



Stakeholder Outreach Meeting: Forensic Science Professional Organizations

January 20, 2022

A hand is holding a dark rectangular sign with the word "Hello!" written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The sign is centered within a large, dark circular frame that has a white border. The background behind the sign is a blurred indoor setting with a warm, yellow light source visible in the upper right.

Hello!

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 Roper-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



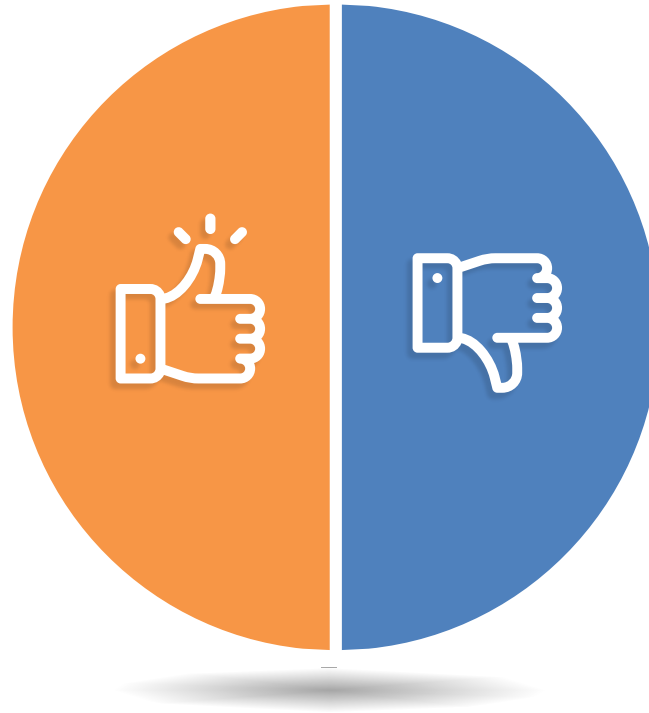
Facilitates the development of science-based standards through the formal SDO processes



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

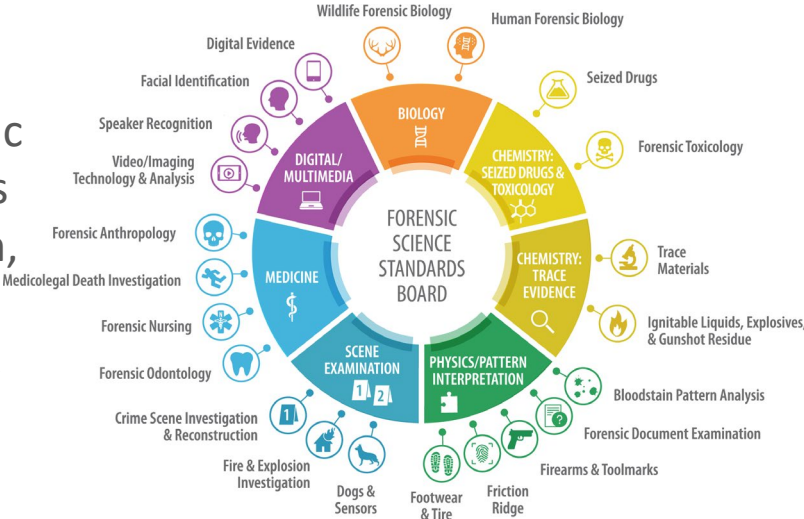
OSAC Membership Snapshot



475 members
 356 active affiliates
 1,130+ applications received

Expertise in:

