Welcome!
Introductions

Along with your name and title, please tell us about your organization:

• Number of labs
• Number of employees
• Population served
Forensic Laboratory Leaders

- Barry Baker, Acting Deputy Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Emily Campbell-Smith, DNA Technical Leader/CODIS Administrator/Supervisor, York County Crime Laboratory (SC)
- Cheryl Carreiro, Assistant Director, Connecticut Forensic Science Laboratory, Connecticut State Police (CT)
- Dave Fluty, Executive Director of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Laboratory and Scientific Services
- Thomas Gilson, Executive Director, Medical Examiner, Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office (OH)
- Debbie Glidewell, Director, DFSC – U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory
- Wesley Grose, Crime Laboratory Director, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (CA)
- Linda Jackson, Director, Virginia Department of Forensic Science (VA)
- Steven Johnson, Supervising Criminalist – Firearms and Latent Print Comparisons, Washoe County Sheriff (NV)
- Eva King, Quality Assurance Director, Wisconsin State Crime Laboratories (WI)
- Catherine Knutson, Deputy Superintendent – State Lab System Director, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension – Forensic Science Services (MN)
- Rick Lautenbach, Forensic Services Laboratory, Target
- Keith Lawyer, Forensic Services Bureau, Assistant Bureau Chief, New Jersey State Police (NJ)

# of labs
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Forensic Laboratory Leaders

- Patricia Manzolillo, Laboratory Director, U.S. Postal Inspection Service Forensic Laboratory Services
- Jennifer McNair, Chief of the Utah Department of Public Safety Bureau of Forensic Services, Utah Department of Public Safety (UT)
- Scott McWilliams, Crime Laboratory Director, Wyoming State Crime Laboratory – Division of Criminal Investigation (WY)
- Robert Middleberg, Senior VP of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs, NMS Labs
- Barry Miller, Bureau Director, California Department of Justice Bureau of Forensic Services (CA)
- Brady Mills, Chief of Crime Laboratory Division, Texas Department of Public Safety (TX)
- Jeff Nye, Director of Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division (MI)
- Michal Pierce, Quality Director, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences (TX)
- Eric Pokorak, Acting Assistant Director, FBI
- Mark Powell, Crime Laboratory Manager, San Francisco Police Department (CA)
- TL Price, Laboratory Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KS)
- Robyn Quinn, Director, Crime Laboratory Division, Office of Attorney General (ND)
- Kristin Sasinouski, Technical Leader, Bode Technology
- Stephanie Stoiloff, Commander, Forensic Services Bureau, Miami-Dade Police Department (FL)
- Jody Wolf, Director, Phoenix Crime Laboratory (AZ)
- Dustin (Tate) Yeatman, Crime Laboratory Director, Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office (FL)

- # of labs
- # of employees
- population served
OSAC FSSB/Outreach & Communications Task Group Members

- Karin Athanas, Outreach & Communications TG member
- Laurel Farrell, FSSB Chair
- Allison Getz, OSAC Program Office, Outreach & Communications TG member
- Melissa Gische, FSSB member
- Stephen Greene, FSSB member
- Steve Johnson, Outreach & Communications TG member
- JP Jones, OSAC Program Manager, Outreach & Communications TG member
- David Kaye, FSSB Executive Secretary
- Sarah Kerrigan, Outreach & Communications TG member
- Karen Reczek, FSSB member and Outreach & Communications TG Chair
- Jeri Ropero-Miller, FSSB and Outreach & Communications TG member
- Jeff Salyards, FSSB member
- Donna Sirk, OSAC Program Office, Outreach & Communications TG member
- Mark Stolorow, Outreach & Communications TG member
- Chris Taylor, FSSB and Outreach & Communications TG member
- Ray Wickenheiser, FSSB Vice Chair and Outreach & Communications TG member
OSAC Update
What is OSAC?

OSAC works to strengthen the nation’s use of forensic science by facilitating the development and implementation of technically sound standards.
What OSAC...

**DOES**

Facilitates development of science-based standards through the formal SDO processes

Evaluates OSAC proposed and SDO published standards for placement on the OSAC Registry

**Endorses** OSAC proposed and SDO published standards on the Registry & **promotes** their implementation

**DOESN’T**

Publish standards

Have the authority to enforce standards
OSAC Membership Snapshot

478 members
324 active affiliates
3,300+ applications received

Employer Classification
- Federal: 20%
- State: 21%
- Local: 19%
- Academic: 21%
- Private: 17%
- FFRDC: 1%

Job Classification
- Practitioner: 51%
- Researcher: 18%
- Educator: 10%
- Lab Mgr/Director: 8%
- Other: 4%

Expertise in:
- 22 specific forensic science disciplines
- Scientific research, measurement science, statistics, law, and policy

Expertise in:
- Quality: 3%
- Lawyer: 3%
- Judge: 2%
- R&D Tech: 1%
OSAC Standards Activities

- Documents on the OSAC Registry
- Approved by OSAC – highest level of vetting

• Tier 1
  - 53 documents

• Tier 2
  - OSAC supported standards published by an SDO
  - Completed SDO consensus process
  - 121 documents

• Tier 3
  - OSAC drafted standards sent to an SDO
  - Drafted with input from RC and approved by SAC
  - 135 documents

• Tier 4
  - Under development
  - Working draft document inside OSAC development process and not yet publicly available
  - 171 documents
OSAC Registry

• Repository of high-quality, technically sound published and proposed standards for forensic science.

