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Governor**

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Acting Commissioner**



**Gina L. Bianchi, Deputy Commissioner and Counsel
Acting Director, Office of Forensic Services**

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New York State Forensic Overview

- Office of Forensic Services
- Commission on Forensic Science
 - Quality Assurance Subcommittee*
 - Funding Subcommittee*
- DNA Subcommittee
- New York Crime Laboratory Advisory Committee
- Technical Working Groups (TWG)
- Mandatory Laboratory Accreditation Program:
ASCLD/LAB (ISO by 2012) and ABFT
- Require a DNA Sample for all Felonies and 35
Misdemeanors
- Subject Index
- Partial Match Policy

Office of Forensic Services

- Coordinates forensic training statewide
- Supports the Commission on Forensic Science, DNA Subcommittee, TWG activities
- Monitors laboratory compliance and prepares reports for the Commission and DNA Subcommittee
- Reviews lab audits and proficiency tests to monitor compliance
- Administrative oversight of the NYS DNA Databank
- Tracks all DNA Hits
- Provides an average of \$7 million annually in State grant funds to enhance the quality and delivery of forensic services

Commission on Forensic Science

- Develop and maintain standards and a program of accreditation for all NYS forensic laboratories
- Oversee implementation of scientific controls and quality assurance procedures
- Chaired by Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services and comprised of 14 members delineated by statute representing: prosecution, defense, courts, forensic labs and law enforcement

New York Crime Laboratory Advisory Council

- Advisory Board
- Promote / Implement Improvement in Crime Laboratory Services
- Standardization of Crime Laboratory Services
- Legislative Liaison for Crime Laboratories
- Members: Lab Directors; Office of Forensic Services Director; Judiciary; District Attorneys; and Law Enforcement

NYS Public Forensic Crime Laboratories

Accredited Forensic Disciplines

- Biology (DNA)
- Controlled Substances
- Firearms / Toolmarks
- Toxicology / Forensic Toxicology
- Trace Evidence
- Questioned Documents
- Latent Prints
- Crime Scene
- Digital and Multimedia Evidence

Technical Working Groups

- Biology (DNA)
- Trace Evidence
- Fire Debris
- Firearms/Toolmarks
- Latent Prints
- Toxicology
- Controlled Substances
- Quality Assurance
- Questioned Documents
- Digital and Multimedia Evidence

Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program NYS Competitive Funds Focus

- Facilitate a highly specialized technical training program for crime laboratory personnel to increase proficiency and analytical methods and eliminate backlogs

NYS Application Process

- Review Solicitation Carefully
- Application is written by Office of Forensic Services
- Reviewed by various units in agency: Office of Program Development and Funding; Legal; Human Resources; Finance; Deputy Commissioner; and Executive Deputy Commissioner

Competitive Funds Application

- Prioritize Training Needs
- Consider Impact / Effect on Backlog
- Estimate Costs for Instructors
 - Include potential instructors for each proposed training
(NY State Finance Law prohibits contracting with instructors prior to grant award)
- Estimate Attendance
- Cost Effective (recently opened trainings to other states when space is available to maximize cost efficiencies)

