



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER

Welcome home. It was a great week in Dallas, TX at the 44th Annual ASCLD Symposium. A huge thank-you to those who attended and especially to those who shared their expertise through our Leadership Academy, workshops and presentations. We continue to be our own best resource. For those who missed, we had a great time, so we want to see you in Atlanta for 2018. Our Dallas meeting marks one of our most successful conferences to date with 510 registered attendees. We welcomed keynote speakers crime survivor Natasha Alexenko, U.S. Attorney John Parker, professional leadership expert speakers Jim Ferrell from Arbinger Institute and Jimmy Capra from Front Line Leadership, and firearms expert Luke Haag for an incredible reconstruction of the JFK shooting at Dealey Plaza Museum.



Our theme for this year's meeting was "Continuous Improvement: Leading through Continuous Learning". Our goal was to give you innovative techniques to mentor and inspire employees by providing actionable tools and transportable information that could be directly applied to improve your operation. With all the positive comments we received, I feel we went a long way towards meeting that goal. The remaining piece is you, bringing all that great stuff home and putting it into action.

I cannot thank outgoing President Jeremy Triplett, Past President Jody Wolf and Board Member Adam Becnel enough for their outstanding service. They have definitely moved ASCLD forward with great leadership and programs.

As your new president, I am very excited, humbled and honored to serve you as your representative. This promises to be a challenging year filled with new opportunity to work together in our mission to aspire to "Excellence through leadership in forensic science management".

ASCLD Scholarship Deadline Approaching

ASCLD awards annual scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students in forensic science. Scholarships are generally awarded in the amount of \$1,000; however, the number and dollar amount of scholarships will be determined annually after the availability of funds is determined. Applications are reviewed and ranked according to the following criteria:

Overall scholastic record

Scholastic record in forensic science coursework

Motivation or commitment to a forensic science career

Personal statement

Faculty/Academic advisor recommendation

The first due date in the application process is April 15th. For more information and to obtain a copy of the application please go to <http://www.asclد.org/nominations/>.

ASCLD Member Opportunity- American Board of Criminalistics

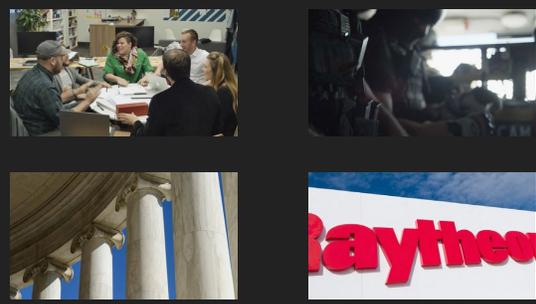
The American Board of Criminalistics (ABC) is looking for an ASCLD member who will represent the operations and interest of the American Board of Criminalistics-Board of Directors. Candidates must be ABC certified and should possess accreditation experience. Broad experience in forensic science is preferred. Commitment to the ABC includes about five hours a month, a monthly teleconference, and two, in-person meetings a year. The in-person meetings are each scheduled over a weekend and a small stipend is paid to cover some expenses.

If you are interested or have any questions please contact Mr. Chris Taylor, ABC Vice President and current ASCLD Representative at taylorce8@att.net. Please provide a CV for the Board to review. A short interview of candidates may occur at a future ABC Board Meeting.

**FORENSIC SCIENCE
ERROR MANAGEMENT
INTERNATIONAL
FORENSICS SYMPOSIUM**
July 24-28, 2017 @NIST, Gaithersburg, MD

ChemCentre
EXPERT SOLUTIONS

[Forensic Science Research Digest Volume 1, Issue 2, March 2017](#)



LOOKING AHEAD
THE NATIONAL Sexual Assault
POLICY SYMPOSIUM

NIJ National Institute of Justice
NIST's Forensic Technology Center of Excellence

Solicitation Deadlines Extended

NIJ has extended the deadlines for the below solicitation:

- [Research and Evaluation in Safety, Health, and Wellness in the Criminal Justice System](#) now will close on May 8, 2017.