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



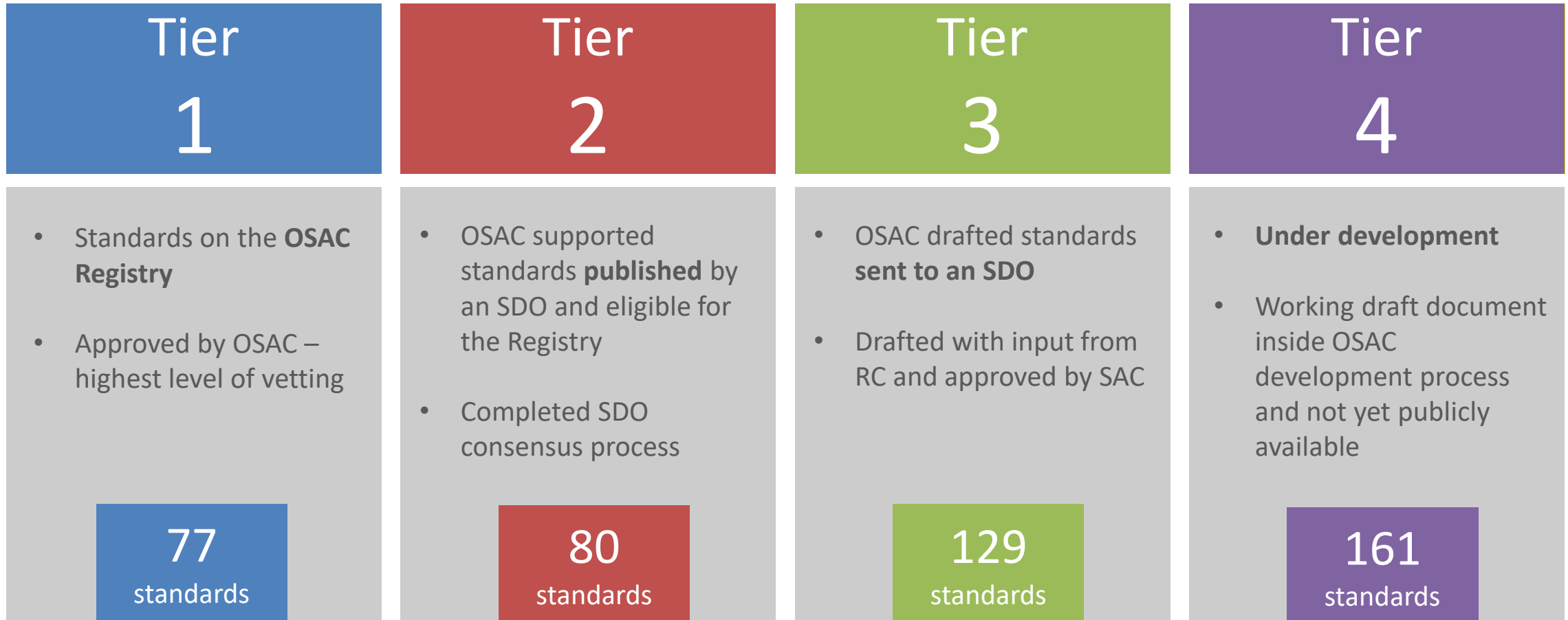
Employer Classification

- Federal: 19%
- State: 22%
- Local: 21%
- Academic: 21%
- Private: 17%
- FFRDC: 1%