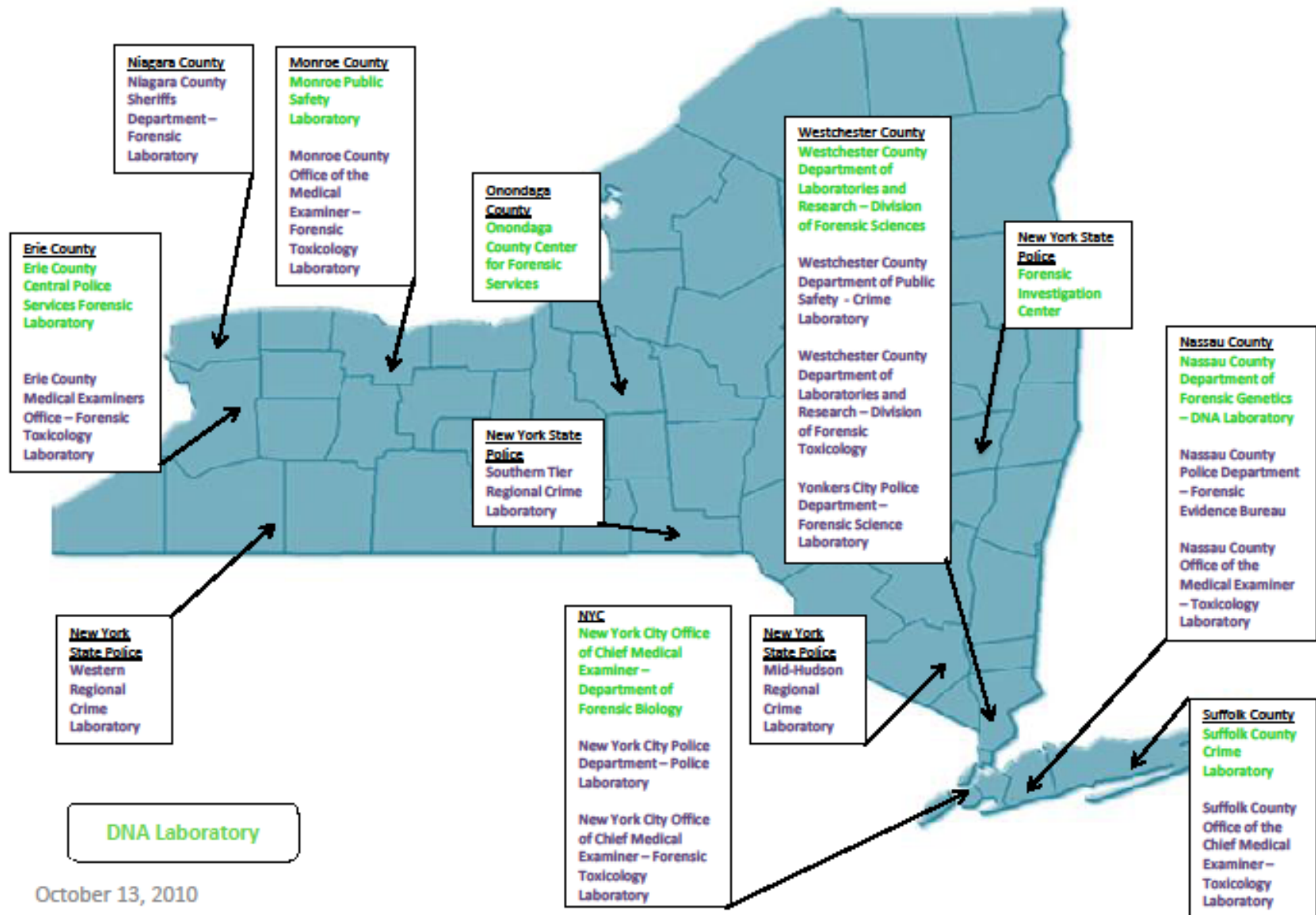
How are Trainings Determined?

- Laboratory Requests
- Commission on Forensic Science
- New York Crime Laboratory Advisory Council
- Technical Working Groups
- Inspector General Recommendations
- Course Critiques
- Attendance at Professional Meetings
- Proficiency Tests
- Annual Workload Survey
- NAS Report

Forensic Training Instructors

- Nationally Recognized Instructors
- Cost, Expertise, Availability
- Continuous Open Solicitation for Instructors via Request for Application
- Course Critiques
- Recommendations by TWGs, Lab Directors and Forensic Analysts

New York State Forensic Laboratories



October 13, 2010

Effective and Cost Efficient Regional Trainings

- Reduces travel costs
- Reduces time away from lab
- Venues are determined by space requirements and cost: labs; local law enforcement training centers; colleges; and hotel conference space

Challenges and Considerations

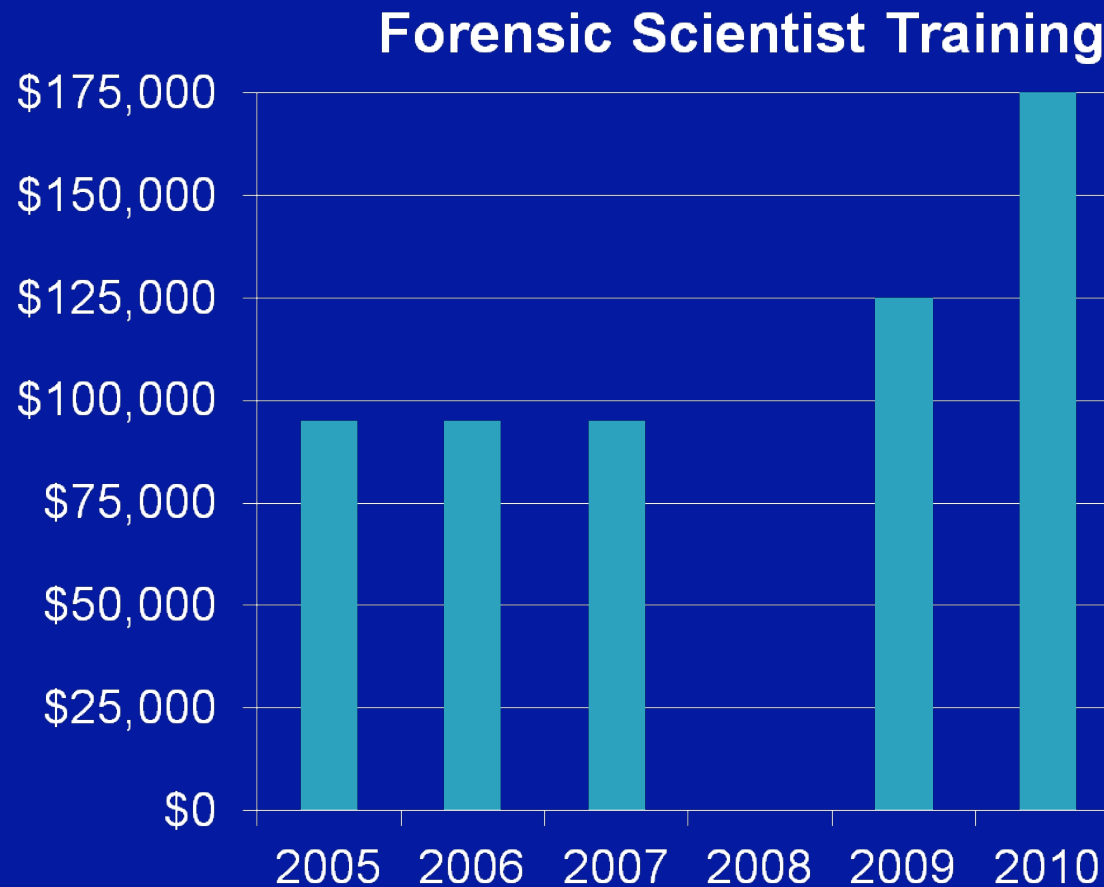
- **Fiscal Crisis**
- **Hiring Freeze Leads to Increased Backlogs**
- **Issues Raised in the NAS Report**
- **Supporting all Disciplines**

