



NEWSLETTER

California Association of Criminalists

NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS 1977-78

President

JAN BASHINSKI
Oakland Police Department
Criminalistics Section
455 Seventh Street
Oakland, California 94607

President Elect

W JERRY CHISUM
California Department of Justice
Criminalistics Laboratory
2213 Blue Gum Avenue
Modesto, California 95351

Secretary

PETER F. JONES
The Aerospace Corporation
Bldg. A6/1643
P.O. Box 92957
Los Angeles, California 90009

Treasurer

MARY H. GRAVES
Orange County Sheriff's Office
Criminalistics Laboratory
P.O. Box 449
Santa Ana, California 92702

Regional Director—North

MONA NG
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
Criminalistics Laboratory
Hall of Justice
Redwood City, California 94063

Regional Director—South

KENNETH W. GODDARD
Scientific Investigation Bureau
Huntington Beach Police Department
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, California 92646

Immediate Past President

CHARLES V. MORTON
Institute of Forensic Sciences
2945 Webster Street
Oakland, California 94609

Membership Secretary

JAMES L. NORRIS
Santa Clara County
Laboratory of Criminalistics
1557 Berger Drive
San Jose, California 95112

Editorial Secretary

GEORGE F. SENSABAUGH
School of Public Health
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

PLEASE DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE
TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICER

NOVEMBER 1977

I. Semi-Annual Seminar

- A. The Spring 1978 Seminar will be hosted by the San Bernardino Co. Crime Lab. in new convention facilities at Big Bear Lake. The seminar dates are set for May 11, 12, and 13 with a possible firearms or body fluids meeting on May 10. Contact Jonh Davidson for further information.
- B. The Fall 1978 Seminar will be hosted by the San Mateo Co. Sheriffs Office at the Royal Coach in San Mateo October 19 through 21. Contact Paul Dougherty for further information.
- C. Bob Ekhaml is planning to arrange the Spring 1979 Seminar in San Diego.

II. Announcements

- A. The next CAC Board Meeting will be at The Aerospace Corporation on January 21, 1978.
- B. The deadline for sending your inputs for the next newsletter is February 28, 1978.
- C. The new roster is enclosed with this mailing. If for some reason we still do not have the correct addresses then send me the address correction form which is at the end of this newsletter.

III. Association Business

A. CAC Salary Survey

SOUTHERN SECTION

<u>DEPARTMENT/POSITION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Minimum Education</u>	<u>Minimum Experience</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
<u>Department of Justice State Lab System</u>				
Criminalist V	4	BA Degree	1 yr as IV	2109-2547
Criminalist IV	9	BA Degree	1 yr as III or 5+ yrs	1919-2317
Criminalist III	31	BA Degree	2 yrs as II or 4 yrs	1784-2109
Criminalist II	39	BA Degree	2 yrs as I or 3 yrs	1591-1919
Criminalist I	6	BA Degree	6 mo trainee at DOJ or 1 yr	1323-1591
Criminalist Trainee	0	BA Degree	-0-	1011-1156
Laboratory Technician	9	2 yrs college	1 yr tech lab work	1030-1235
<u>Fountain Valley Police Laboratory</u>				
Criminalist I	1	BS Degree	1 yr	1207-1467
<u>Huntington Beach Police Laboratory</u>				
Chief Criminalist	1	BS Degree	4 yrs	1758-2177
Criminalist II	0	BS Degree	2 yrs	1532-1898
Criminalist I	1	BS Degree	0 yrs	1274-1577
Crime Lab Technician	2	AA Degree	0 yrs	1180-1463
Police Photographer	1	-0-	2 yrs	1180-1463
<u>Kern County Sheriff's Laboratory</u>				
Supervising Criminalist	1	MS Degree	3 yrs	1680-2051
Criminalist II	3	MS Degree	2 yrs	1528-1866
Criminalist I	1	BS Degree	-0-	1264-1544
<u>Los Angeles Police Laboratory</u>				
Chief Forensic Chemist II	1	Degree	3 yrs	1977-2457
Chief Forensic Chemist I	1	Degree	3 yrs	1770-2199
Criminalist III	4	Degree	1 yr	1625-2018
Criminalist II	18	Degree	-0-	1502-1867
Criminalist I	2	Degree	-0-	1315-1634
Laboratory Assistant	2	-0-	-0-	945-1175

Southern Section (Cont.)

