



## American Society of Crime Lab Directors

### "THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear Colleagues,

In last week's president's message, I updated you on the listening session we attended with DOJ representatives. Through discussion with the senior forensic advisor, Ted Hunt, we proposed to provide a response that included input from our entire membership.

Documentation to prompt input includes a set of detailed questions and a list of links to references on previous work connected to a forensic needs assessment. Language from the originating language instructs a study and report to address the following:

- the status and needs of the forensic science community
- status of current workload, backlog, personnel, equipment, and equipment needs of public crime laboratories and medical examiner and coroner offices
- overview of academic forensic science resources and needs
- a comprehensive view of the infrastructure, equipment, and personnel needs of the broad forensic science community

We need your input. Therefore, be on the lookout and respond to the email blast which will be sent to you with those questions and resource links attached. This study represents an unprecedented opportunity for forensic science labs to address resources needed to do forensic science right. Quality, timely results creates public safety and defends rights. It does, however come at a cost of the appropriate resources for the task. Getting those needs documented is a critical step toward providing the service our investigators, justice system and public deserves.

Ray Wickenheiser  
ASCLD President

#### **Shaheen, Cornyn Call on DOJ to Provide Guidance on Boosting Support for Forensic Labs in Efforts to Combat Opioid Epidemic**

(Washington, DC) – Today, U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and John Cornyn (R-TX) [led a letter](#) with a bipartisan group of 30 senators to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, asking him to provide Congress with information detailing how the Department of Justice (DOJ) is supporting and prioritizing forensic science service providers across the nation as a part of a broader approach to combat the opioid epidemic.

"The opioid crisis knows no boundaries; it reaches into homes in every community in every region of this country. Stopping the flow of these drugs is critical to ending the crisis, but to do so requires the ability to trace the drugs to their source. This demands a forceful and vigorous effort by our forensic science community," **wrote the senators.**

**The senators continued,** "The current opioid crisis has overwhelmed the nation's collective laboratory systems with more than a 6000% increase in the last four years, according to National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) data provided by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors. Case backlogs and turnaround times are growing. Dangerous emerging drugs are not being scheduled to make them illegal, and deaths likely associated with drug overdose are not being investigated completely by

medical examiners and coroners.”

The bipartisan coalition of senators call on the DOJ to provide a comprehensive list to Congress within 30 days, detailing how the Department is supporting and prioritizing forensic science service providers, and to also explain how the Department is including grant programs and technical assistance for providers at the state, county and local levels to help combat the public health crisis. The forensic science community plays a critical role in communities affected by the opioid epidemic. Labs and other forensic science service personnel help local law enforcement and federal agencies trace drugs to their source by helping to analyze evidence, find importers, manufacturers and distributors, and to determine causes of death in overdoses.

Senator Shaheen, the lead Democrat on the Appropriations Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee, and Senator Hassan [introduced legislation](#) to help the State Police Forensic Laboratory and Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in New Hampshire and their counterparts across the country that are dealing with dramatically increased demands and serious backlogs as a result of the opioid epidemic. Earlier this month, Senator Shaheen [sent a letter to President Trump](#) with a group of 19 senators, calling on the President to support additional funding necessary to combat the opioid epidemic. Senator Shaheen has been a leader in Congress on combating the opioid crisis, and [was instrumental in efforts to obtain emergency funding](#) through the 21st Century Cures Act that was signed into law by President Obama last year. Earlier this year, [she helped secure over \\$700 million](#) in additional opioid treatment resources. Shaheen recently helped unveil legislation that would [provide \\$45 billion to respond to the opioid crisis](#), which is the largest response bill to combat the epidemic to date.

