

FORENSIC SCIENCE STANDARDS BOARD (FSSB) UPDATE

Steven Johnson, Chair
1:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.



OSAC MEMBERSHIP

540+ Members	Practitioners
	Researchers and Academics
	Private sector
	Professional Societies

Expertise	22 specific forensic disciplines
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	General expertise in scientific research, measurement science, statistics, law, and policy
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STRUCTURE

Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)

7 Scientific Area Committees

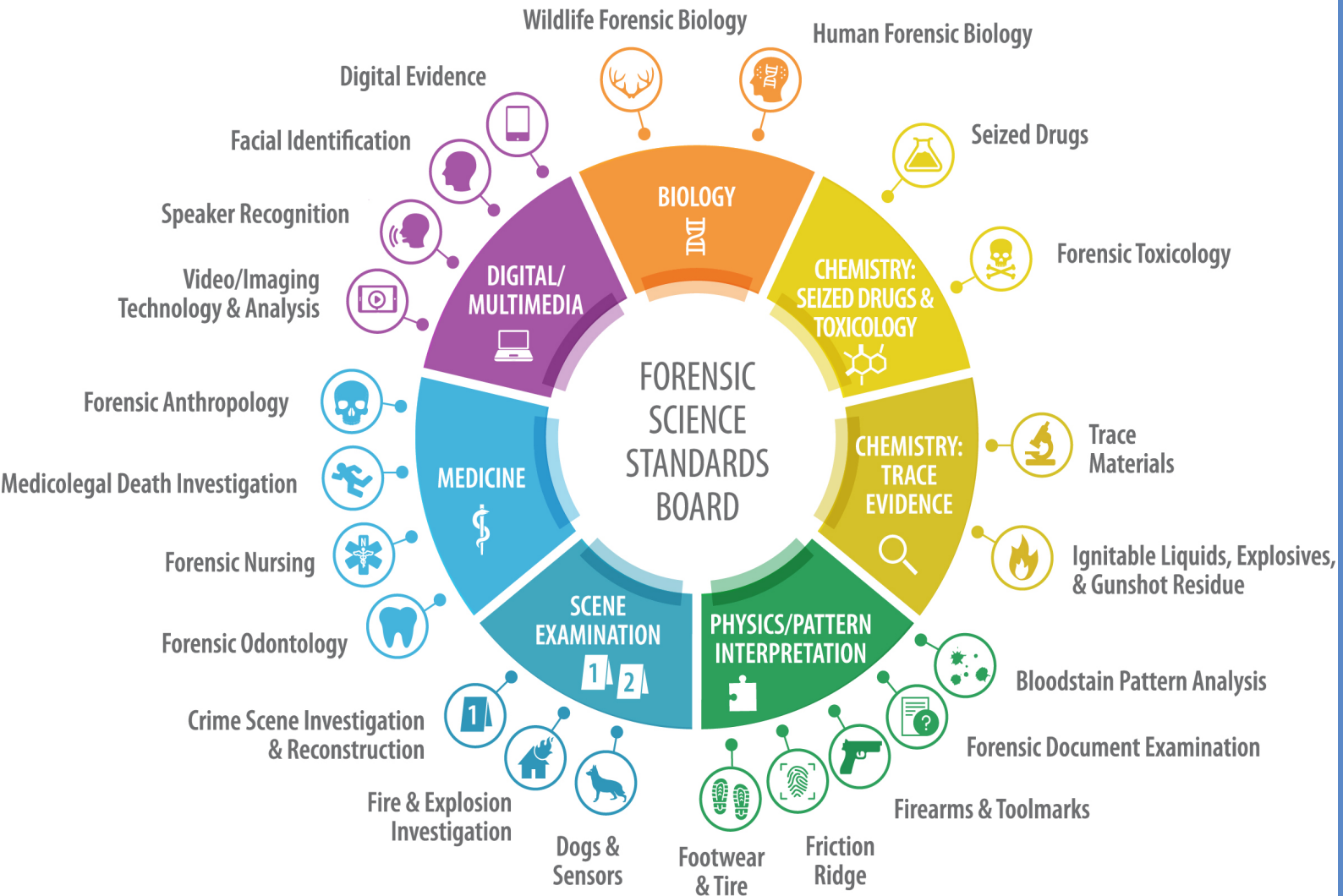
- Biology
- Chemistry: Seized Drugs/Toxicology
- Chemistry: Trace Evidence
- Scene Examination
- Medicine
- Digital Evidence/Multimedia
- Physics/Pattern Interpretation

22 SAC Subcommittees

4 Resource Task Groups

- Human Factors
- Legal
- Quality
- Statistics

COMPOSITION



6/1/2020 Status
 546 members
 266 affiliates
 2700+ Applications

Employer Classification

Federal: 22%
 State: 20%
 Local: 18%
 Academic: 21%
 Private: 18%
 FFRDC: 1%

Job Classification

Practitioner: 57%
 Researcher: 17%
 Educator: 10%
 Other: 9%
 Attorney: 2%
 QA Manager: 2%
 R&D Tech: 2%
 Judge: 1%

WHAT DOES THE FSSB DO?

Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB) oversees the Scientific Area Committees and Subcommittees

Establishes governance rules and policies to ensure the development of quality standards

Encourages standards use in the provision of forensic science services

Administers overall operation of the organization

Approves standards for inclusion on the OSAC Registry

Engages in all efforts related to forensic science standards

Informs the forensic science community of research needs and gaps

REGISTRY



- OSAC Registry serves as a trusted repository of high-quality, science-based standards and guidelines for forensic practice.
 - Criteria: standards and guidelines must have been developed using a **consensus-based process** and must pass the OSAC review of **technical merit** by forensic practitioners, academic researchers, statisticians and measurement scientists.
- Elevating a standard to the official OSAC Registry is an endorsement of the high quality of the document and encourages its adoption by all relevant agencies and practitioners.
- At this time, OSAC does not have authority to enforce standards.
- The ultimate goal of OSAC and its members is to facilitate the development of science-based standards for each of 22 distinct forensic science disciplines and to promote their widespread adoption.



STANDARDS ON THE REGISTRY AND IN PROGRESS

- OSAC Registry (37)
 - Approved by OSAC – highest level of vetting
- OSAC drafted standards published by an SDO (94)
 - Drafted by OSAC, completed SDO consensus process – may have changed since being released by OSAC, but is a published standard
- OSAC drafted standards sent to an SDO (136)
 - Drafted by OSAC with input from resource committees, approved by SAC and send to SDO
- Under Development: OSAC drafted standards working through the development process (150+)
 - Working draft document inside the OSAC development process (not publicly available)



OSAC STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION PATHWAYS



OSAC Registry Implementation Plan

Prepared for
The Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC)

By
Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)



OSAC STANDARDS
IMPLEMENTATION
PATHWAYS



Self Adoption

Professional Associations

Criminal Justice (Courts)

Accrediting Bodies

Funding Bodies (Carrot)

Funding Bodies (Stick)

Others