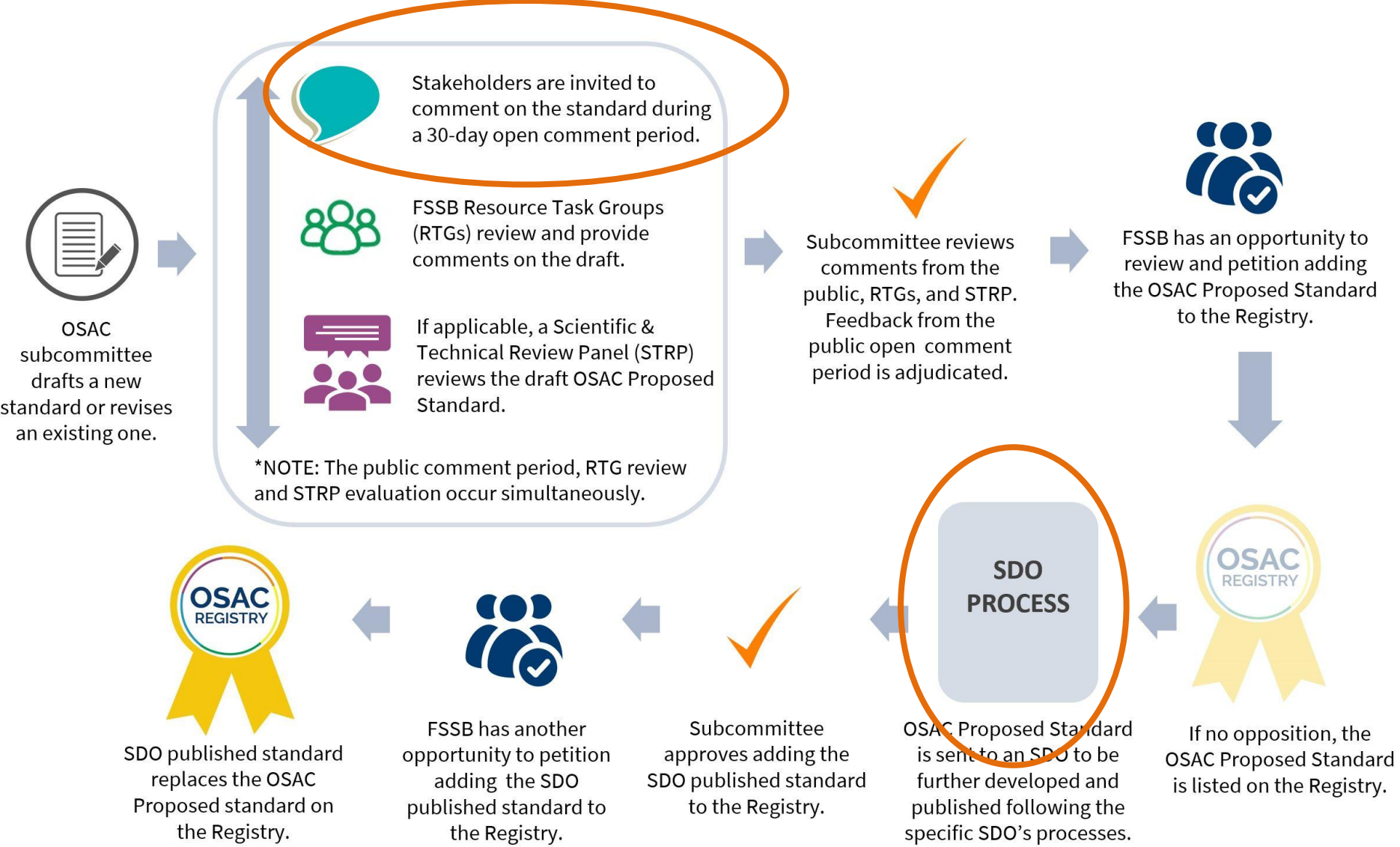
Job Classification

- Practitioner: 50%
- Researcher: 15%
- Educator: 11%
- Lab Mgr/Director: 9%
- Other: 5%
- Quality: 4%
- Lawyer: 3%
- Judge: 1%
- R&D Tech: 1%