<u>DEPARTMENT/POSITION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Minimum Education</u>	<u>Minimum Experience</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
<u>Los Angeles County Sheriff's Laboratory</u>				
Chief Criminalist, Sheriff	1	BA/BS Degree	2 yrs as Crim III or + (our lab)	1973-2457
Supervising Criminalist	1	BA/BS Degree	2 yrs as Crim III (our lab)	1867-2327
Criminalist III	6	BA/BS Degree	1 yr as Crim II (our lab)	1767-2202
Criminalist II	26	BA/BS Degree	2 yrs as Crim; 1 w/MS Crim.	1627-2027
Criminalist I	0	BA/BS Degree	-0-	1271-1583

Orange County Sheriff-Coroner's Laboratory

Chief Criminalist	1	BS Degree	4 yrs	2190-2717
Criminalist III	2	BS Degree	4 yrs	1725-2319
Chief Toxicologist	1	BS Degree	5 years	1725-2319
Criminalist II	13	BS Degree	2 yrs	1546-2082
Associate Toxicologist	2	BS Degree	2 yrs	1546-2082
Criminalist I	2	BS Degree	-0-	1184-1589
Assistant Toxicologist	1	BS Degree	-0-	1184-1589
Staff Aide II	2	2 yrs college	-0-	366-907

Phoenix Police Laboratory

Director	1	Degree	4 yrs as supervisor	1880-2537
Criminalist Supervisor	1	Degree	5 yrs; 2 yrs as supervisor	1618-2184
Criminalist III	2	Degree	3 yrs as Crim II	1539-2078
Criminalist II	3	Degree	3 yrs	1260-1702
Criminalist I	2	Degree	Some	1140-1539
Laboratory Technician II	1	No degree	Some	844-1140
Police Aide	1	No degree	None	594-802

San Bernardino County Sheriff's Laboratory

Laboratory Director	1	BS Degree	5 yrs	2137-2597*
Criminalist III	1	BS Degree	4 yrs	1716-2086**
Criminalist II	5	BS Degree	2 yrs	1594-1938**
Criminalist I	2	BS Degrée	-0-	1311-1594**

*Effective 1-1-78 (\$2085-\$2534 effective 7-2-77)

**Plus straight-time overtime pay over 96 hour/2 week period

Southern Section (Cont.)

<u>DEPARTMENT/POSITION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Minimum Education</u>	<u>Minimum Experience</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
<u>San Diego Police Laboratory</u>				
Supervising Criminalist	1	BS Degree	5 yrs	1795-2175
Senior Criminalist	1	BS Degree	3 yrs	1630-1975
Criminalist	2	BS Degree	1 yr	1485-1795
Assistant Criminalist	2	BS Degree	-0-	1225-1485
Senior Evidence Technician	1	No degree	2 yrs	1200-1450
Evidence Technician	3	No degree	2 yrs Photo	1090-1315
Crime Lab Technician II	0	BS Degree	1 yr	1170-1350
Crime Lab Technician I	3	BS Degree	-0-	1015-1225
Police Laboratory Analyst (Junior Chemist)	1	BS Degree	-0-	1015-1225
Laboratory Aide	1	No degree	-0-	634- 750
Document Examiner Trainee	-	No degree	-0-	950-1140
Assistant Document Examiner	1	No degree	1 yr	1139-1377
Documents Examiner	1	No degree		1375-1670

San Diego Sheriff's Laboratory

Criminalist III	1	Degree	5 yrs	1644-1996
Criminalist II	6	Degree	18 mo	1535-1868
Criminalist I	0	Degree	-0-	1234-1498
Clinical Lab Technician	2	Degree	-0-	1086-1426

Ventura County Sheriff's Laboratory*

Director	1	BS Degree	5 yrs	1979-2404
Criminalist III	2	BS Degree	4 yrs	1508-1830
Criminalist II	2	BS Degree	1 yr	1212-1469
Criminalist I	1	BS Degree	-0-	1001-1216
Student Professional Worker	5	-0-	-0-	693 (\$4.00/hr)

*This is current rate. No adjustment for 1977/78 yet.

