

IN BRIEF

July 2022



YOUR INPUT NEEDED: TWO FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Facial Identification Subcommittee is preparing to publish two OSAC Technical Guidance Documents. As part of OSAC's [Technical Guidance Document Process](#), the Facial Identification Subcommittee is requesting feedback from members and affiliates on these draft documents. **Please review the following documents and submit your comments by August 26, 2022:**



- **[Framework for Implementing Passive Live Facial Recognition.](#)**

Technical advancement in both camera and facial recognition technology are such that Live (real-time) Facial Recognition (LFR) is now technically feasible and there is an increasing scope for its use in a number of scenarios. This technical document provides an overview of Live Facial Recognition (LFR), factors to consider when implementing a system and guidance on how to test and measure the effectiveness of a deployed system.

- **[Introduction to Application Profiles for Facial Searching.](#)** This document provides an overview of how the ANSI/NIST-ITL: *Data Format for the Interchange of Fingerprint, Facial & Other Biometric Information* is used to form agency-specific implementations of Electronic Biometric Transmission Specification (EBTS) standards.

REMINDER: OSAC'S 2022 REGISTRY IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY CLOSES AUGUST 12!



There's still time to participate in [OSAC's 2022 Registry Implementation Survey](#)! This survey will assess the current state of implementation of 95 standards on the OSAC Registry and will **close August 12**. We need to hear

from the nation's forensic science service providers! Encourage your organization to participate and join more than 90 forensic science service providers who have already responded!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SHARON B. NAKICH AWARD

OSAC is seeking nominations for the 2022 Sharon B. Nakich Award.

In honor of our colleague, Sharon Nakich, this OSAC peer-to-peer award acknowledges a helpful attitude, kindness, teamwork, or behind-the-scenes contributions to support the goals of OSAC. It recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to promote OSAC's mission through their support of OSAC. This nominee works diligently and tirelessly as a champion for OSAC, at times without recognition.



Sharon B. Nakich

Eligibility:

- All OSAC members and affiliates.
- Any non-OSAC member who has contributed significantly to furthering the mission of OSAC.

To submit your nomination, please provide two or more narrative statements from two or more different individuals addressing the criteria mentioned above. Nomination justifications should include, but are not limited to, a description of:

- Specific activities the nominee was involved in that had a positive effect in supporting OSAC's mission,
- How the individual's action helped the organization further its goals,
- Describe the nominee's willingness to go the extra mile.

Please send your nomination and supporting documentation to allison.getz@nist.gov by **Friday, September 2, 2022**.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS

The OSAC Program Office will be working with the OSAC leadership to fill membership vacancies on the subcommittees as terms expire in September. To ensure we have the latest applicant information available, we're asking all members and affiliates to please complete the OSAC application form if you have not done so within the last two years.

If you're an OSAC member at the end of your three-year term and would like to renew your membership for a second three-year term, please follow these instructions:

- Email your unit chair to indicate that you would like to renew.
- Complete an [OSAC application form](#) if you have not updated your application within the last two years, or if your job or employer status has changed since you last applied.

Please complete these actions by August 19!

If you do not want to continue your OSAC membership, email your unit chair indicating that you would like to:

- Request a change to affiliate status.
- Be considered for membership in the future.
- Discontinue all interactions.

OSAC STANDARDS ACTIVITIES SNAPSHOT: JULY 2022

As of July 2022, there are:



View the complete list of standards and other work products each subcommittee is working on in OSAC's [Work Products Tracker](#). The information in this tracker will be updated and reviewed at each quarterly FSSB meeting to identify any challenges, potential hurdles, and determine if milestones are being met.

OSAC UNIT UPDATES

Here are some highlights and updates from OSAC units on the standards and other work products they're working on.



