

*Association of  
Forensic  
Quality  
Assurance  
Managers*



[www.afqam.org](http://www.afqam.org)

**“Excellence  
Through Quality”**

## ***Our Vision***

**To support and enhance quality assurance practices to provide the criminal justice system with the highest quality of laboratory results and service.**



## ***Our Mission***

**The Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers (AFQAM) promotes standardized practices and professionalism in quality assurance management for the forensic science community.**

## ***History***

AFQAM was formed at an organizational meeting in Kansas City, MO in October of 2001. The Association began with only 22 members and has since grown to approximately 225. Current members represent private, federal, state, regional, county, metropolitan and local laboratories, both nationally and internationally.

## ***Annual Training Conference***

AFQAM holds an annual training conference that will give you exposure to people and presentations directly related to your everyday activities. Conferences include general sessions, discussions, member presentations and professional training break-out sessions. Examples of topics covered include auditing, audit databases, and accreditation, as well as real life experiences of other QA Managers. Attendance may also assist you in meeting the continuing education requirements of your organization.

Cost for the conference is generally very reasonable. The conferences are held in the fall when many organizations have money available for travel. Perhaps the most beneficial aspect of attending an annual training conference is the opportunity to network and develop working relationships with peers in the field of quality assurance management and the forensic sciences.

Past AFQAM annual training conferences have enjoyed the support of the NFSTC in cooperation with the NIJ, FBI, and MFRC. Vendor participation and support allows for exposure to current products and services relevant to quality assurance and forensic laboratories.

## ***Benefits of Membership***

Besides the annual training conference, our members actively participate in an online discussion group where they can easily exchange views and opinions, and obtain information concerning questions and concerns about any and all quality assurance issues. This group is an invaluable service as it provides you direct access to other QA Managers who are grappling with many of the same issues as your laboratory. Topics covered vary greatly and include:

- Accreditation
- Technical/Discipline-Specific Questions
- Evidence Handling & Management
- Safety
- LIMS
- Grants

AFQAM has also developed a resource library for its member's use. Items in the library include presentations on various QA topics, samples of QA manuals and SOPs, and examples of technical operating procedures.



## ***Membership***

AFQAM membership is open to people:

- Of professional competence, integrity and good moral character.
- Who are actively engaged in the field of forensic quality assurance management.
- Who perform system or laboratory wide quality assurance duties on a regular basis.
- Who have advanced the profession of forensic quality assurance management in a significant manner.

Dues are \$50 per year.

Membership forms can be found at

**[www.afqam.org](http://www.afqam.org)**

or by contacting

**[membership@afqam.org](mailto:membership@afqam.org)**



**Upcoming Training  
Conferences**

## **AFQAM 2015**

Pensacola, FL  
Hilton Pensacola Beach Gulf Front  
October 6-9, 2015

## **AFQAM 2016**

Little Rock, AR  
DoubleTree by Hilton Little Rock  
October 10-14-2016



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