Dear Colleagues,

As difficult as it is to believe, forensic science is not without its critics. Our field spans a number of disciplines, many of which are very different from each other. Some disciplines have been discontinued years ago, or were never conducted by crime labs, but rather by sole proprietors or individual doctors. There is a very well organized effort to use the failings of some aspects of some disciplines to paint the entirety of forensic science with a very broad negative brush. As forensic leaders, it is very difficult to hear criticism, much as we consider it misplaced or unwarranted, particularly when we represent scientists who have dedicated their lives to providing objective, data based evidence which benefits both public safety and the wrongfully accused.

Rather than dwell on all that is incorrect with this criticism from those lacking direct forensic experience or knowledge, today I will focus on areas that can bear improvement. First and foremost, all crime labs must be accredited. With accreditation comes a myriad of quality assurance measures, the strongest of which in protecting quality are technical review and proficiency testing. In this technical review, all examinations must be independently reviewed by a second scientist who would reach the same conclusions with the same data or the findings are not released. Annual proficiency testing ensures that scientists are proficient at their specialties, finding the right answers on unknown samples. The rigorous documentation system that comes with accreditation ensures that any other competent scientist can retest and replicate any findings issued by an accredited crime lab. These measures are essential protections against wrongful conviction.

Secondly, due to advances in technology increasing the value of forensic analysis to investigate crime to stop criminals earlier in their career and the impact of the opioid crisis on toxicology and drug analysis disciplines, crime labs are so backlogged in cases that time for forensic research is very limited. More resources are needed to conduct casework and research to keep our scientists using the latest technology and best practices.

As we all know, the alternative to a world without forensic science is eyewitness testimony. Therefore, it is incumbent on us to work with the constructive aspects of criticism to continue to build systems that ensure quality results that protect public safety and rights of wrongfully accused alike.

Ray Wickenheiser  
ASCLD President

Be sure to stay up-to-date with our 2017-18 National Priorities and Agenda!  
Our NEW mailing address: 65 Glen Road, Suite 123, Garner, NC 27529

Looking for a new opportunity?

- Forensic Analyst – Biology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: December 15, 2017
- Quality Assurance Specialist (Crime Scene Sciences), DC Department of Forensic Sciences, Washington, D.C., Expires: November 5, 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
- Criminalist II (DNA) – Grant, Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Expires: October 20, 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
- **DNA Databank Analyst**, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA, Expires: October 13, 2017
- **Forensic Scientist IV**, Kansas Bureau of Investigation, Topeka, KS, Expires: October 25, 2017
- **Firearms Examiner**, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: November 15, 2017
- **Latent Print Examiner I, II, III, or Senior Examiner**, Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences, Syracuse, NY, Expires: October 31, 2017
- **Forensic Scientist Section Supervisor – Toxicology**, City of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ, Expires: October 23, 2017
- **Firearms & Toolmarks Section Supervisor**, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science, Manassas, VA, Expires: October 18, 2017
- **Assistant/Associate Professor of Forensic Science**, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Expires: December 31, 2017
- **Criminalist I FingerPrint Examiner**, University of Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory, Kingston, RI, Expires: October 13, 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
- **Assistant Professor – Forensic Chemistry**, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO, Expires: October 19, 2017
- **Quality Assurance Manager**, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Forensic Services Division, Omaha, NE, Expires: October 19, 2017
- **Crime Lab Unit Manager (Forensic Biology/DNA)**, Broward County Sheriff's Office, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Expires: November 3, 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
Writing a Laboratory Safety Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP)

OSHA's Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories standard (29 CFR 1910.1450), referred to as the Laboratory standard, specifies that the mandatory requirements of a Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) to protect laboratory workers from harm due to hazardous chemicals. The CHP is a written program stating the policies, procedures, and responsibilities that protect workers from the health hazards. Forensic labs have a variety of chemical, biological, and other hazards that fall within the exposure guidelines of the OSHA laboratory standard.

A CHP is one part of the Health and Safety program your lab should have. ISO/IEC 17025 and 17020 mention safety issues in the lab in several sections, therefore, mention of the CHP should be made wherever a requirement for safety is stated. For example, ISO/IEC 17025: 5.4.4 Nonstandard methods state procedure and safety measures are to be addressed and 5.8 Handling of test and calibration items, sub-section 5.8.4 requires the lab to have procedures for test and calibration items during storage, handling, and preparation. These sections could be addressed in the CHP. In addition, numerous references to environmental conditions throughout the standard should be addressed in the CHP. The elements of a CHP per the OSHA website:

1. Standard operating procedures that are relevant to safety and health considerations for each activity involving the use of hazardous chemicals.