Forensic Toxicology

- Since the SC's last update, five recently published ASB standards have completed OSAC's comment period for Registry approval. All comments that were received have been adjudicated. The comment adjudication has been approved by the Forensic Toxicology Subcommittee and the SAC. One standard, ANSI/ASB Standard 121, *Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing of Urine in Drug-Facilitated Crime Investigations*, First Edition, 2021, received no public comments and was added to the OSAC Registry on May 3, 2022. The other four standards are:
 - ANSI/ASB Standard 054, *Standard for a Quality Control Program in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories*, First Edition 2021.
 - ANSI/ASB Standard 119, *Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing of Blood in Medicolegal Death Investigations*, First Edition 2021.
 - ANSI/ASB Standard 120, *Standard for the Analytical Scope and Sensitivity of Forensic Toxicological Testing of Blood in Impaired Driving Investigations*, First Edition 2021.
 - ANSI/ASB Standard 152, *Standard for the Minimum Content Requirements of Forensic Toxicology Procedures*, First Edition 2021.
- Standards currently at ASB include:
 - *Guidelines for Performing Alcohol Calculations in Forensic Toxicology*.
 - *Standard for Education and Training of Forensic Toxicology Personnel*.
 - *Standard for Estimation of Measurement Uncertainty in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories*.
 - *Standard for Breath Alcohol Measuring Instrument Calibration*.
 - *Standard for Mass Spectral Data Acceptance in Forensic Toxicology*.
 - *Standard for Identification Criteria in Forensic Toxicology*.
 - *Standard for Proficiency Testing of Forensic Toxicology Laboratories*.
 - *Guidelines for Specimen Collection and Preservation for Forensic Toxicology*.
 - *Standard for Breath Alcohol Instrument Specifications*.
- Task Groups are currently drafting the following standards:
 - *Standard Method for Blood Ethanol Identification and Quantitation in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories*. The Task Group presented responses to the questionnaire to the SC. Work at the task group level is ongoing.
 - *Standard for Quality Assurance Management Systems in Forensic Toxicology Laboratories*. A draft of this standard was reviewed by the subcommittee during the January virtual meeting. The Task Group is modifying the draft following that feedback.



Seized Drugs

- Since the SC's last update, OSAC 2022-S-0013, *Standard Guide for Testimony by Experts in Seized Drug Analysis*, has gone through the STRP public comment process. All comments that were received have been adjudicated. The comment adjudication has been approved by the Seized Drugs Subcommittee and returned to the STRP.
- Another standard, OSAC 2022-S-0014, *Standard Practice for Building an Analytical Scheme for the Assessment of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in Suspected Marijuana Plant Material Samples*, has been approved by the Subcommittee to continue the STRP process.
- The SC has reviewed the Seized Drugs Process Map, and it is in the final stages for publication.
- Standards currently at ASTM include:
 - E2326, *Standard Practice for Education and Training of Seized-Drug Analysts*.
 - E2327, *Standard Practice for Quality Assurance of Laboratories Performing Seized-Drug Analysis*.
 - E2329, *Standard Practice for Identification of Seized Drugs*.
 - E2548, *Standard Guide for Sampling Seized Drugs for Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis*.
 - E2549, *Standard Practice for Validation of Seized-Drug Analytical Methods*.
 - **NEW** *Standard Guide for Assessment of Gas Chromatography and Electron Ionization Mass Spectrometry Data During the Qualitative Analysis of Seized Drugs*.
 - **NEW** *Standard Guide for The Development of Electron Ionization-Mass Spectral Libraries for the Analysis of Seized Drugs*.
 - **NEW** *Standard Guide for Intra-laboratory Blind Quality Control Programs for Seized-Drug Analysis*.
 - **NEW** *Standard Guide for Assessment of Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy Data During the Qualitative Analysis of Seized Drugs*.
 - **NEW** *Standard Practice for Uncertainty Estimation of Quantitative Measurements in the Analysis of Seized-Drugs*.
 - **NEW** *Test Method for Gas Chromatography-Infrared Spectroscopy (GC-IR) Vapor Phase Testing of Fentanyl Related Substances*.
- Task Groups are currently drafting the following standards:
 - *Standard Guide for Reporting of Seized Drug Analysis Results*.
 - *Standard Guide for Assessment of LC Data During the Qualitative Analysis of Seized Drugs*.
 - *Method for Recognizing New Psychoactive Substances and True Unknowns in Seized Drugs*.
 - *Standard Test Method for the Analysis of Seized Drugs Using Color Tests*.
 - *Standard Practice for Evidence Handling of Seized Drug Evidence*.
 - *Standard Guide for the Assessment of Structural Similarity of Substances*.
 - *Standard Practice for API Mass Spectrometry*.