Coverdell Supported Trainings

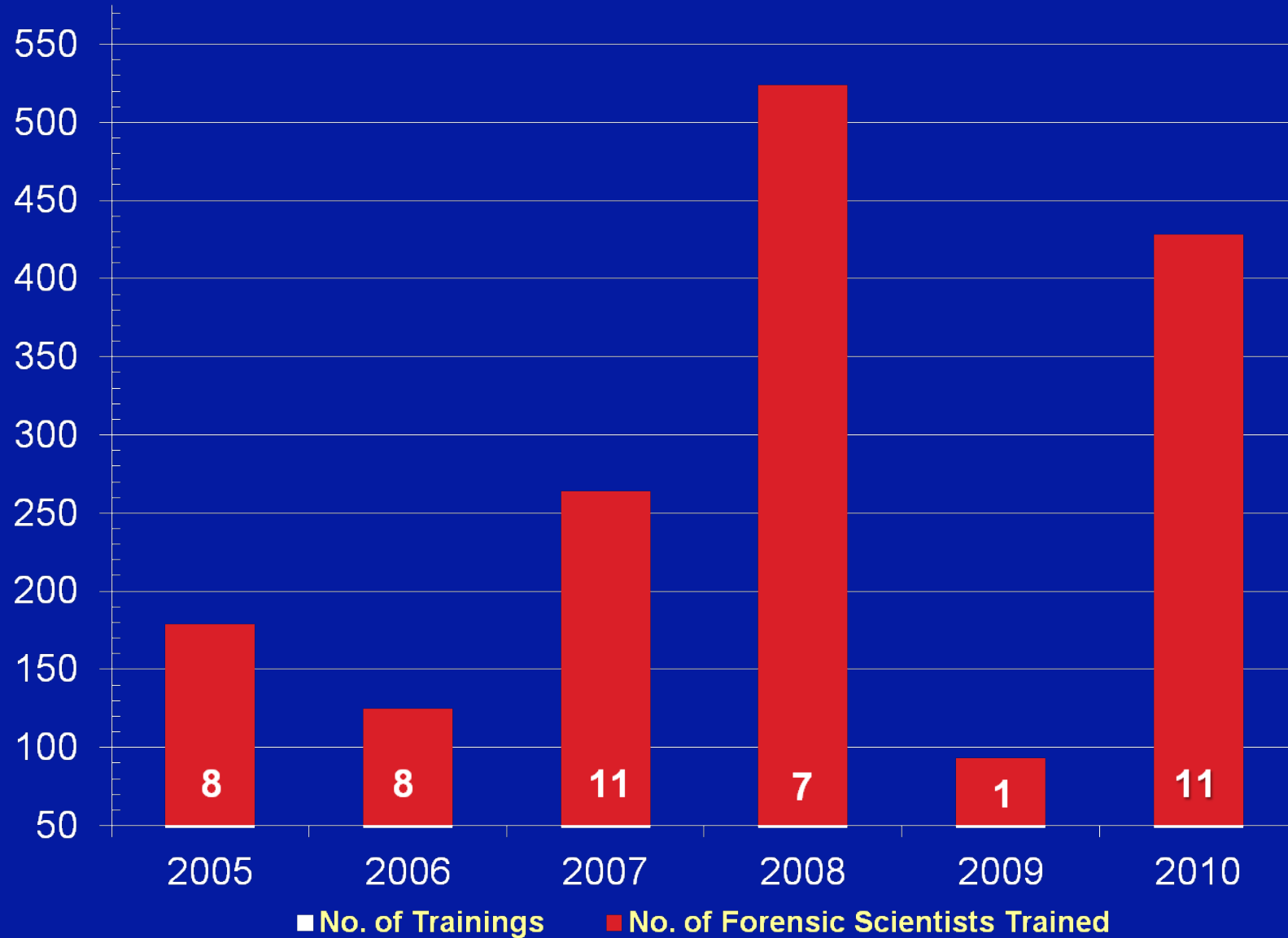
- A2LA ISO 17025 and Accreditation
- Advanced Fire Debris Analysis Course
- Analysis of Distortion in Latent Prints
- ASCLD/LAB *International* Assessor Training
- ASCLD/LAB *International* Prep class
- Basic Pharmacology
- Basics of Handwriting
- Blood Spatter Interpretation
- CODIS and DNA Trends & Issues
- Corrective Action, Root Cause Analysis & Preventive Action
- Crystal Reports - Basic and Advanced
- DNA Mixtures
- DNA Statistics
- DNA Symposium
- DUID Tox workshop
- Ethics for Forensic Scientists
- Examination and Comparison of Tire Track Evidence
- Expert Witness Testimony Workshop
- FBI Fundamentals of Handwriting
- FBI Laboratory Analysis of Fire Debris
- Forensic Ridgeology
- Infrared Analysis of Controlled Substances
- Infrared Analysis of Trace Evidence
- Integrity, Character and Ethics in the Forensic Sciences
- Introduction to Forensic Digital Imaging
- Laboratory Analysis of Pressure Sensitive Tape
- LC/MS/MS
- Macintosh Forensic Seminar
- Physical Fracture Match Workshop
- Porter Lee BEAST User Group
- Professionalism in the Forensic Sciences
- Science of Identification Seminar
- Scientifically Defensible Toolmarks
- TrueAllele®
- Vehicle & Traffic Law for Toxicologists