The bipartisan group supporting Senators Shaheen and Cornyn’s letter include Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Cory Booker (D-NJ), John Boozman (R-AR), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Thad Cochran (R-MI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Christopher Coons (D-DE), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Al Franken (D-MN), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), James Inhofe (R-OK), Angus King (I-ME), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), James Lankford (R-OK), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Joe Manchin (D-WV), Ed Markey (D-MA), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Rob Portman (R-OH), James Risch (R-ID), Mike Rounds (R-SD), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

The letter can be read in full [here](#).

Atlanta, GA  
May 20-24

## 2018 ASCLD Symposium



**Leading Forensic  
Advancement**  
 A Formula  
for Success

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### Education

This year's educational topics include:

- Visionary Leadership
- Leadership in Emerging Issues #1 New Technology Implementation
- Leadership in Emerging Issues #2 Policy in Action
- Leadership in HR/Personnel Performance
- Leadership in Business Metrics and Operations
- Leadership in Networking
- Leadership Through History
- Young Forensic Science Leaders Forum



**Interested in Presenting?**  
Please click [here](#) to submit an abstract for the 2018 Symposium.

### THE SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE WILL BE POSTED IN DECEMBER 2017

[www.ascldsymposium.com](http://www.ascldsymposium.com)

## Thank you to our 2018 Symposium Sponsors and Exhibitors!

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#### National Institute of Justice Awards

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.](#)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES (Hiring now)

- [Forensic Photographer Sr](#), United States Postal Service, Dulles, VA, Expires: November 22, 2017
- [Assistant/Associate Professor](#), University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Assistant Biometric Records Manager](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Assistant/Associate Professor](#), University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut, Expires: February 8, 2018
- [Forensic Latent Print Analyst](#), United States Postal Service, Dulles, VA, Expires: November 20, 2017
- [Forensic Science & Criminology Laboratory Manager](#), Scientific Analytical Tools (SAT), United Arab Emirates, Expires: November 15, 2017
- [Justice Supervisor](#), State of Wisconsin-Department of Justice, Madison, WI, Expires: November 13, 2017
- [Forensic Chemist](#), InCadence Strategic Solutions, Forest Park, GA, Expires: January 31, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist – Forensic Biology](#), Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: November 13, 2017

- [Biometric Records Manager](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: December 25, 2017
- [DNA Criminalist](#), Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, Ankeny, Iowa, Expires: November 12, 2017
- [Latent Print Examiner](#), Oklahoma City Police Department, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Expires: November 12, 2017
- [Latent Fingerprint Examiner](#), Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, Florida, Expires: November 21, 2017
- [Forensic Analyst – Biology](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 15, 2017
- [Senior Firearm/Toolmark Examiner \(Senior Criminalist – Firearms\)](#), Tarrant County Medical Examiner Criminalistics Laboratory, Fort Worth, TX, Expires: January 5, 2018
- [Assistant or Associate Professor](#), John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY, New York, NY, Expires: November 17, 2017
- [Principal Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01597\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Senior Chemist \(01603\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Staff Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01610\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Associate Chemist – Radiological/Nuclear \(01591\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Principal Microbiologist \(01601\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Senior Microbiologist \(1609\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Staff Microbiologist \(01596\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Associate Microbiologist \(01595\)](#), ORAU, Charlottesville, VA and OCONUS, Expires: January 2, 2018
- [Firearms Examiner](#), Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: November 15, 2017
- [Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science](#), Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Director, Forensic Science & Law Program, Duquesne University](#), Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, Expires: December 8, 2017
- [Assistant /Associate Professor – Forensic Science M.S. Program, Digital Evidence Emphasis](#), Marshall University, Huntington, Expires: December 12, 2017
- [Forensic Coordinator, Assistant Professor](#), Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX, Expires: December 1, 2017
- [Senior Scientific Advisor](#), Texas Forensic Science Commission, Austin, TX, Expires: December 5, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist IV](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 28, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist III](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 28, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist II](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 28, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 3 \(#01377\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner DNA 1 \(#01376\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 1 \(#01375\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner Latent Print 3 \(#01374\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Chemist \(#01373\)](#), ORAU, Oak Ridge, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Laboratory Manager/Theater Liaison \(#01365\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Laboratory Manager/Theater Liaison](#), MISS, Oak Ridge, Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Examiner – Firearms & Toolmarks \(#01378\)](#), ORAU, Ft. Gillem, GA (& OCONUS), Expires: December 31, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist IV](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 22, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist III](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 22, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist II](#), City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: November 22, 2017
- [Crime Lab Director](#), Office Of Attorney General, Bismarck, ND, Expires: November 30, 2017
- [Forensic Scientist I-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018

