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 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

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/R2z5PvFo003euUoB2


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/anDLp0N5OSkBdbij2

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.

Adapting Newborn Blood Testing Procedures to Forensic Toxicology

Degraded Ignitable Liquids Database: An Applied Study

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

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

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**

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

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**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**

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**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/

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**Evidence Technology Magazine**
http://www.evidencemagazine.com

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**Interact Business Group**
**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.


**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.

**NEWS STORIES**

New State Crime Lab Means Justice Served Faster, More Efficiently

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

"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 ..."

Independent Validation Services are customized to meet your laboratory's needs. Validation services provide completely unbiased analysis on your equipment, chemistries, or process.
The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Chanakyapuri 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: Raje
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 2006, 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 ...

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

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.
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.

Grant Assistance for DNA

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<td>b. Review grant applications.</td>
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Grant Process:

1. Identify target programs.
2. Develop a project proposal.
3. Prepare a budget.
4. Submit the proposal.
5. Receive feedback.
6. Revise the proposal.
7. Submit the final proposal.
8. Receive funding.
9. Implement the project.
10. Evaluate the project.

Contact the JusticeTrax for assistance:

.Milliseconding:
http://wwwjusticefacts newsletter.com

Coming soon...... The Forensic Research Committee