



American Society of Crime Lab Directors

"THE CRIME LAB MINUTE" NEWSLETTER



Dear colleagues,

Our annual meeting is one of the highlights of my year. It is an occasion I greatly enjoy, making the best of the opportunity to get together with like minded individuals from across the country and internationally. Each of us have a great number of different challenges and innovative solutions to address those issues. Sharing experiences is more than therapeutic, it enables us to see directly what has been tried, what works and what may not, and benefit from the growth of each other.

The chances that I or one of my staff have a great idea is good. The chances that we have the best idea out there that cannot be improved upon is slim. By joining with colleagues those ideas are honed and improved. We each share the opportunity to bring the best of the world of forensic science back to our home jurisdictions. That is the beauty of the sharing cooperative scientific community to which we belong.

I also have the pleasure of announcing our selection of the site of our annual meeting for 2021. Your feedback for several years now has placed Boston at or near the top of your list for future meetings, and we have finally been able to make that happen; and at the all important government per diem rate. Boston is our official meeting location for 2021. But for now, I look forward to seeing you in Atlanta in May of 2018. Put it on your calendar.

Ray Wickenheiser
ASCLD President

Dear Colleagues,

As referenced in my President's Message in the Crime Lab Minute, attached are a set of questions and resources provided to us by senior forensic advisor Ted Hunt. DOJ is soliciting our feedback on these questions to formulate a report on forensic needs assessment. Please provide your responses to asclddirector@gmail.com by COB November 30th.

Your input on the needs of forensic science is critical. Please let us know what you think so your needs, thoughts and ideas can be included.

Ray Wickenheiser
ASCLD President

[NAFL Listening Session Questions](#)

[Listening Session Resources](#)

ASCLD Representatives met recently with representatives from the DOJ and DEA to talk about resources related to the opioid crisis and other emerging drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS). We are providing you with a wealth of resource information in this email and will post it to the ASCLD website in an effort to help labs deal with this national emergency.

1. Attached to this email are some laboratory safety presentations provided by the DEA.
2. Drug analytical data monographs: <http://www.swgdrug.org/monographs.htm> Additionally, anyone can receive notifications of updates via Twitter @swgdrug
3. SWGDRUG MS library: <http://www.swgdrug.org/ms.htm>
4. Storage information: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/cfr/1301/1301_75.htm
5. To gain access to DEA's Real Time Communication Network, please provide the information below to Associate Laboratory Director Agnes Winokur at agnes.d.winokur2@usdoj.gov. Once the vetting process is complete, the individual will be added to the system and begin receiving emails from synth-opioids@usdoj.gov. Any emails sent to synth-opioids@usdoj.gov will be automatically shared with everyone in the group. Please note that due to the large demand of requests to join the network, the vetting process is being modified by our Chief Counsel. This may impact the timeliness of a response.

- Name and Title
- Name of Organization
- Location of Organization
- Contact Information
- Curriculum Vitae

6. The DEA Laboratory system will assist in providing reference materials, which are not commercially available, to requesting forensic laboratories. In the past they have provided some commercially available material due the exorbitant cost. However, they do not have the resources to be the nation's drug reference material supplier. The procedure to obtain reference materials simply involves contacting the DEA regional laboratory in your area and requesting the material via a formal letter. If the local lab does not have the material, our Special Testing and Research Laboratory may be able to synthesize material, if none is available.

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](#).



The banner features a cityscape of Atlanta, GA, with the ASCLD logo on the right. A circular graphic on the left contains the text: Atlanta, GA, May 20-24, Leading Forensic Advancement, A Formula for Success, and an icon of a building with a microscope.

2018 ASCLD Symposium

Atlanta, GA
May 20-24

Leading Forensic Advancement
A Formula for Success

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIME LABORATORY DIRECTORS

Home Agenda **Education** Sponsors/Exhibitors Registration Accommodations Destination FAQ

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

Thank you to our 2018 Symposium Sponsors and Exhibitors!