CAC Salary Survey

Northern Section

DEPARTMENT

<u>Title of Position</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Minimal Education Experience</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
Alameda County Sheriff's Office			
Laboratory Director	1	Degree 5 years	\$2019 - 2458
Supervising Criminalist	1	Degree 4 years	1834 - 2229
Criminalist III	3	Degree 2 years as CRII or 4 years	1693 - 2041
Criminalist II	3	Degree 2 years as CRI or 3 years	1616 - 1855
Criminalist I	2	Degree 1 year	1472 - 1693
Crime Lab Technician	2	Degree none	1280 - 1472
California Department of Justice			
Criminalist V	4	Degree 1 year as C IV	2109 - 2547
Criminalist IV	9	Degree 1 year as C III	1919 - 2317
Criminalist III	31	Degree 2 years as C II	1748 - 2109
Criminalist II	31	Degree 2 years as C I	1591 - 1919
Criminalist I	8	Degree 1 year lab	1323 - 1591
Laboratory Technician	10	2 years of college, 1 year lab	1030 - 1235
Contra Costa County Sheriff's Dept.			
Chief Criminalist	1	Degree 5 years, incl. 2 years supervising	*2236.50 - 2714.50
Supervising Criminalist	1	Degree 4 years Co.Co. or 5 years outside	*1964.50 - 2382.50
Criminalist II	6	Degree 3 years Crim I Co.Co. or 4 years outside	#1632 - 1983
Criminalist I	2	Degree none	#1294 - 1573
Criminalist Intern	2	2 years none	*5.91/hr.
* Effective 7/1/77			
# Expect 5 - 6% raise 11/1/77			
DEA Western Regional Laboratory			
Laboratory Director GS-15	1	Degree 7 years	2816 - 3660
Supervising Chemist GS-13	2	Degree 5 years	2026 - 2633
Forensic Chemist GS-13	3	Degree 5 years	2026 - 2633
Forensic Chemist GS-12	10	Degree 4 years	1704 - 2214
Forensic Chemist GS-11	0	Degree 3 years	1421 - 1848
Forensic Chemist GS-09	0	Degree 2 years	1175 - 1528
Forensic Chemist GS-07	0	Degree 1 year	960 - 1248
Forensic Chemist GS-05	0	Degree none	775 - 1003

Oakland Police Department

Senior Criminalist

1

Degree 5 years

2260

Criminalist

2

Degree 2 years lab

1820 - 1947

*All positions have 2 paid memberships in professional societies.

Northern Section (Cont.)

DEPARTMENT

<u>Title of Position</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Minimal Education Experience</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
Sacramento County District Attorney			
Laboratory Director	1	Degree	\$1760.45 - 2140.65
Criminalist III	4	Degree 3 years	1835.00 - 2023.50
Criminalist II	1	Degree 1 year	1334.45 - 1623.06
* Estimated as 6½ % raise over figures published in May, 1977			
San Francisco Police Department			
Criminologist	1	Degree + 1 year, 2 years	2475
Criminalist	1	Degree + 1 year, 1 year	1833 - 2214
Assistant Criminalist	4	Degree + 1 year, none	1490 - 1748
Laboratory Helper	1	A.A. Degree, none	693 - 832
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office			
Chief Criminalist	1	Degree	2109.47 - 2359.07
Assistant Criminalist	3	Degree, none	1598.13 - 1998.53
Student Aide	2	2 years none	4.12/hr.
Santa Clara County District Attorney			
Laboratory Director	1	B.S. 6 years(incl. 2 as supervisor)	2234.46 - 2717.13
Supervising Criminalist	1	B.S. 5 years	1984.43 - 2402.33
Criminalist III		B.S. 4 years	1804.51 - 2183.24
Criminalist II		B.S. 2 years	1563.57 - 1892.56
Criminalist I		B.S. none	1357.12 - 1640.01
Forensic Toxicologist		B.S./Tox 4 years	1892.56 - 2289.84
Assistant Forensic Toxicologist		B.S. 2 years	1563.57 - 1892.56
Laboratory Technician II		60 sem. hrs. 2 years	1178.25 - 1422.83
Laboratory Technician I		60 semester hours	1072.52 - 1294.56
Laboratory Technician Trainee		30 semester hours	933.33 - 1124.17
Laboratory Assistant		high school	762.95 - 916.52

- B. With the exception of Police Research Bulletin, held by Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department, all the journals held by any CAC member laboratory are subscribed to by either the Orange County Sheriff's Department or the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. Both laboratories have volunteered to provide copies of relevant articles to members provided the requested article is not readily available elsewhere and the requests for this service do not become burdensome. A comprehensive listing of the journal holdings of these two laboratories follows.

