“If we are to better the future, we must disturb the present.”

-Catherine Booth
Cofounder, Salvation Army
OSAC STRUCTURE

» Forensic Science Standards Board
» Resource Committees (3)
» Scientific Area Committees (5)
» Subcommittees (25)
» Task Groups
Crime Scene/Death Investigation SAC

Consists of seven subcommittees.
CSI
SUBCOMMITTEE
https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/crime-scene-investigation-subcommittee
CSI Subcommittee
20 Subject Matter Experts
» Crime Scene Investigators
» Crime Scene Reconstructionists
» Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
» CSI/Trace Examiners
» Laboratory Managers
» Firearms Examiner
» Shooting Reconstructionists
» Academic Researchers
» Independent Practitioners
» R&D/Industry Representative
» Forensic Entomologist
» Forensic Veterinarian
» Collision Reconstructionist
PRIORITIES

» Education, Credentials, Training
» Crime Scene Administration-report writing, evidence testing requests, data management
» Human Factors/Contextual Bias-detective vs crime scene investigator, hospital/nurse
» On Scene Activities-response, safety, documentation, evidence search, packaging/collection, final considerations
» Crime Scene Reconstruction
» Specialty Areas of Crime Scene Investigation
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

» Assessing the Culture of Contextual Bias in Forensic Scene Evidence Collection, Handling, and Processing
» Assessment of Level of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Required at Crime Scenes
» Decontamination of Crime Scene Equipment
» Laboratory Techniques and Technologies at the Crime Scene
» Use of Technology for Crime Scene Documentation

◊ https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-research-development-needs
New Standards Sent to SDO

Revised Standards Sent to ASTM

» E1843-16 Standard Guide for Sexual Assault Investigation, Examination, and Evidence
» E2123-16 Standard Practice for Transmittal of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigation
» E2124-15 Standard Practice for Specification for Equipment and Supplies in Sexual Assault Investigation
Highlights from CSI Training and Education Standard

»Crime Scene Investigator - a forensic science practitioner whose responsibility is to use the appropriate combination of knowledge, skills, and experience to undertake one or more of the following tasks in relation to a crime scene investigation: documentation, search for or identify evidence, evidence collection, and preservation of evidence. OSAC Lexicon
Education Requirements

» Associates degree with at least 8 hr of science.
» Strongly recommends a bachelor of science.
» Current experience can be substituted for the formal education requirement.
Continuing Education Requirements

» Responsibility of parent agency
» Minimum of 48 hr over a 2-year period.
» Continuing education must be structured, measurable, and documented.
Certification/Accreditation

“All crime scene units shall either have all crime scene investigation personnel certified or the crime scene unit shall be accredited. Ideally, all personnel will be certified and the crime scene unit will be accredited.”
Standard Practice for
Forensic Science Practitioner Training, Continuing Education, and Professional Development Programs

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2917; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

INTRODUCTION

Interdisciplinary Standards
Existing ASTM Standards in Registry Approval Process

- E1459 – Standard Guide for Physical Evidence Labeling and Related Documentation
- E1188 – Standard Practice for Collection and Preservation of Information and Physical Items by a Technical Investigator
- E1492 – Standard Practice for Receiving, Documenting, Storing, and Retrieving Evidence in a Forensic Science Laboratory
- E620 – Standard Practice for Reporting Opinions of Scientific or Technical Experts
Existing ASTM Standards in ASTM Revision Process

» E678 – Standard Practice for Evaluation of Scientific or Technical Data
» E860 – Standard Practice for Examining And Preparing Items That Are Or May Become Involved In Criminal or Civil Litigation
» E1020 – Standard Practice for Reporting Incidents that May Involve Criminal or Civil Litigation
In Registry Approval Process
ISO 21043-2

» Forensic Sciences – Part 2:
  » Recognition, recording, collecting, transport and storage of items

» Scope
  » “This document specifies requirements for the forensic process focusing on recognition, recording, collection, transport and storage of items of potential forensic value. It includes requirements for the assessment and examination of scenes but is also applicable to activities that occur within the facility. This document also includes quality requirements.”
Accessing Published Standards

» ASB - public access
» ASTM - free access via OSAC.
STAY INFORMED

https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science
OSAC NEWSLETTER

Released monthly and includes notification of public comment periods, R&D needs, OSAC vacancies, OSAC meetings, and feature articles.

Sign Up at www.nist.gov/osac
OSAC ANNUAL REPORT

Summary of OSAC activities from February 2016 to February 2017 including OSAC unit profiles.

OSAC has created a lexicon of over 4,000 terms organized by forensic discipline. New terms will be added, revised or removed, as sources are verified, and as new standards are published.

https://lexicon.forensicosac.org/
TO APPLY

www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-application
THANKS!

Any questions?
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