



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear Colleagues,

As leaders in forensic science, it is incumbent on us to provide leadership through example. To a certain degree, the last period of time could be characterized as forensic science on the defensive, providing rationale for why and how forensic analysis is currently practiced or has been performed in the past. While we acknowledge that as a profession we can definitely improve, a disproportionate amount of energy has been spent discussing what things we should not be doing rather than what direction we should be moving in. ASCLD would like to shift our energy toward those things we acknowledge require our attention, to focus on our joint mission to move forensic science forward.

I hope you have taken a moment to examine ASCLD's National Outreach Priorities Agenda, which outlines our path forward. In addition to stating what we stand for and support, we propose to further this positive direction by striking up several Ad Hoc Task Forces to move forward in several specific areas. We recognize that we are our own best resource. A number of our membership and their labs possess particular talents and interests in specialized areas and technology which would benefit us all. With this initiative, small specialized groups of our membership will develop best practices, policies, procedures and training in targeted areas. They will provide this information to all crime labs, permitting us to move forensics forward more quickly, uniformly and effectively. Some preliminary topics which have been put forward include Rapid DNA, ethics, uniform reporting, counting of untested sexual assault cases and backlog reduction. Our list will no doubt grow as we move forward.

Forensic science is our profession, our calling. We deal with the strengths and weaknesses of our craft every day. Who better than us to know what needs to be done and how it should be best accomplished? As lab leaders, we can sit back and react to proposals of others for what they feel is best for forensic science, or we can take the initiative to put in place those things that we see need to be done. It is time to be proactive, taking this exciting opportunity in which we would like your involvement. As we roll out these topics, we will provide an announcement and participation opportunities to our membership. Stay tuned.

Ray

2017-2018 National Priorities and Agenda

Please make a note of the new mailing address:

**ASCLD Office
5 Glen Road Suite 123
Garner, NC 27529**

Thank you for your prompt attention.

The ASCLD reps on the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC) Quality Infrastructure Committee's (QIC) Impact Assessment Task Group are seeking informal feedback from lab directors to assess the laboratory impact of the following proposed standard(s) being considered for inclusion on the OSAC Registry of Standards. This survey should take less than 4 minutes to complete. For further information, and to review each proposed standard, click the appropriate link(s) below. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Impact Assessment Task Group Chair Arlene Hall at Arlene.Hall@isp.state.il.us

Click here for the link to the QIC survey for proposed standard ANSI/NIST ITL-1 2011. Data Format for the Interchange of Fingerprint, Facial & Other Biometric Information: <https://goo.gl/forms/R2z5PvFo003euUo82>

Click here for the link to the QIC survey for proposed standard ASTM E2927-16 Standard Test Method for Determination of Trace Elements in Soda-Lime Glass Samples Using Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry for Forensic Comparisons: <https://goo.gl/forms/wL8lg6eAMawP6Ll32>

Click here for the link to the QIC survey for proposed standard ASTM E3085-17 Standard Guide for Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy in Forensic Tape Examinations: <https://goo.gl/forms/anDLp0N5OSkBDji2>

NOTE: Access to these proposed standards and the formal public comment period for each closes on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at 11:59 PM EDT. The associated QIC surveys will also close at that time. Please participate; your feedback is important.

FORENSIC SCIENCE ERROR MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL FORENSICS SYMPOSIUM

July 24-28, 2017 @NIST, Gaithersburg, MD



Adapting Newborn Blood Testing Procedures to Forensic Toxicology

<https://nij.gov/topics/forensics/evidence/toxicology/Pages/adapting-newborn-blood-testing-procedures-to-forensic-toxicology.aspx>

Degraded Ignitable Liquids Database: An Applied Study

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250468.pdf>

Statistical Methods for Combining Multivariate and Categorical Data in Postmortem Interval Estimation

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250467.pdf>

Citrate Content of Bone: A potential Measure of Post Mortem Interval

A constant concern for forensic practitioners is the determination of the post-mortem interval (PMI) in questioned death cases. A number of methods have been tried to better determine PMI, but all have proven problematic. NIJ-supported researchers at the SUNY Brockport Research Foundation evaluated the citrate method for determining PMI based on a 2010 study that indicated citrate content in bone could be potentially useful in estimating PMI. The researchers intend to make the interface available free online.