• All standards on the OSAC Registry have passed a rigorous technical and quality review by OSAC members, including forensic science practitioners, research scientists, statisticians and legal experts.

• OSAC encourages the forensic science community to implement published and proposed standards.
OSAC Registry Standards

- 53 standards

- 5 Biology/DNA
- 1 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis
- 3 Digital Evidence
- 1 Dogs & Sensors
- 3 Facial Identification
- 2 Fire & Explosion Investigation
- 6 Fire Debris Analysis
- 1 Firearms & Toolmarks
- 1 Footwear & Tire
- 2 Medicolegal Death Investigation
- 2 Odontology
- 2 Seized Drugs
- 4 Toxicology
- 9 Trace Materials
- 5 Wildlife Forensics
- 6 Interdisciplinary

https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-registry
OSAC Registry Growth

https://www.nist.gov/topics/organization-scientific-area-committees-forensic-science/osac-registry
OSAC Registry Implementation Resources

• Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

• Detailed “How To” Guidelines with step-by-step instructions for labs on how they can begin implementing the Registry standards.

• OSAC Registry Standards Implementation Declaration Form – provides a way to let us know if your lab is using Registry standards

• Standards Activities Tracker – provides a list of standards on the Registry, being drafted at OSAC, and under development at SDOs

https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-registry-implementation
Impact:

- 94% increase in Registry Standards

- 7 forensic science professional organizations have written formal support statements for forensic science standards development and Registry implementation

- 24 labs have officially “declared” partial or full implementation of OSAC Registry standards

- 11 more initiating implementation

375+ labs…”
OSAC Registry Implementers: Impact Examples

**October 2019:** The Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC) adopted guidelines recommended by OSAC in its continuous effort to improve forensic science results for Houston and impact the broader forensic science community.

**Fall 2021:** HFSC implemented an annual company-wide continuing education goal to align with approved OSAC standards.

**November 2019:** The Texas Forensic Science Commission (TFSC) recommended that all crime laboratories accredited to perform forensic analysis in the State of Texas voluntarily adopt the standards listed on the OSAC Registry.

**March 2021:** TFSC announced an initiative to develop and dedicate a section of the TXFSC website to implementation.

**June 2020:** Bode Technology is the first private forensic DNA testing lab to declare implementation.
OSAC Registry Implementation Survey

• First annual survey to assess the state of OSAC Registry implementation – June 2021.

• Targeting lab directors and quality assurance managers across the county – looking for one response per organization, please.

• Individual lab names and responses will remain confidential.

• Findings will be shared in OSAC’s Fall Newsletter/Annual Report – October 2021.
What Else is OSAC Doing to Support You?

- Bibliographies
- Interlaboratory comparisons
- OSAC Lexicon
- Process maps
- R&D needs
- Reference documents
- Standards development maps
- Technical guidance documents
- Webinars/presentations

https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-work-products
Stay Informed!

- Provides monthly updates on forensic science standards moving through development process at SDOs and those moving through OSAC Registry process

Quarterly communication that provides updates on OSAC’s program status, activities, accomplishments, and opportunities for public input with internal and external audiences.
- Available on OSAC’s website: https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-newsletter

Follow us!
https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/organization-of-scientific-area-committees-osac-for-forensic-science/
How Can You Get Involved?

- Sign up for OSAC communications
  https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIST/subscriber/new

- Become an OSAC member
  https://www.nist.gov/osac/apply-join-osac

- Review and comment on standards
  https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-standards-bulletin

- Stay informed
  https://www.nist.gov/osac

Call for applicants coming soon!
Questions?
Discussion
Standards Needs

- What kinds of standards would help your organization in its role as a forensic science service provider?
  - Terminology
  - Competency
  - Evidence collection & handling
  - Method validation
  - Examination & analysis
  - Reporting results & testimony
  - Quality assurance

- Is OSAC focusing on and drafting standards to meet your needs?
- Of the standards that exist, are they too general or too prescriptive? Are we striking the right balance?
Implementation

• What challenges and concerns do you have related to implementing standards on the OSAC Registry?
• Is your organization using any tools or resources to help with implementation (e.g., gap analysis, audit checklists, etc.)?
• Are tools/resources needed? Should OSAC develop them?
• Besides submitting a Standards Implementation Declaration Form, how else can organizations let OSAC know about their implementation efforts?
• How can OSAC better communicate implementation strategies?
Putting Standards into Practice

• Are your scientists being asked in court about OSAC or the standards listed on the Registry?
What else?

- What else can OSAC do to support your organization?
- Did you find this meeting valuable? Should we have future meetings? If so, how often?
Next Steps

• Participate in OSAC’s Registry Implementation Survey – provide one response per organization, please.

• **Sign-up** for OSAC communications and follow us on [LinkedIn](#) to stay informed about the latest forensic science standards information.

• OSAC will develop and share a report summarizing the key takeaways and action items from this meeting. We will also send participants a copy of these slides and make them available on our website.
Thank you!