- [Forensic Scientist II-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist IV-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist I-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist II-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist III-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist IV-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Chemistry/Controlled Substances](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Firearms/Toolmarks/Ballistics](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Latent Prints](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner Division of Forensic Services, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018
- [Forensic Scientist Trainee-Trace Evidence](#), Nassau County Medical Examiner, East Meadow, NY, Expires: February 2, 2018

- [Assistant/Associate/Full Professor in Forensic Science | New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences](#) <https://newcollege.asu.edu/jobs/mns/openrankprofessorforensics>
- **Assistant/Associate/Full Professor in Forensic Science**

The School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences at Arizona State University seeks applications for a full-time, tenure-eligible Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor (any rank) in Forensic Sciences with any focus area that complements or supplements existing strengths in the unit.

**General information:**

The School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (<https://newcollege.asu.edu/mathematical-natural-sciences-degree-programs>) at Arizona State University, is an interdisciplinary mathematical and natural sciences unit that encompasses forensic science, biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, physics, statistics and toxicology; it prides itself in interdisciplinary collaborations among these research areas. Successful candidates are expected to establish a vigorous, externally-funded program of research; to deliver quality undergraduate and graduate instruction in the Forensic Sciences; and to contribute service to the university and the profession. Faculty can participate in university-wide graduate programs. The School is committed to recruiting and retaining students and faculty from groups that have historically been underrepresented in the sciences.





New on ASCLD Twitter:

Thank you [@TheJusticeDept](#) for a great two days of meetings and for listening to the needs of crime lab directors across the country!

[https://twitter.com/asclد?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw&ref\\_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.asclد.org%2F](https://twitter.com/asclد?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw&ref_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.asclد.org%2F)



| Miami-Dade Police Verified account [@MiamiDadePD](#) Sep 22

[#DYK](#) [#MDPD](#)'s Forensic Services Bureau has linked over 9,000 cases utilizing the National Integrated Ballistic Information network (NIBIN)

**Implementing Control Measures  
When writing a Chemical Hygiene Plan**

by Jane Northup

The elements of a Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) have been the subject over the last few weeks. The last installment was on the need for SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), the first CHP element recommended by OSHA. This installment will be the second recommendation: ***Criteria that the employer will use to determine and implement control measures to reduce exposure to hazardous materials (i.e., engineering controls, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and hygiene practices) with particular attention given to selecting control measures for extremely hazardous materials.***

Reducing employee exposures from hazardous materials should be priority number one for any lab. When implementing criteria for hazard controls, we will break down the section into three categories: Engineering Controls, Administrative Procedures, and Personal Protective Equipment.

### **I. General Control Measures**

As previously recommended in the Writing SOPs installment, your control measures are generally addressed in the SOP. Your lab should have a standard control measures policy for general work practices and then address the individual SOP control measures that are pertinent to the practices involved in a particular procedure. This should include quality control measures and/or health and safety concerns that may be present

#### **• Engineering Controls—Criteria for Implementation**

Engineering controls are laboratory equipment such as fume hoods, gas cabinets, and glove boxes.

Engineering controls are considered the “first line of defense” in protecting workers whereas personal protective equipment (PPE) is generally considered the *final* defense. Appropriate engineering control is often obvious, but the general criteria are noted here for the common ones. The criteria should be followed unless equivalent protection can be realized. Specific engineering controls can/should also be described in a lab's SOPs.