Microspectrophotometry of Fibers: Advances in Analysis and Interpretation

Microspectrophotometry is a standard forensic laboratory technique for the comparison of fibers, however, there are concerns about its discriminating power and significance in a field that is moving toward statistical interpretation of data. In this NIJ-supported project, researchers with the forensic laboratory Microtrace conducted an extensive review of



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS
"Excellence through leadership in forensic science management"

- [Section Supervisor II \(Latent Prints/Controlled Substances/Firearms-Toolmarks/Blood Alcohol\)](#), Texas Department of Public Safety, Lubbock, Texas, Expires: June 15, 2017
- [Staff DNA Analyst \(#01611\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: October 2, 2017
- [Senior DNA Analyst \(#01607\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: October 2, 2017
- [Principal DNA Analyst \(#01604\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: October 2, 2017
- [Associate DNA Analyst \(#01593\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: September 29, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: June 16, 2017
- [Section Head, Organizational Development](#), Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Toronto, Expires: June 16, 2017
- [Senior Latent Print Examiner](#), Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, New York, Expires: July 1, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist-Toxicology](#), Indiana State

microspectrophotometry to present investigators with a context for relating spectral differences to colorant concentrations in fibers and illustrate cases in which similar, but different, fiber populations could not be discriminated.

Massively Parallel Sequencing: Application to Forensics

<https://www.forensiccoe.org/Our-Impact/Advancing-Technology/Reports/Massively-Parallel-Sequencing-Application-to-Forensics>

Examining the Effects of Environmental Degradation on the Optical Properties of Manufactured Fibers of Natural Origin

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/249911.pdf>

Transition Metal Cluster Compounds for the Fluorescent Identification and Trace Detection of Substances of Abuse

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250337.pdf>

Forensic Science Policy and Management: An International Journal
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ufpm20/current>

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

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](#)

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



Department of Toxicology, Indianapolis, IN, Expires: June 15, 2017

- [Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Roanoke, VA, Expires: June 19, 2017
- [Forensic DNA Analyst](#), Utah Department of Public Safety – Bureau of Forensic Services, Salt Lake City, Utah, Expires: June 7, 2017
- [Criminalist](#), N/a, Arleta, Expires: June 9, 2017
- [Latent Fingerprint Examiner](#), Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, Florida, Expires: June 18, 2017
- [Lab Manager](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [DNA Analyst I & II](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [DNA Technician](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [Serologist](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [Criminalist](#), none, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: June 9, 2017
- [cyber security](#), jntuk, kakinada, Expires: June 15, 2017
- [Crime Scene Investigator](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2017
- [Criminalist](#), County of Los Angeles – Medical Examiner Coroner, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: June 9, 2017

NFSTC News

NFSTC is now offering online proficiency testing in crime scene investigation to agencies across the globe. After the Fact has been used as the competency standard since 2011 and is a cost-effective training tool. Assessments are \$250 and available at www.csi-skills.com.

michelle.chernicoff@nfstc.org
<https://www.nfstc.org/>



OSAC Promotes Hundreds of Forensic Science Standards, Guidelines, and Other Documents During 2017 OSAC Public Status Reports & Open Discussions

The [webcasts and PowerPoint presentations](#) are available for public viewing on the NIST OSAC website."

The [OSAC Registry](#) is a trusted repository of

Forensic Crime Lab Strategic Business Plan

We develop and write Strategic Business Plans for forensic crime labs. Here are the type of questions and challenges we can help answer and overcome:

Multiple Crime Lab Consolidation
Medical Examiner Office and Crime Lab Mergers
Multi Agency Regional Partnerships
New Lab Considerations; Equipment Planning,
Operational Cost Planning, Workload
Measurement, Staff Planning
New Equipment Forecasting and Funding
Justification
Operational Cost Forecasting
Long Term Budget Forecasting

We can, together, develop a Forensic Crime Lab Strategy Plan that will make your lab more efficient, work within your operational budget, and deliver flawless work.

<http://www.theinteractgroup.com/crime-laboratory-strategic-business-plan/>

FORESIGHT 20./20

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) has received funding from the [Laura and John Arnold Foundation](#) to develop software that will transfer data from forensic Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) to [FORESIGHT](#), a business quantitative process tailored to forensic laboratories

The goal of the project, called FORESIGHT 20/20, will be to allow laboratories to easily upload business-relevant information from their individual LIMS to the FORESIGHT project, hosted at West Virginia University.

Software development and installations for JusticeTrax Alpha labs is progressing. The software provides a dashboard of the labs' own stats and FORESIGHT stats, among other information. The information, formatting, and interface may vary somewhat by vendor.

Foresight 20/20

NEWS STORIES

[New State Crime Lab Means Justice Served Faster, More Efficiently](#)
[RadioWest](#)

The Utah Department of Public Safety's new crime lab is a modern facility for state-of-the-art forensic testing. Officials say crime victims can look ...

[Man Walks Free After 25 Years in Prison for Crime He Didn't Commit](#)
[CBS 8 San Diego](#)

"What [Ricks] was saying seemed to be outlandish: The Detroit police crime lab would not only make mistakes but switch bullets. It wasn't outlandish ...

[Poor facilities plague forensic lab](#)

high-quality, science-based standards and guidelines for forensic sciences.

