Forensic Science Reform at ‘Crossroads’
In the last two decades, often-used forms of pattern evidence, such as fingerprint, tool mark, and bite mark identification, have faced significant criticism, wrote study author Jennifer L. Mnookin, a law professor at UCLA, in a research paper posted in Daedalus, a journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

American Statistical Association issues guidance on statistical statements for forensic evidence
"Past errors provide us with opportunities to work with the forensic science community to improve the process and strengthen the use of forensic evidence," said ASA president Karen Kafadar. "This statement is just one step in that direction, but we hope it will be an important step."

AI in Forensic Science
Digital forensics is an upcoming field that is high on computation and requires analysis of large and complex data sets. Here, AI provides a good tool to handle and resolve these large data sets.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences Holds 71st Annual Scientific Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland Feb. 18-23
The American Academy of Forensic Sciences' (AAFS) 71st Annual Scientific Meeting will take place Feb. 18-23, 2019, at the Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD. Themed "Diligence, Dedication, and Devotion," AAFS President Susan M. Ballou, MS, will lead the scientific community of nearly 5,000 national and international forensic professionals to discuss advances in the forensic sciences and hold discussions on the science, environments, and challenges that impact forensic science practitioners.

DNA expert weighs in on Hacienda Healthcare sexual assault case
Decrypting DNA is now the focus of the Phoenix Police Department as they work to identify the person who impregnated a comatose woman at a Valley nursing home.

Food forensics: How scientists identify mystery matter in our food
Scientists from ESR (the Institute of Environmental Science and Research) receive regular complaints about foreign materials in food.

Sexual assault forensics centres failing some victims
One of the doctors, who works across multiple centres, said she was aware of 10 cases in the past two years where pre-pubescent children were not forensically examined within three days of being assaulted because there was not a qualified member of staff available.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist Explores Flaws Of The Justice System In 'Burned'
Edward Humes, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, broadens this kind of criticism further, exploring the issues of expert testimony and junk science in his new book, Burned: A Story of Murder and the Crime that Wasn’t.
Meet the cast of Silent Witness
The clever folks at the Lyell Centre are back! Silent Witness – the longest-running British crime drama currently on our TVs – has returned for a 22nd series with our favourite forensic scientists and pathologists at the helm.

Cold-case investigation warms up with help from forensic artist
Knowing that Penn State is a leader in 3D-printing technology, he contacted Jamie Heilman, Stuckman School digital fabrication and specialized technologies coordinator, and in September 2018 a 3D-print of the skull was created to preserve the DNA of the remains and to provide a forensic facial reconstruction artist with a working model of the skull. The only thing missing from Krout’s plan was the artist.

New Crime Lab Bids Come In Under Estimate
"Our engineer's estimate was somewhere between $37-38 million," says County Administrator Jeff Aluotto. "The apparent low bidder on the project at this point is slightly under that."

Government Shutdown Impacting Arkansas State Crime Lab
Last week Gov. Asa Hutchinson said six people at the state crime lab in Little Rock were laid off because they are federally funded.

State lab must show progress for breath tests to be used in certain OUI cases, judge says
Prosecutors in Massachusetts can’t use breathalyzer tests in drunken driving cases, with some exceptions, until the state can show that the crime lab that oversees its breath-testing program is likely to receive a certain type of accreditation, a judge ruled Wednesday.

New Job, System Approved to Track New Hampshire Rape Kits
New Hampshire will implement a new system to keep track of evidence in sexual assault cases after finding that nearly 600 rape kits had not been submitted to the state crime lab.

Police ID remains of fifth child of adoptive mother who drove family off California cliff
A fifth child from the Hart family, killed when their intoxicated adoptive mother drove the family off a California cliff last year, has been identified with the help of the girl's biological mother, police say.

New lab to help Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office solve crimes quicker
The new lab includes advanced fingerprinting equipment and specialized drying machines to preserve physical evidence.

Wisconsin's rape kits backlog made big headlines in 2018, but there's more to come in 2019
The state’s efforts to test old rap kits have yielded at least 560 DNA matches with national crime databases, including 224 matches that identified people who weren’t previously listed as suspects in cases.

Sandia Labs employee allegedly used gov't credit card for Amazon purchases
Investigators believe he used his lab-issued, government credit card to make hundreds of purchases on Amazon and tried to cover it up.
Killer nabbed by chewed gum and a water bottle apologizes for murdering a teacher as he heads to prison for life
GEDmatch pointed to Rowe's family. Parabon NanoLabs' genealogical research named Rowe as a "strong viable suspect," the district attorney said.

FBI agents warn about impact of shutdown investigations, national security
“Investigations and our tools to conduct those investigations are limited because of the shutdown and will only become more limited,” warned Tom O’Connor, an agent in the Washington Field Office and the president of the FBI Agents Association. “Operations are being hindered.”

Man charged in Bremerton cold case pleads not guilty
The case was reopened in 2006 and the Washington State Patrol’s crime lab extracted a DNA profile of the suspected killer. Police say the DNA matched DNA in another unsolved homicide case from Boise, Idaho.

Van Buren man arrested on child pornography charge
Detectives seized hard drives, thumb drives and DVDs and found multiple images of children depicted in sexual acts, according to the release. Police plan to send the evidence to the Arkansas State Crime Lab for a full analysis.