



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear Colleagues,

The Opioid Crisis has increased the submission of fentanyl cases to our crime labs by another 54% last year, after a 6000% increase between 2012 and 2016. In response, the ASCLD Opioid Task Force has reached out to leaders in the field for input. Analysis of fentanyl analogs and emerging drugs requires validation of current technology to provide quality findings that provide actionable information by investigators, the justice system and our law makers.

One of our goals is to provide a reference for Lab Directors/Senior Managers, who do not have a background in controlled substances or toxicology, of recommended instruments that could enhance their labs approach to the analysis of novel fentanyl derivatives and other emerging drugs. This document could potentially provide assistance in securing funding for new types of instrumentation to address the changing landscape of opioids. The document addresses instrumentation for seized drug analysis and toxicology separately, and addresses the broad categories of instrumentation without giving favor to any particular vendor.

In addition, we also would like to provide a list of contacts who are willing to be contacted about an instrumental technique. This list of experts would be available in the Members Only area of the ASCLD website to provide insight and answer questions of laboratories looking to implement new methodologies. We currently have a few experts who have volunteered, but would like to have a broad array with experience with a variety of instruments/vendors. Anyone interested in volunteering to share your expertise can email Linda Jackson (linda.jackson@asclcd.org). Please provide name, contact information and the area of expertise.

Our crime labs are in a rare and privileged position to demonstrate what type of drug caused an overdose death, what new drugs are escaping detection or keeping a step ahead of laws. It is up to us to put necessary technology in place to provide the data needed for action to address this crisis. Please step up.

Ray Wickenheiser

ASCLD President

Scholarship Opportunity

Do you know a student who is in the process of obtaining a degree related to the field of forensic science

and may need financial assistance? If so, ASCLD's annual scholarship solicitation is now open and accepting applications. The annual award is in the amount of \$1000.

Please reach out to prospective applicants as soon as possible as the due date (April 15) is quickly approaching. The application can be found on the ASCLD website: <https://www.ascl.org/nominations/>

Eligibility:

Applicants must be a junior or senior in a baccalaureate program or a graduate student (masters or doctorate) at an accredited university who is pursuing a degree in forensic science, forensic chemistry or a physical or natural science. Applicants from FEPAC accredited programs will be given additional consideration. High school students or college/university students in their freshman or sophomore years will not be eligible for application. As the scholarship program was created to provide opportunity to students intending to enter the forensic field, scholarships will not be granted to current forensic science laboratory employees pursuing graduate degrees.

Selection Criteria – Award recipients will be selected on the basis of:

- Overall scholastic record
- Scholastic record in forensic science coursework
- Motivation or commitment to a forensic science career
- Personal statement
- Faculty/advisor recommendation



Sure to be one of the best ever!

Yes, we respect your valuable time and inbox space! But we are eager to showcase our upcoming symposium, which is sure to be one of the best ever. Please don't miss your opportunity. Early registration expires on March 31st.

For the next two weeks, leading up to the early registration deadline, we will be sending sneak-previews of what you can expect, and why we expect to see you there!

Click [here](#) to register

[Register for 2018 ASCLD Symposium](#)

Guest-Speaker Line Up

In addition to the many outstanding speakers we have from within our own community, we have invited several guest speakers to share their perspectives and insights.

Director Alan Hanson
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Ambassador Thomas Miller
3-time U.S. Ambassador
Current CEO of International Executive Service Corps

Lt. General John Regni
Base Commander
Former Superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy

Nathan Bennett
Georgia State Business School—Managing poor performance

Fred Jewell
Author—We can't do it alone, building influence with simple strategies

Paul Speaker, PhD
WVU Business School—Business Metrics in Labs

Director Alan Hanson
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Converting to the 2017 Version of ISO 17025

The awaited switch to the new 2017 edition of ISO/IEC 17025 has finally happened, but are you ready for it? We will present strategies and priorities for bringing your laboratory into compliance.



ASCLD Bring Your Own Slides Sign-up

Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm (TENTATIVE – session length may be adjusted)

Location: Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel (Room TBD)

Bring Your Own Slides at ASCLD 2018

NEW to the ASCLD symposium in 2018 is an opportunity for crime laboratory leaders to Bring Your Own Slides and participate in an informal, evening discussion on shared challenges and solutions in our laboratories.

The Bring Your Own Slides session will be held on Wednesday evening, May 23. If you would like to share a problem or a novel solution to a problem that you have encountered in your laboratory, please sign up to provide a brief (approximately 5 minutes) overview. Time will then be allotted for questions and discussion on the topic so that all attendees may benefit from each other's shared expertise.

Bring Your Own Slides topics should be:

- **Brief** – describe the problem or solution in approximately 5 minutes to allow time for questions and/or discussion

- **Unique** – describe a new/relevant problem or a novel solution to an old problem
- **Relevant** – topics should apply to managers within a crime laboratory

Space is limited to approximately 10-15 topics/presentations. Presentations will be accepted on a first-come first-serve basis.

If you would like to sign up, please submit the form found [HERE](#) to Jeremy Triplett at Jeremy.triplett@asclcd.org.

