FORENSIC SCIENCE STANDARDS BOARD (FSSB) UPDATE

Steven Johnson, Chair
1:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
### OSAC MEMBERSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expertise</th>
<th>540+ Members</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practitioners</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Researchers and Academics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private sector</td>
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<td>Professional Societies</td>
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**Expertise**

- 22 specific forensic disciplines
- General expertise in scientific research, measurement science, statistics, law, and policy

### STRUCTURE

**Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)**

- 7 Scientific Area Committees
  - Biology
  - Chemistry: Seized Drugs/Toxicology
  - Chemistry: Trace Evidence
  - Scene Examination
  - Medicine
  - Digital Evidence/Multimedia
  - Physics/Pattern Interpretation

- 22 SAC Subcommittees

- 4 Resource Task Groups
  - Human Factors
  - Legal
  - Quality
  - Statistics
COMPOSITION

Employer Classification
- Federal: 22%
- State: 20%
- Local: 18%
- Academic: 21%
- Private: 18%
- FFRDC: 1%

Job Classification
- Practitioner: 57%
- Researcher: 17%
- Educator: 10%
- Other: 9%
- Attorney: 2%
- QA Manager: 2%
- R&D Tech: 2%
- Judge: 1%

6/1/2020 Status
- 546 members
- 266 affiliates
- 2700+ Applications
Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB) oversees the Scientific Area Committees and Subcommittees

Establishes governance rules and policies to ensure the development of quality standards

Encourages standards use in the provision of forensic science services

Administers overall operation of the organization

Approves standards for inclusion on the OSAC Registry

Engages in all efforts related to forensic science standards

Informs the forensic science community of research needs and gaps
• OSAC Registry serves as a trusted repository of high-quality, science-based standards and guidelines for forensic practice.

  • Criteria: standards and guidelines must have been developed using a consensus-based process and must pass the OSAC review of technical merit by forensic practitioners, academic researchers, statisticians and measurement scientists.

• Elevating a standard to the official OSAC Registry is an endorsement of the high quality of the document and encourages its adoption by all relevant agencies and practitioners.

• At this time, OSAC does not have authority to enforce standards.

• The ultimate goal of OSAC and its members is to facilitate the development of science-based standards for each of 22 distinct forensic science disciplines and to promote their widespread adoption.
STANDARDS ON THE REGISTRY AND IN PROGRESS

• OSAC Registry (37)
  • Approved by OSAC – highest level of vetting

• OSAC drafted standards published by an SDO (94)
  • Drafted by OSAC, completed SDO consensus process – may have changed since being released by OSAC, but is a published standard

• OSAC drafted standards sent to an SDO (136)
  • Drafted by OSAC with input from resource committees, approved by SAC and send to SDO

• Under Development: OSAC drafted standards working through the development process (150+)
  • Working draft document inside the OSAC development process (not publicly available)
OSAC Registry Implementation Plan

Prepared for
The Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC)

By
Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)
OSAC STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION PATHWAYS

Self Adoption
Professional Associations
Criminal Justice (Courts)
Accrediting Bodies
Funding Bodies (Carrot)
Funding Bodies (Stick)
Others