



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

President's Message----

Colleagues,

I want to make you aware of two great workshop opportunities that President-Elect Wickenheiser has coordinated with NIJ to offer at the 2017 ASCLD Symposium this year.

One workshop seeks to bring together researchers and practicing forensic scientists for critical collaborations on research. The second is tailored specifically to grant managers at crime laboratories to discuss grant requirements, reporting, and recommendations on improving competitive grant applications.

Please consider attending or sending your staff to these workshops. Additionally, if you have a close partnership with local university researchers, it could be a great opportunity for them to attend a workshop at the ASCLD symposium that focuses on collaboration with forensic laboratories. More information, including registration links are included below.

Have a great week!

Kindest regards,
Jeremy Triplett

Bridging the Gap Between Researchers and Practicing Forensic Scientists: The Need for Collaboration (The "Forensic Science Research Incubator")

On Sunday, April 30, NIJ is conducting an 8 hour workshop at the ASCLD Annual Symposium to bring together University Researchers and Forensic Laboratory Leaders to facilitate research. Grant funding opportunities will also be presented. This workshop is an excellent opportunity to meet face to face to share ideas and forge partnerships. This meeting will also provide an opportunity to learn about the ASCLD Forensic Research Initiative. Please check out the specifics at

<http://www.ascldsymposium.com/events-1/i546th2e508/Bridging-the-Gap-Between-Researchers-and-Practicing-Forensic-Scientists-The-Need-for-Collaboration>. General information about the annual symposium and registration can be found at <http://www.ascldsymposium.com/>.

NIJ Programs for Forensic Laboratories

On Monday, May 1, NIJ is conducting a 4 hour workshop at the ASCLD Annual Symposium specifically tailored to Grant Managers. This workshop will cover grant requirements and reporting, formula and competitive grants and include recommendations to write a successful competitive grant application. Specifics for this workshop can be found at <http://www.ascldsymposium.com/events-2/i54cmq0k133/NIJ-Programs-for-Forensic-Laboratories>. For additional information and registration for the ASCLD Symposium, please go to <http://www.ascldsymposium.com/>.





Hotel Reservations and Symposium Information

44th Annual ASCLD Symposium, April 30 – May 4, 2017, Dallas, Texas

The theme for the 2017 symposium is "Continuous Improvement – Leading through Continuous Learning." ASCLD is interested in presentations that focus on innovative techniques to permit managers to mentor and inspire their employees as they strive to continuously improve their organizations. The key goal of 2017 ASCLD presentations is to provide crime lab leadership with actionable tools and transportable information that can be directly applied to improve their operation.

44th Annual ASCLD Symposium hotel room block for the 2017 Symposium is now available!

<http://www.ascldsymposium.com/>

Golf Tournament, May 1st, 2017

Stevens Park Golf Course –

1005 N Montclair Ave, Dallas, TX 75208

Join us for a round of golf with your colleagues and the symposium sponsors for a Best Ball tournament and a chance to win a prize! The shotgun start will be at 12:30pm, with a buffet lunch provided beforehand.

ASCLD will be assigning teams of 4 ahead of time to allow for networking and new opportunities to be presented for all participants.

You can sign up for the golf tournament through our registration system [here](#). You will need to complete a full registration to be signed up for the tournament. The registration cost of \$80/person includes 18 holes of golf, cart fees and lunch. Golf clubs can be rented for an additional charge at the course. Transportation to and from the course is not included.

See you there!



ASCLD Members: we are asking for you to send the following notice regarding a University Research and Forensic Lab collaborative workshop out to your University contacts:

Workshop - NIJ Research

Bridging the Gap Between Researchers and Practicing Forensic Scientists: The Need for Collaboration
The "Forensic Science Research Incubator"

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The meeting general information and registration is: <http://www.ascldsymposium.com/> and consider attending.

Workshop NIJ Grant Managers

NIJ Programs for Forensic Laboratories

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NIJ Forensic Science R&D Reports for ASCLD Crime Lab Minute Vol 9

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.

Funding Opportunity: Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program – Competitive

NIJ is seeking proposals for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (the Coverdell program), which awards grants to states and units of local government to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner/coroner's office services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog. This funding opportunity is only for competitive funds.

Deadline: March 10, 2017 Learn more about this and other funding opportunities for crime labs in a webinar recording available soon.

