



José R. Almirall is Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida International University (FIU) and Founding Director (Emeritus) of the National Science Foundation-funded Center for Advanced Research in Forensic Science (CARFS). He was a practicing forensic scientist at the Miami-Dade Police Department Crime Laboratory for 12 years, where he testified in over 100 criminal cases in state and federal courts prior to his academic appointment at FIU in 1998. Professor Almirall has authored one book and 172 peer-reviewed scientific publications in the field of analytical and forensic chemistry (h -index ~ 53) and presented over 800 papers and workshops in the U.S., Europe, Central and South America, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, United Arab

Emirates and South Africa. The interests of Prof. Almirall's research group include fundamental analytical chemistry and the development of analytical tools for use in forensic science including the analysis of seized drugs and materials characterization. Prof. Almirall is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) since 1998, the founding chairman of the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC) of the AAFS, past Chair of the SWGMAT Glass subgroup, past member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Forensic Sciences* and co-Editor-in-Chief of *Forensic Chemistry* an Elsevier journal. He served on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Commonwealth of Virginia for 10 years. He has also served as a consultant to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Government of Spain and the U.S. Government. He has served as consultant to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the forensic analysis of materials, as a scientific program evaluator for the DOE NNSA program and as a judge for Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on an opioid detection challenge. Dr. Almirall has a special interest in the standardization of forensic science and has served on standard development organizations (ie. ASTM) since 1995. He was appointed to serve as the first vice-chair of the Chemistry and Instrumental Analysis SAC of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) in 2014, as an at-large member of the FSSB in 2015 and then served as the Chair of the Chemistry SAC and member the FSSB from 2016-2020. Dr. Almirall was elected as a Fellow to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2020 and was reappointed to serve as a member of the FSSB of the OSAC in 2024.