2. 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.

3. A requirement to ensure that fume hoods and other protective equipment are functioning properly and identify the specific measures the employer will take to ensure proper and adequate performance of such equipment.

4. Information to be provided to lab personnel working with hazardous substances include:

- 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 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
- Forensic Analyst – Toxicology, Houston Forensic Science Center, Houston, TX, Expires: October 13, 2017
- Property & Evidence Manager, NMS Labs, Grand Prairie, TX, Expires: October 18, 2017
- Forensic Biologist III or IV Trainer, NMS Labs, Willow Grove, PA, Expires: October 18, 2017
- Forensic Chemist III or IV, NMS Labs, Willow Grove/Warminster PA, Expires: October 18, 2017
- Non-Tenure Track Forensic Science Faculty Position, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, Expires: October 13, 2017

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The contents of the Laboratory standard and its appendices.
- The location and availability of the employer’s CHP.
- The permissible exposure limits (PELs) for OSHA regulated substances or recommended exposure limits for other hazardous chemicals where there is no applicable OSHA standard.
- The signs and symptoms associated with exposures to hazardous chemicals used in the laboratory.
- The location and availability of known reference materials on the hazards, safe handling, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals found in the laboratory including, but not limited to, the Safety Data Sheets received from the chemical supplier.

5. The circumstances under which a particular laboratory operation, procedure or activity requires prior approval from the employer or the employer’s designee before being implemented.

6. Designation of personnel responsible for implementing the CHP, including the assignment of a Chemical Hygiene Officer and, if appropriate, establishment of a Chemical Hygiene Committee.

7. Provisions for additional worker protection for work with particularly hazardous substances. These include “select carcinogens”, reproductive toxins and substances that have a high degree of acute toxicity. Specific consideration must be given to the following provisions and shall be included where appropriate:
- Establishment of a designated area.
- Use of containment devices such as fume hoods or glove boxes.
- Procedures for safe removal of contaminated waste.
- Decontamination procedures.

8. The employer must review and evaluate the effectiveness of the CHP at least annually and update it as necessary.

Worker Training Must Include:
- Methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous chemical (such as monitoring conducted by the employer, continuous monitoring devices, visual appearance or odor of hazardous chemicals when being released, etc.).
- The physical and health hazards of chemicals in the work area.
- The measures workers can take to protect themselves from these hazards, including specific procedures the employer has implemented to protect workers from exposure to hazardous chemicals, such as appropriate work practices, emergency procedures, and personal protective equipment to be used.
- The applicable details of the employer’s written CHP.
- Medical Exams and Consultation

The employer must provide all personnel who work with hazardous chemicals an opportunity to receive medical attention, including any follow-up examinations, which the examining physician determines to be necessary, under the following circumstances:

- Whenever a worker develops signs or symptoms associated with a hazardous chemical to which the worker may have been exposed in the laboratory, the worker must be provided an opportunity to receive an appropriate medical examination.
- Where exposure monitoring reveals an exposure level routinely above the action level (or in the absence of an action level, the PEL) for an OSHA regulated substance for which there are exposure monitoring and medical surveillance requirements, medical surveillance must be established for the affected worker(s) as prescribed by the particular standard.
- Whenever an event takes place in the work area such as a spill, leak, explosion or other occurrence resulting in the likelihood of a hazardous exposure, the affected worker(s) must be provided an opportunity for a medical consultation to determine the need for a medical examination.
- All medical examinations and consultations must be performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed physician and be provided without cost to the worker, without loss of pay and at a reasonable time and place.

For additional information on developing a CHP, consult the following sources:
- Appendix A of 29 CFR 1910.1450 provides non-mandatory recommendations to assist in developing a CHP.


