



# **Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO)**

## **AAFS UPDATE 2019**

# The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO)



- AAFS
- ASCLD
- AAPL
- IAI
- NAME
- SOFT/ABFT

The mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices.

# CFSO Membership Changes

- American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) joined

# Budget Efforts

FY19

(October 18-September 19)

- **\$30m in Coverdell funding (11m above authorization)**
- **\$3m in funding for NIST OSAC**
- **\$130m in DNA funding**
- **\$48m SAKI**
- **\$3m CARA**
- **Fully fund Enhanced State Opioid Overdose Surveillance (ESOOS) for 50 states**

# Legislative Efforts Highlights Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

- Authorization expired/reauthorization introduced Feb 14, 2019
  - Provided edits on DNA capacity and enhancement language
  - Continue to work on language

# Legislative Efforts Highlights

## Debbie Smith Reauthorization

- Authorization expired/reauthorization introduced
  - Participated in Senate hearing July 18, 2018
  - Invited to testify in House hearing (hearing did not occur)
  - Gathered data from laboratories and sexual assault nurses re: collection
  - Continue dialogue regarding language in GAO report

# Other Legislative Efforts Highlights

- Bill passed in support of National Forensic Science Week
- TAPS Act
- Justice Served Act (clarifying language in SAFER)
- Megan Rodini Sexual Assault Victims Protection Act
- Survivors Bill of Rights (DOJ panel)
- Migrant Bill
- Juvenile Justice Bill

# Legislative Efforts Ongoing—FY2020

## Appropriations

- Budget to be released second week of March
- CFSO actively meeting with appropriators



# Legislative Efforts Highlights

## **Multiple meetings in Washington DC which included:**

- Senate and House Judiciary Committees
- Senate and House Appropriations Committees
- Legislators visited--Cruz, Thune, Cornyn, Crapo, Feinstein, Hatch, Heller, Sensenbrenner, Poe, Gowdy, Ratcliffe, Grassley, Risch, Ellison, Klobuchar, Shelby, Strange, Palmer, Holmes-Norton, Kaine, Beyer, Price, Brown (OH), Shaheen, Donovan, Meehan, Collins, and others.

# Legislative Efforts Highlights

## **Multiple meetings in Washington DC which included:**

- NIJ, DOJ, BJA, OVW, OAG, ODAG, NHTSA, OMB, GAO, NIST, CDC.
- House Science Committee staff (support of OSAC and general overview)
- **Multiple meetings on forensic needs assessment at DOJ**
- **At least four listening sessions at GAO regarding DNA funding, opioid issues, OFS/Coverdell**

# Position Papers and Letters of Support Highlights

- Facilitated a “Dear Colleague Letter” to the AG signed by **32 members of the US Senate**.
- Facilitated multiple **bipartisan** “Dear Colleague Letters” to CDC Director regarding issues surrounding Medical Examiner and Toxicology issues.
- Compiled a list of all federal opioid bills and circulated

# CFSO Presentations:

- Congressional Tours at DCFS lab (40 staffers)
- Provided webinar on Coverdell (JFAA changes)
- Provided a membership webinar on CEBR changes
- ABA meeting at Fordham Law School (NYC)
- NAAG meeting in D.C.
- Various national and regional forensic science meetings
- Met with CDC/DOJ/NHTSA/DOT regarding data collection
- SAKI webinar
- National Governor Association briefings