Funding Opportunity: Forensic DNA Laboratory Efficiency Improvement and Capacity Enhancement Program

Demands for forensic DNA analysis increased every year from 2009 to 2014, with a 28 percent increase in cases submitted to forensic DNA laboratories during that time period. Often, a single case submission includes requests for forensic analyses in DNA and non-DNA disciplines. Enhancing capacity and improving efficiency in the processing and testing of non-DNA evidence from cases that also involve a request for DNA analysis will ultimately reduce the backlog of DNA evidence. NIJ's Forensic DNA Laboratory Efficiency Improvement and Capacity Enhancement (EI&CE) program is intended to help address that gap. **Deadline: March 13, 2017** Learn more about this and other funding opportunities for crime labs in a webinar recording available soon.

Funding Opportunity: DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program

The goal of NIJ's FY 2017 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) program is to assist eligible states and units of local government to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples and to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories. Under this



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS

"Excellence through leadership in forensic science management"

Jobs

Forensic Scientist IV – Latent Print Examiner, City of Phoenix Police Department, Laboratory Services Bureau, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: April 1, 2017

Latent Fingerprint Examiner, St Louis Metropolitan Police Department Crime Laboratory, St. Louis, Expires: March 24, 2017

Criminalist, County of Los Angeles – Medical Examiner Coroner, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: June 9, 2017

Forensic Analyst – Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 1, 2017

Forensic Chemist, Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory, Dayton, OH, Expires: April 7, 2017

HR Liaison, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Arvada, CO, Expires: March 22, 2017

Forensic Scientist (DNA), Oklahoma City Police Department – Laboratory Services Division, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Expires: March 19, 2017

Forensic Biologist, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Georgia, Expires: April 30, 2017

Criminalist II – Firearms, Oakland Police Department, Oakland, CA, Expires: March 24, 2017

Forensic DNA Analyst, Mytotyping Technologies (Division of Health Network Labs), State College, PA, Expires: April 17, 2017

Physician Specialist, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: May 19, 2017

Chief Forensic Laboratories, Los Angeles County – Medical Examiner- Coroner, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: May 17, 2017

Forensic Scientist 2-Firearm/Tool Mark Analyst, NM DPS Forensic Laboratory, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Expires: March 12, 2017

Forensic Chemist 2, ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA & OCONUS, Expires: May 4, 2017

Laboratory Manager/Theater Liaison, ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA & OCONUS, Expires: May 4, 2017

Analytical Chemist I – Forensic Chemistry Unit, Division of Forensic Science, WILMINGTON, Expires: March 31, 2017

DNA Analyst III – Serology / DNA Operations Technician, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: March 23, 2017

Assistant Director Operations position at Forensic Science South Australia (FSSA)

https://www.seek.com.au/Job/3296551?_ga=1.78735058.714054095.1414969493

program, in general, eligible applicants are given the opportunity to determine what portion of their anticipated funding should be used for capacity building purposes and what portion should be used for analysis of forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples. **Deadline: March 13, 2017** Learn more about this and other funding opportunities for crime labs in a webinar recording available soon.

Funding Opportunity: Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System Program

Death investigations performed by medical examiners or coroner (ME/C) offices are vital to criminal justice. Of the 2.6 million deaths annually, ME/C offices investigate nearly 500,000 cases in approximately 2,400 jurisdictions, but many communities lack adequate personnel, infrastructure, and resources to address medicolegal death investigation (MDI) needs. NIJ's Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System Program is a competitive program designed to enhance of MDI services and increase the supply of forensic pathologists nationwide by supporting forensic pathology fellowships as well as ME/C office accreditation. **Deadline: March 20, 2017**


Applications Close 5pm, Monday 20th March 2017. For more information please contact Chris Pearman, Director FSSA on [+61 8 82267700](tel:+61882267700) or chris.pearman@sa.gov.au.

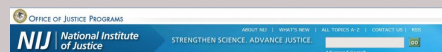
National Commission on Forensic Science News

<https://www.justice.gov/ncfsmeetings>

Meetings of the National Commission on Forensic Science (NCFS) are held quarterly in Washington, DC. NCFS meetings are open to the public. Public registration for NCFS meetings is available approximately one month in advance of a meeting and can be found under the respective meeting link. NCFS meetings are also webcast.

The thirteenth meeting of the National Commission on Forensic Science will be held April 10-11, 2017 in Washington, DC.

