

TPD: ASCLD Guidelines for Management

ASCLD management guidelines

The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) provides *Guidelines for Forensic Laboratory Management Practices* to safeguard the integrity and objectives of the profession.

These guidelines are not immutable laws nor are they all-inclusive. They represent the general standards which laboratory managers should strive to meet.

Responsibility of management

Laboratory managers understand that the quality of work generated is directly related to the performance of the staff.

To that end laboratory managers are responsible for obtaining the best performance from the laboratory employees.

Management's obligation to train the employee

Laboratory managers are obligated to provide training in the principles of forensic science. Training must include

5.2.2

- handling and preserving the integrity of physical evidence
- specific training within a functional area of expertise (discipline)
- annual review of the ASCLD/LAB *Guiding Principles of Professional Responsibility for Crime Laboratories and Forensic Scientists*.

Laboratory managers must be assured that the employee fully understands the principles, applications, and limitations of methods, procedures, and equipment before analyzing casework.

Monitoring proficiency

5.2.2

Laboratory managers monitor the proficiency of employees on a continuing basis through the use of proficiency testing, case documentation review, and evaluation of courtroom testimony.

Staff development

5.2.7

Laboratory managers foster the development of staff proficiency and competency by supporting training and by providing sufficient library resources to encourage employees to keep abreast of changing and emerging trends in forensic science.