CHEMISTRY: TRACE EVIDENCE

The Chemistry: Trace Evidence SAC will be overseeing a joint task group consisting of members of the ILEGSR and the Trace Materials Subcommittees to address general chemical unknowns.



Ignitable Liquids, Explosives, & Gunshot Residue

Congratulations to Brendy Christy who was appointed to serve a second term as chair of the ILEGSR SC!

NEW TO THE REGISTRY. The ILEGSR SC added three new standards (the first ones relating to explosives!) to the Registry on July 5, 2022:

- ASTM E3196-21, *Standard Terminology Relating to the Examination of Explosives*.
- ASTM E3253-21, *Standard Practice for Establishing an Examination Scheme for Intact Explosives*.
- ASTM E3329-21, *Standard Practice for Establishing an Examination Scheme for Explosive Residues*.

ASTM E3309-21, *Standard Guide for Reporting of Forensic Primer Gunshot Residue (pGSR) Analysis by Scanning Electron Microscopy/Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectrometry (SEM/EDS)* is at the FSSB for review.

Two new research needs have been approved and added to the website:

- Primer GSR transfer study
- Organic GSR analysis



Trace Materials

- ASTM E3296-22, *Standard Guide for Using Pyrolysis Gas Chromatography and Pyrolysis Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry in Forensic Polymer Examinations* is at the FSSB for review.
- During the June meeting in Orlando, the Geological Materials Task Group had a joint meeting with the Wildlife SC to discuss common interests including the identification of biological components in soil evidence, approaches to geographic attribution, and education about the utility of soil as forensic evidence in wildlife criminal investigations.
- Also, during the meeting, the SC was presented the results of a fluorescence survey. The Fiber Task Group will interface with CTS regarding additional test fields to gather more information during fiber proficiency testing.
- A task group has been formed to update the Trace Recovery guidelines.
- The Interpretation task group is adjudicating comments received on OSAC 2022-S-0029, *Standard Guide for Interpretation and Reporting in Forensic Comparisons of Trace Materials*.



DIGITAL/MULTIMEDIA



Video/Imaging Technology & Analysis

NEW TO THE REGISTRY. The following standards were recently added to the Registry:

- ASTM E3235-21, *Standard Practice for Latent Print Evidence Imaging Resolution* (added June 7, 2022 and drafted in collaboration with the Friction Ridge Subcommittee).
- OSAC 2021-S-0027, *Standard Guide for Laboratory Photography* (added July 5, 2022, and will be sent to ASTM for further development and publication).

Congratulations to the Photography Task Group within VITAL for their work on both of these documents!



MEDICINE



Forensic Anthropology

NEW PUBLISHED STANDARD. ASB published a new standard, ANSI/ASB Standard 149, *Standard for Taphonomic Observations in Support of the Postmortem Interval*, First Edition, 2022, in June 2022. Initially drafted by the Forensic Anthropology Subcommittee, this standard provides requirements for describing and analyzing the taphonomic effects on human remains and associated evidence that can be observed in the laboratory as well as in the field.

QUALITY TASK GROUP

Congratulations to QTG members Jennifer Remy and Lori Nix for recognition of their contributions to OSAC!

A nomination for a representative from the Medicolegal Death Investigation is pending review and confirmation. The QTG is still seeking new members from the Fire & Explosion Investigation and Forensic Odontology Subcommittees. Contact your subcommittee chair for more information.

