



CRIMEScene

Newsletter of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists

SUMMER 2008

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**New Light
Summer Version!!**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MATT NOEDEL

The time to make reservations for attending the 2008 NWAFS conference (November 3-November 7) in Boise, ID, is now!

The meeting will be arranged in our traditional format—workshops early in the week and presentations at the end. Of course, do not miss our Thursday night banquet. The workshops are an opportunity to get continued training and your professional appearance to judges and juries is increased by attending conferences.

With the CSI effect ever present—many juries *expect* the scientists who testify as experts to have presented in a professional forum. The NWAFS is the perfect place to present for the first time or strengthen the program (and your resume) by sharing your experiences with colleagues at the meeting. Work that interesting case into a presentation and submit an abstract to the Boise planning committee right now!

Just to get you pointed in the right direction, here's some information to get you excited about Boise:

- The Owyhee Plaza hotel is located right downtown. They have free parking and a complimentary airport shuttle so getting to the hotel will be easy. Go to <http://maps.google.com/> and search 1109 Main Street, Boise, ID. That's where the hotel is located—right downtown!
- Located only 6 blocks away, the Bardenay is a distillery that makes their own brands of rum, gin and vodka. Story goes that the owners had to get Idaho laws changed to be allowed to distill such spirits.
- Down the street by foot or trolley, Pengilly's Saloon offers stiff drinks and live music! There's lots of great food and drink opportunities along the way and downtown Boise is very easy to navigate.
- A few blocks from the hotel are the Art Museum and Capitol buildings.

And....

- Joe Albertson, grocery chain founder, opened his first store in Boise.
- Boise is the capital of Idaho and has a population of about 200,000 (including cats).
- November average temperatures range from around 38 degree (F) for the low and 57 (F) for the high.

Boise is easy to get to--Expedia currently shows the following airfares:

Seattle to Boise—\$166
San Francisco to Boise—\$292
Denver to Boise—\$285
Portland to Boise—\$166

Book NOW while the prices are low!

Hopefully this message moves you to action. NWAFS is an organization that offers forensic scientists the opportunity to increase your visibility, get a professional presentation under your belt, and work with the top forensic scientists in the region. Take the plunge and put the plans in motion to attend the conference in Boise.

See you there,

Matthew Noedel, NWAFS President

CRIMESCENE is the official publication of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists. It is published four times a year in the months of February, May, August, and November. The Newsletter welcomes submissions from its membership, such as: technical tips, case studies, literature compilations, workshop or training notifications, reference citations, commentary, historical accounts, and other topics of interest to the membership. Please submit material for publication in Microsoft Word for Windows format as an e-mail attachment. For more information regarding the Newsletter or to make a submission please contact Kori Barnum at kori.barnum@state.or.us.

Got an interesting technical note, new procedure, informative article, or research project? Make a submission to the NWAFS newsletter, and you could win FREE REGISTRATION to an upcoming NWAFS meeting!!!!

The officers vote for the "Best Independent Newsletter Submission" once per year and award a FREE REGISTRATION to the winner. It's not too late to win - the winning submission will be selected by the NWAFS Board from the Winter 2008, Spring 2008, or Summer 2008 issue!!!

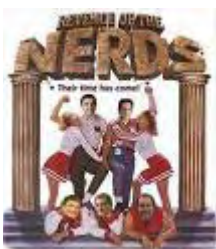
Send your submissions to:

**Kori Barnum, NWAFS Editor
kori.barnum@state.or.us
13309 SE 84th Ave, Suite 200
Clackamas, OR 97015
(971) 673-8301**

**Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists
2008 Meeting**

**Boise, ID.
November 3-7, 2008
Owyhee Plaza Hotel**

**Banquet Thursday Night
Theme: 80's Prom**



Workshops Planned for 2008 NWAFS Fall Meeting:

Current Topics in DNA Mixture Interpretation
Dr. Gary Shutler – WSP DNA Technical Leader

Myths and Realities of Clandestine Manufacturing
Matt Jorgenson – Weld County Crime Lab Manager

Nuances of Macro Photography
Vance Liebelt – FBI Photography Unit

Basic Explosives Analysis
Ronald Kelly – FBI Explosives Unit

Agilent Fast GC (getting more from your GC and GC/MS)
Dawn Fulton – Agilent Technologies

Drug Recognition Course and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
Dean Matlock/Jeremy Johnston – ISP Sergeant/Toxicology Program

ASCLD/LAB – ISO: Changeover, Updates, and Evaluation
Don Wyckoff – ASCLD/LAB Business Manager

Insight into Firearm Sound Suppression
Phil Dater – Gemtech Silencers

**Contact for Workshop & Paper Presentations:
Rocklan McDowell, Idaho State Police
rocklan.mcdowell@isp.idaho.gov
(208) 232-9474**



Northwest Connections: Spotlight on Idaho State Police Forensic Services

There are three state labs in Idaho, located in Meridian, Coeur d'Alene, and Pocatello.

