station. "Frank never got to have a life, but we were teenagers and now I'm 44 and still haven't even had a life and now most likely won't anyway."

[Google Searches Led to Alleged Serial Rapist's IP Address, DNA Did the Rest](#)

Google search history—particularly a record of who was searching for the address where the rapist struck—was the crucial lead that ultimately led to an arrest and pending charges against John E. Kurtz, according to the arrest affidavit acquired by Forensic Magazine.

Catherine L. Navetta

Supervising Criminalist
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[1800 Paseo Rancho Castilla](#)
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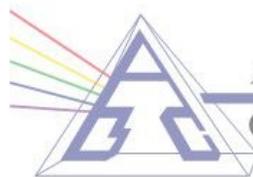
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AMERICAN BOARD
OF CRIMINALISTICS

P.O. Box 1358, Palmetto FL 34220

December 12, 2017

Greetings from the American Board of Criminalistics,

In our quest for ISO 17024 Accreditation, we are convening a group of Subject Matter Experts (SME) for an occupational analysis of the field of forensic science. We are looking for experts who perform "cradle to grave" analysis as well as those who have other roles in a forensic laboratory, including specialists performing various types of forensic casework. If you are chosen, you will meet with a trained facilitator who will take you through the two-day Occupational Analysis process. This process will identify all of the duties that forensic scientists have in common, regardless of discipline, and then separate those duties into their relevant tasks.

You may be asking yourselves why we are doing this if we already have existing exams. The ABC is constantly striving to improve our exams and part of that is making sure that they are testing the jobs that people are actually performing. We will select participants based on the following (in no particular order): geographic area, experience, gender, and availability. These distinctions are recommended so that the entire community is properly represented.

You do not need to be a current ABC certificant to participate. The training will be held in conjunction with the AAFS meeting in Seattle. An additional hotel night and per diem costs will be covered by the ABC, however there will be no additional compensation for work absences. So please take a moment to fill out the survey found via this link:

<http://www.criminalistics.com/general-sme-survey-2017.html>

We look forward to working with you.

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.

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OSAC Standards Bulletin

January 2018

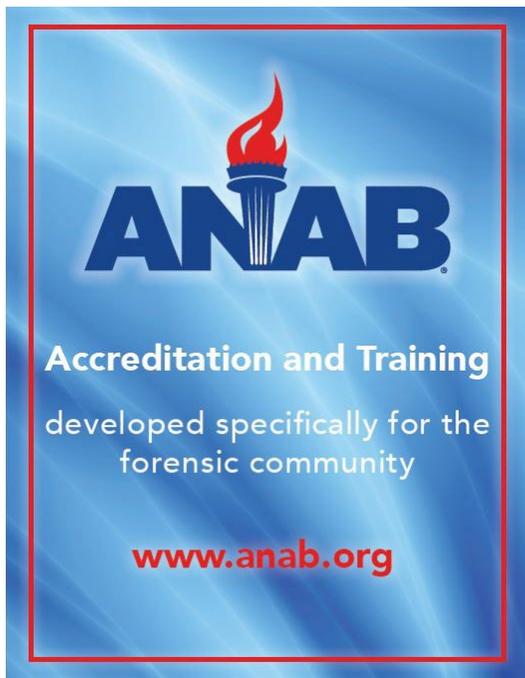
BULLETIN SUMMARY

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

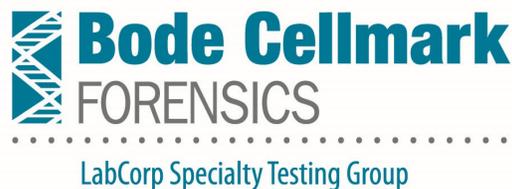



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<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-subcommittees>



Bode Cellmark
FORENSICS

.....

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

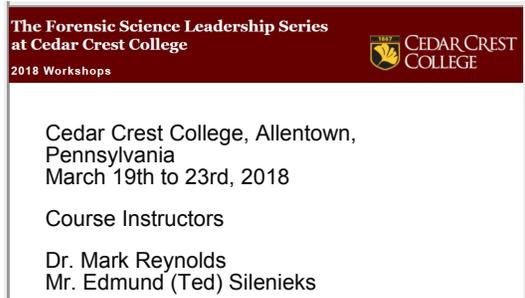
Oxford Global Training Seminars: www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk



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.



The Forensic Science Leadership Series at Cedar Crest College
2018 Workshops

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

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 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. 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

[Read the CFSO Newsletter here.](#)

Grant Assistance for DNA

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

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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

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

Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel<<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/waspy-renaissance-arlington-capital-view-hotel/>>
2800 South Potomac Ave Arlington Virginia 22202 USA
<<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/waspy-renaissance-arlington-capital-view-hotel/>>

CALL for ABSTRACTS and CALL for WORKSHOPS are now open

Call for ABSTRACTS closes October 13th, 2017<x-apple-data-detectors://3>

Call for WORKSHOPS closes October 18<x-apple-data-detectors://4>th<x-apple-data-detectors://4>, 2017<x-apple-data-detectors://4>

Registration for attendees and presenters is FREE!

Attendee Registration will be opening soon.

All selected domestic presenters, except federal employees, will be funded for this event. Funding includes airfare and lodging that is arranged and prepaid by RTI. Other travel related expenses such as meals (at per diem rate), taxi, mileage and parking will be reimbursed following the workshop. Further detail will be provided to those selected with acceptance letters. International travel will not be funded.

For more information and to submit your abstract(s) or workshop proposal(s) please go to<<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>><<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>><<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>>

For questions please contact forensicCOE@rti.org<<mailto:forensicCOE@rti.org>>.

West Virginia University Forensic Management Academy

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](#)

ASCLD Crime Lab Minute Vol 11

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

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

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

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

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

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

NIJ has released a Spanish-language version of The Fingerprint Sourcebook, which aims to be the definitive resource on the science of fingerprint identification. The Sourcebook was prepared by the International Association for Identification and topics covered include the anatomy and physiology of friction ridge skin; techniques for recording exemplars from both living and deceased subjects; AFIS; latent print development, preservation and documentation; equipment and laboratory quality assurance; perceptual, cognitive and psychological factors in expert identifications; and legal issues.

[Forensic Identification Using Individual Chemical Signatures](#)

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

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

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

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

This article describes an NIJ-supported research project focused on issues of resolution and discriminatory capabilities needed to increase the reliability and selectivity of forensic evidence and analytical

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.

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.



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



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 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 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

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

Leadership series instructors and modules available.

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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

Jeremy Triplett

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

topographics as a substitute for physical casings.

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



NFSTC Refreshing 2018

As we close out 2017, we're looking back at some of our accomplishments. Through our 22 year history, we have learned it's our customers and colleagues truly share in our success.

Here are just a few of our team's favorite 2017 accomplishments:

- NFSTC's first ever [U.S. Department of State training](#) for more than 50 DNA and crime scene analysts from Central America
- Hosted annual [ROTC internship](#) for 12 Cadets
- Enrolled more than 145 people in our [online courses](#)
- Trained 148 military students at our facility
- Published the [Crime Scene Investigation Guide in Spanish](#)
- Released a second season of the [award-winning series Fauxrensic](#)

And that's just a small portion of our work.

As we look forward to 2018 and our future with [Florida International University](#), we know we'll continue to offer the highest quality training and support to our customers.



American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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