Legal Issues Forum:

Forensic Standards and Conformity Assessment



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Legal Issues Forum: Forensic Standards and Conformity Assessment

Thursday, May 19, 2022





AGENDA

FORENSIC STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

May 19, 2022

In-person

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center (Pavilion Room) 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC

Virtual

via Zoom

Advance Registration Required: www.ansi.org/wsweek

Time	Discussion and Speakers
8:00 am	Registration and Breakfast
10:00-10:10	Welcome Remarks/Introduction
10:10-10:35	Keynote Address Judge Pamela King, District Court Judge, Minnesota 3rd Judicial District
	The Hon. Pamela King is currently on the Board of Directors for the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and a member of the Academy Standards Board. She was previously a Commissioner on the National Commission on Forensic Sciences, Federal Advisory Commission.
10:35-12:00	Panel One: How Performance Can Be Assessed Against Forensic Standards – The Lab Perspective Experts in the field of forensic science will discuss how performance can be assessed against forensic standards from the lab perspective. The panel will explore both the history and current state of forensic standards as well as the real-world impact of accreditation on the field.
	10-minute opening statements from each panelist, followed by 50 minutes of moderated discussion and audience Q&A
	Moderator: Dr. Mary McKiel, ANSI Board Vice Chair, Standards Consultant with the American Academy of Forensic Sciences – Academy Standards Board

	Panelists:
	 Linda Jackson, Director, Virginia Department of Forensic Sciences
	 Scott Oulton, Associate Deputy Assistant Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Office of Forensic Sciences
	 Brad Putnam, Senior Director of Accreditation, Forensics, ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB)
	Peter Stout, President and CEO, Houston Forensic Science Center, LLC
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-2:30	Panel Two: How This Plays Out In The Courtroom
	This panel of legal experts will address the role of forensic standards in the administration of justice, the forensic standards currently used in the courtroom, and the profound impact these standards (and the evidence to which they apply) can have on the outcome of cases in our judicial system.
	10-minute opening statements from each panelist, followed by 50 minutes of moderated discussion and audience Q&A
	Moderator: Pamela Sale, Vice President, Forensics, ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB)
	Panelists:
	Sarah Chu, Senior Advisor on Forensic Science Policy, Innocence Project
	 Ted Hunt, Special Counsel - Science and Technology Branch, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
	 Terri Rosenblatt, Chief of Post-Conviction Justice Unit, Manhattan District Attorney's Office Raymond Valerio, Assistant District Attorney and Director of Forensic Sciences, Office of the Queens County District Attorney
2:30-3:00	Closing Remarks

About the Presenters

Keynote Speaker



Judge Pamela King is a District Court Judge for Minnesota's 3rd Judicial District. Judge King presides over all case types. She previously worked for the Minnesota Public Defender, handling complex litigation and forensic science cases. She specialized in forensic DNA, forensic pathology, toxicology, and drug chemistry, and served as a commissioner on the National Commission on Forensic Sciences. King is a fellow at the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), and serves on the Academy Standards Board and the AAFS Board of Directors. In 2018 she received the Magnus Mukoro Award for Integrity in Forensic Science by the New York City Legal Aid Society.

Moderators



Mary McKiel (Panel 1) is the standards consultant for the American Academy of Forensic Sciences - Academy Standards Board, and serves as a vice chair of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Board of Directors. She has over 40 years of experience in national and international standards development, policy, and implementation in both the federal and private sectors. Dr. McKiel is the recipient of ANSI's George S. Wham Leadership Medal and Astin-Polk International Standards Medal.



Pamela Sale (Panel 2) is the vice president of forensics with the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB). She has 19 years of experience as a forensic scientist and laboratory director for the Oregon State Police (OSP) laboratory system. She previously served as a technical assessor, accreditation manager, and then executive director of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors – Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB). When the ASCLD/LAB and ANAB forensic accreditation programs merged in 2016, she became vice president of the forensic business unit. She is active in national and international standards development, currently serving as co-convener of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Forensic Working Group and as ILAC liaison to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committee (TC) 272, Forensic sciences. She is an active member of the U.S. Technical Advisory Group to ISO/TC 272 and ASTM International's E30 Committee.

Panelists and Presenters



Sarah Chu (Panel 2) is the senior advisor on forensic science policy at the Innocence Project. She joined the Innocence Project in September 2008 and leads policy work that improves the valid, reliable, and just application of forensic science and investigative technologies. She served as a scientific inquiry and research subcommittee member of the National Commission on Forensic Science, and received the Legal Aid Society's 2021 Magnus Mukoro Award for Integrity in Forensic Science. Chu graduated from UC San Diego with degrees in biochemistry/cell biology, communication, and a master's in biology. She also holds a master's in epidemiology from Stanford University and is a criminal justice doctoral student at John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY Graduate Center.



