



## Criminalistics Section – 2004

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### **B22 Digital Evidence and Laboratory Accreditation**

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The goal of this presentation is to inform the forensic science community about current activities to have digital evidence become an accredited section in crime laboratories utilizing the ASCLD/LAB criteria.

The FBI, following the recommendation of the Federal Crime Laboratory Directors in Washington, DC, formed the Scientific Working Group Digital Evidence (SWGDE) in 1998. SWGDE and the National Center for Forensic Science (NCFS) have worked with the community to define terms, principles and best practices for digital evidence. SWGDE defined digital evidence as "any information of probative value that is either stored or transmitted in a binary form." The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation (ASCLD/LAB) has worked with SWGDE and NCFS to develop criteria for accrediting a digital evidence section. Approval by the ASCLD/LAB Delegate Assembly will lead to other activities, such as the development of proficiency tests, competency tests, training, examination protocols and laboratory evidence procedures related to digital evidence.

The presentation will describe the steps and time lines in accomplishing the first inspection of a digital evidence section for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation and some of the challenges encountered.

#### **Digital Evidence, Accreditation, Scientific Working Group Digital Evidence (SWGDE)**