#### **Fume Hoods, Wet Benches, Gas Cabinets & Other Exhaust Ventilation**

- When using volatile substances that present a significant inhalation hazard.
- When necessary to keep exposure levels below OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits.
- When using toxic gases.
- When indicated in Standard Operating Procedures, or as indicated in Safety Data Sheets

#### **Biosafety Cabinets**

- With laboratory operations involving biohazardous material as directed by National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
- When indicated in Standard Operating Procedures

#### **Approved Hazardous Materials Storage Cabinets and Safety Cans**

- Whenever possible, but particularly when fire code volume limits
- When indicated in Standard Operating Procedures

#### **Flammable Storage Refrigerator**

- When refrigerated storage of flammable materials is needed

### **II. Administrative Controls—Criteria for Implementation**

Administrative controls are controls to reduce hazard levels in laboratories such as training, signage, labeling, SOPs, etc. The controls instituted by a given laboratory shall be determined by the safety officer, as needed. In general, measures shall be implemented:

- As indicated in Standard Operating Procedures
- As mandated by health and safety regulations, or as called for by accepted good practice

### **III. Personal Protective Equipment—Criteria for Implementation**

Personal Protective Equipment should be regarded as the 'last resort' for chemical and biological safety programs. PPE should be used as protection when there is no other alternative. Where Personal Protective Equipment is used, it must:

- be selected taking into account the nature of the hazard and the task,
- be provided free of charge to employees,
- be maintained in an efficient working order good repair,
- be compatible with other PPE,
- be stored in an assigned and suitable area,
- be provided in conjunction with appropriate instruction and training for the wearer

The most important aspects of the policy are when and where individuals must wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, safety eyewear, and a lab coat.

Laboratory coats should be laundered through a lab coat-laundering program and not in private residences.

#### **OSHA Fact Sheet:**

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/laboratory/OSHAfactsheet-laboratory-safety-chemical-hygiene-plan.pdf>

#### **CHP Template:**

[http://www.dsp.wi.gov/Documents/Industry%20Services/Forms/Public%20Sector%20Employee/Template-Chemical\\_Hygiene\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.dsp.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



## ANAB

### [Internal Auditing to ISO/IEC 17025](#)

November 13-15, 2017, San Francisco, CA

### [Fundamentals of Measurement Uncertainty](#)

November 16-17, 2017, San Francisco, CA

### [Principles of Internal Auditing and Measurement Uncertainty](#)

November 27-29, 2017, Indian Rocks Beach, FL

### [Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Assessor Training \(Testing\)](#)

November 13-17, 2017, Emeryville, CA

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

November 13-15, 2017, Emeryville, CA

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**

SWGAM Interpretational Guidelines

<https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/asclد-webinar-dna-standards-and-guidelines/>

Proposed Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) changes

<https://forensiccoe.org/webinar/asclد-webinar-series-dna-standards-and-guidelines-webinar-part-2/>

## 2018 National Institute of Justice Forensic Science Symposium

### Forensic Science in the News

#### [Forensic Science Is Being Used to Crack the Secret Code of Turtle Foraging](#)

AS AN INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUE, ISOTOPE analysis is the preserve of serious crime fighters. It can be used to help bust drug rings, track criminals, or find out where a suspect had recently traveled—it's amazing the information that a bit of hair can hold. It's also important in archaeology, ecology, and other fields, and now scientists at the University of Exeter have found a new use for it: tracking the secretive feeding habits of turtles.

#### [TRUE FORENSIC SCIENCE: A 36 year old murder mystery solved](#)

After the horrendous crime was committed in 1981, everything pointed to Bell as the main suspect. Bell, however, maintained his innocence. After the development of forensic investigation and the analysis of the evidence found at the scene of the crime, At the end of March 2017, the Birmingham Crown Court, England, found Osmond Bell (60) guilty of murdering his ex-wife, Nova Walsh (24), 36 years ago.