★ Repeat Sponsor!

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



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)

- [Crime Laboratory Manager](#), City and County of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, Expires: November 28, 2017
- [DNA Supervisor](#), Oregon State Police, Clackamas, OR, Expires: November 27, 2017
- [Assistant/Associate/Full Professor in Forensic Science](#), Arizona State University, Glendale, Arizona, Expires: January 31, 2018
- [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 Chemist](#), InCadence Strategic Solutions, Forest Park, GA, Expires: January 31, 2018

- [Biometric Records Manager](#), Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Largo, Florida, Expires: December 25, 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
- [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
- [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



G O B I E R N O D E
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR
M E J O R F U T U R O

Links from the American Embassy in Mexico on U.S. supported forensic initiatives.

https://mx.usembassy.gov/first-national-forensic-sciences-symposium/?_ga=2.27439093.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450

https://mx.usembassy.gov/forensic-laboratories-puebla-receive-international-accreditation-merida-initiative-support/?_ga=2.60427364.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450

https://mx.usembassy.gov/helping-consolidate-mexicos-new-criminal-justice-system-support-forensic-sciences/?_ga=2.107258955.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450

https://mx.usembassy.gov/united-states-mexico-join-forces-ensure-correct-identification-secure-handling-fentanyl/?_ga=2.5571706.870387431.1504891253-1830199091.1480522450

**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.dsps.wi.gov/Documents/Industry%20Services/Forms/Public%20Sector%20Employee/Template-Chemical_Hygiene_Plan.pdf

Examples of CHPs:

University of California, Santa Barbara: <http://www.ehs.ucsb.edu/labsafety-chp>

University of Rhode Island: <http://web.uri.edu/ehs/files/ChemicalHygienePlan.pdf>

Crime Lab Safety Plans:

Raleigh/Wake City County, Bureau of Identification: <https://www.forensicmag.com/article/2004/06/osha-and-forensic-laboratory>

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



ANAB

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

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

In 2018, the Forensic Science Training Institute will be offering a week-long course in Advanced Fabrics Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Training on March 19-23.

The class size is limited to twelve, so please register early to ensure your seat.

For registration and full details on the course requirements, visit the Forensic Science Training Institute website here: <http://www.cedarcrest.edu/forensic/16/1.htm>

Recorded Training:

Episode 9 Podcast!!

Just Blood Spatter

In episode nine of Just Science, funded by the National Institute of Justice's Forensic Technology Center of Excellence [Award 2016-MU-BX-K110], we spoke with Dr. Marc Smith, from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Smith's NIJ funded research in blood spatter has connected computational fluid dynamics with empirical studies to improve the understanding of blood spatter onto solid, slanted surfaces. His work looks at many variables, including droplet size, speed, surface roughness and wettability. [Listen and Subscribe HERE.](#)

Subscribe to the channel at:

- [Google Play](#)
- [iTunes](#)
- [Stitcher](#)
- [Soundcloud](#)

ASCLD/RTI Backlog Series

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

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

ASCLD/RTI Rapid DNA Series

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

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

ASCLD /RTI DNA Standards and Guidelines Webinar Series

SWGDM Interpretational Guidelines

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

Proposed Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) changes

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

2018 National Institute of Justice Forensic Science Symposium

Forensic Science in the News

[Forensic science comes to Vanderbilt](#)

Vanderbilt University has established a research collaboration with the Scientific Police Department of the Italian State Police (SPS — Servizio Polizia Scientifica) to take forensic science to the nanoscale.

[Art science innovation aids forensic criminal investigation](#)

Based upon a technique originally developed for imaging chemical elements in paintings and other works of art, Dutch researchers have established a new method for detecting 'hard to find' and concealed forensic traces. The method, resulting from a special collaboration between the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the Netherlands Forensic Institute (NFI), TU Delft and the Rijksmuseum, has recently been published in Nature's open access journal Scientific Reports.

