Stakeholder Outreach Meeting: Forensic Science Professional Organizations

January 20, 2022
Introductions

As the spokesperson for your organization, please tell us:

• Your name
• The name of the professional organization you’re representing
• The approximate size of your organization’s membership
• Your role there
• The name(s) of other attendees from your organization
Forensic Science Professional Organizations

Academy of Forensic Nursing
• Jennifer Johnson
• Catherine Rossi

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)
• Donna Grogan

American Bar Association (ABA)
• Matthew Redle

American Board of Forensic Anthropology (ABFA)
• Donna Boyd

American Board of Forensic Odontology (ABFO)
• Richard Fixott

American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT)
• Bruce Goldberger

American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI)
• Brian Ehret
• Bethany Fax

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD)
• Laura Sudkamp

American Society of Forensic Odontology (ASFO)
• Phyllis Ho
• Joe Adserias-Garriga

American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE)
• Samiah Ibrahim

American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners (ASTEE)
• Daniel Mabel
Forensic Science Professional Organizations

Association of Forensic DNA Analysts and Administrators (AFDAA)
  • Amanda Balasko
  • Lloyd Halsell III

Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE)
  • Wendy Gibson

Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM)
  • Sara Bitner

Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA)
  • Catherine Knutson

Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO)
  • Matthew Gamette

International Association for Identification (IAI)
  • Stephen Greene

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
  • Scott Stephens

International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA)
  • Celestina Rossi

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
  • John Grassel

International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME)
  • Kelly Keyes
  • John Fudenberg
  • Bobbi Jo O’Neil
Forensic Science Professional Organizations

International Association for Forensic Nursing (IAFN)
  • Jennifer Pierce Weeks

International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT)
  • Marc LeBeau

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACLD)
  • Vanessa Antoun
  • Kyle O’Dowd
  • Lisa Wayne

National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME)
  • Kathy Pinneri
  • James Gill
  • Joyce deJong
  • Scott Denton

National District Attorneys Association (NDAA)
  • Ray Valerio
  • Nelson Bunn
  • Marguerite Rizzo
  • Frank Russo

Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE)
  • Doug Fisher

Society of Forensic Anthropologists (SOFA)
  • Chelsey Juarez

Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT)
  • Robert Sears
  • Beth Olsen
OSAC Forensic Science Standards Board and Outreach & Communications Task Group Members*

- Hal Arkes, FSSB liaison to OSAC’s Human Factors Task Group
- Craig Beyler, FSSB member
- Frederick Bieber, FSSB member
- David Fowler, FSSB member (NAME representative)
- Allison Getz, OSAC Program Office*
- Melissa Gische, FSSB member
- Stephen Greene, FSSB member (IAI representative)
- Will Guthrie, FSSB liaison to OSAC’s Statistics Task Group
- JP Jones, OSAC Program Manager*
- David H. Kaye, FSSB Vice Chair, FSSB liaison to OSAC’s Legal Task Group
- Sarah Kerrigan, FSSB member (SOFT) representative*
- Chris Krug, FSSB Executive Secretary and liaison to OSAC’s Quality Task Group (AFQAM representative)
- Marc LeBeau, FSSB member
- Eric Pokorak*
- Karen Reczek, FSSB NIST Ex-Officio member*
- Jeri Ropero-Miller, FSSB member (AAFS representative) and *Chair
- Jeff Salyards, FSSB member
- Lora Sims, FSSB member*
- Donna Sirk, OSAC Program Office*
- Andy Smith, FSSB member (AFTE representative)
- Carl Sobieralski, FSSB member
- Mark Stolorow, OSAC Program Office*
- Chris Taylor, FSSB member*
- Richard Vorder Bruegge*
- Ray Wickenheiser, FSSB Chair (ASCLD) representative*
- Jason Wiersema, FSSB member
Updates
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 the 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

475 members
356 active affiliates
1,130+ applications received

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

Employer Classification
• Federal: 19%
• State: 22%
• Local: 21%

Job Classification
• Practitioner: 50%
• Researcher: 15%
• Educator: 11%
• Lab Mgr/Director: 9%
• Other: 5%

• Academic: 21%
• Private: 17%
• FFRDC: 1%
## Standards Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Standards Activities</th>
<th>Number of Standards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>Standards on the <strong>OSAC Registry</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved by OSAC – highest level of vetting</td>
<td>77 standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>OSAC supported standards <strong>published</strong> by an SDO and eligible for the Registry&lt;br&gt;Completed SDO consensus process</td>
<td>80 standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>OSAC drafted standards <strong>sent to an SDO</strong>&lt;br&gt;Drafted with input from RC and approved by SAC</td>
<td>129 standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tier 4</td>
<td><strong>Under development</strong>&lt;br&gt;Working draft document inside OSAC development process and not yet publicly available</td>
<td>161 standards</td>
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OSAC Registry Approval Process for Proposed Standards

1. OSAC subgroup drafts a new standard or revises an existing one.
2. Stakeholders are invited to comment on the standard during a 30-day open comment period.
3. FSSB Resource Task Groups (RTGs) review and provide comments on the draft.
4. If applicable, a Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) reviews the draft OSAC Proposed Standard.
5. *NOTE: The public comment period, RTG review and STRP evaluation occur simultaneously.
6. Subcommittee reviews comments from the public, RTGs, and STRP. Feedback from the public open comment period is adjudicated.
7. FSSB has an opportunity to review and petition adding the OSAC Proposed Standard to the Registry.
8. SDO proposed standard is sent to an SDO to be further developed and published following the specific SDO's processes.
9. SDO published standard replaces the OSAC Proposed standard on the Registry.
10. FSSB has another opportunity to petition adding the SDO published standard to the Registry.
11. Subcommittee approves adding the SDO published standard to the Registry.
12. If no opposition, the OSAC Proposed Standard is listed on the Registry.
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 these published and proposed standards.
OSAC Registry: Current Snapshot