Apply now! Funding is available for:

- FY 2017 Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence-Inventory, Tracking, and Reporting Program (SAFE-ITR) Application deadline: April 28, 2017 [Download the solicitation \(pdf, 38 pages\)](#)

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/250472.pdf>

Case Studies ref Arbinger Institute Symposia Workshop



- [Lab Manager](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [DNA Analyst I & II](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [DNA Technician](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [Serologist](#), Sorenson Forensics, Salt Lake City, Expires: August 2, 2017



Adapting Newborn Blood Testing Procedures to Forensic Toxicology

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

Degraded Ignitable Liquids Database: An Applied Study

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

Statistical Methods for Combining Multivariate and Categorical Data in Postmortem Interval Estimation
<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250467.pdf>

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

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

Microspectrophotometry of Fibers: Advances in Analysis and Interpretation

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

- City, Expires: August 2, 2017
- [Forensic Quality Manager](#), CITY OF CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON, Expires: May 19, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist II – Controlled Substances](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: May 24, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist I – Controlled Substances](#), LVMPD, Las Vegas, NV, Expires: May 24, 2017
- [Crime Lab Quality Assurance Specialist](#), Broward Sheriff's Office, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist 4-Latent Prints \(Job ID 608267\)](#), Indiana State Police, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist 4-Latent Prints \(Job ID 608267\)](#), Indiana State Police, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist 4-Latent Prints \(Job ID 608267\)](#), Indiana State Police, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Assistant Laboratory Director](#), Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Topeka, KS, Expires: May 24, 2017
- [Forensic Biologist II](#), Erie County, Buffalo, NY, Expires: June 1, 2017
- [Firearms Technician](#), Erie County, Buffalo, NY, Expires: May 19, 2017
- [Criminalist](#), none, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: June 9, 2017

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

ASCLD/RTI Backlog Series

Archival versions of the ASCLD/RTI Backlog Series can be found at the following links:

[The Paradox of Backlog Reduction – How Doing Less Can Be Doing More](#)
[Taking the First Steps Toward Backlog Reduction](#)
[Managing Customer Expectations and Education](#)
[How to Increase your Staff without Increasing Budget](#)
[Efficiency Improvements](#)
[Developing a Statewide Approach to Backlog Management](#)
[Case Acceptance Policies and Guidelines](#)

ASCLD/RTI Rapid DNA Series

Archival versions of the ASCLD/RTI Rapid DNA Series can be found at the following links:

[Rapid DNA: The QAS and NDIS](#)
[Rapid DNA: Arizona DPS and Richland County, SC](#)
[Rapid DNA: Booking Stations and CODIS](#)

Evidence Technology Magazine



Forensic Crime Lab Strategic Business Plan

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

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

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

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

- [cyber security](#), jntuk, kakinada, Expires: June 15, 2017
- [Crime Scene Investigator](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: June 30, 2017
- [Quality Specialist](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 31, 2017
- [Chief Operations Officer](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston Forensic Science Center, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Forensic Technical Leader](#), GenQuest DNA Laboratory, Sparks, Nevada, Expires: May 31, 2017
- [Forensic Analyst – Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: May 12, 2017
- [Forensic Chemistry Supervisor \(Toxicology\)](#), Austin Texas Police Department, Austin Texas, Expires: May 15, 2017
- [Chief Toxicologist](#), Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, OH, Expires: May 15, 2017
- [Criminalist](#), County of Los Angeles – Medical Examiner Coroner, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: June 9, 2017
- [Physician Specialist](#), County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: May 19, 2017
- [Chief Forensic Laboratories](#), Los Angeles County – Medical Examiner- Coroner, Los Angeles, CA, Expires: May 17, 2017

FORESIGHT 20/20

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

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

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

Contact has been made with Porter Lee and connections are being created for TOMIKO to test software for that vendor. Similar set up work is being done with STaCS DNA. A conference call was held with StarLIMS to orient them to the project. Forensic Advantage has been contacted twice with no response; their participation as a vendor has been shelved until and unless they respond. The only Forensic Advantage Alpha lab, Las Vegas PD, has been contacted and a conference call is scheduled for 29 MAR to provide some advice and assistance to them so they can participate in FORESIGHT 20/20 to the extent possible.

The FORESIGHT Users meeting is scheduled for April 30 and a plenary presentation on FORESIGHT 20/20 is scheduled for the ASCLD meeting in May.

Foresight 20/20



Just Science Podcast Interviews

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

As part of the podcast series, RTI would like to interview any ASCLD members who would like to share interesting or unusual criminal cases, now closed or adjudicated, where forensic science was critical to the outcome of the case. Our goal is to provide the audience with a positive view of the importance of forensic science in criminal investigations. The timing of the cases is not



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS

"Excellence through leadership in forensic science management"



Simon Sinek: If You Don't Understand People, You Don't Understand Business

"We're not good at everything, we're not good by ourselves," says Simon Sinek at the 99% Conference. Our ability to build trust and relationships is the key to our survival as a race, and to thriving as ideamakers.