Project FORESIGHT

ASCLD has arranged for a special workshop at the ASCLD symposium this year. We have been working with West Virginia University on Project FORESIGHT for quite some time. ASCLD further has been working on getting the LIMS vendors for more automated reporting of Project Foresight metrics. We want more labs to get involved in this project and we hope to show you how to start gathering this data and reporting it.

FORESIGHT and FORESIGHT 2020: A Formula for Success

How is your lab performing? Do you know--*really know*? What's your internal progress compared to last year or the year before or the last 5 years? Have you added or changed new processes? Has management or your administration changed and do you need to make arguments for better resources? Where does your lab stand compared to other labs of its size or caseload?

FORESIGHT was created in 2008 as a business benchmarking process for forensic laboratories to analyze, evaluate, and share their performance. Since then, it has been used by hundreds of laboratories around the world to improve effectiveness and efficiency of laboratory services to stakeholders. But many managers are unsure what might be required to participate, how to collect, submit, and (agonizingly) analyze the data they need to be part of FORESIGHT? This workshop will walk you through the process of FORESIGHT from start to finish, giving you the tools you need to fill out the Laboratory Reporting and Analysis Tool (LabRAT) and what the FORESIGHT 2020 project means for you. Using FORESIGHT has gotten easier as well and even basic input can yield useful operational information--you don't necessarily need every scrap of data you might think you need. With FORESIGHT 2020, a software project that links LIMS to FORESIGHT, it is now easier than ever to improve a laboratory's function, gain insights to process improvements, and make arguments for resources that persuade decision makers.

This workshop will provide an overview of benchmarking and process improvement, FORESIGHT as a method for laboratory analysis and evaluation, and the uses of FORESIGHT 2020 to provide immediate and clear feedback about laboratory performance. Participants will gain a better understanding of how industries self-analyze, what the forensic enterprise has done to create a culture of improvement through benchmarking, and how FORESIGHT provides superior feedback in context for laboratories to achieve greater efficiencies. No experience with FORESIGHT is necessary--new users, experienced users, and "tire-kickers" are all welcome.

Learn how to use "big data" to your advantage, make the case for the resources you need, and deliver better services with greater efficiency using FORESIGHT. Join us for this workshop!

The FORESIGHT 2020 project needs volunteer labs using STaCS

Does your laboratory use STaCS software? Would you be willing to get great business process data from your system to compare to other labs? The FORESIGHT 2020 project needs volunteer labs using STaCS to have the FORESIGHT 2020 module installed and validated.

The project is funded by the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, so there is no cost to your lab.

If you're interested, contact Max Houck at mmhouck@forensicintelligence.net or at [727-346-8285](tel:727-346-8285).

2LA – ASCLD Webinar Series

Presenters:
Brittney Bryant & Timothy Osborne

In the fall of 2017, a revision to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard for testing and calibration laboratories was published. The standard was revised to ensure consistency with other standards, such as ISO/IEC 17020 for inspection bodies (e.g. crime scene units), and includes several changes to the approach of conformity assessment and documentation of a management system.

To assist the forensic community, the A2LA forensic accreditation program and A2LA training program has

partnered with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) to offer ASCLD members and their organizational staff a series of educational webinars focusing on the changes to and transition to the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard. These webinars are to be attended in series and act to prepare all levels of forensic personnel to transition to the 2017 version of ISO/IEC 17025.

This training will be offered free of charge for our membership by logging on to the following link on the ASCLD website:

<https://www.ascl.org/meetings-and-training/forensic-conferences-training/>

This A2LA–ASCLD four-part webinar series will be present by Brittney Bryant and Timothy Osborne in two hour blocks. The schedule and course description are provided below.

Class 1 - April 17th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class focuses on business management changes to ISO/IEC 17025 (the Standard) that might affect an organization's structure, policies, processes or documentation.

4/17 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/i4iv3zduiv0n&eom>

Class 2 - April 19th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class emphasizes the significant changes between ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and 2017, with special focus on impartiality, confidentiality, the process and risk-based mindset, and continuous improvement.

4/19 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/iynpjc6p6wh&eom>

Class 3 - April 24th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class is designed for bench-level staff and provides an outline of changes to the ISO/IEC 17025 standard from 2005 to 2017 that will directly affect day-to-day operations.

4/24 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/8y8tvj8ow2ho&eom>

Class 4 - April 26th, 2-3:30pm EST

This class is meant for all levels of laboratory personnel and builds on discussion held during the previous three courses. This seminar will focus on ISO's requirements for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 transition with emphasis on how the laboratory director, middle management, and laboratory staff work together as a team to identify opportunities for improvement, implement effective changes and ensure coordinated efforts are successful by identifying key metrics to manage success.

