ASCLD FRC Lightning Talks

Interlaboratory & Black Box Studies

Thursday March 24th, 2021, 1:00 EST, WebEx

Register at: https://www.ascld.org/forensic-research-committee/

The Importance of Interlaboratory Studies in the Standardization of Forensic Chemical Analysis

Jose Almirall, Florida International University

This presentation will highlight how interlaboratory studies (ILS) inform the development of standard methods in the analysis of seized drugs and trace evidence. In particular, the improvement of the identification of positional isomers of fentanyl related substances (FRS) and the interpretation of glass evidence comparisons through the use of several ILS, will be presented.

Testing the Accuracy and Reliability of Palmar Friction Ridge Comparisons: a Black Box Study

Heidi Eldridge, Research Triangle Institute

Critics of forensic science have asked each discipline to produce black box studies to demonstrate the foundational validity of their process – i.e. does the method work the way we claim it does? Fingerprints has done this, yet nobody has investigated whether error rates for palm comparisons are the same as those for fingers. We established a baseline error rate for palm comparisons using a large-scale black box study with known ground truth samples.

Lessons Learned From an Isotope Ratio PT Scheme

Philip Dunn, LGC Group

The results from the FIRMS Network's PT scheme for isotope ratio analysis have shown that both carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis are mature techniques, while hydrogen and oxygen isotope ratio require a reduction in between-laboratory variation. It is also shown that more regular participation generally leads to better performance."