CHP Template:

Examples of CHP’s:
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/osa-and-forensic-laboratory

https://mailchi.mp/85c65a0e1d37/rvfrbk1gg9-1182429[10/26/2018 3:00:50 PM]
ANAB

Internal Auditing to ISO/IEC 17025

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

Internal Auditing to ISO/IEC 17020
October 17-19, 2017, Alexandria, VA

ISO/IEC 17020 and Audit Preparation for Forensic Agencies
November 2-3, 2017, Alexandria, VA

Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Internal Auditor
October 23-26, 2017, Fort Worth, TX

Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Assessor Training (Testing)
October 16-20, 2017, Hillsboro, OR
November 13-17, 2017, Emeryville, CA

Forensic ISO/IEC 17025 Preparation (Testing)
October 16-18, 2017, Hillsboro, OR
November 13-15, 2017, Emeryville, CA

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

SWGDAM Interpretational Guidelines

Wayne and other counties have spent the last few years trying to reduce their backlogs. Three years ago the state.

Almost a decade ago, the Wayne County Prosecutor's office discovered more than 10-thousand untested kits.

New sexual assault kit tracker would let victims “be their own best advocate”

order to assist law enforcement.

old-fashioned way; he earned the distinction slowly by pioneering and advancing the study of human remains in

How does a college professor become one of the top forensic anthropologists in the world? Dr. Bill Bass did it the

The bone zone: Body Farm founder Dr. Bill Bass tells tales of the dead

advanced study of the alleged 1922 Sturt Massacre had backed up the oral histories of local Aboriginal elders.

Lead researcher Pam Smith said that while some of the results were inconclusive, the findings of the most

Aboriginal massacre sites uncovered in first forensic science study

Fingerprints lack scientific basis for legal certainty

A new American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) working group report on the quality of latent

Judges are terrible at distinguishing good science from bad. It's time we stopped asking them to do it.

Giannelli, who served on President Barack Obama’s now-disbanded National Commission on Forensic Science,

Jim Gates theorizes on equality, skepticism in science

Most people who have watched TV for the last decade or so have seen programs like CSI, which portray forensic

looks at how six forensic fields for which there is little to no supporting scientific research (or in some cases, that

Scientific research has discredited) — bite-mark comparison, arson, microscopic hair analysis, firearms and

toolmark analysis, fingerprint analysis, comparative bullet-lead analysis. These fields vary in scientific credibility and

probative value from little to none (bite-mark comparison and bullet-lead analysis) to possibly valuable, though the

extent of which is still unproven (fingerprint analysis).

According to the report, the forensic disciplines are divided into those with little to no scientific basis for legal

(APD://baillee-side) — DNA analysis, toolmark analysis, fingerprint analysis, and microscopic analysis. The report

suggests that these fields are often used in court, but lack a strong scientific basis for showing that what they present as science is reliable.
passed a law that requires all evidence kits be tested quickly.

The Smithsonian Conserves Blood Pools and Charred Skeletons from 1940s Crime Dioramas
When reached by phone, Ariel O'Connor, objects conservator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, was in Baltimore’s Office of the Chief Medical Examiner studying 18 intricate crime scenes. Each was made in the 1940s and ’50s by Frances Glessner Lee for Harvard’s Department of Legal Medicine to show a death in miniature, with details carefully crafted down to the working door locks and painted blood splatters. One has a body sprawled on the sidewalk outside an illuminated storefront stocked with magazines, comic books, wrapped lollipops, potato chips...
who was convicted in 2000 of the rape and murder of 84-year-old Georgia Kemp. The judge could vacate the conviction, order a new trial or uphold the previous conviction.

**Sessions Relaunches Bush Era Crime-fighting Plan**
It's the latest move by the Trump administration as it enacts its tough-on-crime agenda. Sessions told the nation’s federal prosecutors in a Thursday memo that they would be evaluated regularly based on their commitment to Project Safe Neighborhoods, which also emphasizes partnerships among local law enforcement and community groups.

**Experts Call for Mass Killers’ Names to Be Kept Quiet**
"They want to be celebrities," said Adam Lankford, one of the lead drafters of the letter and a criminologist at the University of Alabama. "We know that some of these offenders have said things like, ‘The more you kill, the more you'll be known,’ and ‘Someone who is known by no one will be known by everyone.’" [The Science of Mass Shooters: What Drives a Person to Kill?]

**Virtual Case Notes: No Internet Required for ‘aIR-Jumper’ to Manipulate Hacked Security Cameras**
Recent research proves that escaping the "internet of things” might not protect devices from being hacked. Researchers from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel have demonstrated that security cameras with no connection to the internet can be manipulated to both send and receive messages using only infrared light, in a so-called “aIR-Jumper” air gap attack. The only catch: the attacker would first have to infect the camera’s computer network with a special malware, which would require physical access, supply chain interference or social engineering of those with direct access to the system.