NFSTC News

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

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



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

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

The OSAC Registry is a trusted repository of high-quality, science-based standards and guidelines for forensic sciences.

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

E30.01 Criminalistics

The following work items are underway:

important, although preference will be given to cases involving some personal experience and that can be the subject of an in-depth conversation. The audio only recording usually takes 40 to 60 minutes, depending on the content, and all disciplines are welcome. We would like to do the recordings during the ASCLD annual symposium in Dallas, Texas.

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

NEWS STORIES

[Science targets crime: Inside Ireland's first DNA database](#)

Irish Independent

Though it's just 18 months old, Ireland's new **DNA** database is already ... Swab team: A technician at **Forensic Science Ireland** examines a crime scene ...

[Forensic techniques can be unreliable](#)

Nation News

When several people's genetic material is found, even **DNA** analysis can be subjective and mistaken. The disturbing truth is that justice systems have ...

[Trump mulling significant cuts to White House drug office, memo warns](#)

Fox News

The Trump administration is considering making significant cuts to the Office of National **Drug** Control Policy (ONCDP) according to a preliminary ...

[SLED's faulty gunshot residue tests delaying some prosecutions around South Carolina](#)

The State

Police agencies around the state depend on SLED's **labs** to process **crime** scene evidence. Due to the near-quarter-million dollar cost of the machine ...

[Out-of-state lab solving Wisconsin death cases](#)

WTMJ-TV (press release) (registration) (blog)

The skull or hands were missing making

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

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

New Approved Standards

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

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

E30.12 Digital and Multimedia Evidence

The following work item is underway:

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

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

OSAC Subcommittees



[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

a positive ID more challenging. With few clues Kenosha turned to one of the nation's foremost **forensic labs** ...

[Forensic DNA Testing: Why are there still bumps in the road?](#)

Technology Networks

As part of the **DNA** lecture series at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Robin W. Cotton reports on the current state of **forensic DNA** testing and ...

[Is Hair Analysis Accurate for Drug Testing?](#)

Chromatography Today

A recent paper published in the Journal of Analytical Toxicology reported on the use of ultra-high performance chromatography – tandem mass ...

[Measuring Drug Impairment In Drivers Is Easier Said Than Done](#)

NPR

Drug-impaired driving is a growing concern for highway safety officials. But, as a recent report makes clear, its actual impact is still difficult to measure.

[Lake County wants an additional levy to keep the Crime Lab operating](#)

News-Herald.com

Lake County Prosecutor Charles Coulson said the Lake County **Crime Laboratory** is probably the most important crime fighting tool for local law ...

[Pittsburgh crime lab ex-employee accused of stealing drugs](#)

Fox News

A former **crime lab** employee in Pittsburgh allegedly stole and used drugs flagged as evidence, the Allegheny County Police Dept. said.

[City mulls over \\$250K forensic tool for FMPD](#)

NBC2 News

A **forensic** tool recommended for Fort Myers police is being delayed as the city ... Other recommendations include a **forensic lab**, which could take time.

[GBI issues alert about synthetic opioids](#)

Columbus Ledger-Enquirer

With a high potential for abuse, they are

thieves to prison, and he kept such a low profile partly out of concern for his and his family's safety. Perhaps as a result, he was not long remembered for his forensic work, and his influence on the developing field of forensic science was not as great as it might have been.

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

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

Bringing together experts from the forensic, research, legal, and law enforcement communities to strengthen forensic science and create a safer, more just society. <https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science>

Upcoming Events

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



Establishment of an Office of Forensic Sciences and a Forensic Science Board Within the Department of Justice

Revision 2/14/17

http://thecfso.org/advocacy/20170214_CFSO_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.

CFSO Newsletter

not currently being accepted for medical treatment in the U.S. The GBI **Crime Lab** has received approximately ...

['We cannot rely too heavily on DNA': Police Commissioner concedes another DNA bungle](#)

WAtoday

WA Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan has reiterated his calls for the state government to fund a new \$90 million **forensic** science centre after a ...

NIFS Newsletter

Coming soon..... The Forensic Research Committee

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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