Comment adjudications were performed for Biology, Medicolegal Death Investigation, and Facial Identification standards.

UPCOMING OSAC EVENTS

- **August 17:** FSSB monthly meeting
- **September 13:** OSAC Public Update Meeting. Visit the [NIST website](#) for more information and to register. (**NOTE:** FSSB members and SAC presenters do not need to register – OPO has done it for you.)
- **September 20:** OSAC Leadership Strategy Session (OLSS), held in conjunction with the FSSB fall quarterly meeting at the Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum Heights, MD.
- **September 21-22:** FSSB fall quarterly meeting at the Maritime Conference Center, Linthicum, MD.



OTHER FORENSIC SCIENCE NEWS & EVENTS

106th IAI Educational Conference

The [International Association for Identification \(IAI\) Educational Conference](#) will be held July 31 – August 6 in Omaha, Nebraska. If you’re attending, check out updates from the VITAL, Friction Ridge, Facial Identification, and Footwear & Tire Subcommittees, along with some other standards-related presentations noted below.

Also, as part of a cooperative agreement with NIST, RTI International will be sharing information about the tools they’re developing – including evidence collection training videos and an interagency comparison study using virtual reality – to help facilitate the implementation of standards for scene investigation.

Monday, August 1

- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. | Interagency Comparison Study on Crime Scene Processing Utilizing Virtual Reality
- 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. | OSAC General Update
- 3:00 – 3:20 p.m. | OSAC VITAL Update

Tuesday, August 2

- 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Development of Standards and Best Practice Recommendations for Friction Ridge Evidence: Update from the OSAC Friction Ridge Subcommittee and ASB Friction Ridge Consensus Body
- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. | OSAC Facial Identification Subcommittee and FISWG Update 2022
- 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. | Bloodstain Pattern Analysis OSAC Update

Wednesday, August 3

- 1:50 – 2:30 p.m. | The Need for Standardization of Latent Print Profession: The European Perspective

Thursday, August 4

- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Workshop: Implementing the Proposed OSAC Expanded Conclusions Scale for Fingerprint Examinations

Friday, August 5

- 1:00 – 1:45 p.m. | Footwear & Tire Process Map Overview and OSAC Update

STANDARDS RESOURCES

For additional standards resources, visit OSAC's new [Standards Resources](#) webpage on our external site.

Need help accessing the standards from the various SDOs that OSAC works with?

Check out the [Accessing Standards](#) webpage on OSAC's internal site for specific instructions on how to access documents from:

- ASTM E30 standards
- Other ASTM documents (not under E30)
- ANSI (e.g., ISO, ASB)



**NOTE: Some Federal agencies may not be able to access the site due to firewall restrictions. Other options include using a device disconnected from a restricted network. If you are unable to access the site, please send a request to forensics@nist.gov for further assistance.*

Have questions about the different types of standards, normative references, and style guides SDOs have? Visit the [Standards Development](#) section of the Procedures Manual for information about these topics and more!

Did you miss an OSAC In Brief? Visit the [Communications](#) page on OSAC's internal website to view past issues.

If you have any questions or items to suggest for the In Brief, please contact OSAC's Communications Project Manager Allison Getz at allison.getz@nist.gov.

In Brief Liaisons

Biology DNA SAC: Carl Sobieralski

Chemistry: Seized Drugs & Toxicology SAC: Reta Newman

Chemistry: Trace Evidence SAC: Chantelle Taylor

Digital/Multimedia SAC: Jennifer Stathakis

Human Factors Task Group: TBD

Legal Task Group: TBD

Medicine SAC: Jason Wiersema

OSAC Program Office: Allison Getz, John Paul Jones, Donna Sirk

Physics/Pattern Interpretation SAC: Melissa Gische & Gerry LaPorte

Quality Task Group: Jennifer Badger

Scene Examination SAC: Michael Kessler

Statistics Task Group: Danica Ommen

Terminology Task Group: Lori Nix

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