

Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis Scientific Area Committee

Jose Almirall, Chair

Chemistry/ Instrumental Analysis SAC Leadership

Jose Almirall, Ph.D. Chair

Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry and Director, Center for Advanced Research in Forensic Science - Florida International University

Vacant, Vice Chair

Chris Taylor, Executive Secretary, Defense Forensic Science Center, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory

Andrew Bowen, Chair, <u>Geological Materials</u>, U.S. Postal Inspection Service Susan Seebode Hetzel, Chair, <u>Fire Debris and Explosives Analysis</u>, S-E-A, Ltd Marc LeBeau, Ph.D., Chair, <u>Toxicology</u>, U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation Sandra Rodriguez-Cruz, Ph.D., Chair, <u>Seized Drugs</u>, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Rodney Simmons, Chair, <u>Gunshot Residue</u>, Wyoming State Crime Laboratory, Diana Wright, Ph.D., Chair, <u>Materials (Trace)</u>, FBI Laboratory



Chemistry/ Instrumental Analysis SAC Members and Liaisons

Patrick Buzzini, Ph.D., Sam Houston State University

Carl Chasteen, State of Florida, Division of State Fire Marshall

Stephen Morgan, Ph.D., University of South Carolina

Adam Negrusz, Ph.D., United States Drug Testing Laboratories, Inc.

Cedric Neumann, Ph.D., South Dakota State University

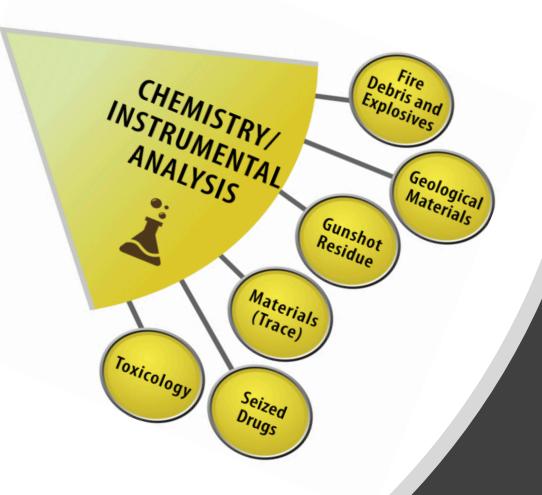
Scott Oulton, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Ex-Officio Members - **Hal Arkes, Ph.D.**, Emeritus Professor of Psychology, Ohio State University (HFC)

Vacant, (LRC)

Bruce Houlihan, Director, Orange County Crime Laboratory/Orange County Sheriff-Coroner, Representative to Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis SAC (QIC)





SAC 'Mission'

Review and Approve

Provide Guidance and Direction

Coordinate overlapping activities

Raise Awareness / Implementation

SAC Mission and Responsibilities

Review and approve standards, technical reports, and research needs

- Process already exists
- Provide feedback to OSAC to improve the process
- Use the structure of OSAC to interact and communicate*

Provide guidance and direction to subcommittees (e.g., whether a standard should be a guide, practice or test method)

- Provide high-level goals to the subcommittees
- Provide technical advice to assist with SC activities
- Be able to ask the hard questions at any stage during the entire process
- Advising on fit-for-purpose nature of a technique (e.g., setting minimum detection limits for methods)

Provide coordination for overlapping disciplines (i.e., champion development of overarching documents)

- Facilitating development of cross-disciplinary standards
- Minimum performance for instruments
- Quality (e.g., PT TG)
- Education & Training
- Research (e.g. Technical Issues TG)
- Use of statistics and interpretation
- Reporting language

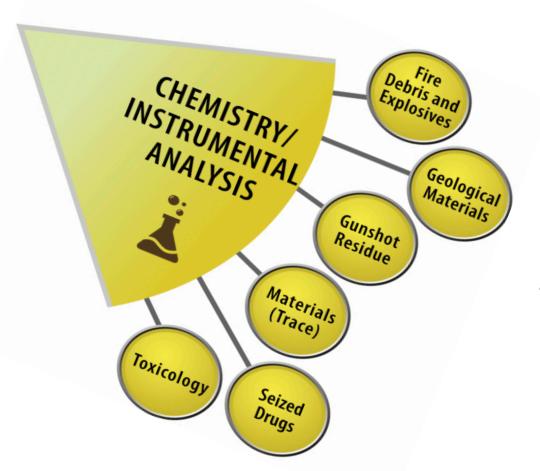
Raise Awareness and Foster implementation of Standards

- Outreach through formal communications and information dissemination (conferences, publications, etc.)
- Identify opportunities for implementation
- Champion implementation pathways

^{*} D. Kaye, Hypothesis Testing in Law and Forensic Science: A Memorandum, 130, Harvard Law Review, F. 127.



Chemistry SAC Activities 2018-2019



Recognize existing (SDO) standards and develop new standards within the forensic chemistry disciplines:

Seized Drugs - 10 existing ASTM and 7 new standards
Fire Debris and Explosives - 10 existing ASTM and 10 new
Geological Materials – working on 8 new standards
Materials (Trace) - 13 existing ASTM and 9 new
Gunshot Residue - 1 existing ASTM and 3 new
Toxicology - 15 ASB standards (from 0 in 2016)

Total – 49 existing SDO standards (35 in 2017)

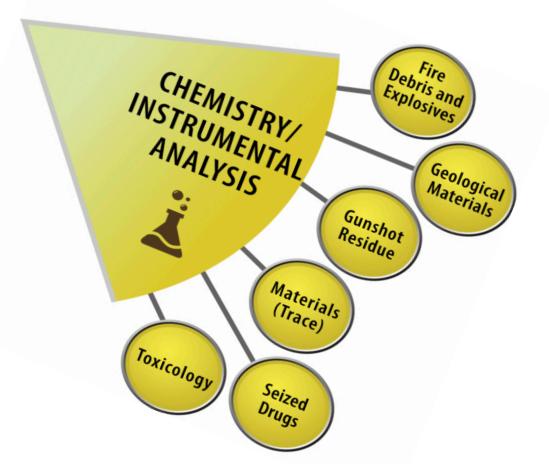
37 (26 in 2017) new standards in SDOs

80+ forensic chemistry standards in SDOs

~ 40 Additional standards in development within the Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis subcommittees.