#### [Too tall: Does video evidence prove a Texas inmate was wrongfully convicted?](#)

Powell's case will not only determine whether he stays behind bars, though. It could have a lasting impact on how scientific video evidence, now ubiquitous in criminal trials, is used in Texas courtrooms.

#### [10 Years of Forensic Crime Solving](#)

Cal State LA recently celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center. This building is home to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) crime labs. It is the largest municipal-regional crime lab in the nation and second largest crime lab in the U.S. with Quantico being number one. It has also been featured in scenes from the Amazon series, "Bosch".

#### [The Science of Crime: Behind the scenes at the Crime Lab](#)

The North Louisiana Crime Lab is headquartered in Shreveport. There are satellite offices in Alexandria and West Monroe.

#### [Carlos Gutierrez Brings Experience to Forensics](#)

Carlos Gutierrez who moved to Hawaii in 2012, was the man responsible for over 100 identifications which is considered the largest identification process ever in South America. As of this year, Gutierrez has become Chaminade's newest forensic science lecturer in Henry Hall and plans on educating the future of forensics through his personal story telling and experiences.

#### [Drug Threat Is 'Unprecedented' According To Forensic Experts](#)

Today, the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors issued an urgent public alert regarding the dangers posed by drugs currently circulating America's streets and neighborhoods as a result of the current opioid crisis. This alert is intended to help the public recognize and avoid suspicious materials when they are nearby.

#### [How convincing is a Y-chromosome profile match between suspect and crime scene?](#)

Scientists have developed new, open-source software that can help understand how many people in a population will match a single Y-chromosome profile detected at a crime scene.

#### [Analyst Raises Questions About Man's Murder Conviction](#)

Joseph Slemko, a 31-year police officer in Edmonton, Canada, testified Tuesday in Rolla that a Missouri State Highway Patrol sergeant who determined that Lisa Jennings had been murdered was "not qualified." Slemko, who works as a blood-spatter consultant, also accused the sergeant of being "totally irresponsible and negligent," reports the Springfield News-Leader .

#### [STRmix™ Approved for Use in Four More U.S. Labs](#)

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Kansas City Police Crime Laboratory, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and Union County (NJ) Prosecutor's Office Forensic Laboratory join 29 other U.S. labs which now routinely use STRmix™ in resolving DNA profiles. This includes everything from federal agencies such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) to state and local agencies such as the Michigan State Police, Texas Department of Public Safety, and the California Department of Justice.

#### [Texas 1 of 40 states flooded with fentanyl-laced pills](#)

Counterfeit painkillers and fake medications made with illegal fentanyl have been found in 40 states — including Texas — according to a report from the Partnership for Safe Medicines, which found the highly dangerous pills have spread from coast to coast.

#### [Civil trial opens for two Baltimore homicide detectives sued by man exonerated of murder](#)

Nearly 23 years to the day that he was charged with murdering his girlfriend, the 47-year-old sat in a federal courtroom just feet away from now-retired detectives Gerald Goldstein and Steven Lehmann, accusing them of fingering him for the crime without pursuing credible leads.

#### [Deputy AG announces new Forensic Science Working Group but still doesn't grasp the extent of problem](#)

The new group will be housed within the Justice Department, which will inevitably make it less independent and less transparent than the NCFS. It will be led by Ted Hunt, a longtime prosecutor. Though Hunt worked with the NCFS, putting a prosecutor in charge of forensic reform doesn't inspire a lot of confidence in the new working group's impartiality.

[OPD crime lab gets top accreditation, changes name](#)

"Accreditation is the ultimate form of transparency," Chief Todd Schmaderer said. "It ensures that the product we put out has been vetted, tested, verified and can go back and be checked and verified and that is a very important piece of the community."

