Supporting our armed services

The NFSTC team successfully delivered on more than 30 awards in 2014, including Government, private, state and local contracts. Our hands-on instructors trained more than 200 military students under many of these awards. NFSTC’s commitment to excellence not only solidified the work that we do, but placed us on the Tampa Bay Business Journal’s “The List” as the #18 Defense Contractor in the area.
NFSTC competed for and won the US Marine Corps’ Expeditionary Forensics Exploitation Capability (EFEC) contract, allowing NFSTC to provide specialized training and logistics support for up to two years for a contract value of nearly $4.5 million. NFSTC was also selected to the U.S. Navy Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) to support their initiatives in delivering high quality, cost effective education and training services through 2017.
“The course helped us understand how to better collect evidence, processing and what we can do with the information gathered. I feel capable of going out and processing evidence ...and can brief commanders on the capabilities and limitations of an EAC lab.”

-Marine LE EAC Trainee
On-demand learning

We added two new online courses in 2014, *Introduction to Forensic Biology* and *Digital Crime Scene Photography*. The courses attracted more than 260 trainees including many practicing law enforcement professionals, CSI enthusiasts, and teaching teams. Our online courses have been recognized with Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) continuing education credits in multiple states.

The newly-expanded online training courses and the *Crime Scene Investigation Guide* were recognized as outstanding training tools in the inaugural *Forensic Magazine* Readers’ Choice Awards.
Increasing collaboration

NFSTC’s work with the Investigative and Forensic Science (IFS) subgroup of the Combatting Terrorism and Technology Support Office (CTTTSO) resulted in a first-of-its-kind strategic planning summit meeting that brought together more than 50 industry leaders together for a unique day-long discussion to outline visions and projects for the industry. In addition, NFSTC worked with IFS to launch a new logo and newsletter to keep awareness of the organization and its work visible and accessible for stakeholders.
One of the biggest changes in 2014 was our address. NFSTC moved its headquarters to a 41,000 square foot space with close proximity to training and the Forensic Innovation Center (FIC) partners. The new building houses our technology evaluation and laboratory space, media production studio and space for hands-on crime scene scenario training all under one roof.
NFSTC’s new location conveniently served as the host location for several emergency responder training sessions. Outfitted with interactive classrooms and a large warehouse, we were able to accommodate the needs of Hazmat, CST and clandestine meth lab seminars in 2014.
While preparing for the move, the NFSTC science team was able to streamline inventory and donated excess laboratory equipment to local colleges and high schools. The University of Tampa’s Forensic Science department received a gas chromatograph mass spectrometer (GC/MS) and genetic analyzers which assisted in their preparation for program certification. Together, all donations were valued at more than $370,000.
In spring 2014, NFSTC scientists hosted students from Clearwater Christian College’s Criminal Justice department for a semester featuring five laboratory practicals to augment their courses, spanning topics from crime scene photography to digital forensics.
Providing quality assurance

The NFSTC team has long provided high quality, independent DNA laboratory audits as required by the FBI Quality Assurance Standards (QAS). In 2014, 21 audits were performed, including 3 state systems and 14 standalone laboratories. Our partnerships with these laboratories continues a long-standing tradition of excellence and value.

“The Audit Team was … quite pleasant to work with and were all very knowledgeable in the FBI QAS and in the information they were reviewing.”
- New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Sharing the magic of science

The entire NFSTC staff played a big part of our community outreach efforts in 2014. Through a continued partnership with the Pinellas Park High School Criminal Justice Academy, two interns gained practical experience in the forensic science industry. In addition, Academy students teamed up with NFSTC for success at the St. Petersburg Science Festival, where hundreds of students and families got hands on with forensic science basics.
In June, our annual STEM tour gave 40 at-risk students the opportunity to learn about latent print, trace chemistry, biological screening and mobile device safety, piquing their interest and encouraging higher education.
Reaching out to new audiences

With our ever-growing social media presence, NFSTC participated in the second annual National Forensic Science Week. Our Facebook page alone saw more than 4,000 users engaged in learning about forensic science. Our Forensic Update shares the latest in forensic technologies and news to viewers every month.
Mission in support

NFSTC hosted our sixth annual ROTC Biometrics and Forensics internship, a unique opportunity immersing 12 cadets in the latest in forensic science tools, including field enabled technologies on the front lines. Our community alliances and sponsorships of Women in Defense and NDIA also continued in 2014.
Finance

Operating Revenue $18,235,471
- Government & private contracts $18,004,485 98.7%
- Other income $230,986 1.3%

Operating Expenses $18,116,872
- Contract services $16,256,931 89.7%
- Supporting services $1,859,9416 10.3%