Research and Development Needs Identified



Seized Drugs - 2 projects identified
Fire Debris and Explosives Analysis - 8 projects identified
Geological Materials - 1 project identified
Materials (Trace) - 6 projects identified
Gunshot Residue - 5 projects identified
Toxicology - 6 projects identified

Total – 28 specific research projects identified by the Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis SAC

https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-research-development-needs





<u>ASTM E1610-18: Standard Guide for Forensic Paint Analysis and Comparison</u> (Materials Trace Subcommittee, June 26, 2018)

ASTM E2926-17: Standard Test Method for Forensic Comparison of Glass Using Micro X-ray Fluorescence (μ-XRF) Spectrometry (Materials Trace Subcommittee, July 31, 2017)

ASTM E2927-16e1: Standard Test Method for Determination of Trace Elements in Soda-Lime Glass Samples Using Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry for Forensic Comparisons (Materials Trace Subcommittee, June 5, 2018)

Standards on the Registry

ASTM E2937-18: Standard Guide for Using Infrared Spectroscopy in Forensic Paint Examinations (Materials Trace Subcommittee, June 26, 2018)

<u>ASTM E3085-17: Standard Guide for Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy in Forensic Tape Examinations</u> (Materials Trace Subcommittee, September 11, 2018)

<u>ASTM E2329-17: Standard Practice for Identification of Seized Drugs</u> (Seized Drugs Subcommittee, August 7, 2018)

<u>ASTM E2548-11e1: Standard Guide for Sampling Seized Drugs for Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis</u> (Seized Drugs Subcommittee, April 3, 2017)





- ANSI/ASB STD 017: Standard Practices for Measurement Traceability in Forensic Toxicology (Toxicology Subcommittee, Published 6/2018)
- ANSI/ASB BPR 037: Guidelines for Opinions and Testimony in Forensic Toxicology (Toxicology Subcommittee, Published 1/2019)



Standards in Process – at SDO

- ANSI/ASB STD 036: Standard Practices for Method Validation in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB STD 053: Standard for Report Content in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB STD 054: Standard Practices for a Quality Control Program in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories
- ANSI/ASB STD 055: Standard for Breath Alcohol Measuring Instrument Calibration
- ANSI/ASB STD 098: Standard for Mass Spectral Data Acceptance in Forensic Toxicology



Standards in Process – at SDO

- ANSI/ASB STD 113: Standard for Identification Criteria in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB STD 119: Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing in Medicolegal Death Investigations
- ANSI/ASB STD 120: Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing in Impaired Driving Investigations
- ANSI/ASB STD 121: Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicology Urine Testing in Drug-Facilitated Crimes Investigations



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Quality Assurance Management Systems in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories
- ASB/ANSI STD 056: Standard Practices for Measurement Uncertainty in Forensic Toxicology
- Standard Practices for Proficiency Testing of Forensic Toxicology Laboratories
- Guidelines for Specimen Collection and Preservation in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB STD 118: Standard for Breath Alcohol Instrumentation Specifications
- Standard Practice for the Content of Forensic Toxicology Standard Operating Procedures



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Standard Practice for the Content of Forensic Toxicology Standard Operating Procedures
- ANSI/ASB BPR 122: Guidelines for Ethanol Calculations in Forensic Toxicology
- Taxonomy Guidelines in Forensic Toxicology



Foundational Documents

- Scientific Working Group for Forensic Toxicology (SWGTOX) Standard for Laboratory Personnel
- Scientific Working Group for Forensic Toxicology (SWGTOX) Standard for Breath Alcohol Personnel



Research Needs

- Data Analytics in Forensic Toxicology
- Emerging Drugs of Abuse and Therapeutic Agents
- Herbal and Dietary Supplements and Plant-Based Toxins
- Human Factors Toxicology
- Postmortem Distribution and Redistribution
- The Role and Impact of Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics in Forensic Toxicology



Outreach Efforts

- Society of Forensic Toxicologists
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences
- California Association of Toxicologists
- Midwest Association of Forensic Science
- Northeast Association of Forensic Science
- The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (China, Argentina, Brazil, Greece)
- Forensic and Clinical Toxicology Association (Australia)
- Health Sciences Authority (Singapore)





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- ANSI/ASB STD 017: Standard Practices for Measurement Traceability in Forensic Toxicology (Published 2018)
- ANSI/ASB STD 036:
 Standard Practices for Method Validation in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB STD 054:
 Standard Practices for a Quality Control Program in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories
- ANSI/ASB STD 055: Standard for Breath Alcohol Measuring
- ANSI/ASB STD XXX: Quality Assurance Management Systems in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories
- ANSI/ASB STD 056:
 Standard Practices for Measurement Uncertainty in Forensic Toxicology



ersonnel

•ANSI/ASB XXX: Standard Practices for Proficiency Testing of Forensic Toxicology Laboratories

- ANSI/ASB XXX: Standard for Education and Training of Forensic Toxicology Personnel
- ANSI/ASB XXX: Standard for Education and Training of Breath Alcohol Personnel



Stakeholders

ANSI/ASB XXX: Guidelines for Specimen Collection and Preservation in Forensic Toxicology

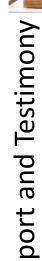
- ANSI/ASB 118: Standard for Breath Alcohol Instrumentation Specifications
- •ANSI/ASB XXX: Forensic Toxicology Guidelines for Accrediting and Certification Bodies



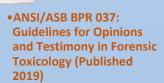
pplications

ANSI/ASB STD 098: Standa for Mass Spectral Data Acceptance in Forensic Toxicology

