

OSAC CODE OF RESPONSIBILITY



To ensure the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science accomplishes its mission and objectives, all applicants shall agree to adhere to this *Code of Responsibility*, which applies to all members and affiliates of the Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB), Scientific Area Committees (SACs), Subcommittees, Standards Review Panel, and Task Groups.

In accepting any position in the OSAC, I am making the following commitments:

I will treat fellow OSAC participants with integrity, dignity, honesty, respect, and fairness, recognizing and giving ample and appropriate time to dissenting opinions.

I will read and comply with OSAC's *Charter & Bylaws*, *Anti-Harassment Policy*, and *Organizational Priorities*.

I will support OSAC's primary mission, which is to facilitate the development and implementation of high-quality, technically sound standards for the forensic sciences.

I agree to actively serve in my appointed position and devote the time necessary to fulfill my responsibilities. I will do my best to attend and be prepared for all OSAC events and assignments in my area of responsibility. I will be knowledgeable about the issues before me, communicate clearly and accurately, and exchange ideas with fellow OSAC participants. I will notify my Chair if I am unable to fulfill my duties for more than 45 consecutive days and will step aside from my responsibilities if I am unable to fulfill my duties for a period of greater than 60 consecutive days.

I will read and promote the free exchange of information about OSAC through its distributed communications (e.g., *In-Brief*, OSAC Standards Bulletin, OSAC Annual Report, or requesting updates to the content on the OSAC website). I will promote mentoring and the recruitment of new OSAC participants.

I will not pursue private interests at the expense of OSAC. I will recuse myself from any discussion and votes where I have, or can reasonably be perceived to have, a conflict of interest.

I will avoid any personal and professional conduct that could be construed to place the OSAC in the position of endorsing products or services for my financial gain or the financial gain of my employer.

I will provide a complete and accurate representation of my education, training, experience, expertise, and qualifications.

I will accurately represent my position on OSAC as a member or affiliate by listing my professional positions, memberships, and accomplishments, and delivering presentations or publications on behalf of OSAC.

I will not list NIST or OSAC as my agency/employer unless I am a federal employee employed by NIST.

I will conduct myself professionally at OSAC meetings and other events at which I represent OSAC.

Before making any official representation of OSAC positions and activities, I will obtain written approval from NIST's OSAC Program Office staff. Submit request here: forensics@nist.gov.

I will respect the confidentiality of all documents developed within the OSAC that the FSSB or the SAC Chair has not authorized for release to the public. I will not share those documents or their contents with individuals outside of OSAC unless I have received written approval from the FSSB or the SAC Chair.

I have read this document, received and read the documents referred to within the *Code of Responsibility*, understand the commitments required of me, and will adhere to this Code. Failure to meet these commitments may raise questions about my willingness and ability to serve in this position, and I may be required to relinquish my OSAC position.