4/26 - <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/mtdzpcavazg2&eom>

Scientific Excellence in the Forensic Science Community

By Alice R. Isenberg & Cary T. Oien

Scientific Validity and Error Rates: A Short Response to the Pcast Report

By Ted Robert Hunt

The Reliability of the Adversarial System to Assess the Scientific Validity of Forensic Evidence

By Andrew D. Goldsmith

<http://fordhamlawreview.org/online/>

- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/scientific-excellence-in-the-forensic-science-community/

- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/scientific-validity-and-error-rates-a-short-response-to-the-pcast-report/
- http://fordhamlawreview.org/res_gestae/the-reliability-of-the-adversarial-system-to-assess-the-scientific-validity-of-forensic-evidence/

Forensic Science in the News

[This week in science history: Unacknowledged, the first forensic fingerprinter dies](#)

As recounted in a 2014 Gizmodo article, Faulds published a paper on fingerprints in 1880 in the journal Nature, suggesting that they could be used to catch criminals, along with ideas on how this could be done. Shortly afterwards, Sir William Herschel, a British magistrate working in India, published a letter in the same journal, in which he explained how he had been using fingerprints as a method of signature for years and was indeed the true inventor of the practice.

[Forensic officials report drug dealers are cutting cocaine with fentanyl in Delaware](#)

"The Division of Forensic Science, both our Forensic Chemistry Unit (which tests seized drugs by law enforcement agencies) and the Toxicology Unit (which tests post mortem samples) have seen samples with a mixture of cocaine and fentanyl," according to Hudson.

[Imaging technologies turn up the focus on crime scenes](#)

MULTI-FORESEE - MULTI-modal Imaging of FOREnsic SciEnce Evidence – is a COST Action that promotes how advanced imaging solutions are giving unprecedented levels of detail from crime scenes. One of its members, Dr Chiara Villa of IT University in Denmark, is developing a combination of medical imaging, such as CT scans, and digital technology to produce dynamic animated footage. It will give a precise view of events at a crime scene, including how a victim's wounds were inflicted.

[From Clues To Capture: Forensics, Profiling And The Hunt In Austin](#)

The task of catching a criminal – such as the one(s) behind the apparent serial bombings in Austin, Texas – often hinges on forensic experts, whose job may involve concocting a profile of the perpetrator or perpetrators.

[Innocence bid for Virginia man convicted of 1969 murder of a 4-year-old Albemarle County boy rejected](#)

The Innocence Project argued that testing of genetic material almost 50 years old proved their client, who is serving life, is innocent. Brown was identified by the child's mother, who had met Brown once before and spoken with him on the telephone. She was stabbed, beaten and apparently raped in the same attack that took her son's life.

[ONLY ON 8: Did this homework assignment at Silverado High School go too far?](#)

"Just knowing that someone in my class may have a mental disease or a disorder or something of the sort that I may not know of, and they are now going to be writing the "Perfect Murder" paper and they could actually go through with this paper," the student said.

[Middle School Students Use Forensics, CSI Techniques to Investigate 400-Year-Old Revenge Murder](#)

Under the direction of a forensic scientist using Facetime from Scotland, students from the Forensics/Mock Trial class at Thurston Middle School in Laguna Beach, California, recently used 21st-century crime scene investigation tactics to investigate a murder from 1585. Based on the historical events of Roanoke, the Lost Colony, the students used a simulated crime scene to investigate and process criminal evidence using current CSI techniques.

[HEROIN, COCAINE SHOW UP ON FINGERPRINTS OF STUDY RESPONDENTS WHO NEVER USED DRUGS](#)

In a small study, published in the journal Clinical Chemistry, a team of forensic scientists analyzed sweat drawn from fingerprint samples. Their data included fingerprints from 50 individuals who said they'd never done drugs and 15 others who admitted to using either cocaine or heroin in the past day. Despite never having used drugs, about 13 percent of the fingerprints from non-drug users revealed small amounts of cocaine and one percent of fingerprints revealed heroin.

[Reversal of Bite-Mark Murder Conviction Mandates Hard Look at Forensic Evidence](#)

At Swinton's 2001 murder trial, the most damning evidence came from Gus Karazulas, the chief forensic dentist for the Connecticut State Police. Karazulas, who claimed to be an expert in analyzing bite marks, testified that bite marks found on the murder victim's body had been made by Swinton. His opinion rejected any possibility of error; Karazulas testified, "I believe that with reasonable medical certainty without any reservation that these marks were created by [Swinton's] teeth." That sentence was quoted by the Connecticut Supreme Court in upholding Swinton's conviction.

[Technology's role in finding Austin package bomber](#)

The failed detonation also allowed investigators to pinpoint the location from which the packages were sent. This helped secure surveillance images of Conditt and identify him. All of these factors played a key role in securing a federal complaint and search warrant to examine Conditt's internet search history as well as to ping his mobile phone through cellular triangulation. A digital DNA trail was rapidly developed and helped stop him cold.

[Why Scientists Are Stabbing Pig Carcasses with Samurai Swords](#)

Let you think the research is purely academic, it actually started during the investigation of murder cases where the victims were slain using the Japanese samurai swords known as katanas, said study lead author

Penny McCardle, a consultant forensic anthropologist to the Newcastle Department of Forensic Medicine in Australia.