- ANSI/ASB STD 120: Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicology Testing in Impaired Driving Investigations
- ANSI/ASB STD 121: Standar for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicology Urine Testing in Drug-Facilitated Crimes Investigations
- ANSI/ASB STD 119: Standar for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing in Medicolegal Death Investigations
- ANSI/ASB STD 113: Standard for Identification Criteria in Forensic Toxicology
- ANSI/ASB XXX: Standard Practice for the Content of Forensic Toxicology Standard Operating Procedures
- ANSI/ASB STD 058: Standard Method for Blood Ethanol Quantitations
- •ANSI/ASB XXX: Standard Method for Breath Alcohol Subject Testing



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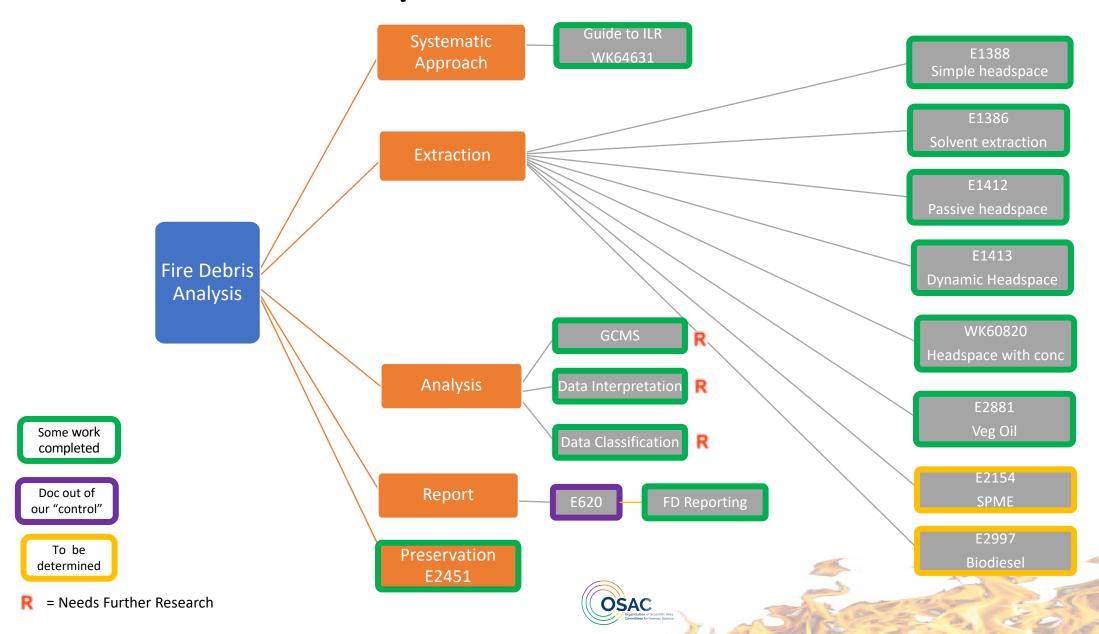
ANSI/ASB STD 053: Standard for Report Content in Forensic Toxicology

- ANSI/ASB XXX: Taxonomy Guidelines in Forensic Toxicology
- •ANSI/ASB BPR 122: Guidelines for Ethanol Calculations in Forensic Toxicology

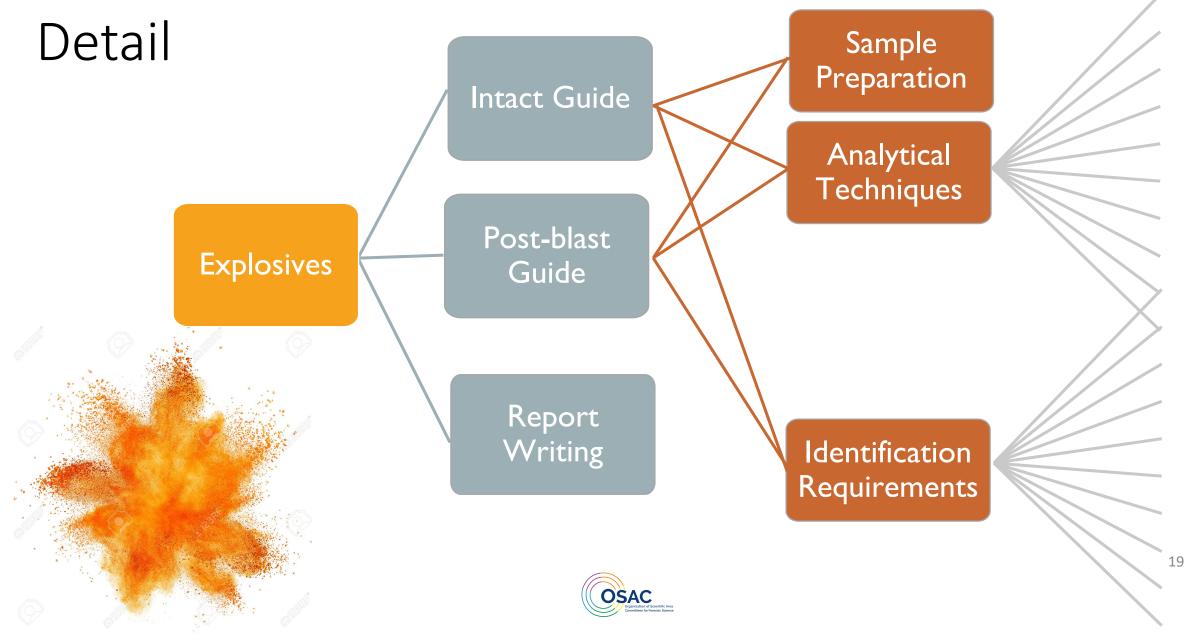
Approved for OSAC Registry
Being considered for OSAC Registry
With ASB for Circulation to Public

