3-1-2009

The Future of Forensic Sciences: A Symposium

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The Future of Forensic Sciences: a Symposium

On March 19, 2009, the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law presented the first national symposium following the 2/18/09 release of *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward*, the report of the Committee on Identifying the Needs of the Forensic Science Community (CINFSC). Convened by the National Academies National Research Council Committee on Science, Technology, and Law, at the direction of the U.S. Congress, the CINFSC reports serious deficiencies in the nation's forensic sciences system, and makes specific recommendations for reform and research.

The Future of Forensic Sciences Symposium brought together scientists, scholars, and practitioners to discuss the CINFSC report's findings and recommendations, as well as share their views about how the forensic science disciplines can better advance the fundamental goals of the criminal justice system: to apprehend and punish those who commit crimes, while preventing the wrongful conviction of innocent persons.

The Future of Forensic Sciences: a Symposium (pdf brochure)

The Future of Forensic Sciences: a Symposium (MediaSite video files)
Committee on Identifying the Needs of the Forensic Science Community page

Committee on Science, Technology and Law (CSTL)
NRC Policy and Global Affairs Division
National Research Council (NRC)
The National Academies

Moderator and Panelists

Symposium Moderator
Geoffrey S. Mearns, JD

Symposium Panelists
Valerie E. Caproni, JD
The Honorable George (Woody) Clarke, JD
Marcella Farinelli Fierro, MD
Barry A.J. Fisher, MS, MBA
Paul Giannelli, JD, LLM
Peter M. Marone, MS
Kenneth F. Martin, MS
Anne-Marie Mazza, PhD
Kenneth E. Nelson, JD
Jane C. Moriarty, JD
Carole S. Rendon, JD
Marvin E. Schechter, JD
Robert C. Shaler, PhD
Jay A. Siegel, PhD
James R. Wooley, JD

Research Databases

National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law Database - Includes federal and state cases, legislation, administrative materials, law reviews and journals, scientific journals, treatises, dissertations, conference proceedings,
newspapers, and Web resources.

OhioLINK Research Databases (http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources.cgi?by=subject) - OhioLINK provides access to hundreds of topical research databases. Below are links to 3 of the 40 OhioLINK topical research database groups.

- **Engineering** (http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources/dblist.php?by=subject&search=engineering) - Includes Compendex, ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Digital Library, Computers & Applied Sciences Complete, Infotrac, Inspec, Institute for Scientific Information Citation Databases (particularly Science Citation Index and Social Sciences Citation Index), Papers First, and Proceedings First.


- **Medicine and Health** (http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources/dblist.php?by=subject&search=medicine) - Includes CHID Online (Combined Health Information Database; produced by US government health-related agencies), Clinical Medicine and Health Research (articles not yet published, and may not yet be peer reviewed), MEDLINE/PubMed, MEDLINE with full text, Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition (includes Clinical Pharmacology, which provides drug monographs for US prescription drugs, over-the-counter products, herbal and nutritional supplements, as well as new drugs), Institute for Scientific Information Citation Databases (particularly Science Citation Index and Social Sciences Citation Index), Papers First, Proceedings First, and PsycINFO.

Scirus (http://www.scirus.com/srsapp) for scientific information only - Searches over 450 million science-specific Web sites and digital archives, as well as patent and journal databases. Allows one to search by field (eg, author, article title, keyword) and document type (eg, article, conference proceeding, dissertation), as well as publication date periods. Covers 1900 to the present.

LexisNexis: Area of Law - By Topic: Litigation Practice and Procedure (http://www.lexis.com/xlink?category=3004672) - Includes federal and state cases, court rules, statutes and legislative materials, administrative materials and regulations, jury instructions, law reviews and journals, treatises and analytical materials, CLE course listings and information, legal news, legal reference materials, medical journals, medical news and information, and medical references (including Medline).