Requests for reprints should be sent to either:

Orange County Sheriff-Coroner
Laboratory of Criminalistics
P.O. Box 449
Santa Ana, CA 92702
Attention: Phyllis Brown

San Bernardino County Sheriff
Laboratory of Criminalistics
P.O. Box 569
San Bernardino, CA 92403
Attention: Tony Longhetti

JOURNAL HOLDINGS

JOURNALS	OCSD	SBSD
ABSTRACTS ON POLICE SCIENCE	1973 -- 4/1977	
ACCOUNTS OF CHEMICAL RESEARCH	1974 -- 1977	
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT	1973 -- CURRENT	1974 -- CURRENT
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS BULLETIN	1973 -- 1977	
AMERICAN DYESTUFF REPORTER		1960 -- 1972
AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HUMAN GENETICS	1976 -- CURRENT	
AMERICAN LABORATORY	1971 -- CURRENT	1973 -- CURRENT
AMERICAN RIFLEMAN		1957 -- CURRENT
ANALYST		1960 -- CURRENT
ANALYTICAL ABSTRACTS		1960 -- CURRENT
ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY	1947 -- CURRENT	1958 -- CURRENT
APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY	1969 -- CURRENT	1968 -- CURRENT
ARCHIV FUR KRIMINOLOGIE	1959 -- 1960	1964 -- CURRENT

JOURNALS	OCSO	SBSD
ASSOC. OF FIREARM AND TOOL MARK EXAMINERS (AFTE) . . . 6/1977 -- CURRENT		1972 -- CURRENT
ASTM STANDARDIZATION NEWS 1971 -- 1977		1974 -- CURRENT
ATOMIC ABSORPTION NEWSLETTER 1970 -- CURRENT		
BIOMEDICAL MASS SPECTROMETRY 1974 -- CURRENT		
BLUTALKOHOL		1969 -- CURRENT
BULLETIN DE MEDECINE LEGALE ET DE TOXICOLOGIE MED. . 1974 -- 1976		
BULLETIN ON NARCOTICS (UN) 1953 -- 1966, 1975 -- CURRENT		1958 -- CURRENT
CADENCE 1970 -- 1975		
CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROLMAN		1968 -- CURRENT
CALIFORNIA JOURNAL 1975 -- 1976		
CANADIAN SOCIETY OF FORENSIC SCIENCE JOURNAL 1970 -- CURRENT		1974 -- CURRENT
CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS 1955 -- 1963		
CHEMICAL AND ENGINEERING NEWS		1958 -- CURRENT
CHEMICAL MARKETING REPORTER 1975 -- 1977		
CLINICAL LABORATORY DIGEST		1971 -- CURRENT
CONSUMER RESEARCH		1959 -- CURRENT
CHROMATOGRAPHIA 1973 -- 1977		
CLINICAL CHEMISTRY 1972 -- CURRENT		
CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY 1973 -- CURRENT		
CRIME LABORATORY DIGEST 1974 -- CURRENT		1974 -- CURRENT
CRIMINAL LAW BULLETIN 1975 -- 6/1977		
CRIMINOLOGIST		1973 -- CURRENT
CURRENT CONTENTS/LIFE SCIENCE 8/1977 ON ORDER		
CURRENT CONTENTS/PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES . . 6/1973 -- 6/1975		
DRUG ENFORCEMENT 1976 -- CURRENT		1973 -- CURRENT
DRUG SURVIVAL NEWS 1976 -- CURRENT		