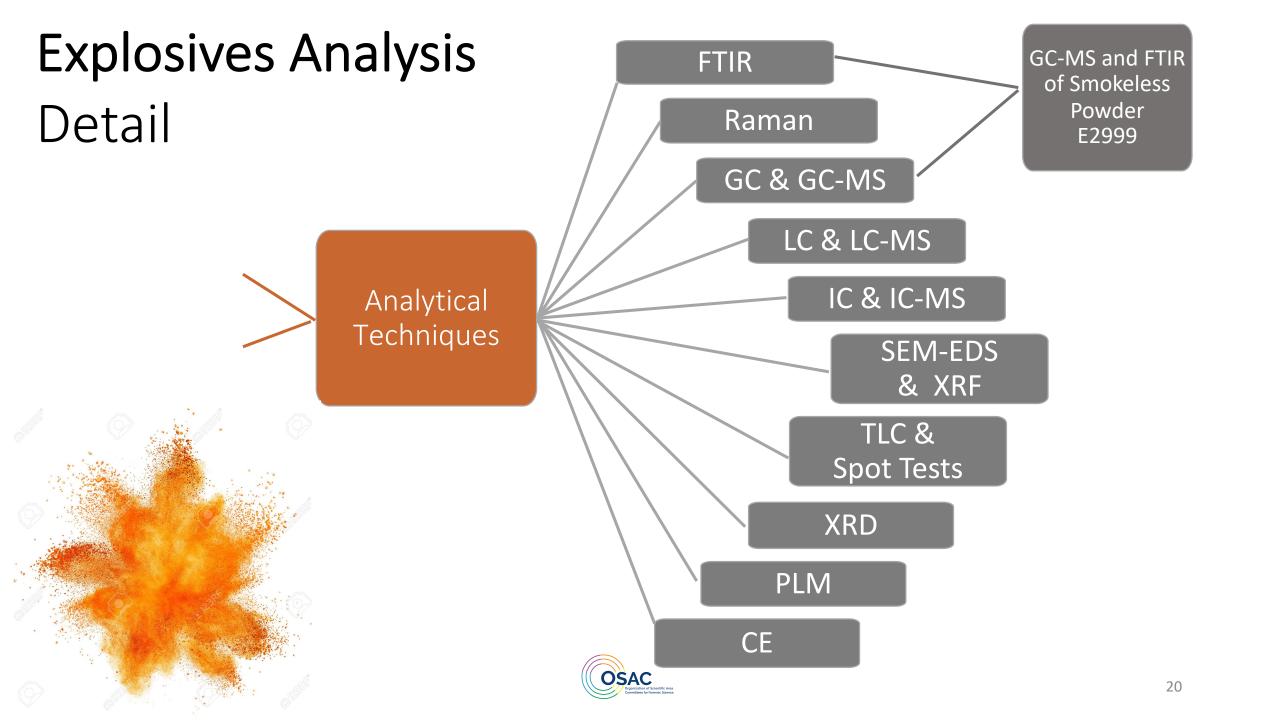
Under draft by OSAC Toxicology Subcommittee Not started

Fire Debris Analysis



Explosives Analysis





Explosives AnalysisDetail

Identification Requirements Smokeless Powder E2998

Black Powder, Substitutes, & Fuel Oxidizer Mixtures

RDX, HMX, TNT, PETN, etc. (Plastic Bonded Explosives)

Dynamite

Primary Initiating Explosives (Including Peroxides)

Blasting Agents (Emulsions, Water Gels, ANFO, Slurries, etc.)



Existing SDO [ASTM] Standards

- E1386 Sample Prep Solvent Extraction
- E1388 Sample Prep Simple Headspace
- E1412 Sample Prep Passive Headspace
- E1413 Sample Prep Dynamic Headspace
- E2154 Sample Prep SPME



- E1618 Sample Analysis Fire Debris by GCMS
- E2997 Sample Analysis Biodiesel
- E2451 Sample Preservation

Fire Debris Related



Many of these have been/are being revised by the FD&E Subcommittee

Existing SDO [ASTM] Standards

 ASTM E2998 – Characterization – Smokeless Powder



 ASTM E2999 – Sample Analysis – Smokeless Powder by GCMS and FTIR

Explosives Related



Standards in Process – at SDO [ASTM]



- WK56043 Terminology
- WK60820 Sample Prep Headspace onto an Adsorbent Tube
- WK64631 Guide to Analysis and ID of Ignitable Liquids

Fire Debris Related



Standards in Process – at SDO [ASTM]



- WK56998 Terminology
- WK67862 Exam and ID of Intact Explosives

Explosives Related



Standards in Process – Under Development



Fire Debris Related

- Reorganization of E1618;
 - Guide to GC-[EI]MS
 - Classification of Ignitable Liquids
 - Interpretation of Ignitable Liquids by GC-MS
 - Reporting Results and Opinions
- Training Program
- QA/QC for Fire Debris Laboratories



Standards in Process – Under Development



- Training Program
- Reporting Results and Opinions
- Instrumental Methods of Analysis



Explosives Related



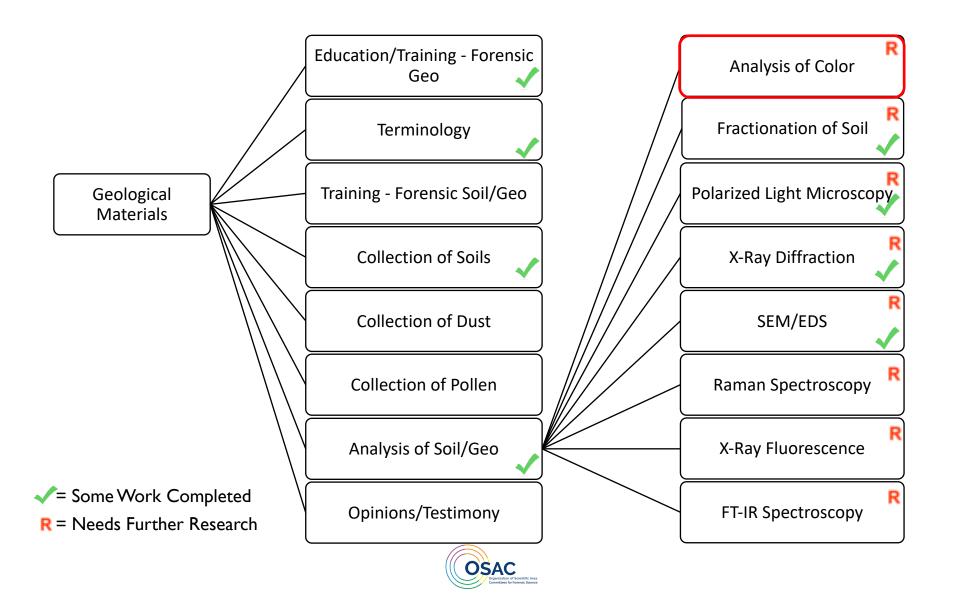
Research Needs

Fire Debris & Explosives:

- Concentration of Extracts Containing Volatile/Unstable Explosives
- Determining the Threshold of Identification for Ignitable Liquids
- Evaluation and Comparison of Different Adsorption/Elution Methodology
- Identifying Post-blast Residue of Liquid Explosives
- Potential Transformation of Chlorate to Perchlorate and Visa-Versa During Explosion
- Research and Evaluation of Storage Conditions for Archiving Extracts from Fire Debris Samples
- Source Attribution for Ignitable Liquids from Fire Debris
- Source Attribution for Post-Blast Residues



(CHEMISTRY / INSTRUMENTAL ANALYSIS) ROADMAP FOR GEOLOGICAL MATERIALS



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Standard Guide for the Collection of Soils and Other Geological Evidence for Forensic Applications
- Determination and Comparison of Color by Visual Observation in Forensic Soil Examination

Drafts of these standards have been pitched to the SAC and Resource Committees, and are being edited based on comments.



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Standard Guide for the Analysis of Soils and Other Geological Evidence for Criminal Forensic Applications
- Standard Guide for Using Scanning Electron Microscopy for Morphology and Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy in Forensic Soil and Geological Materials Analysis
- Standard Guide for the Use of Polarized Light Microscopy in the Forensic Examination and Comparison of Geological Sediments

Drafts of these standards are in progress.



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Standard Guide for the Analysis of Forensic
 Geologic Materials by powder X-Ray Diffraction
- Standard Guide for Fractionation of Soil in Forensic Soil Examinations
- Standard Terminology for Forensic Analysis of Soils and Other Geological Materials



Standards in Process – Under Development (planned in the future)

- Standard Practice for Education and Training in Forensic Geology
- Standard Practice for a Forensic Soil / Geology Training Program
- Standard Guide for Opinions and Testimony in Forensic Geology
- Standard Guide for the Collection and Analysis of Pollen for Forensic Application



Geological Materials:

Additional Activities

 Production of an educational video and other training materials related to collection of soil evidence at crime scenes is planned for September 2019 at the University of Kentucky

Research Needs

- Transfer and Persistence of Soil Components
- Geographic Variability of Soils in Areas with Different Land Use / Different Geologic Settings



Materials/Trace roadmaps:

Overview

Roadmaps

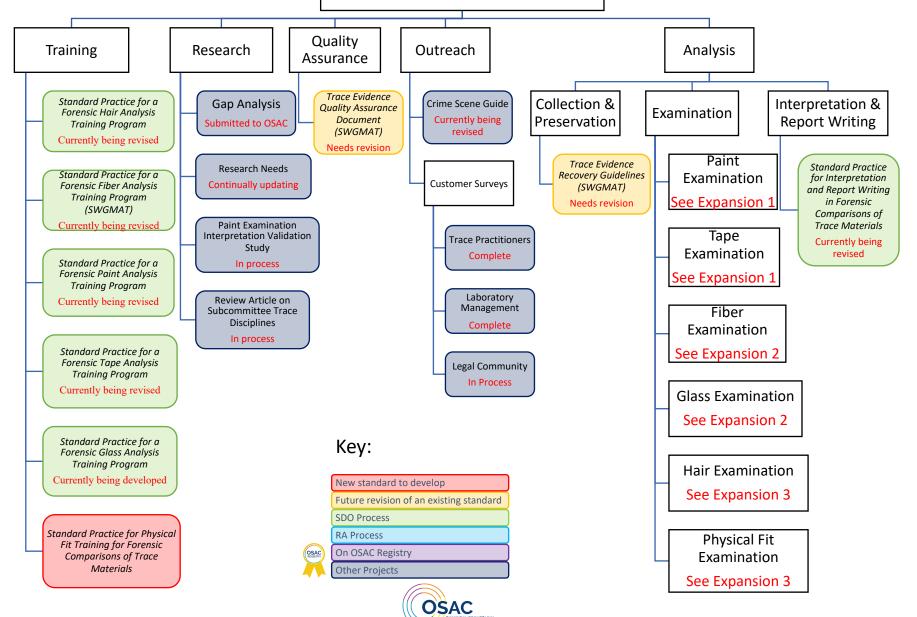
Expansion 1: Paint and Tape related documents

Expansion 2: Glass and Fiber related documents

 Expansion 3: Hair and Physical Match related documents



Materials (Trace) Subcommittee Road Map



Materials Road Map, Expansion 1

Paint Examination

Tape Examination

General Paint Guideline

E1610 - Standard Guide for Forensic Paint Analysis and Comparison

General Tape Guideline

Standard Guide for Forensic Tape Analysis and Comparison

Currently being developed

Microscopy of Paint

FTIR

E2937 - Standard Guide for Using Infrared Spectroscopy in Forensic Paint Examinations

MSP

E2808 - Standard Guide for Microspectrophotometry in Forensic Paint Analysis

Currently being revised

PGC-MS

Standard Guide for Using PGC-MS in Forensic Polymer Examinations (SWGMAT)

Currently being revised

SEM/EDS

E2809 - Standard Guide for Using Scanning Electron Microscopy / X-ray Spectrometry in Forensic Polymer Examinations

Currently being revised

X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF)

Raman

Physical Characteristics

Standard Guide for Assessing Physical Characteristics in Forensic Tape Examinations (SWGMAT)