[DCH forensic nurses receive SANE certification](#)

Forensic nursing has become one of the newest specialties recognized by the American Nurses Association, and it's growing rapidly in many parts of the country. DCH is fortunate to have several nurses with SANE certification.

[Yesterday's Crimes: The Zodiac Killer DNA Profile That Never Was](#)

With so many coincidences linking Allen to the crimes, news that the 2002 DNA test cleared him undid any closure Graysmith attempted to bring to the legions of amateur sleuths obsessed with the enduring mystery.

[Perjury charge dismissed against Kessler](#)

Perjury charges are typically filed against an individual when a legal oath has been voluntarily violated by swearing to a false statement. Kessler had previously claimed under oath he was assaulted on the Charlottesville Downtown Mall while collecting signatures to recall City Councilor Wes Bellamy. Prosecutors, however, have pointed to video evidence of the incident to allege that Kessler lied under oath.

[Austin bomb saga shows law enforcement's deep new reach](#)

Confounded at first by the quickly growing string of sophisticated bomb work, police officials say an "army" of investigators ranging from the FBI to local police worked at a frantic pace to gather forensic evidence, build profiles, scour surveillance video, and engage and inform the public – all of which appears to have earned them key breaks that enabled them to triangulate the suspect on Tuesday to a motel parking lot in Round Rock.

[N.H. Crime Lab Reduces Backlog After Marijuana Decriminalization Put In Effect](#)

Six months ago, the State Police Forensic Laboratory had a backlog of about 3,600 cases. It's now down to 1,600, and analysts are steadily chipping away at the number of controlled drug cases.

[Crime lab delay again stalls case against St. George man accused of abducting, sodomizing teen](#)

Jib Ryan Payne of St. George was arrested in June 2016 and charged with nine felonies and misdemeanors: three counts of forcible sodomy, two charges of drug possession, and one charge each of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, drug distribution, unlawful possession of a category II firearm, and possession of paraphernalia.

[Senior Mini College: Retired crime lab scientist speaks about solving crimes using DNA](#)

During his class, Blackett walked a crowd of seniors through the ways DNA technology has been used to bring justice to cases, including the June 1988 murder of 9-year-old Jennifer Wilson in Flagstaff, Ariz. Her body was found by hikers on top of a hill three weeks after the murder.

[Candy sent to crime lab after health issues arise](#)

Police warned people not to eat candy they got at Saturday's parade over concerns it may be contaminated. They received about 10 complaints about children and others developing temporary numbness or rash since Saturday.

[State labs not equipped to enforce 2015 fentanyl law](#)

Under the 2015 law, someone dealing heroin laced with fentanyl could only be prosecuted for trafficking fentanyl if the confiscated mixture contained at least 10 grams of the synthetic drug. Public Safety Secretary Dan Bennett, however, said the State Police crime lab is only equipped to determine the presence of fentanyl, not the quantity of the substance in a mixture.

[Lake County Crime Lab getting grant, new drug detection equipment](#)

Lab officials said a new Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) is needed to replace an older model that is no longer serviceable and for which it's becoming increasingly difficult to find replacement parts. The new equipment is also needed to help keep up with the exponential increase of opioid cases in the county.

[Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force is making progress](#)

In September of 2016, SAKI was awarded nearly \$3 million to send un-submitted rape evidence kits to a private lab in Utah.

"We're starting to see some initial results come back just to show whether any DNA profiles that could be created," said Jon Bennion, Chief Deputy Attorney General.

[Kentucky Senate passes its version of a state budget](#)

The Senate proposal also includes pay raises for Kentucky State Police crime lab employees and for social workers. It also includes funding for the Poison Control Center at Norton Hospital.

[OSP stops field drug testing over fentanyl concerns](#)

Oregon State Police, along with several other local law enforcement agencies, have decided to stop testing suspected narcotics in the field because of fentanyl exposure concerns.

[Virtual Case Notes: Company Knowingly Sold Encrypted 'Phantom Phones' to Criminals. FBI Says](#)

As frustrating as it may be for investigators to be locked out of devices potentially holding valuable forensic evidence, there is nothing in the law that says that Apple can't make their iPhones this way—it's not illegal for a company to maximize their users' privacy and security. However, an FBI operation that was unveiled last week, and the indictments resulting from it, show that peddling special encryption may be illegal in some cases—when a company purposely provide criminals with the means to evade law enforcement, and destroy evidence.

[Gun Used in California Killing Had Been Wrongfully Returned](#)

The sheriff's department said records show the court order had been received by their office about six months after the gun was wrongfully returned. An investigation has been launched to examine why there was a lapse between when the order issued and when it was received by sheriff's officials.

['Reverse Search Warrants' Used to Find Cellphones Near NC Crimes](#)

The "reverse search warrants" were sought, and approved by judges, at least four times last year, according to an investigative report by the NBC TV affiliate WRAL. Two homicides, a potential arson, and a sexual assault all prompted the search warrants served on Google, according to the latest report, published last

week.

