

Webinar Series^[SEP]
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Bureau of Justice Assistance

Capital Litigation Initiative:
Crime Scene to Courtroom Forensics Training

Webinar #6: “OSAC Essentials: Forensic Science Resources”

- I. Introduction
 - A. Welcome – Ken Melson
 - B. Speaker introductions
 - C. How to participate in the Chat Feature

- II. Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Overview
 - A. Origin of OSAC
 - The role of National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
 - NIST forensic science efforts
 - B. Purpose of OSAC
 - Individual standards development vs. organized effort
 - Objective of OSAC

- III. OSAC Structure
 - A. Organizational Structure
 - Scientific Area Committees (SACs) and subcommittees
 - Forensic Science Standards Board (FSSB)
 - Resource Committees
 - B. Membership
 - Employer classification
 - Job classification

- IV. Operational Functions
 - A. Analysis
 - Identify and prioritize standards
 - Identify gaps
 - Publish research and development needs
 - B. Drafting
 - Draft new work items
 - Modify and/or revise standards
 - C. Standards Development Organizations
 - Solicit public comment
 - Finalize standards and guidelines

- D. OSAC Registry
 - Registry approval process

- V. OSAC Standards
 - A. Implementation Pathways
 - B. Future impact
 - Laboratories
 - Legal

- VI. OSAC Judicial Perspective
 - A. Admissibility of Evidence
 - Gatekeeper role
 - Rules of Evidence
 1. Federal
 2. State
 - B. Opinion Evidence
 - Case Examples: Jury Instruction
 - Admissibility Analysis
 - Expert Witness Considerations
 - Evaluation of Opinion Evidence
 1. Judicial Analysis
 2. Excluding Expert Opinion
 3. Case Example

- VII. OSAC Resources
 - A. Website: <https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/organization-scientific-area-committees-osac>
 - B. Newsletter: <https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/organization-scientific-area-committees-osac/osac-newsletter>
 - C. OSAC Registry: <https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science/osac-registries>

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