Needs revision

Light Microscopy

Standard Guide for Using Light Microscopy in Forensic Tape Examinations (SWGMAT)

Needs revision

FTIR

E3805 - Standard Guide for Using FTIR in Forensic
Tape Examinations

PGC-MS

Standard Guide for Using PGC-MS in Forensic Polymer Examinations (SWGMAT)

Currently being revised

SEM/EDS

E2809 - Standard Guide for Using Scanning Electron Microscopy/X-ray Spectrometry in Forensic Polymer Examinations

Currently being revised



New standard to develop

Key: Future revision of an existing standard

SDO Process

RA Process
On OSAC Registry

Other Projects

Materials Road Map, Expansion 2

Glass Examination

General Glass Guideline

Standard Guide for Forensic Glass Analysis and Comparison

Currently being revised

Refractive Index

E1967 - Standard Test Method for the Automated Determination of RI of Glass Samples using Oil Immersion Method and Phase Contrast Microscope

Currently being revised

ICP-MS

E2330 - Standard Test Method for Determination of Concentrations of Elements in Glass Samples using ICP-MS for Forensic Comparisons

Currently being revised

LA-ICP-MS

E2927 - Standard Test Method for Determination of Trace Elements in Soda-Lime Glass using LA-ICP-MS for Forensic Comparisons

XRF

E2926 - Standard Test Method for Forensic Comparison of Glass Using Micro X-ray Fluorescence (μ-XRF) Spectrometry

OSAC

Fiber Examination

Fabrics & Cordage

E2225 - Standard Guide for Forensic Examination of Fabrics and Cordage

Currently being revised

General Fiber Guideline

Standard Guide for Forensic Fiber Analysis and Comparison (SWGMAT)

Currently being revised

Microscopy

E2228 - Standard Guide for Microscopic Examination of Textile Fibers

Currently being revised

FTIR

E2224 - Standard Guide for Forensic Analysis of Fibers by IR

Currently being revised

TLC

E2227 - Standard Guide for Forensic Examination of Non-reactive Dyes in Textile Fibers by TLC

Currently being revised

MSP

Standard Guide for Forensic Analysis of Fibers by MSP (SWGMAT)

Currently being revised

PGC-MS

Standard Guide for Using PGC-MS in Forensic Polymer Examinations (SWGMAT)

Currently being revised

Key:

New standard to develop

Future revision of an existing standard

SDO Process

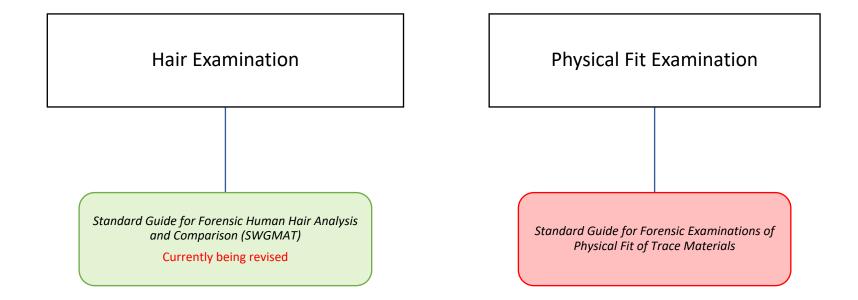
RA Process

On OSAC Registry

Other Projects



Materials Road Map, Expansion 3



Key:





Standards in Process – at SDO

Materials/Trace Training Guides with ASTM for approval

Standard Practice for a Forensic Hair Examination Training Program

Standard Practice for a Forensic Tape Analysis
Training Program

Standard Practice for a Forensic Paint Analysis Training Program



Standards in Process – at SDO

Materials/Trace Guides with ASTM pending approval of E30 KSA statement

E1967 - Standard Test Method for the Automated Determination of Refractive Index of Glass Samples Using the Oil Immersion Method and Phase Contrast Microscope

E2330 - Standard Test Method for Determination of Concentrations of Elements in Glass Samples Using Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) for Forensic Comparisons



Standards in Process – at SDO

Materials/Trace Guides with ASTM for 5 year review/revision

E2808- Standard Guide for Microspectrophotometry and Color Measurement in Forensic Paint Analysis

E2224 - Standard Guide for Forensic Analysis of Fibers by Infrared Spectroscopy

E2225 - Standard Guide for Forensic Examination of Fabrics and Cordage

E2228 - Standard Guide for Microscopic Examination of Textile Fibers



Existing
Standards
being revised
for SDO

Materials/Trace Guides being revised

E2227 - Standard Guide for the Forensic Examination of Non-Reactive Dyes in Textile Fibers by Thin-Layer Chromatography

E2809 - Standard Guide for Using Scanning Electron Microscopy/X-Ray Spectrometry in Forensic Paint Examinations



Standards in Process – Under Development

Standard Guide for Using Pyrolysis Gas Chromatography and Pyrolysis Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry in Forensic Polymer Examinations

Standard Guide for Forensic Tape Analysis and Comparison

Standard Practice for Interpretation and Report Writing in Forensic Comparisons of Trace Materials

Trace Evidence Field Guide – for crime scene personnel for collection of trace evidence



Standards in
Process –
Under
Development

Standard Guide for Forensic Fiber Analysis and Comparison

Standard Practice for a Forensic Fiber Analysis Training Program

Standard Practice for a Forensic Glass Analysis Training Program

Standard Guide for Forensic Glass Analysis and Comparison

Standard Guide for The Microscopical Examination of Human Hair



Work in
Progress –
Under
Development

Trace Evidence Field Guide – smart phone app for field use

Further development of the road maps scheme for the Physical Match Task Group

Completion of a review paper for use with the Interpretation Guide

Validation Study of use of the Interpretation Guide for Paint evidence



Research Needs

Materials (Trace):

- Assessment of Criteria for Meaningful Differences in Trace Materials Comparative Data
- Assessment of the value of activity level factors during investigative processes and interpretation of glass evidence
- Cross-validation of current and new micro-XRF technology for the the forensic analysis of modern glass
- Development of an Integrated and Multidisciplinary Approach for the Advancement of Data Collection, Data Management and Data Analysis to Aid Interpretation of Trace Evidence