If you would like to receive email updates as new information or new materials are added, please subscribe.  [Email updates](#)



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



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

OSAC Subcommittees



[Bode Cellmark Forensics](#) provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode's newest offerings include:

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

<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

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](#)

Evidence Technology Magazine

CRIME LABORATORIES

[New fingerprint searches in unsolved cases can solve violent crimes](#)
[cleveland.com](#)

Fingerprints are collected in two ways, one fingerprint cards or machines and from crime scenes. The ones from crime scenes are called latent prints.

[Synthetic drugs to be banned in Victoria as Government closes 'legal high' loophole](#)
ABC Online
Synthetic drugs such as "herbal highs" and

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.

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>



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 and to make a compelling case for greater

"party pills" will be banned in ... Under the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act, such products are ... to copy the effects of illegal drugs such as cannabis,

[From grave to lab, she throws science, passion at cold cases](#)

Newser

This Oct. 21, 2016 photo shows a forensic sculpture of an unidentified 1985 female murder victim during a forensic conference in Tampa, Fla. Dr. Erin ...

[FBI Unveils Plans for New Regional Computer Forensic Lab](#)

Chelsea Record

"Later this spring, in this very building on the fifth floor, we'll be opening a new regional computer forensics lab that will be jointly staffed with our law ...

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://thecfso.org/newsletter/CFSSO_Newsletter_2016Summer.pdf
http://www.thecfso.org/newsletter/CFSSO_Newsletter_201702.pdf



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/>



What makes a great leader? Management theorist Simon Sinek suggests, it's someone who makes their employees feel secure, who draws staffers into a circle of trust. But creating trust and safety — especially in an uneven economy — means taking on big responsibility.

NEWS STORIES

[US police agencies with their own DNA databases stir debate](#)

Newsday

FILE - In this Feb. 6, 2015, file photo, an evidence marker sits next to a human skull as Davis County search and rescue members and **crime scene** ...

[Study: As Opioid Prescriptions in Marion County Fell, Deaths Involving Heroin and Fentanyl Rose](#)

WBAA

The SPEA researchers then compared the prescription data to toxicology screening data from the Marion County Coroner's Office, which contains ...

[Bentley's drug bills heading to Senate](#)

The Independent

It would also permit federal prosecutors and agents to use KASPER in addition to toxicology reports, and require some hospitals to report positive ...

[Two Hunter men dead after being "cooked from the inside"](#)

Illawarra Mercury

... the days leading up to their deaths, but authorities believe toxicology tests and autopsies could show they succumbed to a substance other than ice.

[Synthetic drugs to be banned in Victoria as Government closes 'legal high' loophole](#)

ABC Online

Synthetic drugs such as "herbal highs" and "party pills" will be banned in ... Under the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act, such products are ... to copy the effects of illegal drugs such as cannabis,

[From grave to lab, she throws science,](#)

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.

Foresight 20/20



Just Science Podcast Interviews

RTI International in partnership with the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, a program of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice, is producing a podcast called "Just Science". The Just Science podcast is designed to reach a broad audience of forensic scientists and other professionals who collaborate with the forensic science community.

As part of the podcast series, RTI would like to interview any ASCLD members who would like to share interesting or unusual criminal cases, now closed or adjudicated, where forensic science was critical to the outcome of the case. Our goal is to provide the audience with a positive view of the importance of forensic science in criminal investigations. The timing of the cases is not important, although preference will be given to cases involving some personal experience and that can be the subject of an in-depth conversation. The audio only recording usually takes 40 to 60 minutes, depending on the content, and all disciplines are welcome. We would like to do the recordings during the ASCLD annual symposium in Dallas, Texas.

The available dates are Tuesday, May 2nd and Wednesday, May 3rd, and we can accommodate your schedule. Please e-mail Lauren Mangum from RTI International at lmangum@rti.org with a short overview of the case and methods used. This is a great way to disseminate your, or your crime laboratory's work to a wide audience, hopefully sparking conversations, new ideas, and inspiring others within the field to approach cases in alternative ways. You can change the position of the caption and set styles in the block's settings tab.

[passion at cold cases](#)

Newser

This Oct. 21, 2016 photo shows a forensic sculpture of an unidentified 1985 female murder victim during a forensic conference in Tampa, Fla. Dr. Erin ...

[Two new DNA databases to help police](#)

Flanders Today

The National Institute of Forensic Science and Criminology (NICC) soon will have two more DNA databases. One will contain genetic material of ...

Coming soon..... The Forensic Research Committee

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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