

AFOAM STRATEGIC PLAN 2005

GOAL 1

AFQAM will promote and provide quality assurance support to the forensic science community and its' member laboratories.

OBJECTIVE 1.1

The Association will strive to increase membership to include at least one representative Quality Assurance Manager in all recognized forensic laboratories within the United States.

Action 1.1.1

The membership committee will identify forensic laboratories, contact and recruit.

OBJECTIVE 1.2

The Association will assist member laboratories with obtaining accreditation from a recognized accrediting body.

Action 1.2.1

The membership committee will identify non-accredited member laboratories and member laboratories pursuing re-accreditation.

Action 1.2.2

The Board will develop a plan to provide needed resources to these non-accredited laboratories and those going through re-accreditation to assist with the accreditation process.

OBJECTIVE 1.3

Establish a resource library and disseminate forensic quality assurance reference materials, documents and training opportunities to member laboratories.

Action 1.3.1

The Resource Committee will establish a process to request from member laboratories and manage various training and procedure manuals, documents and training opportunities.

Action 1.3.2

The Resources Committee will coordinate with the Communications Committee to advertise and/or distribute the reference materials, documents and training opportunities to member laboratories.

Action 1.3.3

The Resource Committee will coordinate with recognized organizations to provide, host and/or advertise quality assurance training at regional sites.

GOAL 2

The Association will strive to ensure that the criminal justice community receives the highest quality forensic science service from its member laboratories.

OBJECTIVE 2.1

The Board will work with various applicable forensic organizations and member laboratories to facilitate conformity to established quality assurance standards within member laboratories.

Action 2.1.1

The Board will establish a liaison to solicit from member laboratories and recognized forensic accrediting organizations information regarding non-conformity to established standards identified during internal and external audits.

Action 2.1.2

These issues of non-conformity to standards will be posted on the AFQAM discussion list, reviewed by members and suggestions on how to achieve conformity will be disseminated to members. Contributing laboratory anonymity will be maintained throughout this process.

Action 2.1.3

The AFQAM will work with applicable accrediting bodies to establish checklists or other forms to ensure criteria are being applied consistently.

OBJECTIVE 2.2

The Association will develop qualification criteria for a Forensic Quality Assurance Manager to establish a benchmark for future positions.

Action 2.2.1

The Board will establish a short-lived working group of members to complete a generalized job task analysis of a Quality Assurance Manager position and create a position description and minimum qualifications.

GOAL 3

Further develop and establish the Association in the forensic science community

OBJECTIVE 3.1

Establish job descriptions for the AFQAM Board, Committee Chairs and Committees

OBJECTIVE 3.2

AFQAM will seek funding and establish a base revenue source to support members either through an awards program or through financial assistance to participate in or attend the AFQAM annual meeting.

Action 3.2.1

The Resource Committee will identify and establish a list of recognized Forensic Science organizations (e.g., NFSTC, AAFS, ASCLD/LAB, UCF-NCFS, NIJ) that could potentially partner with and provide support to the Association.

Action 3.2.2

The Board will contact these organizations to solicit support and establish partnerships.

Action 3.2.3

The President will establish a Grants Committee to actively seek and apply for funding through grants.