Probabilistic Genotyping: Theory and Implementation

Instructors: Dr. Michael Coble (NIST), Annette J. Ortiz (Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory), Kristen Schelling (Michigan State Police), and Brandon Good (Michigan State Police)

When: April 23 – 25, 2018 (8:00a – 5:00p each day)

Where: Brookfield, Wisconsin (Suburb of Milwaukee)

Training Location & Lodging: Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel, 375 S. Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005(\$104/night + tax; be sure to mention MAFS when reserving your room)

Cost: \$200 MAFS Member / \$350 Non-MAFS Member

Workshop Coordinator: Sharon Polakowski (polakowskim@doj.state.wi.us)

Cancellation Date*: March 23, 2018 (20 min / 35 max)

The first two days of the workshop will be presented by Dr. Michael Coble from NIST and cover the basics of probabilistic genotyping, including likelihood ratios. The remaining one day will be presentations by representatives from agencies who have implemented PG. They will discuss validation, training of analysts, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, and further 'nuts and bolts' of implementation, including some data.

Visit MAFS.net to register and for further details.

*The workshop will be cancelled if its minimum number of registrants is not met by the cancellation date. Registration will remain open after the cancellation date if the minimum is met.

Advanced Courtroom Testimony for the Drug Chemist

Instructor: Tim McKibben

When: May 7-8, 2018 (8:00am—5:00pm each day)

Where: Dayton, Ohio

Training Location & Lodging: Crown Plaza Dayton (\$101/night + tax; be sure to mention MAFS when registering for your room)

Cost: \$200 MAFS Member / \$350 Non-MAFS Member

Workshop Coordinator: Jennifer Watson (watsonj@mcohio.org)

Cancellation Date*: March 1, 2018 (30 min / 60 max)

This two-day workshop is aimed at educating drug chemists beyond the basics of testimony related to drug analysis. Topics covered may include but are not limited to: handling opposing experts in general, reviewing opposing expert's reports and what to focus on, Daubert (or Frye) hearings (how to get started, how to educate the attorney, etc), how to explain chemistry/chemical structures to a jury (related to analog and pharmacophore cases; what to do, what not to do), common opposing expert tactics and how to conquer them, how to aid in the prosecution's/defense's understanding of analog/pharmacophore cases, spectral interpretation as it relates to testimony, how to handle when an opposing expert "muddies" the water when testifying about chemistry related topics, case law that supports Dauberts (or Frye)/opposing reports etc, and how to introduce new technologies in court that have not previously been used in the area/district. The training will also include practical exercises.

This workshop is open to drug chemists working in local, state and federal laboratories.

Visit MAFS.net to register and for further details.

*The workshop will be cancelled if its minimum number of registrants is not met by the cancellation date. Registration will remain open after the cancellation date if the minimum is met.



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FORENSIC SCIENCE RESEARCH DIGEST

Issue 11/12, December 2017/January 2018

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/4/#inbox/16245c56e76024ea?projector=1&messagePartId=0.3>



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FORESIGHT Overview

Managers of scientific laboratories see themselves as scientists first and managers second; consequently, they tend to devalue the managerial aspects of their jobs. Forensic laboratory managers are no different but the stakes may be much higher given the importance of quality science to the criminal justice system. The need for training and support in forensic laboratory management has been recognized for many years but little has been done to transition the tools of business to the forensic laboratory environment.

Project FORESIGHT Annual Report, 2015-2016

Forensic Science Initiative, College of Business & Economics, West Virginia University

Welcome to the Laboratory Reporting and Analysis Tool (LabRAT), part of the FORESIGHT project. The following worksheets address a variety of questions regarding the allocation of resources within your laboratory. With each worksheet, the requested items are highlighted in the yellow shaded cells. Other cells, with white background, may have data in the form of automated calculations. Do not worry about completion of items in those white background cells.

Organization (Data Source)

Initial Day of Fiscal Year (dd/mm/yyyy)

Final Day of Fiscal Year (dd/mm/yyyy)

Complete the Lab Rat

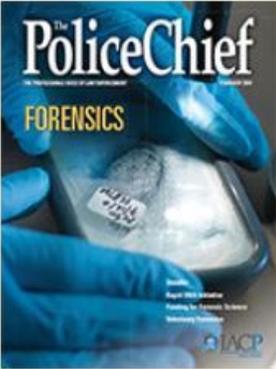


Laboratory Detail	Laboratory LabRAT project man
Jurisdiction (federal, state, local, private)	Contact Information:
Size Population Served	Phone
Geographic Size Served	Fax
Number of separate facilities	email
	Mailing Address



The Police Chief

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FEBRUARY 2018 ISSUE

Forensics

Forensic science dates back well over 200 years, when Scotland Yard first connected a bullet to the murder weapon (1835) and the first fingerprint classification system was developed (1892). The field has advanced significantly since then, and, when used effectively, forensic science-in all its many forms-can provide valuable contributions to law enforcement's pursuit of justice and public safety.

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Developing training, education and online modules relevant to the diverse forensic and applied forensic sciences communities.