Disciplines covered at each laboratory:

- Meridian
 - DNA/Forensic Biology, Latent Fingerprints/Impression Evidence, Breath Alcohol, Controlled Substances, Clandestine Laboratories/Crime Scenes
- Coeur d'Alene
 - Firearms/Toolmarks, Controlled Substances, Blood Alcohol, Urine Toxicology, Clandestine Laboratories/Crime Scenes
- Pocatello
 - Fire Debris, Controlled Substances, Blood Alcohol, Urine Toxicology, Blood Toxicology, Clandestine Laboratories/Crime Scenes

Idaho State Police Mission Statement:

To enhance the quality of life by making Idaho safer through upholding the constitutions, enforcing the laws, preventing harm, and serving the public.

Idaho Forensic Services Mission Statement:

To provide forensic laboratory analysis to the criminal justice system of Idaho and appropriate court testimony regarding the examinations performed, support programs within police agencies that have Forensic Services involvement, and provide training to the criminal justice system.

Visit www.isp.state.id.us/forensic for more information on Idaho State Police Forensic Services.

JOB POSTING: Forensic Scientist 2/DNA Technical Leader

Oregon State Police Forensic Laboratory
Portland, OR

POST CODE: d707

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: LESP0822

CLASSIFICATION NUMBER: C3792

OPEN: June 11, 2008

CLOSE: Open Until Filled

\$4,406 - \$6,402** Monthly

GENERAL INFORMATION

This position is with the Oregon State Police, Forensic Services Division, Forensic Laboratories located in Portland, Oregon.

This recruitment will be used to establish a list of qualified individuals and may be used to fill vacancies as they occur.

This position is represented by the Oregon State Police Officers' Association (OSPOA). Union members pay union dues; non-union members pay "fair share".

AGENCY OVERVIEW

We are the provider of Premier Public Safety Services for Oregon each and every day. Our mission is to enhance the livability and safety for the State of Oregon by protecting the people, property, and natural resources of the State. The OSP workforce is comprised of more than 1,300 sworn and professional staff in the areas of patrol, criminal investigation, forensic services, medical examiner, state fire marshal, gaming regulation, fish and wildlife regulation, public safety communications, and information management with a biennial budget of approximately \$325 million total funds.

DUTES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide guidance and technical leadership to DNA personnel and management. Is responsible for technical problem solving. Oversees the validation and implementation of new testing procedures. To propose new or modified analytical procedures to be used by DNA analysts. Also update DNA tactical plan that meets the goal and objectives of the Forensic Services Division.
- Oversees the quality assurance program for DNA analysis, including the technical and administrative review of casework, administration of proficiency tests, maintaining updated procedures and training manual. Prepare the DNA unit for DAB, ASCLD/LAB and internal audits.
- Review internal and external DNA Audit documents and, if applicable, corrective action(s) to ensure that findings, if any, were appropriately addressed and document such review.
- Review, on an annual basis, the standard operating procedures of the laboratory and document such review.
- Oversee the training program, quality assurance and proficiency testing in the laboratory.
- Accurate and timely identification and comparison of biological evidence by PCR-based DNA analysis.
- Prepare and maintain accurate records, laboratory notes, and analytical reports to conform with accreditation and court required procedures. Provide expert court testimony regarding analytical findings.
- Provides administrative and technical review of the CODIS system.
- Must stay abreast of developments within the field of DNA typing by reading current scientific literature, by attending seminars, courses, professional meetings, exploring relevant internet sites, belonging to pertinent professional organizations and personal conversations.
- Participate as a team member of the Forensic Services Division in training other members in the area of DNA analysis.
- Work with our user agencies in providing information on DNA analysis and other areas of the laboratory.
- A new technical leader shall evaluate and document his/her approval of all validations and methods currently used by the laboratory.
- To review the academic transcripts and training records for analyst and approve their qualifications prior to independent casework analysis and document such review.

JOB POSTING: Forensic Scientist 2/DNA Technical Leader, cont.**WORKING CONDITIONS**

Subject to handling firearms, broken glass, syringes, odoriferous materials, blood, urine, and other body specimens that may come from diseased persons or clothing that may be infected with hazardous biological materials. May be required to work with caustic and flammable fluids or be exposed to toxic, carcinogenic, radioactive, or otherwise hazardous substances. Must follow proper safety precautions and practices.

Be subject to 24-hour callback, and must operate motor vehicles.

You must have a valid driver's license and a good driving record. If not, you must be able to provide an acceptable alternate method of transportation.

