



Ray Wickenheiser, New York State Police Crime Lab  
System Director  
ASCLD President

# ASCLD Ad Hoc Rapid DNA Task Force

# Outline

- What is the Ad Hoc Rapid DNA Task Force?
- Mission, goals, objectives
- Membership
- Subcommittees
- Initiatives
- Deliverables/outcomes

# Rapid DNA Task Force

- Need for coordinated multilevel multi-jurisdictional coordination
- Initiated and lead by ASCLD
- Core of lab directors
- NIJ and RTI
- Expansion to include additional stakeholders
- Inclusive

# ASCLD as enabler

- Provides coordination and oversight
- Use of website for document repository and exchange
- Facilitates communication; conference calls and annual meeting
- Brings together crime lab leadership
- Each Rapid DNA Task Force member represents their jurisdiction and area of expertise independent of ASCLD
- Inclusive rather than exclusive

# Membership

- Crime lab leadership; Directors and managers (ASCLD)
- Federal, local and state crime labs
- Wide area of coverage to represent many states and jurisdictions
- Include labs who have been forward with their implementation
- SWGDAM members and technical expertise
- Homeland Security
- ASCIA, AAFS; regional forensic organizations; many representatives wear several hats
- Vendors/private industry as invited guests

# Commitment

- Monthly teleconference calls
- Updates to ASCLD Board
- In person meetings such as this
- ASCLD Annual Meeting
- Additional assignments as developed in subcommittees

# Mission, Goals, Objectives

- We are our own greatest resource
- Use current programs' experiences
- Providing and gathering existing documentation and resources
- Best practices
- Develop model policies and procedures
- Uniform standards and requirements
- Form a network or practical working labs cooperating together
- Benefit by moving together as a greater whole

# Three Sub-committees

- Oversight Ray Wickenheiser (ASCLD President) and Matthew Gamette (ASCLD President Elect)
- Subcommittees as they relate to Crime Labs
- 1. Law Enforcement (external) – Brian Hoey
- 2. Mass disaster victim ID – Jeremy Triplett
- 3. Crime Labs (internal) – Kris Deters
- Twenty-nine members thus far representing every level of government and 15 states
- Meeting in Washington DC August 15-17



# Law Enforcement (external)

- Brian Hoey (Chair) (MO); Executive: Jan Girtten (CO), Brady Mills (TX), Stephanie Stoiloff (FL), Vince Figarelli (AZ), Tom Callahan (FBI, SWGDAM), Janel Smith (AZ), Peter Wistort (NY)
- Liaison between Crime Labs and Law Enforcement
- Scientific support
- Education and training
- Accredited system for court/legal system requirements
- Implementation of RDIS and connection to State DNA Databanks

# Mass disaster victim ID

- Jeremy Triplett (Chair) (KY); Executive: Tim Kupferschmid (NY), Patty Aagaard (FBI, SWGDAM), Amanda Sozer (SNA), Chris Miles (DHS), Melanie Glass (DHS), Stacey Bolinger (MO), Gina Wells (KY), Mark Smith (AZ)
- Mass disasters and major cases strike anywhere at any time
- Hurricane Katrina, 9-11, Clinton Correctional Escape (NY), Boston bombing
- Activation of resource “nodes” outside the disaster area
- Fabric of coordinated national support

# Crime Labs (internal)

- Kris Deters (Chair) (MN); Executive: Brooke Arnone (AZ), Mike Garvey (PA), Jay Henry (UT) Committee: Jeff Nye (MI), Bruce Houlihan (CA), Howard Baum (NY), Robert Taylor (CA), George Li (FBI, SWGDAM), Todd Bille (ATF, SWGDAM), Eugene Lien (NY, SWGDAM)
- Validation and further testing in the controlled accredited lab environment
- Examination of optimal internal uses
- Implementation into crime lab analytical flow
- Quick sample processing without disruption of case flow

# Deliverables/outcomes

- Uniformity and interoperability
- Fit for purpose (accreditation, justice system, laws)
- Best practices through shared learning experiences
- Education and outreach
  - Law enforcement partners
  - Crime labs
- Higher level policy and laws (if applicable)
- Forms and procedures (operational level)

# Effective

- Inclusive, transparent, practical, coordinated = effective
- Ensure this is done right (if done wrong, program is in jeopardy)
- Include all stakeholders with practical and accurate information
- Respect for rights and coordinate with state's laws
- Highlight need to develop new laws or modify existing laws
- Enable a coordinated roll out with quality at the forefront
- We are our own best resource

Questions?

Thank-you for your kind attention

Ray Wickenheiser

[Ray.Wickenheiser@Troopers.NY.gov](mailto:Ray.Wickenheiser@Troopers.NY.gov)

(518) 457-1208