Westlaw: Topical Materials by Area of Practice: Litigation (https://web2.westlaw.com/directory/default.wf?fn=_top&rs=WLW7.11&rp=directory/default.wf&mt=Westlaw&vr=2.0&sv=Split) includes federal and state cases, federal and state statutes, federal and state administrative materials, civil procedure & evidence, litigation preparation records, litigation reports, jury instructions, law reviews, bar journals & legal periodicals, as well as forms, treatises, CLEs and other practice material.

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**Web Resources**

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library Research Guides

Scientific Evidence (lawlibrary/guides/scientificevidence)

Public Records - Experts (lawlibrary/guides/expert)
U.S. Government and Government-Related Sites


U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs: National Institute of Justice (http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/)
U.S. Department of Justice: Federal Bureau of Investigation: Laboratory Services (http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/lab)


[In print, part of Weinstein's Federal Evidence (KF 8935.W39 1997 (http://scholar.csuohio.edu/record=b1576662%7ES0)); also on Westlaw.]


National Center for Forensic Science (http://ncfs.ucf.edu/) - "A program of the National Institute of Justice hosted by the University of Central Florida."

National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law (http://www.ncstl.org/home) - "A program of the National Institute of Justice," hosted at the Stetson University College of Law, that seeks "to provide comprehensive scientific, technological and legal information, which will promote justice based on sound science and technology."

National Forensic Science Technology Center (http://www.nfstc.org/) - "A not-for-profit corporation funded by a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Justice" that "provides programs that build individual competency and quality systems for the forensic science community in the United States."

Professional Association and Organization Sites

American Bar Association: Criminal Justice Section (http://www.abanet.org/crimjust/home.html)
American Bar Association: Criminal Justice Standards on DNA Evidence (http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/publishing/criminal_justice_section_newsletter/criminal_justice_section_newsletter_dnaevidenceversion.authcheckdam.pdf)

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (http://www.aafs.org/)
American Academy of Forensic Sciences: Forensic Sciences Foundation (http://www.forensicsciencesfoundation.org/) - "the educational, scientific, and research arm of the Academy."

American Association of Physical Anthropologists (http://www.physanth.org/)

American Board of Forensic Toxicology (http://www.abft.org/)

American College of Forensic Examiners Institute (http://www.acfei.com/)
American Society for Testing and Materials:  [Technical Committee E30 on Forensic Sciences](http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/COMMIT/COMMITTEE/E30.htm?L=mystore+cghn6122+943985714)


[International Association for Identification](http://www.theiai.org/) - The "oldest and largest forensic science/forensic identification organization in the world" that offers bloodstain pattern examiner, crime scene, footwear, forensic art, forensic photography, latent print, and tenprint fingerprint certification programs.

[International High Technology Crime Investigation Association](http://www.htcia.org/) - "Designed to encourage, promote, aid and effect the voluntary interchange of data, information, experience, ideas and knowledge about methods, processes, and techniques related to investigations and security in advanced technologies among its membership."

[International Society of Environmental Forensics](http://www.environmentalforensics.org/)

[National Academy of Forensic Engineers](http://www.nafe.org/)

[Society of Forensic Engineers and Scientists](http://www.forensic-society.org/) - "Organized to share forensic technical and business information, and to actively assist in upgrading the standards of the profession."

[Society of Forensic Toxicologists](http://www.soft-tox.org/)

**Blogs**

[Science & Law Blog](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/science_law) - "A member of the Law Professor Blogs Network."

**Other Web Portals and Sites**

Peter Nordberg's [Daubert on the Web](http://www.daubertontheweb.com) - Provides information on resolving "Daubert" challenges, over 800 federal appellate decisions, federal appellate decisions by expert field, selected state decisions, as well as a blog and discussion forum.

[Forensic Dentistry Online](http://www.forensic-dentistry.info/wp/)

[Open Source Digital Forensics](http://www2.opensourceforensics.org/) - "A reference for the use of open source software in digital investigations (aka digital forensics, computer forensics, incident response)."

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