Standards Activities



OSAC Registry Approval Process for Proposed Standards



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



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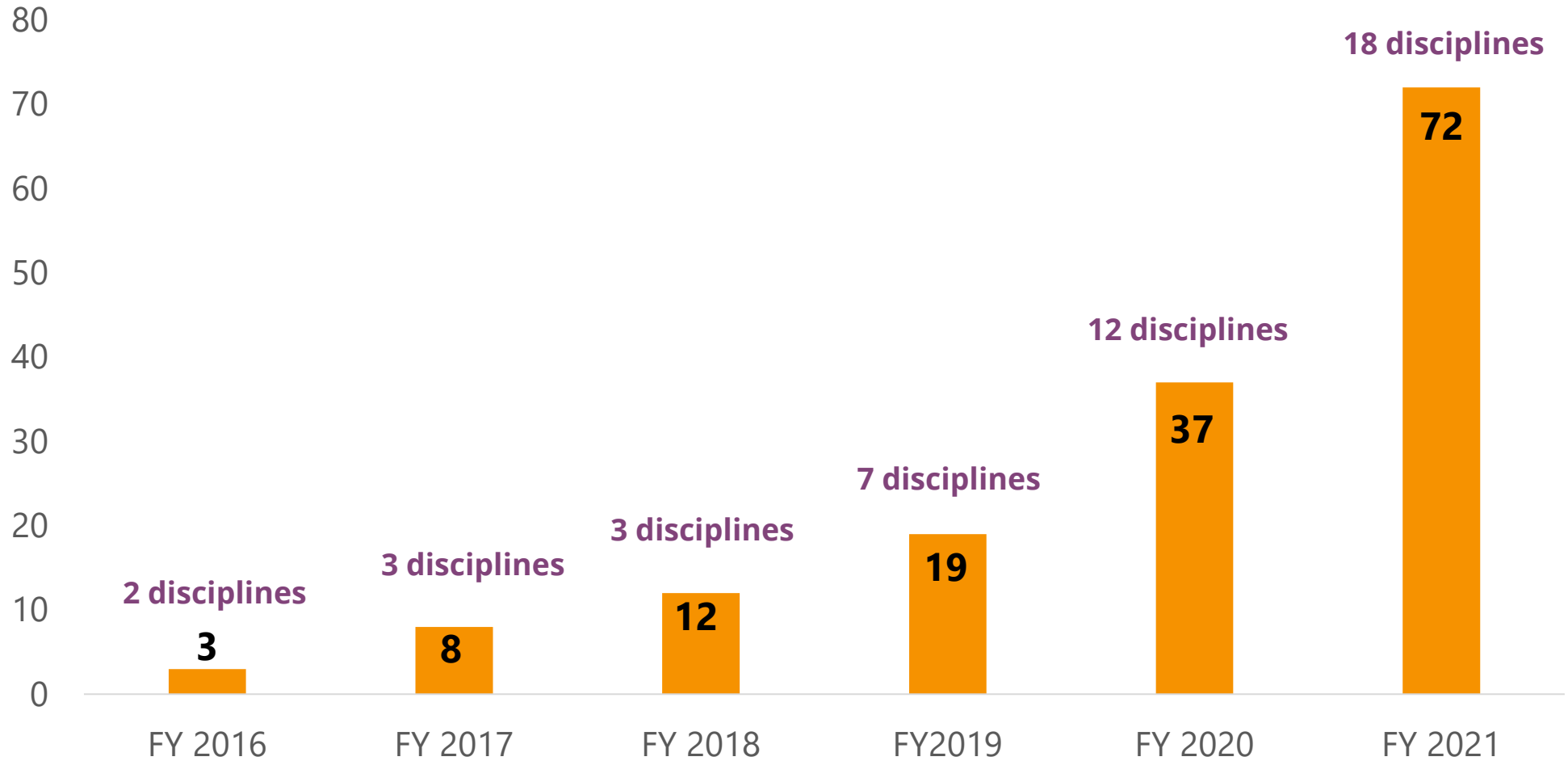
67 published
10 OSAC Proposed

- **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

*ASTM E2916-19e1
drafted in collaboration
with OSAC's Digital
Evidence, Facial ID, and
VITAL Subcommittees

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

OSAC Registry Growth



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>

Professional Organization Support



OSAC Spring Newsletter Text: 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.