- 1 Anthropology
- 10 Biology/DNA (8 published & 2 OSAC Proposed)
- 1 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis
- 2 Crime Scene Investigation & Reconstruction (2 OSAC Proposed)
- 3 Digital Evidence*
- 1 Dogs & Sensors
- 4 Facial Identification (3 published & 1 OSAC Proposed)*
- 2 Fire & Explosion Investigation
- 6 Fire Debris
- 2 Firearms & Toolmarks
- 2 Footwear & Tire
- 2 Gunshot Residue Analysis (1 published & 1 OSAC Proposed)
- 5 Medicolegal Death Investigation (3 published & 2 OSAC Proposed)
- 3 Odontology
- 7 Seized Drugs
- 4 Toxicology
- 11 Trace Materials
- 1 Video/Imaging Technology & Analysis*
- 6 Wildlife Forensics (4 published & 2 OSAC Proposed)
- 5 Interdisciplinary

77
67 published
10 OSAC Proposed

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

*ASTM E2916-19e1 drafted in collaboration with OSAC’s Digital Evidence, Facial ID, and VITAL Subcommittees
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Disciplines</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
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<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021</td>
<td>72</td>
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OSAC Registry Growth

- FY 2016: 2 disciplines (3)
- FY 2017: 3 disciplines (8)
- FY 2018: 3 disciplines (12)
- FY 2019: 7 disciplines (19)
- FY 2020: 12 disciplines (37)
- FY 2021: 18 disciplines (72)
OSAC Registry Implementation Resources

• **Frequently Asked Questions** – 16 FAQs help to address some common implementation questions

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

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

• **Standards Activities Tracker** – see the OSAC Work Products webpage for a list of standards on and being considered for the Registry, being drafted at OSAC, and under development at SDOs

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

Seven professional forensic science organizations, all represented on OSAC’s FSSB, have formally declared their support of OSAC and the development and implementation of forensic science standards. Read the policy and positions statements from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE), Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM), American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), International Association for Identification (IAI), National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME), and Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) on OSAC’s Registry Implementation webpage.
OSAC Registry Implementation Survey

• Annual survey to assess the state of OSAC Registry implementation.
• First survey: June 10 – August 31, 2021.
• Targeted forensic service providers from across the country – requested one response per organization.
• 155 responses received.
• General findings available in OSAC’s 2021 Fall Newsletter/Annual Report.
• Detailed report coming February 2022.

https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-registry-implementation-survey
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!

- **Monthly update** 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](https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-newsletter)

Follow us! [https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/organization-of-scientific-area-committees-osac-for-forensic-science/](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

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

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

Become an OSAC member
https://www.nist.gov/osac/apply-join-osac
Discussion
Standards Overview and Processes

1) What kind of standards would help your organization in its role as a forensic science professional organization?
2) Is OSAC focusing on and drafting the standards to meet your needs and the needs of your membership?
3) Are forensic science standards a topic included in your scientific program or any dedicated organization efforts/interests?
4) Do you have groups within your organization that are developing standards?
5) How can OSAC help your organization’s members participate in the standards development process (e.g., providing input/expertise during public comment periods)?
6) Are your members being asked in court about OSAC or standards listed on the Registry?
OSAC Registry Implementation Support

1) Is your membership aware of the OSAC Registry, implementation efforts and resources?
2) What challenges and concerns do you have related to implementing standards on the OSAC Registry?
3) Is your organization using any tools or resources to help with implementation of forensic science standards (e.g., gap analysis checklists)?
4) Is your organization aware that they can submit a letter of support/position statement to OSAC stating that the organization supports the development and implementation of forensic science standards and providing any specific positions the organization has concerning forensic science standards?
5) Has your organization submitted a letter of support/position statement, or have any immediate plans to let OSAC know about their implementation efforts?
6) How can OSAC better communicate effective implementation strategies?
Training & Education

1) What kind of tools/resources/training might help your members better understand and participate in standards development and implementation?

2) Would your organization like OSAC members to conduct workshops at your meetings on standards, implementation tools and processes (e.g., gap analysis, strategies for lab personnel buy-in and participation)?

3) Would your organization or members be interested in assisting in the training of standards and their use to the forensic science community?
1) How can OSAC help support your organization’s standard development activities?
2) Would your organization be willing to help to spread the word about OSAC (i.e., share OSAC communications)? If so, who can we contact?
3) Would your organization be willing to encourage your members to share their implementation experiences (e.g., at workshops or by writing news stories and press releases)?
4) What else can OSAC do to support your organization?
5) What else can your organization do to support OSAC?
6) What is the best mechanism to keep communication lines open for your organization and OSAC going forward?
What Other Questions Should We Be Asking?

1) ?
2) ?
Next Steps

• Follow us on LinkedIn and sign-up for OSAC communications to stay informed about the latest forensic science standards information: https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIST/subscriber/new

• 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: https://www.nist.gov/osac
Thank you!