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Subject: CSAFE Survey on Current Forensic Reporting Practices
<https://forensicstats.org/about/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please complete this survey by March 31, 2018

ASCLD is excited to announce the addition of new awards to be debuted at the symposium this year. There are so many wonderful initiatives ASCLD and its members are involved in that we are pleased to be able to recognize more of them.

Awards include:

- ASCLD Member of the Year – ASCLD member who has made significant contributions to the organization in the past year. (Nomination form will be distributed to membership in advance of the symposium.)
- FORESIGHT – Most innovative success story epitomizing the tenets of FORESIGHT.
- Symposium Presentations by a member – The best presentation as voted by the audience.
- Symposium Attendee with longest membership.
- Best Capstone presentation from the Leadership Academy – voted upon by Leadership Academy participants and instructors.
- FTCoE / NIJ / ASCLD Webinar of the Year – Attendance and audience feedback will be key indicators for selection of this award.
- Briggs White - Exceptional competence and achievement in any area of public administration, leadership shown in the direction or development of programs, creativity and resourcefulness, adherence to the basic principles of enlightened public service, integrity and dedication to duty. (<https://www.ascl.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!

45th Annual ASCLD Symposium

Advancing Forensic Science requires leadership, which includes taking initiative, motivating employees, and applying resources creatively to the complex problems presented by today's forensic casework and issues. Leaders lead by example and encouragement, building on success and learning from their past experiences and that of others.

Please join us in Atlanta, Georgia, May 20-24th for the 2018 ASCLD Symposium where you will learn about exciting initiatives to advance forensic science. New and experienced managers and directors will be presented with innovative tools to sharpen their leadership skills. Presentations from experts and leaders, both inside and outside the forensic science community, will cover various aspects of leadership. Our goal is to invigorate you with techniques and information to increase your leadership capacity in both life and occupation.

[Make your Reservation](https://aws.passkey.com/event/49236454/owner/321/home) - <https://aws.passkey.com/event/49236454/owner/321/home>

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/atlmq-atlanta-marriott-marquis/>

<https://www.ascldsymposium.com/education>

Before the show, get caught up on the latest news: <http://www.evidencemagazine.com/>

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Bronze Sponsors



RTI International in partnership with the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, a program of the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice, produces 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, the FTCoE 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 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 Atlanta, Georgia. The available dates are Tuesday May 22 & Wednesday May 23, 2018 and we can accommodate your schedule.

Please visit <https://forensiccoe.org/ascldpodcast/> to submit your bio, headshot, consent, and 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.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES (Hiring now)

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

- [Assistant Director of Technical Operations](#), North Carolina State Crime Laboratory, Raleigh, NC, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Controlled Substances](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: April 12, 2018
- [Crime Scene Supervisor](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 15, 2018
- [Forensic Serologist](#), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Decatur, Expires: April 9, 2018
- [Criminalist 1 and 2 \(recruiting for one position in Toxicology\)](#), Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division, Reno, Nevada, Expires: April 20, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology Unit](#), Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, West Palm Beach, Florida, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I or II \(Firearms Assignment\)](#), City of Mesa, Mesa, AZ, Expires: March 29, 2018
- [MSP Forensic Scientist III](#), Maryland State Police/Forensic Sciences Division, Pikesville, Maryland, Expires: April 4, 2018
- [Forensic Laboratory Director](#), Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency, Indianapolis, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [Quality Assurance Manager](#), Salt Lake City Police Department, Salt Lake City, Expires: April 2, 2018
- [MSP Forensic Scientist Supervisor](#), Maryland State Police – Forensic Sciences Division, Pikesville, Maryland, Expires: April 4, 2018
- [Criminalist II – Forensic Biology \(DNA\)](#), San Francisco Police Department, San Francisco, CA, Expires: April 3, 2018
- [Latent Fingerprint Examiner](#), MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT (MDPD), Doral, Florida, Expires: April 16, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Firearms & Toolmarks](#), Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: April 13, 2018
- [DNA Analyst III – Serology / DNA Operations Technician](#), Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences, Houston, Texas, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [ICITAP Worldwide Forensics Advisor 15 -Washington DC](#), Engility Corp, Washington DC, Expires: May 26, 2018
- [Forensic Science Internship & Forensic Biology & DNA Internship](#), The Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, Washington, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist](#), Rapid City Police Department, Rapid City, SD, Expires: May 18, 2018
- [Associate Medical Examiner](#), Arkansas State Crime Laboratory, Little Rock, Arkansas, Expires: May 31, 2018
- [Forensic Serologist II](#), Serological Research Institute, Richmond, CA, Expires: March 30, 2018
- [Faculty – Forensic Science – College of Science, Engineering and Technology](#), Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Expires: May 1, 2018
- [Forensic Analyst – Multimedia](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 30, 2018
- [Forensic DNA Analyst](#), DNA REFERENCE LAB, Inc., San Antonio, Expires: April 2, 2018
- [Forensic Analyst – Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: April 6, 2018
- [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
- [Faculty Position in the MS Program in Biomedical Forensic Sciences](#), Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, MA, Expires: April 10, 2018
- [Forensic Chemist I/II](#), NMS Labs, Fayetteville, NC, Expires: April 1, 2018

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 with 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

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

May 8-11, 2018, Cary, NC

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

May 7-11, 2018, Chandler, AZ

June 11-15, 2018, Milwaukee, WI

August 20-24, 2018, Denver, CO

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

April 9-12, 2018

[Forensic Measurement Confidence MC100 \(Web-based\)](#)

April 11-13, 2018

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

May 7-9, 2018, Chandler, AZ

June 11-13, 2018, Milwaukee, WI

August 20-22, 2018, Denver, CO

*Web-based courses also available

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

May 31-June 1, 2018, Houston, TX

October 8-9, 2018, San Antonio, TX

Let me know if you have any questions.