JOURNALS	OCSD	SBSD
EDAX EDITOR	1976 -- CURRENT	
(FBI) LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLETIN	1958 -- CURRENT	1958 -- CURRENT
FINGERPRINT AND IDENTIFICATION MAGAZINE		1966 -- CURRENT
FORENSIC CHEMISTRY (CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE).	6/1977 -- CURRENT	
FORENSIC PHOTOGRAPHY	1972 -- 1975	1975 -- CURRENT
FORENSIC SCIENCE (FORMERLY J. OF FORENSIC MEDICINE)	1953 -- CURRENT	1958 -- CURRENT
FORENSIC SCIENCE ABSTRACTS	1976 -- CURRENT	
FORENSIC SCIENCE GAZETTE	1970 -- CURRENT	1971 -- CURRENT
FORENSIC SEROLOGY NEWS	1975 -- CURRENT	1975 -- CURRENT
GUNS AND AMMO		1962 -- CURRENT
HANDLOADER		1975 -- CURRENT
HIGH TIMES	1976 -- CURRENT	
IDENTIFICATION NEWS		1962 -- CURRENT
INDUSTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHY		1968 -- CURRENT
INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH	1972 -- CURRENT	1970 -- CURRENT
INTER'L ASSOC. OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGIST'S BULLETIN		1973 -- CURRENT
INTER'L CRIMINAL POLICE REVIEW		1958 -- CURRENT
INFORM		1970 -- CURRENT
INTER'L MICROFORM JOURNAL OF LEGAL MEDICINE (FICHE)	1966 -- CURRENT	
JOURNAL OF ANALYTICAL TOXICOLOGY	1977 -- CURRENT	
JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL EDUCATION	1974 -- 2/1977	1958 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF CHROMATOGRAPHIC SCIENCE	1970 -- CURRENT	1970 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY (FORMERLY J. OF CRIMINAL LAW, CRIMINOLOGY AND POLICE SCIENCE)	1930 -- 1977	1950 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF FORENSIC SCIENCES	1956 -- CURRENT	1956 -- CURRENT

JOURNALS	OCSD	SBSD
JOURNAL OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY	1975 -- CURRENT	
JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES	1970 -- CURRENT	1970 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY	1973 -- CURRENT	1968 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF POLICE SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION	1973 -- CURRENT	
JOURNAL OF PSYCHEDELIC DRUGS	1972 -- 1976	
JOURNAL OF STUDIES ON ALCOHOL	1969 -- CURRENT	1967 -- CURRENT
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY	1967 -- 1975	
JOURNAL OF THE ASSOC. OF OFFICIAL ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS	1967 -- CURRENT	
JOURNAL OF THE FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY	1961 -- CURRENT	1963 -- CURRENT
KRIMINALISTIK	1959 -- 1960	1964 -- CURRENT
LAB WORLD	1974 -- CURRENT	
LABORATORY MANAGEMENT	1970 -- CURRENT	1970 -- CURRENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS		1975 -- CURRENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE BULLETIN		1974 -- CURRENT
LAW AND ORDER		1968 -- 1974
LEX ET SCIENTIA	1976	
LIBRARY JOURNAL	1975 -- 7/1977	
MASS SPECTROMETRY (CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE) . .	7/1977 -- CURRENT	
MEDICINE, SCIENCE, AND THE LAW	1961 -- CURRENT	1962 -- CURRENT
MEDICO-LEGAL JOURNAL		1970 -- CURRENT
MICROCHEMICAL JOURNAL	1961 -- CURRENT	1965 -- CURRENT
MICROGRAM	1968 -- CURRENT	1971 -- CURRENT
MICROSCOPE	1968 -- CURRENT	1973 -- CURRENT
MIKROCHEMICA ACTA	1959 -- 1960	
MODERN PLASTICS	1974 -- 1976	

JOURNALS	OCSD	SBSD
NASA TECHNICAL BRIEFS	1976 -- IRREG.	
NATURE	1972 -- CURRENT	1968 -- CURRENT
PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSING		1975 -- CURRENT
PHOTOMETHODS		1972 -- CURRENT
POLICE JOURNAL		1959 -- CURRENT
POLICE SURGEON	1976 -- CURRENT	
POPULAR SCIENCE		1960 -- CURRENT
PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY BULLETIN	1976 -- CURRENT	
REPRODUCTIONS REVIEW AND METHODS	1970 -- 1977	
RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT	1974 -- CURRENT	
RIFLE		1975 -- CURRENT
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE QUARTERLY	1963 -- 1976	1958 -- CURRENT
SCIENCE	1964 -- 1967, 1972 -- CURRENT	
SCIENCE NEWS	1974 -- CURRENT	1961 -- CURRENT
SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN	1973 -- CURRENT	1961 -- CURRENT
SYSTEMS, TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT .	1973 -- 1977	1972 -- CURRENT
TILE AND TILL		1965 -- CURRENT
TEXTILE NEWS		1962 -- CURRENT
TOXICITY BIBLIOGRAPHY QUARTERLY	1959 -- CURRENT	
TOXICOLOGY NEWSLETTER		1974 -- CURRENT
TRAFFIC SAFETY		1960 -- 1972
TRAUMA	1959 -- CURRENT	1971 -- CURRENT
VOX SANGUINIS	1974 -- CURRENT	
WORD PROCESSING WORLD	1975 -- 1976	
ZEITSCHRIFT FUR RECHSMEDIZIN		1973 -- CURRENT

- C. The membership should be interested in the following letter from Dr. Morales.