[Forensics professor, 'Dr. Maggot' uses bugs to assist with crime scene investigations](#)

"There's a ton of cases. The Amber Harris case up in Omaha, I did that case. I did the Anthony case down in Florida. I testified for the defense down there," Huntington said.

[Silent Witnesses: Why do females make up most of those investigating crime using science?](#)

In the US, 80 per cent of students in forensic courses are female. Shari Forbes, director of the Australian Facility for Taphonomic Experimental Research (AFTER) – known as Australia's first "body farm", where decomposition is studied – says the figure at the University of Technology Sydney is similar. And at NSW Health Pathology the workplace is also about 80 per cent female.

[Chopin's Pickled Heart Reveals Cause of His Death](#)

After that, Chopin's pickled heart was mostly left to rest in peace until one night in 2014, when a group of scientists got permission to briefly inspect the jar in the crypt, in an effort to determine the musician's cause of death. They've finally released the results of their study, concluding that Chopin most likely died of complications from tuberculosis.

[Mock Oswald Trial In JFK Assassination Coming To STCL Houston](#)

Lee Harvey Oswald never saw his day in court after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy nearly 54 years ago, but he'll finally get it postmortem this week at a college in Houston. The South Texas College of Law Houston (STCL Houston) will hold a mock trial in the landmark case of State of Texas v. Lee Harvey Oswald on Thursday and Friday. A group of Harris County jurors will hear testimony from expert witness and sharp attorneys using 21st century techniques.

[Ohio Innocence Project Receives Grants to Fund, Expand Forensic Research Project](#)

The Department of Justice awarded the OIP \$205,051 for its proposed Forensic Review Project, which will examine 300-400 cases of retired Ohio forensic scientist Michelle Yezzo to determine whether she manufactured bogus or exaggerated test results to obtain convictions. If OIP identifies problematic cases, it will litigate them jointly with the Ohio Public Defenders office in hopes of freeing additional wrongfully-convicted persons. The grant enables OIP to hire a forensic science review attorney to analyze decades of case work; all work will be supervised by Assistant Clinical Professor Donald Caster, and OIP Director Mark Godsey.

[How ballistics traced gang guns back to antique arms dealer](#)

There appears to be nothing remarkable about the home of Paul Edmunds in the Gloucestershire village of Hardwicke. The modest red-brick cottage he shared with his partner, a health worker, and a small terrier dog has peaceful views across the Forest of Dean. A Jaguar saloon can sometimes be seen on the drive with Edmunds' initials – PRE – on the plates but it is a comfortable rather than flashy vehicle. This does not look like a gangster hideaway.

[State crime lab proposal gets approval from Wauwatosa Plan Commission](#)

The city plan commission on Nov. 13 approved a proposed new \$75 million state crime lab, law enforcement training center and Wisconsin Department of Justice offices near Watertown Plank and Mayfair roads.

[Shreveport gets new regional crime lab](#)

Officials celebrated the opening Shreveport's version of CSI crime fighting Tuesday at the new North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory.

[Indiana crime labs dealing with backlog due to increase in drug cases](#)

Thousands of drug cases are creating overwhelming work for scientists in crime labs. At the Indiana State Police (ISP) crime lab, they're seeing some of the highest number of drug cases they've ever see and it's creating a backlog.

[Advancements in DNA technology helping Lake Co. police departments solve more cases than ever before](#)

It's new technology that is being used to help police departments solve crimes and give crime victims peace of mind. It's called "touch DNA" and it's a forensic method used to analyze DNA left behind at crime scenes.

[Drone carrying drugs, cell phones crashes at Buckeye prison](#)

An attempted delivery of illegal contraband at ASPC-Lewis in Buckeye was unsuccessful after the drone that was carrying the items crashed, according to an Arizona Department of Corrections spokesman.