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

New Narcotics Protection Kit as You Face the Dangerous Opioid Epidemic

We designed this single-use kit following DEA & CDC guidelines

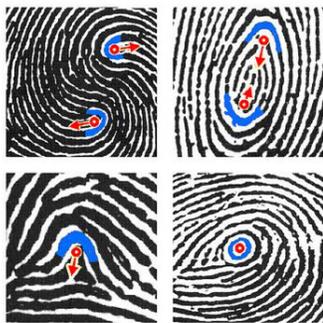
Small amounts of Fentanyl can cause an overdose, a significant threat to you & your department. We designed this kit to help you stay safe.

[Buy Now](#)



<http://www.sirchie.com/nark-ppe-kit-available-in-med-large-x-large-2xl.html#.WaNzc-mQxPb>

OSAC Catalog of External Standards and Guidelines



The OSAC Catalog of External Standards and Guidelines is a collection of standards, guidelines and other documents applicable to forensic science. None of the documents in the catalog have been developed or approved by OSAC (the Organization of Scientific Area Committees). The catalog was compiled by NIST staff in early 2015 for OSAC members to assess existing standards, guidelines and best practices that are already publicly available.

The catalog was updated in April of 2017. The catalog is available to download as a [sortable Excel spreadsheet](#) (link opens an Excel .xlsx file). It contains the titles and source information for more than 700 standards, guidelines and related documents. The catalog also lists web addresses for documents that are available online.

[Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science](#)

[OSAC Standards Bulletin, March 2018 Now Available](#)

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).

https://www.nist.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2018/03/05/osac_standards_bulletin_march_2018.pdf

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-standards-and-guidelines>

STANDARDS DEVELOPING ORGANIZATION (SDO) NEWS

Comment Period Open on Draft Documents

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Academy Standards Board (ASB):

ASB Standard 011, *Scope of Expertise in Forensic Document Examination*, First Edition (**Comment period closes March 26, 2018**) *Please note that comments on a re-circulation will only be accepted on revised sections of a document, comments made to text not revised from the original public comment period will not be accepted.*

ASB Standard 022, *Standard for Forensic DNA Analysis Training Programs*, First Edition (**Comment deadline, March 19, 2018**)

ASB Standard 040, *Standard for Forensic DNA Interpretation and Comparison Protocols*, First Edition (**Comment deadline, March 5, 2018**)

Free Software Can Help Spot New Forms of Fentanyl and Other Illegal Drugs

Forensic chemists can download the software from the NIST website.
March 07, 2018

<https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2018/03/free-software-can-help-spot-new-forms-fentanyl-and-other-illegal-drugs>

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



ANAB

Accreditation and Training
developed specifically for the
forensic community

www.anab.org

science/osac-subcommittees



NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

The summary for the NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics grant is detailed below. This summary states who is eligible for the grant, how much grant money will be awarded, current and past deadlines, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numbers, and a sampling of similar government grants. Verify the accuracy of the data FederalGrants.com provides by visiting the webpage noted in the [Link to Full Announcement](#) section or by contacting the appropriate person listed as the [Grant Announcement Contact](#). If any section is incomplete, please visit the website for the National Institute of Justice, which is the U.S. government agency offering this grant.

- Start-Up Business Funding
- Federal Grant For Single Moms
- Apply For College Grants
- Grants For Education
- Apply For Free Grants
- Free Money Grants
- Bad Credit Personal Loans

NIJ FY18 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics: The Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (GRF-STEM) provides awards to accredited academic institutions to support graduate research leading to doctoral degrees in topic areas that are relevant to ensuring public safety, preventing and controlling crime, and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States.



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

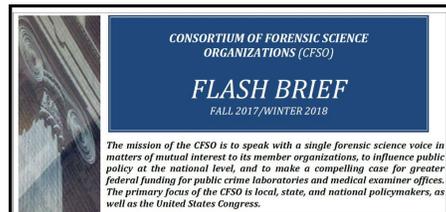
Oxford Global Training Seminars: www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk

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

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

[Lean Six Sigma Certification for Forensic Science Professionals](#)
March 20 - September 11, 2018



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 federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. The primary focus of the CFSO is local, state, and national policymakers, as well as the United States Congress.