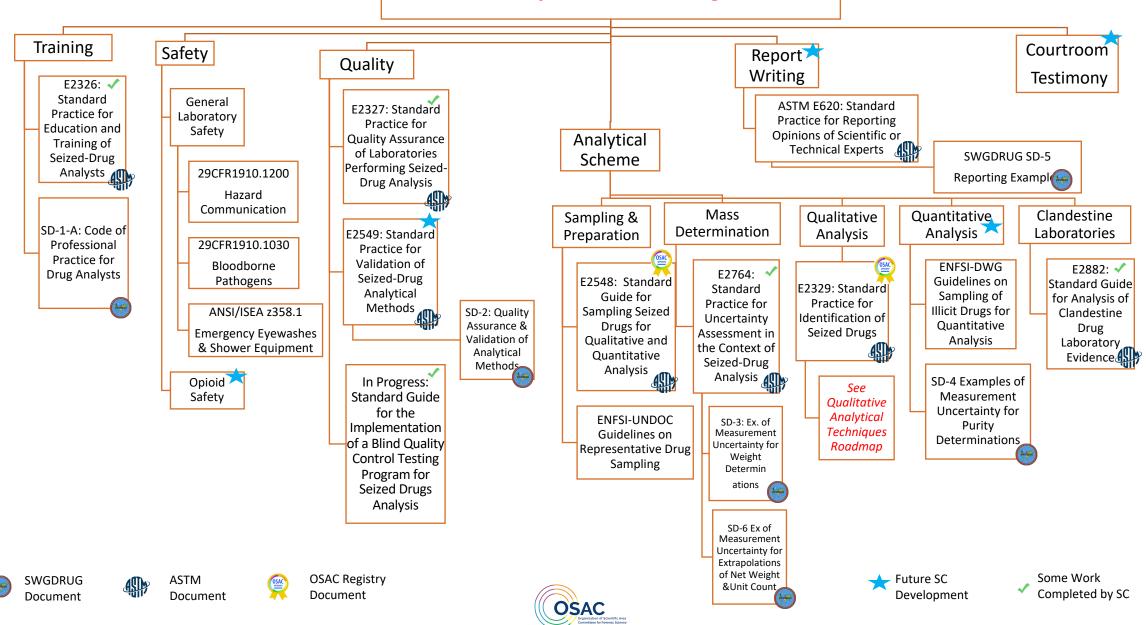
Research Needs

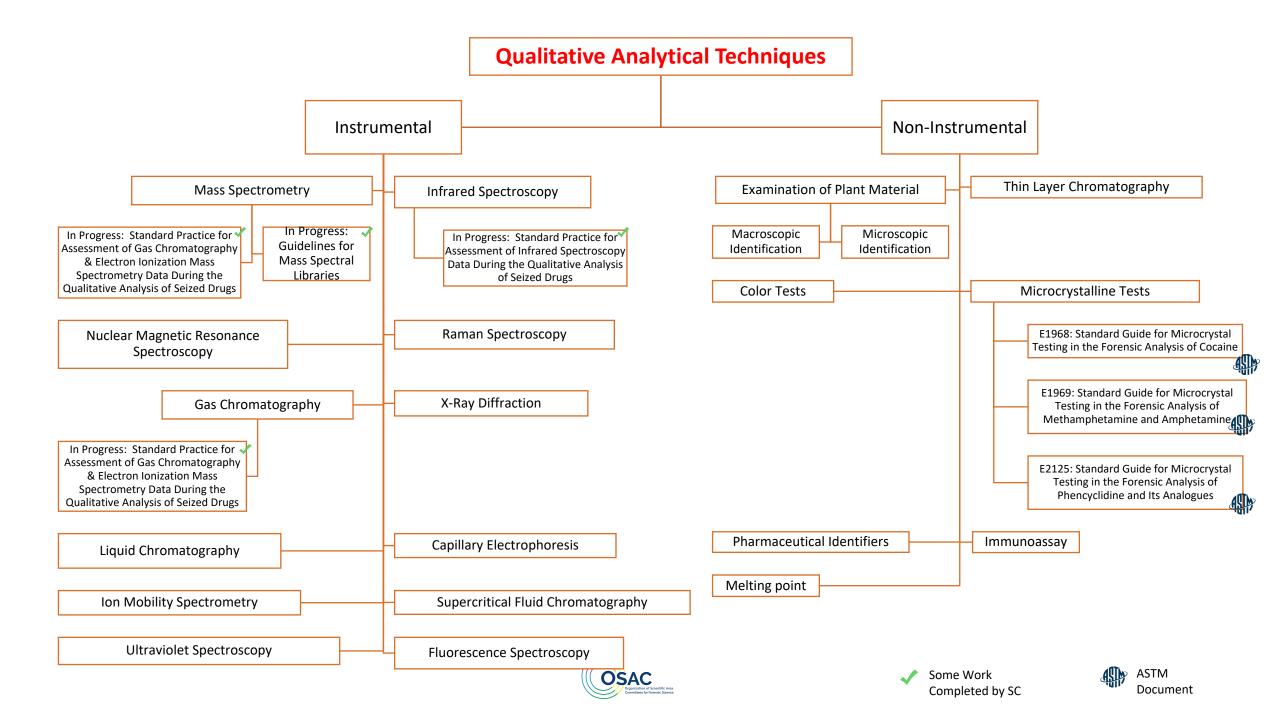
Materials (Trace):

- Development of Quantitative Assessment and Evaluation of Error Rates in Physical Fit Determinations of Trace Materials
- Evidence of Combined Information Value of Microscopic Comparisons and Mitochondrial DNA Analysis for Hair Examinations
- Validation of the Suitability of Standard Practice for Interpretation and Report Writing in Forensic Comparisons of Trace Materials