**Prosecutors slammed for ‘lack of moral compass,’ withholding evidence in widening Mass. drug lab scandal**
Twice in recent years, chemists used by the state of Massachusetts to test drugs in criminal cases committed massive misconduct in their testing, affecting tens of thousands of cases. And twice, prosecutors in Massachusetts failed to act promptly to notify most defendants of the problem.

**Review of 7 Years of British Criminal Appeals Shows ‘Unsafe’ Rulings Based on Evidence Interpretation**
The misrepresentation of evidence at trial, bad directions from judges, and errors were foundation for the majority of the valid criminal appeal arguments in the U.K. between 2010 and 2016, argues a team from University College London’s Centre for the Forensic Sciences, in a new publication in the journal Science and Justice.

**Nebraska Attorney General: 1937 Killings of 2 Lawmen Solved**
It was a phone call urging renewed scrutiny of the unsolved 1937 killings of two eastern-central Nebraska lawmen that helped lead to a re-examination and solving of the case, Nebraska investigators said Tuesday.

**Bones found in Aruba are not those of Natalee Holloway**
Skeletal remains found in Aruba are not those of Natalee Holloway, who vanished 12 years ago while on a graduation trip with her Mountain Brook classmates.

**Las Vegas Massacre: Revolutionary Firearms Analysis Could Tell Inside Story of Automatic Weapons**
The use of X-rays can tell a firearms examiner almost anything about the internal working of any firearm, without having to open the gun up and potentially compromise the weapons evidence, said Ed Hueske, a Texas-based firearms expert and author of the textbook Practical Analysis and Reconstruction of Shooting Incidents from CRC Press.

**Ultimate Cold Case: Who Betrayed Anne Frank?**
A former FBI agent is heading up a cold case team more than 70 years after Nazi occupation police stormed the secret Amsterdam canal house annex where Anne Frank was hiding and sent her to her death in a concentration camp.
Our Evidence Collection Accelerated Training Program provides law enforcement professionals and crime scene investigators with hands-on training using forensic tools that will help to execute the best crime scene investigation mission possible.

This class, commonly known as Crime Scene Technology, covers the scientific methods of collection, identification, evaluation, and preservation of physical evidence. It is the perfect Forensics training for any investigator from new detectives to police officers with more than 25 years on the force.

You need to attend this program if:

- You process crime scenes
- You want to learn more about the latest forensic and crime scene investigation tools and techniques used to process potential crime scenes
- You want to find as much evidence as possible at the crime scene


Footwear Impressions

Footwear impression evidence is the most overlooked evidence at crime scenes. In this course, students will get hands-on training for the proper processing, photographing, lifting, casting, and preservation of footwear impression evidence.
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A good crime scene photo can be the difference between conviction and acquittal. Develop your skills and expertise in our week-long class, taught by a former US Army CID Special Agent in Charge/photography expert.
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September 2017 Newsletter

OSAC Subcommittees
https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-subcommittees
The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) has received funding from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation to develop software that will transfer data from forensic Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS) to FORESIGHT, a business quantitative process tailored to forensic laboratories.

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

Software development and installations for JusticeTrax Alpha labs is progressing. The software

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.

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

Revision 2/14/17


Formed in 2000, CFSEO 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 CFSEO Newsletter here.

Grant Assistance for DNA
provides a dashboard of the labs' own stats and FORESIGHT stats, among other information. The information, formatting, and interface may vary somewhat by vendor.

The 2015 Heroin Signature Program Report
DEA Intelligence Brief; 13 pages; August; 2017

Download the report here

Jeff Teitelbaum, MLIS | Forensic Science Library Services
Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau
Washington State Patrol
2203 Airport Way S * Seattle WA 98134 * 206.262.6027

The author(s) shown below used Federal funding provided by the U.S. Department of Justice to prepare the following resource:

Document Title: ACEware Latent Fingerprint Identification Research and Software Development
Author(s): William J. Chapman, R. Austin Hicklin
Document Number: 251092
Date Received: August 2017
Award Number: 2013-R2-CX-0011

Here is a report just released by the National Institute of Justice:

ACEware Latent Fingerprint Identification Research
Call for WORKSHOPS closes October 18th, 2017.

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 www.forensiccoe.org/workshop/18-IPTES.

For questions please contact forensicCOE@rti.org.

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.


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 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 Casing 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.