# FLN-TWG

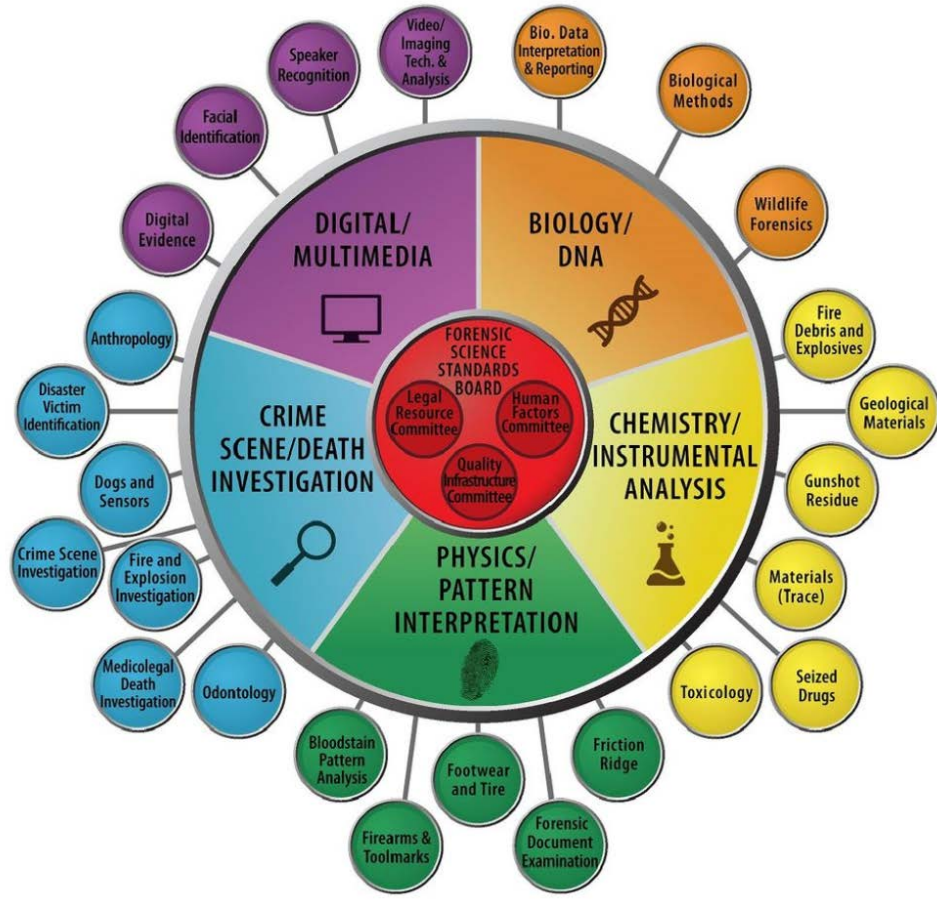
- The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), in partnership with the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE) at RTI International (Research Triangle Institute), has formed the Forensic Laboratory Needs - Technology Working Group (FLN-TWG). The FLN-TWG will support NIJ's mission to improve knowledge and understanding of the forensic technology needs of federal, state, local, and tribal forensic practitioners and crime laboratories.

# Value of Partnership

- Accreditation Initiative (ASCLD/IAI)
- Puerto Rico (ASCLD/AAFS Anthropology/NAME)
- ISO TAG (AAFS ASB/ASCLD/IAI?)
- Data Sharing Initiative at CDC/DOJ/DOT
- Opioid Working Groups (AAFS, NAME, ASCLD)
- Trauma and Stress Working Group (ASCLD/AAPL)

# OSAC 2.0

Presently OSAC 1.0





## Request for Information on the Development of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science 2.0

A Notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology on 08/30/2017

### PUBLISHED DOCUMENT



### AGENCY:

National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

### ACTION:

Notice; request for information.

### SUMMARY:

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) established the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science in 2013 as part of a larger effort to strengthen forensic science in the United States. NIST has primary responsibility to support

### DOCUMENT DETAILS

#### Printed version:

[PDF](#)

#### Publication Date:

08/30/2017

#### Agencies:

[National Institute of Standards and Technology](#)

#### Dates:

NIST will accept written responses to this request for information until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on October 30, 2017.

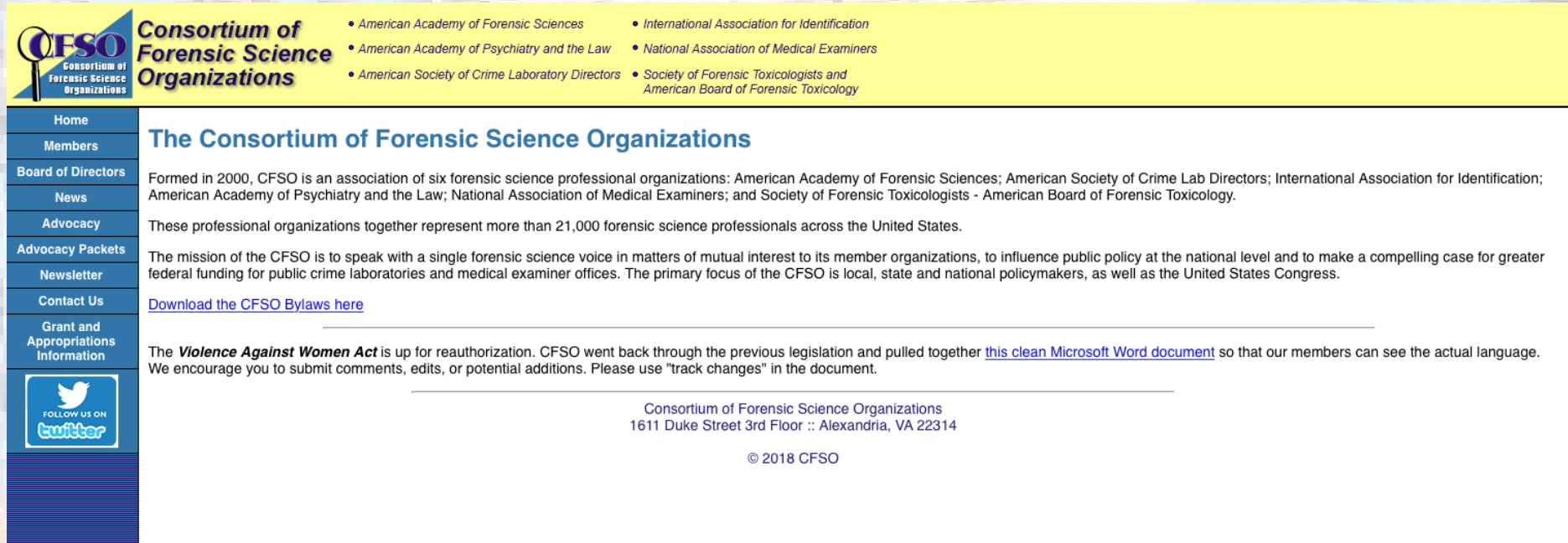
#### Document Type:

Notice



# Resources

- Visit our website: CFSO.org



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO). The header is yellow and contains the CFSO logo on the left, the text "Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations" in the center, and a list of member organizations on the right. The main content area has a blue sidebar on the left with navigation links: Home, Members, Board of Directors, News, Advocacy, Advocacy Packets, Newsletter, Contact Us, and Grant and Appropriations Information. Below the sidebar, the main content area features the title "The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations" followed by a paragraph describing the organization's formation in 2000 and its members. Below this is another paragraph about the organization's mission and focus. A link to "Download the CFSO Bylaws here" is provided. Further down, there is a paragraph about the "Violence Against Women Act" and a link to a document. The footer contains the organization's name, address, and copyright information.

**Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations**

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences
- American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law
- American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors
- International Association for Identification
- National Association of Medical Examiners
- Society of Forensic Toxicologists and American Board of Forensic Toxicology

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## The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations

Formed in 2000, CFSO is an association of six forensic science professional organizations: American Academy of Forensic Sciences; American Society of Crime Lab Directors; International Association for Identification; American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law; National Association of Medical Examiners; and Society of Forensic Toxicologists - American Board of Forensic Toxicology.

These professional organizations together represent more than 21,000 forensic science professionals across the United States.

The mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single forensic science voice in matters of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at the national level and to make a compelling case for greater federal funding for public crime laboratories and medical examiner offices. The primary focus of the CFSO is local, state and national policymakers, as well as the United States Congress.

[Download the CFSO Bylaws here](#)

The **Violence Against Women Act** is up for reauthorization. CFSO went back through the previous legislation and pulled together [this clean Microsoft Word document](#) so that our members can see the actual language. We encourage you to submit comments, edits, or potential additions. Please use "track changes" in the document.

Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations  
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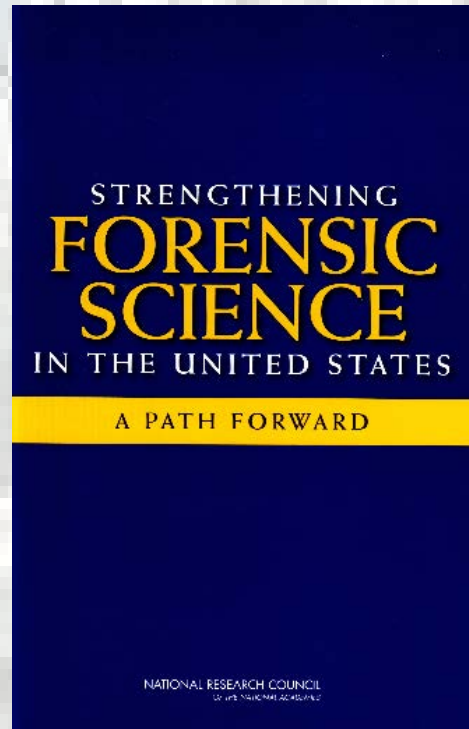
- Watch for newsletters and emails from CFSO

# Things to watch for:

- GAO Report (March 2019)
- Forensic Needs Assessment (May 2019)
- Federal Budget Release (March 2019)
- Fordham Law School Training (May 2019)
- FLN-TWG Meetings
- National Forensic Science Week (September 2019)

# Ten year anniversary of the NAS Report

- NCFS
- OSAC
- Black Box Studies
- SoFS
- FTCoE
- Needs Assessment
- AAAS Reports
- PCAST Report
- GAO Reports



- NIJ/NIST Investments in R&D
- NIJ/BJA Grant Funding Increases
- DAG Forensic Science Advisor
- FLN-TWG
- Increased Congressional Interest
- Interest from other Federal Agencies
- Higher Prioritization by Federal Government
- More Accreditation and Certification