Advocacy - <http://thecfso.org/advocacy/>

<https://judiciary.house.gov/hearing/examine-state-forensic-science-united-states/>

Membership:
For Membership information:
matthew.gamette@thecfso.org

Via online webinar with one face-to-face class held on September 11, 2018 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in Pittsburgh, PA at the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh International Airport.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

For more information on the Forensic Management Academy and Lean Six Sigma programs, please visit business.wvu.edu/execute or email Martina Bison-Huckaby at Martina.Bison-Huckaby@mail.wvu.edu.

West Virginia University Forensic Management Academy

CFSO Board of Directors

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-Beth Lavach, Legislative Liaison bethlavach@elsandassociates.com

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
NIJ National Institute of Justice
 STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

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.](#)

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"> • 078D-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 View Grant Opportunity page for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Synopsis – key information, e.g. dates, POC ii. Package – under Actions-Apply provide email to get info on application package 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: app07.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/agencies 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 grants(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"> • 078D-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

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



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.



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

Leadership series instructors and modules available.

Jody Wolf

Modules: Generations, Cultural Diversity, Leadership Principles and Concepts

Dr. Terry Anderson

Modules: Personal Leadership, Practical Emotional Intelligence, Moral Compass

Dean Gialamas

Modules: Leadership and Ethics, Leadership and Power

Deputy Chief Timothy P. Scanlan

Modules: Leadership and Change, First-Line And Mid-Level Supervision

Jeremy Triplett

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



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>



NIJ Forensic Science R&D Reports for ASCLD Crime Lab Minute Vol 11

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

[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



LEAP

Bridging the gap

The goal of the Laboratories and Educators Alliance Program (LEAP) is to facilitate collaborative research between academia and forensic science laboratories. This joint effort between the American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) and the Council of Forensic Science Educators (COFSE) identifies forensic science needs and provides a platform for laboratories, researchers, and students to seek projects aligning with their mutual research capabilities.

Laboratories	Academia
Expands the research climate within the laboratory, leading to meaningful contributions to forensic science practices.	Promotes impactful research by providing a list of forensic science needs and research interests that can lead to future collaborations.
Provides educational opportunities, such as conference presentations and guest lectures.	Enriches the knowledge base of university faculty with limited or no prior forensic laboratory experience.
Supports the laboratory through hosting student interns to assist in validation and evaluation projects.	Enhances academic achievements through the valuable internship experiences provided to students.
Facilitates the connection between the laboratory and university programs, potentially assisting with future hiring actions and research needs.	Streamlines vital connections and collaborations between universities and forensic science laboratories as required for accreditation.

Solicitation Announcement
 NIJ Research and Evaluation on Drugs and Crime FY2018
 Solicitation:
<https://nij.gov/funding/Documents/solicitations/NIJ-2018-13682.pdf>
 Applications Due: April 25, 2018

NIJ's drugs and crime portfolio supports research on law enforcement efforts to deter, investigate, prosecute, and address illegal drug trafficking, markets, and use. This FY2018 solicitation will seek investigator-initiated proposals to conduct applied research on evidence-based tools, protocols, and policies for State, local and tribal jurisdictions. The two drug priorities are: 1) opioid-related criminal investigation, prosecution, drug intelligence, and community surveillance; and 2) illegal marijuana markets and drug-related violent crime. Opioid research proposals should address narcotics law enforcement, forensic science, and/or medicolegal death investigations; and opioids include heroin, fentanyl, diverted pharmaceuticals, synthetic drugs, and analogues.

See The National Institute of Justice's Role in the Strategy to Combat Heroin and Other Opioids at <https://www.nij.gov/topics/drugs/Pages/nij-role-in-the-strategy-to-combat-heroin-and-other-opioids.aspx>

General information on applying for NIJ awards can be found at www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/welcome.aspx. Answers to frequently asked questions that may assist applicants are posted at www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/faqs.aspx. For

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 data for new bath salt-type drugs of abuse.

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

This article summarizes 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

assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation (NIJ-2018-13682): toll-free at [1-800-851-3420](tel:1-800-851-3420); via TTY at [301-240-6310](tel:301-240-6310) (hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax to [301-240-5830](tel:301-240-5830); or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>.

Dear Colleagues,

New Solicitation: Research and Evaluation of Technologies to Improve School Safety

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals for projects to demonstrate and evaluate the application of technologies to improve school safety. This solicitation is part of the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (CSSI).

NIJ is interested in funding a single evaluator who will have the capabilities to assess the effectiveness of a few promising technologies that can enhance safety within K-12 schools. Evaluations should consider the school environment and use cases as well as the kinds of data that might be collected or used as a result of the technology intervention.

Applicants are encouraged to explore technologies that have worked for use cases in other ecosystems that may translate well to the K-12 school environment.

All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 10, 2018.

Review the solicitation.

Applicants must [register with Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application.

[Learn how to become an NIJ proposal peer reviewer.](#)

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants.

Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service: [1-800-851-3420](tel:1-800-851-3420); TTY at [301-240-6310](tel:301-240-6310) (for hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax [301-240-5830](tel:301-240-5830); or web chat <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>. See also NIJ.gov's [solicitation FAQ page](#)

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 topographics as a substitute for physical casings.

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

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