[Detroit Police Officers from Neighboring Precincts Brawl in Undercover Sting Gone Wrong](#)

Police officers from adjoining Detroit precincts argued with each other, shoved and even threw punches Thursday night during a raid on a suspected drug house, leaving two cops injured, an investigation under way and a black eye on the department.

[Facial Recognition System That Accounts for Racial Differences Performs Better, Researchers Say](#)

A facial recognition system that recognizes racial differences will yield more accurate results than a "one-size-fits-all" model, researchers from the University of Surrey report in the journal Pattern Recognition. The team found that a 3-D morphing face model trained to specifically recognize black, white and Asian faces in 2-D images performed better identifying faces at different angles and in different lighting scenarios than previous models.

[DHS and FBI Release Joint Technical Alerts on Malicious North Korean Cyber Activity](#)

The North Korean government malicious cyber activity noted in these alerts is part of a long-term campaign of cyber-enabled operations that impact the U.S. Government and its citizens. Working closely with our interagency, industry and international partners, DHS is constantly working to arm network defenders with the tools they need to identify, detect and disrupt state and non-state actors targeting the networks and systems of our country and our allies.

[Better Oversight of IED Ingredients Needed, New Report Says](#)

The new millennium's terrorist bombings, abroad in Paris, Brussels and Manchester, and domestically last year in New York and New Jersey, show that even though smaller amounts of the substances were used, improvised explosive devices (IEDs) can still be made by chemicals available to private consumers through retail outlets.

[Virtual Case Notes: RAIN Cyber Forensics System Replays Events Leading Up to Intrusion](#)

A new system currently in development by a team of researchers at Georgia Institute of Technology seeks to help with forensic investigations of cyber intrusions by monitoring a system continuously before an attack happens, and making it easy to search through all of that information once an event occurs.

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).



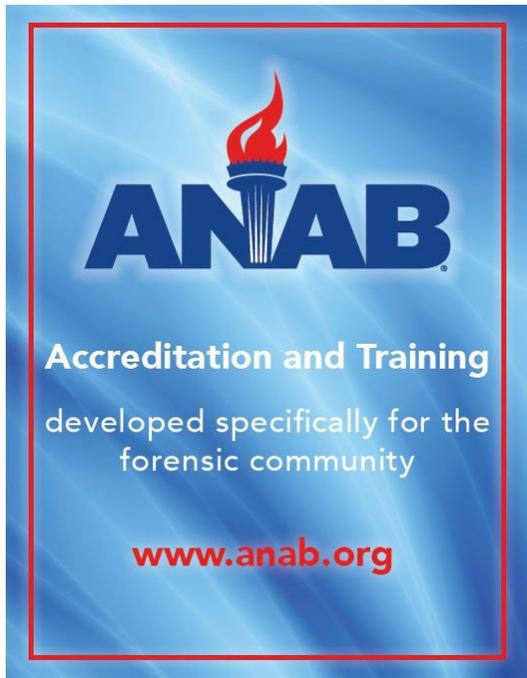
Share



Tweet

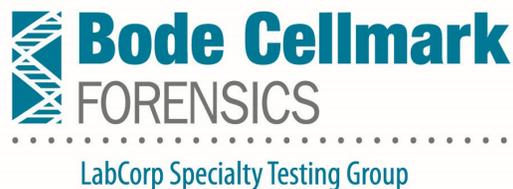


Forward



ANAB
Accreditation and Training
developed specifically for the
forensic community
www.anab.org

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

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



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.