[Crime lab expert supports theory of Steinle killing being accident, or not](#)

Norris testified Monday that most laboratories would not consider the one gunshot residue particle that was found on Garcia Zarate to be a positive finding, as particles can be transferred to the individual from police officers and police vehicles during transport.

[No threat after "suspicious package" found at Crime Lab](#)

News10NBC has learned that the Rochester Police Department bomb squad is investigating a possible bomb threat at the Monroe County Lab. In an email, Investigator Jackie Shuman at RPD says "there is a possible suspicious package that our Bomb Unit is checking out for the Crime Lab."

[New crime lab in Springfield clears backlog of drug cases](#)

The Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation opened a drug testing lab in May in the Public Safety Building where the Springfield Police Division and Clark County Sheriff's Office are located in downtown.

[\\$75 million crime lab plan in Wauwatosa moving forward](#)

The development team has submitted a conditional use application for the \$75 million crime lab project, which includes a three-story, 150,000-square-foot facility.

[Omaha Police Department's forensic investigation unit attains accreditation](#)

The Omaha Police Department's forensic investigation unit has attained accreditation, capping off a years-long strategic plan to improve crime scene evidence collection.

[Crime lab says substance found in trick-or-treat bag not heroin](#)

Oak Hill Police Chief Mike Whisman said the official report from the State Police Crime Lab said the substance was a derivative of marijuana.

[Former Memphis cop testifies city neglected rape cases](#)

A retired police lieutenant pulled no punches Wednesday while testifying that Memphis Police Department supervisors condoned widespread neglect and incompetence in sex crimes investigations.

[Exclusive: FBI agents raid headquarters of major U.S. body broker](#)

Federal agents have seized records from a national company that solicits thousands of Americans to donate their bodies to science each year, then profits by dissecting the parts and distributing them for use by researchers and educators.

[Texas Killer Was Able to Buy Guns Because of Air Force Lapse](#)

The gunman who slaughtered 26 people at a Texas church was able to buy weapons because the Air Force failed to report his domestic violence conviction to the federal database that is used to conduct background checks on would-be gun purchasers, authorities said Monday.

## 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>



November 2017 OSAC Bulletin

- [NFPA 921:2017 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations](#) has been added to the OSAC Registry
- The Friction Ridge Subcommittee has submitted [Guideline for the Articulation of the Decision-Making Process Leading to an Expert Opinion of Source Identification in Friction Ridge Examinations](#) as a draft standard to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences/American Standards Board (AAFS/ASB).



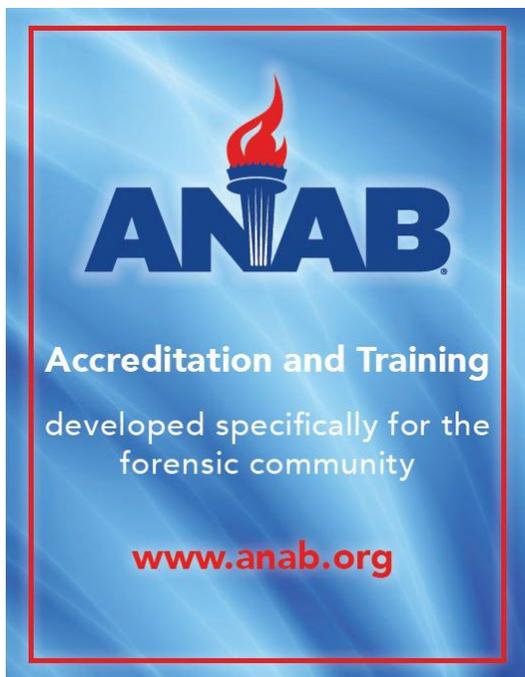
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OSAC Subcommittees  
<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-subcommittees>



[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.