TO QUALIFY

Your PD100 application form will be reviewed to verify that you meet the qualifications stated in this section.

To qualify, your application form must clearly show that you have:

- A Doctorate degree in a natural science such as biology, chemistry, microbiology, biochemistry, physics, forensic science, pharmacology, bacteriology or a closely related field AND five years experience as a Forensic Scientist. OR

- A Master's Degree in a natural science; AND seven years experience as a Forensic Scientist. OR

- A Bachelor's degree in a natural science; AND nine years experience as a Forensic Scientist.

Preference may be given to applicants with the following credentials:

- A master's degree in a biology, chemistry or forensic science related area. AND

- Successfully completed a minimum of 12 semester or equivalent credit hours from a combination of undergraduate and graduate course work covering the subject areas of biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology (molecular genetics, recombinant DNA technology), statistics or population genetics, or other subjects which provide a basic understanding of the foundation of forensic DNA analysis. AND

- At least three years of human DNA experience as an analyst on forensic samples at time of hire.

NOTE: Official transcripts from all institutions of higher education that were used in the award of your degree must be submitted with your application. If faxing your application, transcripts must also be faxed at that time; original official transcripts must be received within 14 calendar days of the fax date. Transcripts must be legible and in English. Your application will not be accepted if you fail to submit all transcripts in an acceptable format. (Translation of foreign transcripts is the responsibility of the applicant. A list of translation services is available upon request.)

Only those applicants whose background most closely matches the needs and the requirements of one or more of the disciplines listed in the skill code sheet will be contacted for an interview.

TEST SECTION

You **MUST** answer the following question(s).

Use a separate sheet of paper. Write down any work experience (paid or unpaid) and training that you have which is related to each question. Be sure that the job(s) where you gained the experience you describe in your answers are listed in the Work History section of your application form. Your grade will be based on your answers.

If there are several parts to a question, answer each part separately. Number your answers to agree with the question. Attach the answer sheet to your application. Your application will not be accepted if it is incomplete.

1) Describe in detail, your overall experience in forensic science and how you meet the Quality Assurance Standards (QAS) set forth by the FBI for a DNA technical leader. Please include specific experiences in forensic DNA analysis techniques.

JOB POSTING: Forensic Scientist 2/DNA Technical Leader, cont.**SALARY AND BENEFITS**

The current salary for Forensic Scientist 2 is \$52,872 - \$76,824** per year. An additional 6% education pay differential is paid to individuals possessing a bachelor's degree.

The State provides an excellent benefit and compensation package which includes:

- Paid holiday, vacation and sick leave.
- Participation in the Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan (OPSRP) with employer contributions.
- A generous contribution toward individual and family health and dental insurance.
- Employer paid \$5,000 Basic Life Insurance.
- Employee options to participate in –
 - the Oregon Savings Growth Plan, a deferred compensation program offering a wide variety of investment options;
 - additional basic life insurance coverage;
 - long- and short-term disability plans;
 - accidental death and dismemberment plans; and
 - long-term care insurance.
- Additional information can be found at • <http://www.oregonjobs.org/DAS/STJOBS/docs/benefits.doc>

TO APPLY

Interested persons are asked to submit the following documents:

- Completed State of Oregon Employment application (PD100)
- Test Question(s) if listed on this announcement
- Copies of transcripts if using graduate level course work and/or degree to meet minimum qualifications. The transcript(s) must be submitted with the PD100.
- Any supplemental documents identified in the "To Qualify" Section.

Applicants will be subject to a Computerized Criminal History and Driver/Motor Vehicle Services check as well as a thorough background investigation. Adverse background data may be grounds for immediate disqualification.

As a Condition of Employment – Employee is required to maintain a drug/alcohol free workplace in accordance with the 1988 Drug Free Workplace Act and Department Policy.

Please deliver, mail, or fax your materials to:

Oregon State Police
Human Resources
255 Capital St NE, 4th Floor
Salem, OR 97310
Fax: 503-378-2360

Your application materials must be received by the close date and must be complete and legible. We are unable to acknowledge or verify receipt of applications due to the large volume of applications received. SUBMIT only the required materials – reference letters or work examples should be kept for interviews. KEEP a copy of your application for job interviews. COPIES ARE NOT PROVIDED. The pay on all announcements may change without notice.

NOTICE of results will be sent by mail. Although agencies are not required to delay their selection process, you may request a review of the results. Your request must be received within 10 days from the date of the notice. Additional information cannot be accepted. However, if the recruitment is still open, you may submit a new application which must be received in our office by the close date.

For more information about Oregon State Police visit: <http://egov.oregon.gov/OSP/>

Oregon State Police is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

**More Job Postings available for review
at www.nwafs.org**