Analysis of Seized Drugs





Existing SDO Seized Drugs Standards

- E2326 Standard Practice for Education and Training of Seized-Drug Analysts
- E2327 Standard Practice for Quality Assurance of Laboratories Performing Seized-Drug Analysis
- E2549 Standard Practice for Validation of Seized-Drugs Analytical Methods
- E2764 Standard Practice for Uncertainty Assessment in the Context of Seized Drug Analysis
- E2882 Standard Guide for Analysis of Clandestine Laboratory Evidence



Standards in Process – at SDO

- **E2764** Standard Practice for Uncertainty Assessment in the Context of Seized Drug Analysis (under revision)
- E2882 Standard Guide for Analysis of Clandestine Laboratory Evidence (under revision)
- WK65067 Practice for Assessment of Gas
 Chromatography and Electron Ionization Mass
 Spectrometry Data During the Qualitative
 Analysis of Seized Drugs



Standards in Process – Under Development

- Standard Guide for Intra-laboratory Blind Quality Control Program for Seized Drugs Analysis
- Standard Guide for the Development and Suitability Assessment of Electron Ionization -Mass Spectral (EI-MS) Libraries and Databases for Forensic Identification
- Standard Guide for Assessment of Infrared Spectroscopy Data During the Qualitative Analysis of Seized Drugs



Seized Drugs:

Research Needs

- Acceptance Criteria for Instrumental Data Related to Qualitative Seized Drug Analysis
- Error Rates in Qualitative Methods of Analysis

** White-box study currently under development by Forensic Science Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE) at RTI in partnership with the Kentucky State Police **



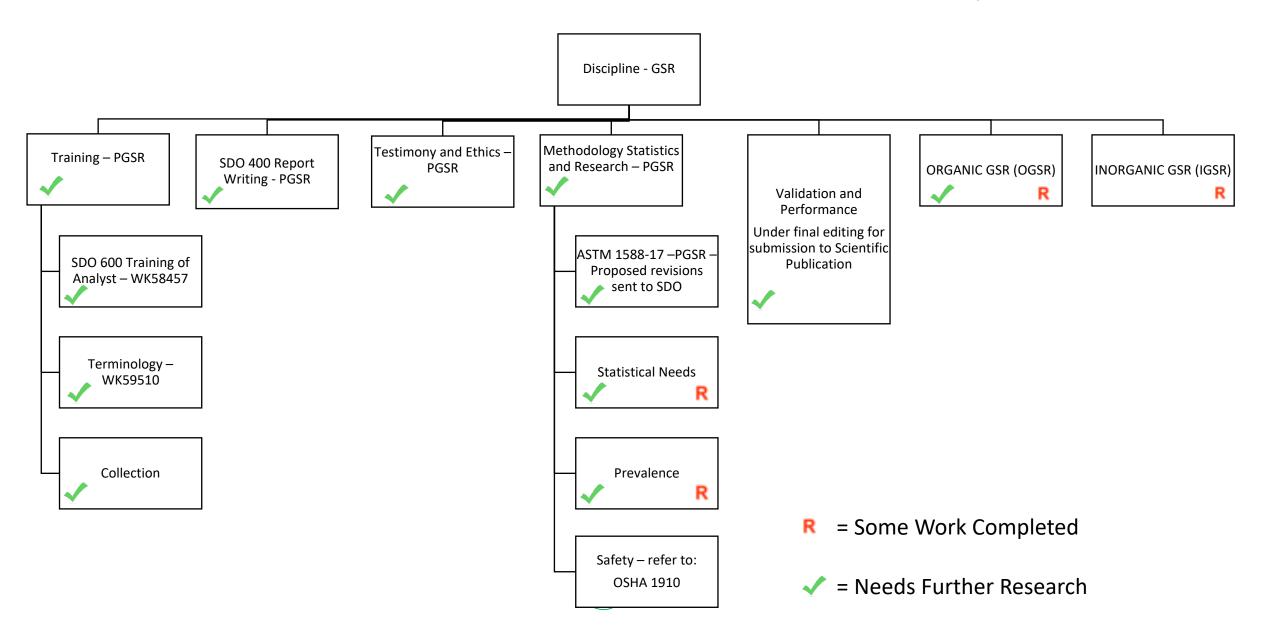
Other Seized Drugs Resources Under Development

Compilation of:

- ✓ Cannabis (hemp/marijuana) analysis resources
- ✓ Pharmacophore information resources
- ✓ GC-MS analysis limitations



Gunshot Residue – Subcommittee Roadmap



Standards in Process – at SDO

ASTM E1588-17: Standard Guide for Gunshot Residue Analysis by Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectrometry

WK58457 Training in the Forensic Examination of GSR using Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectrometry



Standards in Process – Under Development

Report Writing

The Report Writing Document was pitched at the Houston in-person meeting; all comments have been considered and addressed, and the document is being finalized for submission to the ASTM.

Organic GSR:

This Task Group has made substantial progress on their document: The Collection Storage and Analysis of Organic Gunshot Residues. The Subcommittee will be voting on the proposal to Pitch this document at the upcoming in-person meeting in July 2019.

Testimony:

The Testimony and Ethics Task Group has completed their document: Standard Practice for Expert Witness Opinions on the Interpretation of Primer Gunshot Residue (pGSR) Analysis by Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometry. The Subcommittee will be voting on the proposal to Pitch this document at the upcoming in-person meeting in July 2019.

Validation and Quality Assurance:

This Task Group has completed a detailed document to verify performance of SEM and EDS. They are currently editing the document and working to have the document published in Forensic Chemistry.

Inorganic Gunshot Residue:

This Task Group was recently added to the GSR-SC and has been meeting regularly to work on a database that will be used as a future resource.

Research Needs

Gunshot Residue:

- Comprehensive Feasibility of Organic Gunshot Residue Analysis
- Comprehensive GSR Persistence Study
- Development of Characterized Reference Stubs
- Fundamental Research into Mechanism of Particle Formation
- Specific Identification of Shooters





Thank you

https://www.nist.gov/topics/organization-scientific-area-committees-forensic-science