[Read the CFSO Newsletter here.](#)

The Forensic Science Leadership Series
at Cedar Crest College
2018 Workshops



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

Grant Assistance for DNA

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

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

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-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. 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

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"> • 07BD-02-DNRN - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection • 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools <p>These AEL's are in these FEMA Grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Stonegarden • Port Security Grant Program • Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program • Transit Security Grant Program • Urban Areas Security Initiative Program • Homeland Security Grant Program • State Homeland Security Program <p>Grants.gov discusses these FEMA Grants and other Federal Grant opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of these are submitted through your State – see other side of this card <p>How to find applicable Grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On Grants.gov, under Search Grants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Keyword search with terms: DNA, identity, biometric, security, mass casualty, etc. b. Use checklists to limit number of grants, e.g., Eligibility, Category c. Select a grant by Opportunity Number <p>View Grant Opportunity page for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Synopsis - key information, e.g. dates, PIC ii. Package – under Actions-Apply provide email to get info on application package <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. On Grants.gov, under Search Applicants: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use Register to apply for Workspace as either Organizational or Individual b. Get your DUNS number from your organization's finance office or call DUNS at: 1-866-705-5711 c. Use Apply tab under Applicants for Workspace instructions d. Complete required forms e. Submit and track application 3. Get alerts for new or revised grants at: app07.grants.gov/search/subscribeAll.do 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find contact information for your State Emergency Management (EM) Office at: www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies 2. Call or go to the website of your State EM Office: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Request information on FEMA and other Federal grants. b. Request a contact in the EM Office for grants. 3. If EM Office cannot help, find a contact who works with grant applications in your State. Key offices to contact: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Administration b. Finance c. Budget 4. Identify appropriate grant(s). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Apply under all applicable grants. b. Comply with Open-Close times. 5. Request proper forms. 6. Complete forms. Cite the proper FEMA AEL Item ID. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07BD-02-DNRN - Analysis, DNA/RNA Detection • 09MY-01-DNAK - Kit, DNA Tools 7. File forms on time 8. Periodically monitor: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Call or email your State contact b. Call or email the contact given in the grant announcement 9. Request feedback on your application and apply the next year. Many are successful on their 2nd or 3rd year <p>Contact the Rapid DNA vendors for assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE (NetBio): www.ANDE.com sales@ANDE.com 817-705-4055 • IntegenX www.IntegenK.com sales@IntegenX.com



JusticeTrax and Qualtrax have integrated our industry-leading applications to make your job easier than ever.

Join us for an early look at this soon-to-be-launched integration where we will showcase some primary use cases, here: <http://go.qualtrax.com/webinar-JT-QT> We hope to see you there!

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

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>><<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>><<http://www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES>>

For questions please contact forensicCOE@rti.org<<mailto:forensicCOE@rti.org>>.



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](#)

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 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 a 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 a 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

[releases GRF and other funding solicitations.](#)

Canadian Forensic Science Journal

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>

Dear Colleagues,

The ANZPAA NIFS Research and Innovation Strategy and Roadmap are now available for

download from the ANZPAA NIFS website:

<http://www.anzpaa.org.au/forensic-science/our-work/projects/research-and-innovation-project>

The Roadmap details the priority areas of focus for research and innovation in forensic science, identified by the Australia New Zealand forensic science community. Each priority area of focus has been aligned to a strategic policing priority, to highlight the importance of forensic science research and innovation initiatives in the broader law enforcement environment. It is anticipated that this document will be a resource for the forensic science community to focus research and innovation initiatives towards end user requirements and reduce duplication of effort by identifying opportunities for collaboration.

The specific project questions under each area of focus are detailed in a separate document that is updated annually by ANZPAA NIFS in consultation with the forensic science community. This document is not available on the website but anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the current project questions can do so by contacting ANZPAA NIFS (secretariat.nifs@anzpaa.org.au).

The Strategy has been developed to provide a mechanism for ANZPAA NIFS to provide funding and in-kind support for externally managed projects that aim to address one or more of the Roadmap questions. Applications for ANZPAA NIFS support are accepted on a continuous basis and application requirements are detailed in the Strategy.

If you have any questions about the documents please do not hesitate to contact the ANZPAA NIFS team.

Kind regards,

Secretariat NIFS

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

ASCLD · 139A Technology Drive · Garner, NC 27529 · USA



