

OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM



Title of research need:

Keyword(s):

Submitting subcommittee(s): **Date Approved:**

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

Background Information:

1. Does this research need address a gap(s) in a current or planned standard? (ex.: Field identification system for on scene opioid detection and confirmation)

2. Are you aware of any ongoing research that may address this research need that has not yet been published (e.g., research presented in conference proceedings, studies that you or a colleague have participated in but have yet to be published)?

3. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need: (ex.: Toll, L., Standifer, K. M., Massotte, D., eds. (2019). Current Topics in Opioid Research. Lausanne: Frontiers Media SA. doi: 10.3389/978-2-88963-180-3)

https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/234457.pdf

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/medicolegal-faq.html."/>

4. Review the annual operational/research needs published by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) at <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/forensic-science-research-and-development-technology-working-group-operational#latest>? Is your research need identified by NIJ?

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

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

Our subcommittee focuses on ways to improve medicolegal death investigations, which are led by medicolegal death investigators at the scene. Ensuring medicolegal death investigator safety is critical to a thorough medicolegal death investigation.

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

By ensuring medicolegal death investigators of their safety, they will be able to provide better medicolegal death scene reports, which is critical because the “autopsy starts at the scene” and may provide critical evidence to the criminal justice system.

8. 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.