



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

President's Message----

Nominations for the Briggs White Award

Colleagues,

The Briggs White award is the highest achievement that ASCLD presents. The award was established at the direction of past President Bill Hartner to recognize an ASCLD member, past or present, who demonstrates managerial excellence in forensic science. The award bears the name of Briggs White, the former director of the FBI Laboratory who saw a need for greater collaboration between Federal, State, and Local crime laboratories and who, in 1974, was credited with founding the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.



This award is presented annually at the ASCLD symposium at the awards luncheon on Thursday and winners are presented with a plaque and their name is added to the official Briggs White plaque which is traditionally kept on display at the ASCLD office, but may be distributed to the honoree to display at their facility for the next year. Former Briggs White award winners can also be seen at <http://www.asclcd.org/about-us/our-history/>.

The ASCLD Board of Directors and the nominations committee are currently seeking nominations for this 2017 Briggs White award. All ASCLD members are welcome to nominate present or past ASCLD members for this annual award. The nomination form asks for detailed information concerning the nominee's career, publications, professional memberships, and contributions to forensic science (especially regarding management aspects).

If you would like to nominate someone for the 2017 ASCLD Briggs White award, please download and complete the form at <http://www.asclcd.org/nominations/> and submit it according to the instructions.

Have a great week.

Kindest regards,

Jeremy Triplett



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!



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.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS

"Excellence through leadership in forensic science management"

Jobs

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

AFIS Analyst, Peel Regional Police, Brampton, ON, Expires: March 10, 2017

Crime Lab Manager, City of El Cajon Police Department, El Cajon, California, Expires: March 8, 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

Forensic Scientist II, III, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Topeka, KS, Expires: March 6, 2017

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

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 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**

Forensic Scientist IV, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Topeka, KS, Expires: March 10, 2017

Forensic Biology / DNA Analyst (Part-Time), DuPage County Forensic Science Center, Wheaton, IL, Expires: March 10, 2017

Latent Fingerprint Examiner, Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, Florida, Expires: March 6, 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 Professor of Biological Sciences Forensic Sciences, Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio, Expires: March 9, 2017

National Commission on Forensic Science News

<https://www.justice.gov/ncofs/meetings>

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

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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>

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.

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

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

Microspectrophotometry of Fibers: Advances in Analysis and Interpretation

Microspectrophotometry is a standard forensic laboratory technique for the comparison of fibers, however, there are concerns about its discriminating power and significance in a field that is moving toward statistical interpretation of data. In this NIJ-supported project, researchers with the forensic laboratory Microtrace conducted an extensive review of microspectrophotometry to present investigators with a context for relating spectral differences to colorant concentrations in fibers and illustrate cases in which similar, but different, fiber populations could not be discriminated.

Massively Parallel Sequencing: Application to Forensics

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

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

<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](#)

OSAC Subcommittees



Bode Cellmark Forensics provides advanced forensic solutions offering crime labs ways to reduce their workloads and budgets.

Bode's newest offerings include:

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction Program streamlines processes to eliminate backlogs of untested sexual assault kits.

Bode Buccal 2™ is uniquely designed to improve DNA databanking collecting and automate processing. The Bode Buccal 2 is a DIRECT COLLECTION SYSTEM that requires minimal training. There is NO Transfer Step Required.

Independent Validation Services are customized to meet your laboratory's needs. Validation services provide completely unbiased analysis on your equipment, chemistries, or process.

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

[Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines](#)

CRIME LABORATORIES

[Forensic Laboratory begins 'phased' opening](#)

St. Lucia Times Online News (press release)
Saint Lucia's forensic laboratory began a phased opening today under new management headed by Director, Fernanda Henry. Henry told reporters at ...

[Crime lab conditions 'sub par'](#)

The Guam Daily Post (press release) (registration)
'SUB PAR': The Guam Police Department Crime Lab is located next to the Guam Community College in Mangilao. A former police chief is expected to ...

[Construction of regional crime lab set to begin this summer](#)

Castle Rock Newspress (registration)
A rendering of the regional crime lab that is set to begin construction this ... For years, those working in the criminal justice system within Douglas ...

[Denver's deputy crime lab director resigns after investigation finds numerous violations](#)

FOX31 Denver
DENVER -- New details in a lengthy Denver Police Department internal investigation that found numerous violations committed by the Deputy Director ...

[New cyber crime lab will help SLO County law enforcement, train Poly students](#)

The San Luis Obispo Tribune
Maj. Gen. David Baldwin of the California National Guard, speaking at the dedication Wednesday of the Central Coast Cyber Forensic Lab at Camp ...

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 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.

http://thecfso.org/newsletter/CFSO_Newsletter_2016Summer.pdf



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.



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

NEWS STORIES

[Forensic commission backs blood work from shuttered APD lab](#)

KVUE.com
AUSTIN - The Texas Forensic Science Commission is backing the blood work done by the closed Austin crime lab. After the lab was closed in June ...

[Revolutionary DNA 'sketch' of suspect in 20-year-old rape and murder of California student leads](#)

Daily Mail
The DNA-generated facial composite at age 25 (left) and Hernandez's mug shot from a 2000 domestic violence arrest, when he was

Lab Strategy Plan that will make your lab more efficient, work within your operational budget, and deliver flawless work.

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

FORESIGHT 20/20

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

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

Foresight 20/20

26. Investigators ...

[After 60 years, can science finally identify who killed 'The Boy in the Box'?](#)

Philly.com (blog)

"What's good about the DNA is you can affirm things to it," Kuhlmeier said. "So, tips come in and if someone said, 'Oh, I think it was my long-lost brother ...

[Scientists Zero In On DNA In Hair Samples With Extraordinary Accuracy](#)

CBS Local

In the past, hair evidence was collected at crime scenes but could only be used to identify a suspect with a microscope and an expert opinion ...

[Golden bullet to solve crime cases backlog in Uganda](#)

New Vision

My exposure to forensic science was in 2002 at the then Government Chemist and Analytical Laboratory (GCAL) where I was employed as a ...

[Orlando fingerprint examiner suspended, 2600 cases possibly affected in latest police lab scandal](#)

Washington Post

Add Orlando to the list of jurisdictions plagued by potential misdeeds in the crime lab. A fingerprint examiner for the Orange County Sheriff's Office, ...

[Construction of regional crime lab set to begin this summer](#)

Castle Rock Newspress (registration)

A rendering of the regional crime lab that is set to begin construction this ... For years, those working in the criminal justice system within Douglas ...

[Former Utah crime lab scientist admits sexually abusing two children](#)

Salt Lake Tribune

A former state forensic scientist has pleaded guilty to five felonies in connection with sexually abusing two children. Michael Hepworth, 54, of Woods ...

[IUPUI study finds heroin-related deaths may be significantly undercounted](#)

IUPUI Newsroom

During the six-year study period, the IUPUI team examined the death certificates and toxicology reports for 1,199 accidental drug-overdose fatalities in ...

[Junk science will reign the justice system under Sessions and Trump](#)

ThinkProgress

Forensic science disciplines used to convict countless people over the past century have been exposed as junk in recent years. Crime lab after crime ...

[DNA forensics is not an infallible tool — but not because of science](#)

Genetic Literacy Project

The only evidence — and the German police's only hope — was DNA left behind at the scene. More than 15 crime scenes had her matching DNA.

Coming soon..... The Forensic Research Committee

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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