**Genetics in Forensics Congress**

Oxford Global Conferences: [www.oxfordglobal.co.uk](http://www.oxfordglobal.co.uk)

Oxford Global Training Seminars: [www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk](http://www.oxfordglobaltraining.co.uk)



Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania  
March 19th to 23rd, 2018

**Course Instructors**

Dr. Mark Reynolds  
Mr. Edmund (Ted) Silenieks

**Introduction**

This course is designed primarily for practitioners who routinely examine blood stained clothing and other textiles and are required to assess, interpret, and report on bloodstain patterns as part of those examinations. The course is delivered through a combination of "face to face" instruction and self-directed learning. A minimum 80 hours of structured learning activities is required, inclusive of a 40 hour "face to face" residential component. The course will review the underpinning principles of BPA, and apply these principles to the analysis and interpretation of bloodstains on clothing and other textiles.

When examining clothing, the practitioner must be mindful of influences such as the fibre type, texture, treatments, all of which may affect the final appearance of bloodstains. The primary focus of the course is to develop those skills required for the examination of bloodstain patterns found on clothing items, including the use of microscopy to discriminate between spatter and transfer bloodstains



**FORESIGHT 20/20**  
Greetings from the Project FORESIGHT team. We invite you to join us and submit data for the past fiscal year. FORESIGHT is a business-guided self-



**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](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.

[Read the CFSO Newsletter here.](#)

**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"> <li>• 07BD-02-DNRR - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection</li> <li>• 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools</li> </ul> <p>These AEL's are in these FEMA grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operation Stonegarden</li> <li>• Port Security Grant Program</li> <li>• Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program</li> <li>• Transit Security Grant Program</li> <li>• Urban Areas Security Initiative Program</li> <li>• Homeland Security Grant Program</li> <li>• State Homeland Security Program</li> </ul> <p>Grants.gov discusses these FEMA Grants and other Federal Grant opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some of these are submitted through your State – see other side of this card</li> </ul> <p>How to find applicable Grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On <a href="http://Grants.gov">Grants.gov</a>, under Search Grants             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Keyword search with terms: DNA, identity, biometric, security, mass casualty, etc.</li> <li>b. Use checklists to limit number of grants, e.g., Eligibility, Category</li> <li>c. Select a grant by Opportunity Number View Grant Opportunity page for:                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Synopsis - key information, e.g. dates, FOC</li> <li>ii. Package - under Actions-Apply provide email to get info on application package</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li>2. On <a href="http://Grants.gov">Grants.gov</a>, under Search Applicants:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Use Register to apply for Workspace as either Organizational or Individual</li> <li>b. Get your DUNS number from your organization's finance office or call DUNS at: 1-866-705-5711</li> <li>c. Use Apply tab under Applicants for Workspace instructions</li> <li>d. Complete required forms</li> <li>e. Submit and track application</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Get alerts for new or revised grants at: <a href="http://app07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do">app07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do</a></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Find contact information for your State Emergency Management (EM) Office at: <a href="http://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies">www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies</a></li> <li>2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Request information on FEMA and other Federal grants.</li> <li>b. Request a contact in the EM Office for grants.</li> </ol> </li> <li>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"> <li>a. Administration</li> <li>b. Finance</li> <li>c. Budget</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Identify appropriate grant(s).             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Apply under all applicable grants.</li> <li>b. Comply with Open-Close times.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Request proper forms.</li> <li>6. Complete forms. Cite the proper FEMA AEL Item ID.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 07BD-02-DNRR - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection</li> <li>• 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. File forms on time</li> <li>8. Periodically monitor             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Call or email your State contact</li> <li>b. Call or email the contact given in the grant announcement</li> </ol> </li> <li>9. Request feedback on your application and apply the next year. Many are successful on their 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year</li> </ol> <p>Contact the Rapid DNA vendors for assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANDE (NetBio): <a href="http://www.ANDE.com">www.ANDE.com</a> sales@ANDE.com 817-705-4055</li> <li>• IntegenX <a href="http://www.IntegenX.com">www.IntegenX.com</a> sales@Integen.com</li> </ul>



evaluation of forensic science laboratories across the globe. The participating laboratories represent local, regional, state/provincial, and national agencies. Faculty from the WVU College of Business and Economics provide assistance, guidance, and analysis. We link financial information to work tasks and functions. Laboratory managers can use these functions to assess resource allocations, efficiencies, and value of services—the mission is to measure, preserve what works, and change what does not. **FORESIGHT is open to any forensic laboratory that completes and submits a LabRAT form. There is no charge for participation.** Attached you will find an example of an individualized report prepared for a participating laboratory.