Repeat Courses and Multiple Locations Not Listed

Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program Competitive Awards

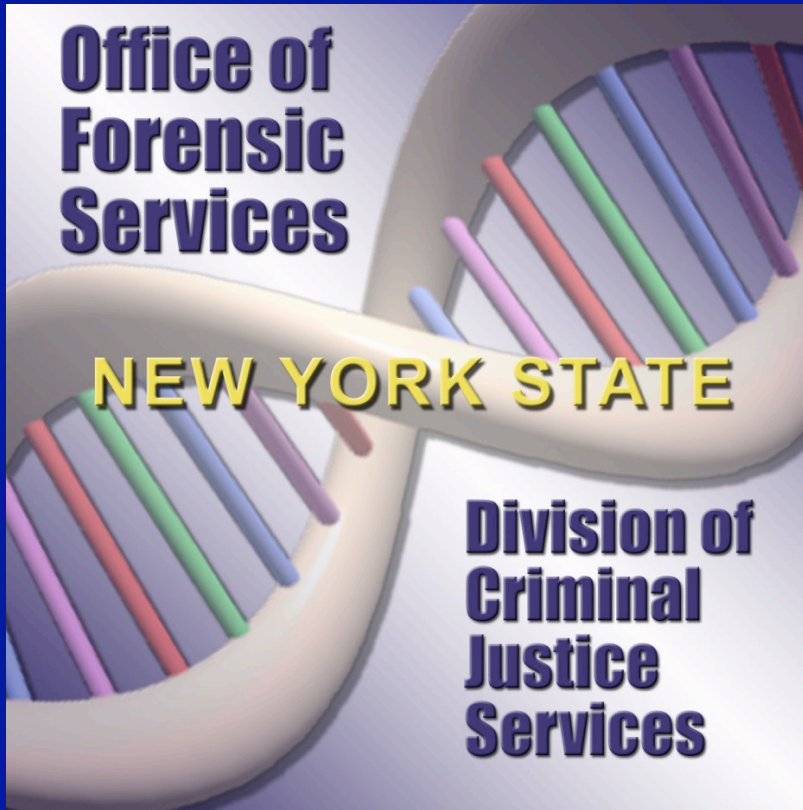


Competitive Award Funded Trainings



Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program Awards 2005 – 2010

- \$585,000 in Awards
- 46 Forensic Science Trainings
- 1,613 Forensic Scientists Trained
- Cost Per-Scientist is \$363



For More Information:

www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us

(click on "Forensic Services/DNA")

Office of Forensic Services
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