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-newsletter/osac-newsletter-may-2017>

[WK58027 - Standard Practice for Preserving Ignitable Liquids and Ignitable Liquid Residue Extracts from Fire Debris Samples](#) (link is external) is a work item revision to existing standard E2451-13

[WK58028 - Standard Guide for Forensic Examination of Non-Reactive Dyes in Textile Fibers by Thin-Layer Chromatography](#) (link is external) is a work item revision to existing standard E2227-13

New Approved Standards

[ASTM E2926 - 17 Standard Test Method for Forensic Comparison of Glass Using Micro X-ray Fluorescence \(μ-XRF\) Spectrometry](#) (link is external)

[ASTM E1588 - 17 Standard Practice for Gunshot Residue Analysis by Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometry](#) (link is external)

E30.12 Digital and Multimedia Evidence

The following work item is underway:

[WK58084 - Standard Practice for Computer Forensics](#) (link is external) is a work revision to existing standard ASTM E2763-10

Learn more about [ASTM E30](#) (link is external).

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



[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.

The Hindu

The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Chanakypuri is reeling under a shortage of infrastructure. Among the issues that need attention are lack of ...

Cops need to understand human psychology to solve crimes: Raju
India Today

Earlier, state home minister Gulabchand Kataria informed that the forensic lab in the state has been upgraded and emphasised on the use of DNA, ...

Utah's new crime lab to use robotics to speed up rape kit testing

Salt Lake Tribune

(Francisco Kjolseth | The Salt Lake Tribune) People tour the Crime Lab where fingerprints, foot ware, tire marks and blood splatter are examined at the ...

House, Senate back measure to prevent mishandling of rape kits by police
Chicago Tribune

Despite the ongoing efforts to implement checks on police departments, a backlog of testing remains in the state crime lab run by Illinois State Police ...

Detroit man's exoneration for 1992 murder raises the possibility of injustice on a larger scale
Michigan Radio

But in 2008, the Detroit police crime lab was shut down after an audit found it was riddled with problems, including mishandling of evidence. And Ricks ...

US National Toxicology Program's database to feature IVIVE
Chemical Watch (subscription)

In vivo to in vitro extrapolation (IVIVE) could soon be a feature of the US National Toxicology Program's (NTP) Integrated Chemical Environment (ICE), ...

No DNA match in Whalen murder case
Bloomington Pantagraph

Court-ordered tests were performed by the Illinois State Crime lab on May 12 using a DNA profile compiled by combining three DNA samples from ...

"A Victim-Centered Process" for Solving Sex Crimes: APD's new sexual assault cold case unit is up ...
Austin Chronicle

The unit's formation represents a next step in APD's reconciliation for a forensic lab that by last June had suffered so many systemic failures that a ...

Behind the scenes of New Jersey State Police's improved forensics lab
NJTV News

When police recover crime guns, bullets or shell casings they take them to one of seven labs for forensics processing — a drawn out system that state ...

Featured Article:

His name was Wilmer Souder. A physicist at the National Bureau of Standards, now known as the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Souder played an important role in the early days of forensic science. He helped send countless murderers, bootleggers, gangsters and thieves to prison, and he kept such a low profile partly out of concern for his and his family's safety. Perhaps as a result, he was not long remembered for his forensic work, and his influence on the developing field of forensic science was not as great as it might have been.

NIST Library just finished scanning Souder's nine notebooks and has made them available for anyone to view via the NIST Digital Archives:

<http://nistdigitalarchives.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16009coll67>

Bringing together experts from the forensic, research, legal, and law enforcement communities to strengthen forensic science and create a safer, more just society.

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

Upcoming Events

- [International Forensic Science Error Management Symposium](#)
July 24-28, 2017
- Technical Colloquium: Quantifying the Weight of Forensic Evidence,
June 27-29, 2017



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_CF_SO_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 mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level

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



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>

and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. The primary focus of the CFSSO is local, state and national policymakers, as well as the United States Congress.

http://www.thecfso.org/newsletter/CFSSO_Newsletter_201705.pdf

CFSSO Newsletter

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<ul 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, Categoryc. Select a grant by Opportunity Number2. On Grants.gov, under Search Applicants:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Use Register to apply for Workspace as either Organizational or Individualb. Get your DUNS number from your organization's finance office or call DUNS at 1-866-705-5711c. Use Apply tab under Applicants for Workspace instructionsd. Complete required formse. Submit and track application3. Get alerts for new or revised grants at: apply07_grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Find contact information for your State Emergency Management (EM) Office at: www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office<ul 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:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Administrationb. Financec. Budget4. Identify appropriate grant(s).<ul 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 Tools7. File forms on time8. Periodically monitor<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Call or email your State contactb. Call or email the contact given in the grant announcement9. 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

Coming soon..... The Forensic Research Committee

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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