Mr. L. B. Miller, Chairman
Public Health Liaison Committee
California Association of Criminalists
80 Corliss Drive
Moraga, CA 94556

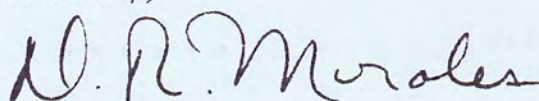
Dear Ed:

I have delayed my response to your October 1 letter in the event that there should be some additional thoughts communicated to me by the California Association of Criminalists on the subject of setting true values and acceptable ranges for proficiency test samples. As you know, your letter containing the Association's request that we use the mean of reported values to set the true value reached me shortly before my talk before the Association on this subject on October 13 in San Jose. In that talk I presented the results of the two experimental mailings of samples that we conducted in June and August. In demonstrating the consequences of the two approaches to setting the true value of a sample, I commented that, based on those results, no material differences were obtained whether the true value was set by our mean or by the peer group mean. I also tried to bring out the concept of using a confidence interval about the mean to provide a set of values, rather than a single value, about which a range can be set.

At this time I can see no problem with the proposal of the California Association of Criminalists that the peer group mean be used to set a range of acceptable values for a proficiency test sample. However, in doing this it would be my intention to monitor carefully the consequences of this approach to ensure that no source of error is thereby introduced to forensic alcohol analysis.

I continue to be most interested in receiving the input of your membership to this process, particularly at this stage when decisions are being made and procedures are being established. Thank you for your interest and positive recommendation. I hope to hear more from you on this subject.

Sincerely,



Daniel R. Morales, Ph.D.
Chief, Clinical Chemistry Laboratory

- D. The following Interim Report of Criminalistics Certification Study Group was prepared by the Forensic Sciences Foundation.

The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc.

11400 ROCKVILLE PIKE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852
(301) 770-2723

INTERIM REPORT OF CRIMINALISTICS

CERTIFICATION STUDY GROUP

FINDINGS

Regional/Professional Associations Polled

Participants

Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners	Richard Janelli
California Association of Criminalists	Jan S. Bashinski
Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists	Anthony A. Cantu
Mid-Western Association of Forensic Scientists	Robert A. Boese
Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists	Thomas A. Kubic
Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists	Kay M. Sweeney
Southern Association of Forensic Scientists	James E. Halligan, Jr.

1. FINDING

Representatives of the above regional/professional associations communicated and exchanged information with one another prior to the completion of questionnaires which were mailed to their respective memberships, following the April meeting.

DISCUSSION

In the interests of gathering comparable information on the relevant feelings of the total criminalistics community regarding certification, an attempt was made to coordinate as much of the information sought as possible. The various regional association representatives did not feel that a completely uniform national questionnaire was practical at that time because of the varying levels of certification study in the different regions up to that time.

Committees to assist in the investigation of certification have been established or are in the process of being established in each regional association and AFTE.

At the third meeting of the Criminalistics Certification Study Group held at the Chicago Police Department, Criminalistics Division on September 30 - October 1, 1977 the respective questionnaire findings were critically compared. The other Criminalistics Certification Study Group members present who participated in the deliberations were:

California State University at Los Angeles	W. J. Cadman Chairman of Study Group
American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors	Donald A. Flynt
Dade County Crime Laboratory	Willard C. Stuver
Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S.	Richard S. Frank
Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S.	Francis D. Silas
McCrone Research Institute	Walter C. McCrone
Canadian Society of Forensic Scientists	Shelton F. Payton

Non-voting participants:

The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc.	Joseph L. Peterson Executive Director
The Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc.	Robert D. Albro Special Assistant to the Director
American Academy of Forensic Sciences	Kurt M. Dubowski Profession-Wide Coordinator of Certification Activities

2. FINDING

The majority of the individuals polled by all of the above regional groups and AFTE agree with the concept of national, voluntary, peer group certification.

DISCUSSION

Over 600 members of the above associations responded to the respective questionnaires. Of those responding approximately 78% were in agreement with the above finding. The favorable vote by the associations ranged from a low of 65% for the concept to a high of 93%.

3. FINDING

The overwhelming majority of the members of the organizations polled felt that the Criminalistics Certification Study Group should continue to study the feasibility and desirability of certification.

