OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM

Title of research need: Dissemination of ATF Fire Research Laboratory Data

Keyword(s):   Fire investigation research, data repository, research database, ATF Fire Research

Submitting subcommittee(s):   Fire and Explosion   **Date Approved:**

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1. Description of research need:

The ATF Fire Research Laboratory (FRL) is the federal facility charged with conducting research specifically related to the investigation of fires. This research is not disseminated. A mechanism needs to be developed so that this research can be disseminated in a timely fashion to the broader fire investigation community. Over years of testing, the ATF FRL has acted as a steward of the data, archiving all of the data in a way that does not contain sensitive information; the problem lies with obtaining approval for distribution of the data, and logistics for dissemination. This research need is for development of a mechanism for gaining approval for and disseminating research conducted by the ATF Fire Research Laboratory.

2. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need:

3a. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

3b. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

3c. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

This research will help to educate the fire investigation community on the current state of research and knowledge in the field.

4. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV): [I]

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.

Approvals:

Subcommittee Approval date: [   ]

(Approval is by majority vote of subcommittee. Once approved, forward to SAC.)

SAC

1. Does the SAC agree with the research need?   Yes [ ]   No [ ]
2. Does the SAC agree with the status assessment?   Yes [ ]   No [ ]

   If no, what is the status assessment of the SAC: [   ]

Approval date: [   ]

(Approval is by majority vote of SAC. Once approved, forward to NIST for posting.)