

We urge you to read the President's message each week. Every week the message changes and we highlight information that is timely and critical. The archived editions of the CLM are available on the ASCLD website, and through a number of social media platforms. Please share the information widely. One of the critical missions that ASCLD is fulfilling is to provide the membership with resources. I want to highlight and commend the work of our task groups and committees on a number of recent publications. In this edition, you will find a position paper on trauma and stress in forensic science, a model policy on employee workplace drug testing, a briefing document on the national helium gas shortage, and a briefing on industrial hemp legislation. All of these documents are now on our open website or the member login area of the website. Also, please watch for emails from the ASCLD email and also from your Advocacy POC in the coming week with critical information.

ASCLD POSITION PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

Please use the following links to access **new** position papers or briefing documents on the following:

Industrial Hemp and its Impact to Forensic Laboratories (Briefing Document)

National Helium Gas Shortage (Briefing Document)

Trauma and Stress in the Field of Forensic Science (Position Paper)

Sample Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Policies (Sample Policies)

REQUEST FOR VALIDATION INFORMATION FROM MEMBERSHIP

The Member Resource Committee is looking to continue to populate the Validation Repository on the ASCLD Member Site. The Validation Repository is a resource for ASCLD members to connect with other laboratories who may have completed a validation in a discipline or technology that they may be exploring in their laboratory.

The Validation Repository is a list of titles of validations, keywords, and contact information. If you would like to help the Validation Repository grow, please email the title of the validation, keywords, the discipline, your name and contact information and the name of your laboratory to office@ascld.org.

****NOTIFICATION** ABC RE-CERTIFICATION DEADLINE EXTENTION TO APRIL 1, 2019**

The ABC Board of Directors recognizes that the re-certification process has become burdensome and has created significant challenges for our certificants. We are actively overhauling the re-certification process. The ABC Board has approved the following interim changes as we work to improve the re-certification process.

- The 2018 re-certification deadline for submitting re-certification packets or additional documentation to packets already submitted will be adjusted from March 1, 2019 to April 1, 2019.
- The late fee will not apply until after April 1, 2019.
- Packets that have been submitted may be supplemented with additional information.
- For Section IIIA or Specialty Area Activities:

- Training with a minimum of three scheduled hours is equal to one half day and a minimum of six scheduled hours is equal to one full day.
- Training sessions that are less than three hours can be combined to meet these minimum requirements.

If you have any questions regarding the current re-certification process, please email us at recertification@criminalistics.com

Please see the attached document for instructions on how to resubmit or edit your re-certification information.

[Resubmission of Recertification Packets.docx](#)

****NIJ GRANT FUNDING WEBINAR NOTIFICATION**



Register Administration for a webinar on [March 5, 2019 at 1:00 PM ET](#) to learn about the of Justice solicitation.

This NIJ webinar will educate applicants on the purpose of the [Research and Evaluation on the Administration of Justice solicitation](#) and application requirements. With this solicitation, NIJ seeks to fund investigator-initiated, interdisciplinary research and evaluation projects related to the administration of justice in three areas: (1) eyewitness evidence; (2) police deflection strategies; and (3) forensic testimony.

The key goals of this webinar will be to:

- Highlight the solicitation purpose, goals, and expectations;
- Specify purpose area requirements;
- Provide a general overview of the application process;
- Identify tools and resources that will facilitate the application process;
- Explain the application review process;
- Discuss some of the common pitfalls and reasons applicants are not selected for funding; and
- Offer an opportunity for applicants to ask questions.

[REGISTER](#)