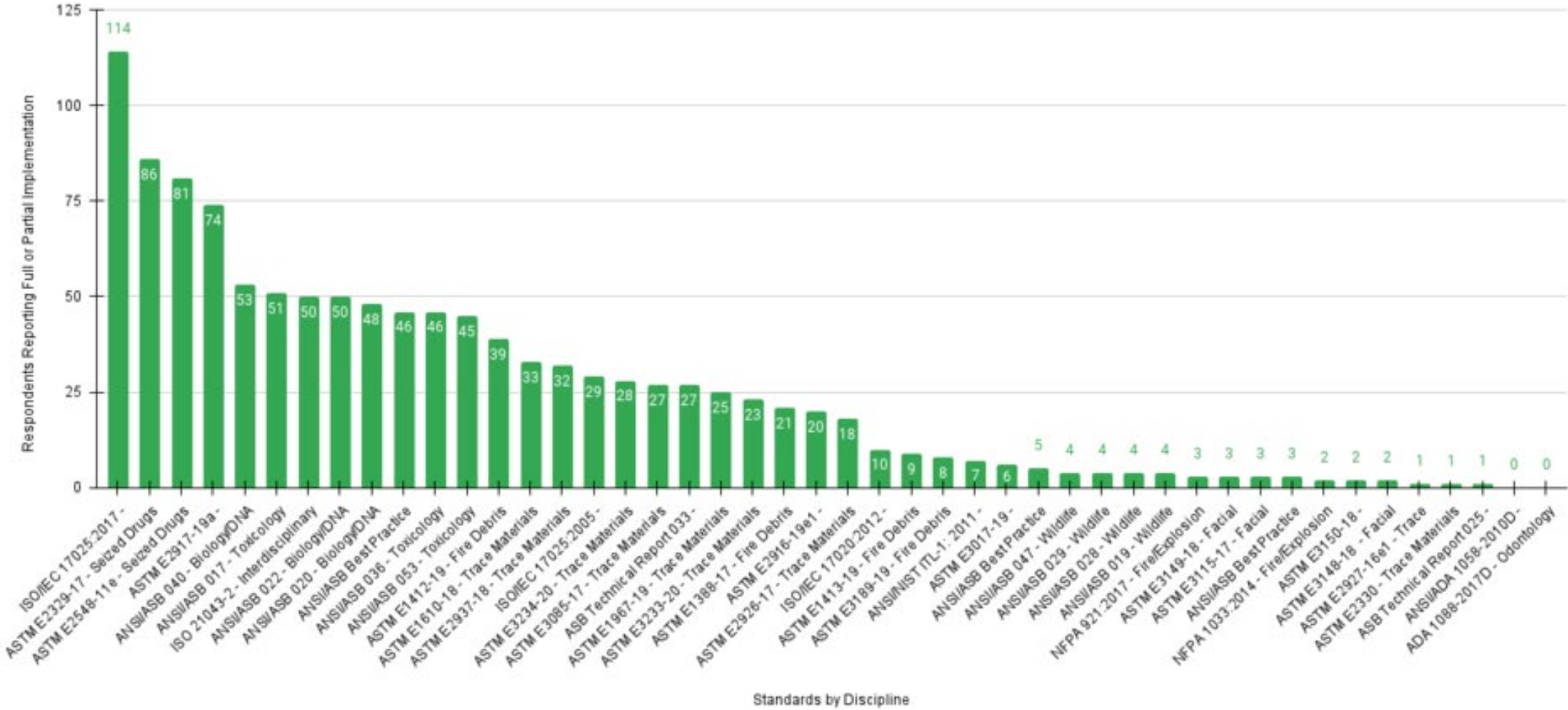
OSAC Registry Implementation Survey



- 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.

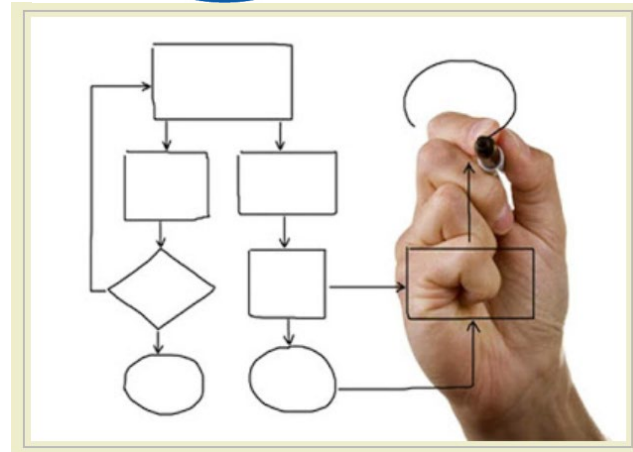
<https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-registry-implementation-survey>

Organizations Participating in Full & Partial Standards Implementation



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.
- Available on OSAC's website: <https://www.nist.gov/osac/osac-standards-bulletin>



- 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](https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIST/subscriber/new)



Stay informed

<https://www.nist.gov/osac>

Review and comment
on standards

[https://www.nist.gov/osac/
standards-open-comment](https://www.nist.gov/osac/standards-open-comment)



Become an OSAC member

[https://www.nist.gov/osac/apply-join-
osac](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?

Collaboration Opportunities

- 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!