Ted R. Hunt (Panel 2) is special counsel to the science and technology branch of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Washington, DC, where he serves as legal counsel to the executive assistant director. From 2017 to 2021 Hunt was the senior advisor on forensic science to the deputy attorney general at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). In that capacity, he served as the department's senior official on all issues involving forensic science policy and practice. Prior to DOJ Hunt was a district attorney for 26 years, during which he prosecuted well over 100 felony jury trials, most of which involved the litigation of forensic evidence. He is a former member of the National Commission on Forensic Science, the ASCLD/LAB Board of Directors, the Missouri Crime Laboratory Review Commission, the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Legal Resource Committee, and a fellow in the jurisprudence section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.



Linda C. Jackson (Panel 1) serves as director of the Virginia Department of Forensic Science (DFS). She began her career with DFS in 1995 as a controlled substances examiner and then was promoted to section supervisor, section chief, and chemistry program manager before assuming her current position in 2013. She has been active in the national forensic science community, serving on the NIJ Forensic Laboratory Needs – Technology Working Group, the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Board of Directors, and the National Commission on Forensic Science. She has a B.S. in chemistry from Wake Forest University and an M.S. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



Scott Oulton (Panel 1) has been with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) of the Department of Justice since 1990, in various positions including chemist, supervisor, program manager, section chief, associate laboratory director/quality assurance manager, and laboratory director. In 2011 he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service of the United States of America as associate deputy assistant administrator of the Office of Forensic Sciences. He oversees nine decentralized and four sub-regional laboratories that provide analytical, intelligence, scientific, and other forensic and administrative support to special agents of the DEA, other federal law enforcement officers, and to the criminal justice system at large.



Brad Putnam (Panel 1) is the senior director of accreditation with the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB). He has 28 years of experience working in public safety as a forensic scientist, first line supervisor, and forensic laboratory director for the Oregon State Police (OSP). During his time with OSP he worked with the Technical Working Group for Material Analysis, developing best practices for examination of trace evidence. He also participated in conformity assessments activities as an assessment team member, and on the Proficiency Test Review Committee for impression evidence for the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors – Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD-LAB).



Terri Rosenblatt (Panel 2) is the chief of the Post-Conviction Justice Unit at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. She previously headed the DNA Unit at a city public defender's office. She also represented clients as a public defender in the Bronx, and as an attorney in an appellate and civil rights law firm. Rosenblatt serves as committee chairs in New York City and national bar associations, and is a past program chair for the AAFS Annual Meeting. She is a graduate of Smith College and received her law degree from Brooklyn Law School.



Peter Stout (Panel 1), CEO and president of the Houston Forensic Sciences Center (HFSC), initially joined HFSC in 2015 as its chief operating officer and vice president. He has more than 20 years of experience in forensic science and forensic toxicology. Prior to HFSC Dr. Stout worked as a senior research forensic scientist and director of operations in the Center for Forensic Sciences at RTI International. He also served as president of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT), representing SOFT in the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations, and has participated in national policy debates on the future of forensic sciences in the U.S. He has a doctorate in toxicology from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver. He also served as an officer in the U.S. Navy Medical Service Corps.



Raymond Valerio (Panel 2) has been an assistant district attorney in New York City since 2004. Currently he is the director of forensic sciences in the Queens County District Attorney's Office, overseeing all forensic science-based prosecutions, complex litigation, and policy. Valerio has taught for the National District Attorney's Association, the American Academy of Forensic Science, the National Association of Attorneys General, the United States Attorney's Offices in New York, the NYPD Police Academy, and others. *WIRE Interdisciplinary Journal* recently published Valerio's article entitled, "Likelihood Ratios For Lawyers...I Didn't Go to Law School for This."



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Our Stakeholders

Stakeholders are essential to the development and maintenance of UL standards through their voluntary service on our technical committees and technical panels to share expertise and achieve consensus. We convene manufacturers, retailers, consumers, trade associations, regulators and other authorities from around the world to capture varied and vested interests across different groups. This approach enables input, reviews, and open discussion from wide-ranging perspectives.





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Congratulations to CSA Group's Julie Cairns on the ANSI Meritorious Service Award!

Every year, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) recognizes significant contributions to national and international standardization activities. CSA Group is extremely proud that in 2021, Julie Cairns, Senior Project Manager in CSA Standards, has been awarded the ANSI Meritorious Service Award for "outstanding service in enabling ANSI to attain the objectives for which it was founded."

Throughout her career, Julie has been involved in many projects and worked with the industry to develop ground-breaking standards that helped enable new technologies, including the development of flammable vapor content and labeling for the water heater industry. Julie was also instrumental in launching the alternative energy vehicle program at CSA Group, focused on natural gas and hydrogen component and refueling standards, and the fuel system inspector program.

Julie will be recognized at the ANSI Leadership and Service Awards Ceremony during World Standards Week 2022.



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