To participate, simply complete the attached LabRAT workbook and submit to Paul Speaker at email [paul.speaker@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:paul.speaker@mail.wvu.edu). Please send any questions to the same email address. For additional information, please visit the program web site <http://be.wvu.edu/forensic/foresight.htm>. We are targeting a submission date of December 15, 2017.

### Foresight 20/20

#### Impression, Pattern and Trace Evidence Symposium January 22-25, 2018

Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel<<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/waspy-renaissance-arlington-capital-view-hotel/>>  
2800 South Potomac Ave Arlington Virginia 22202 USA  
<<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/waspy-renaissance-arlington-capital-view-hotel/>>

CALL for ABSTRACTS and CALL for WORKSHOPS are now open

Call for ABSTRACTS closes October 13th, 2017<x-apple-data-detectors://3>

Call for WORKSHOPS closes October 18<x-apple-data-detectors://4>th<x-apple-data-detectors://4>, 2017<x-apple-data-detectors://4>

Registration for attendees and presenters is FREE!

Attendee Registration will be opening soon.

All selected domestic presenters, except federal employees, will be funded for this event. Funding includes airfare and lodging that is arranged and prepaid by RTI. Other travel related expenses such as meals (at per diem rate), taxi, mileage and parking will be reimbursed following the workshop. Further detail will be provided to those selected with acceptance letters. International travel will not be funded.

For more information and to submit your abstract(s) or workshop proposal(s) please go to<<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>>[www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES](http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES)><http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>><http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>>

Two excellent job opportunities are available at JusticeTrax; Come join our Great Team! We have a Software Tester position and a Customer Care IT Support Specialist II position open.

Please read about the openings at <https://justicetrax.com/employment/>

Also, please consider attending the 2017 User Group Meeting: <https://justicetrax.com/sales/2017-user-group-meeting/>

[www.JusticeTrax.com](http://www.JusticeTrax.com)  
(800) 288-5467

ChemCentre Expert Solutions  
<http://www.chemcentre.wa.gov.au/Our-Services/Forensic-Science>

#### 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.

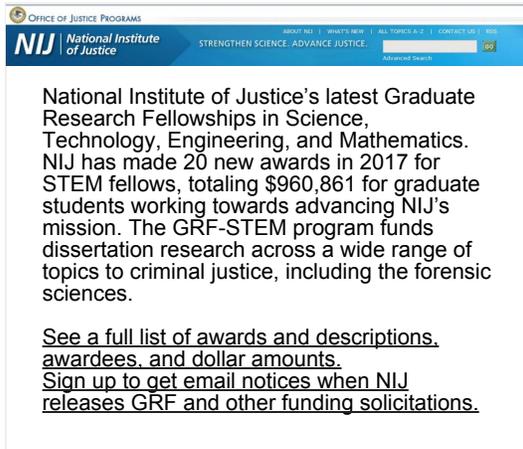
##### [The Fingerprint Sourcebook is Now Available in Spanish](#)

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 print development, preservation and documentation; equipment and laboratory quality assurance; perceptual, cognitive and

[18-IPTES>](#)

For questions please contact [forensicCOE@rti.org](mailto:forensicCOE@rti.org) <<mailto:forensicCOE@rti.org>>.

**West Virginia University Forensic Management Academy**



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.](#)

**Canadian Forensic Science Journal**

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 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.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/newsletters>

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

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