DISCUSSION

Approximately 88% of those responding favored the composition and continuance of the study group. The favorable responses to the respective questionnaires ranged from a low of 67% to a high of 98%.

4. FINDING

The majority of the individuals polled were in favor of their associations continuing to be represented on the study group to insure input and dissemination of information.

DISCUSSION

Associations which included such a question on their questionnaire found that the membership favored representation on the study group even if it meant their own association would have to provide travel funds to send their representatives to meetings of the group.

5. FINDING

Gauging by the results of the regional association questionnaires, the study committee determined that it was unnecessary at this time to issue a national questionnaire.

DISCUSSION

In the interest of avoiding repetitive, time consuming (for those answering) questionnaires, it was decided the committee had gathered sufficient information for this stage of the study.

All committee members plan to meet with their respective memberships in internal committees both to inform them of progress made by the study committee and to solicit additional study input.

6. FINDING

Data from the questionnaires indicated there was no possible agreement on how to group types of physical evidence examinations by disciplines, therefore the most practical approach at this time is not to group by specialties (disciplines) but rather to certify by type of physical evidence examinations.

DISCUSSION

Data show it is difficult to assign specific examinations to a specific discipline or specialty therefore it was much more practical to utilize the types of physical evidence examinations, e.g., one questionnaire showed that semen examinations were conducted by a firearms specialist in the laboratory. There were many less extreme examples of an incongruous nature in other specialties. The disciplines are not clearly delineated.

7. FINDING

There is agreement that all examiners should possess the same minimum qualifications for each type of physical evidence examination.

DISCUSSION

Approximately 76% of respondents queried supported the proposition that all individuals engaged in the examination of specific physical evidence types should possess the same minimum qualifications. Therefore both "generalists" and "specialists" engaged in the examination of a type of physical evidence for the same property would be expected to meet the same minimum standards.

For example, it was suggested at this time that those persons engaged in the typing of blood by the ABO system only, could be certified to perform that level of analysis.

8. FINDING

If the concept of national voluntary peer group certification is found to be feasible and desirable for the purposes of initiating a criminalistics certification program it will probably be necessary to "grandparent" qualified individuals with the condition that these persons be required to pass an examination within a specified (three years) period of time.

DISCUSSION

Associations which included one or more questions on the subject found that "grandfathering" based on some combination of experience, education,

publications, reputation, and contributions to forensic science was acceptable when followed by those persons being required to pass the same examination as other non-grandparented individuals by a specified date. The vote of those responding favorably was 71 - 77%.

9. FINDING

The Certification Study Group is supportive of and wishes to maintain liaison with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) voluntary peer group laboratory accreditation study committee (Laboratory Evaluation and Standards Committee).

DISCUSSION

The laboratory accreditation study is related to the certification study. It is considered that both efforts are complementary and probably desirable in the public interest if found to be feasible and acceptable.

- E. Congratualtions to Lowell Bradford for receiving the CAC's highest honor, The Roger Greene Award.

IV. Positions Open

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Scientific Services Bureau, Criminalistics Laboratory has openings for the position of Criminalist II. The applicant should possess a B.S. or B.A. degree from an accredited college in criminalistics, chemistry, or a closely related scientific field. Two years professional experience in a crime laboratory involving the various criminalistic disciplines is also required. A Master's degree in criminalistics may be substituted for one year of professional experience in a crime laboratory. The examination will consist of a rating of the applicant's resume and an oral interview. Salary for a Criminalist II is \$1,627 to \$2,027 per month.

These positions offer an excellent opportunity for professional development and a career in a progressing, recognized, large criminalistics laboratory.

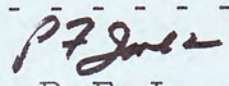
Filing for these positions has been tentatively scheduled for December 5, 1977, For an application form contact:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Scientific Services Bureau
2020 West Beverly Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90057

Attn: Harry E. McKeehan, Chief Criminalist
Criminalistics Laboratory

OR

Los Angeles County Department of Personnel
Hall of Administration
222 North Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90012


P. F. Jones
Secretary

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NAME _____

*Business Address

*Home Address

Please note (*) which is to be your preferred mailing address.

Please retain this form for future address corrections if your present address on the latest membership roster are correct.

Submit to: Peter F. Jones,
The Aerospace Corporation
P.O. Box 92957
Los Angeles, CA 90009