Throughout 2011, the National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC) applied unique expertise, capabilities and resources to support law enforcement, deployed forces, laboratories, future scientists and even the public. From assisting soldiers to inspiring students, NFSTC made significant positive impact through an array of programs and services.

The NFSTC team strives daily to deliver our best on each and every project, because we know our work directly serves a critical purpose: justice. We invite you to get all the latest information at www.nfstc.org, www.facebook.com/nfstc, or follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/nfstc.

For the forensic science community and its users to have complete confidence in the quality of the science services provided to the justice community as it strives to ensure the public safety.

We are dedicated to supporting the justice community in ensuring the public safety by assisting the forensic sciences in the achievement of the highest level of quality services.

Vision

Mission
“It’s one thing to work with evidence samples in controlled conditions, it’s another thing to collect this evidence from a house or an actual vehicle. This training is as close to the real thing as you can get.”

− Terrence “Joe” Campbell

_Homicide Crime Scene Supervisor_, Tulsa Police Department

“This is one of the most valuable meetings, both professionally and personally, that I have ever attended.”

− Trace Evidence Symposium participant

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**Raising the Bar**

Serving justice starts with equipping forensic practitioners with the latest skills. In 2011, NFSTC helped more than 260 active practitioners elevate their proficiency in identifying, collecting and preserving evidence. Through multiple programs funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), pattern evidence examiners, crime scene investigators, sworn officers, coroners, pathologists and medical examiners participated in 576 hours of online and 11,568 hours of instructor-led, immersive training. These professionals are now empowered with the latest tools and techniques, ready to apply them to real-life investigations in communities across the country.

Based on the success of our programs and overwhelmingly positive feedback, we received additional funding from NIJ to continue delivery of training in latent print examination and medicolegal death investigation in 2012.

To help agencies stretch their limited training dollars, NFSTC leveraged advanced online technology to provide numerous web-based programs. We delivered the first-ever live streaming of an NIJ forensic science conference, the 2011 Trace Evidence Symposium, drawing attendees from across the nation and eight other countries.
We leveraged the skills of video game developers to create affordable, interactive real-world crime scene investigation training. These virtual-reality environments provide training that engages our next generation of crime fighters. Other web-based tools launched this year included *Forensic DNA for Law Enforcement Decision Makers*. If the value of a website can be demonstrated by how long a user remains on the site, then this resource is extremely valuable—visitors interacted with the site for an average of 36 minutes per visit.

**LATENT PRINT EXAMINER TRAINING**

- Footwear and Tire Track Examiner Training
- Tenprint Examiner Training
- Medicolegal Death Investigation Training

**CELL PHONE INVESTIGATION, COLLECTION AND LAW**

(Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force)

**CSI EFFECT THEORY**

**FORENSIC DNA FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT DECISION MAKERS**

**INVESTIGATOR VIRTUAL REALITY (I-VR)**

(Converted from CD to web-based platform)

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMIT ON FORENSIC SCIENCE**

**TRACE EVIDENCE SYMPOSIUM**
Supporting Our Bravest

NFSTC is dedicated to providing our soldiers with the best forensic science support possible. From testing, evaluating and integrating field equipment to providing training and reachback support, our team is committed to those who defend us.

In 2011, NFSTC provided more than 10,000 training hours to 103 military service members and cadets. These hands-on programs provided crucial instruction in firearms examination, DNA collection and analysis, post-blast investigation, cell phone exploitation and other key skills for gathering forensic intelligence while deployed.

To help develop our future military leaders, we provided 12 Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadets with a two-week forensic science internship at NFSTC. This program armed cadets with a better understanding of basic forensic science techniques and how they can be used to gather intelligence, and helped expand their view of operational capabilities and career opportunities.
“... it gives us peace of mind to know the information you provide us has been developed by unbiased experts. Your evaluations are in line with the parameters that are meaningful to the scientist and provide us with opinions we can trust.”

–Nancy Ludwigsen, Chemist, Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office

Sharing Our Expertise

As the forensic training and technical assistance provider for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), NFSTC plays a unique role in assisting law enforcement across the nation. In 2011, key assistance and resources were provided to agencies in Los Angeles, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Decatur, GA and Detroit. Leveraging the work conducted to assist Detroit in re-establishing forensic services, NFSTC developed a comprehensive guide that walks leaders through the process of restructuring forensic services to meet the needs of the community and the justice system. (The guide can be found on our website.)

In addition, audit teams from NFSTC visited crime laboratories across the country through the NIJ-funded DNA Audit and Grant Progress Assessment program (DNA/GPA), assuring standards for quality were met.

• 83 DNA audits for both governmental crime laboratories (80) and vendor DNA laboratories (3) performing DNA analysis
• GPA site visits for 52 agencies in 20 states that had open NIJ forensic science grants
• Reviews provided for 107 open NIJ grant awards, representing a total of $44,136,561 in taxpayer dollars

On September 30, 2011, NIJ suspended the GPA portion of the program, and provided high praise for the results achieved. During the program’s six-year run, NFSTC reviewed progress on more than 2,300 NIJ awards exceeding $1 billion in Federal funding.
NFSTC completed operations under the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence award during 2011, providing numerous support activities including a series of technology transition workshops in key forensic science areas. The DNA Mixture Interpretation Workshop convened internationally renowned experts for three days of in-depth training covering the new guidelines issued by the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDAM), modified sensitivity procedures and other must-have knowledge for DNA analysts. One-day workshops based on this training were also provided at three regional conferences in the U.S.

In addition, our scientists conducted DNA training presentations at the National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference and to 30 judges at the 2011 Summer School for Judges event. Internationally, NFSTC staff made a special presentation to the International Fingerprint Research Group in Linkoping, Sweden.

NFSTC scientists continued to evaluate technologies and tools to provide agencies with objective information regarding device performance. Seven new technology evaluation reports were published for use by the criminal justice community. In our current economic climate where budgets are stretched, this information is even more valuable to ensure agencies have the information to make the best equipment purchasing decisions.
DNA Mixture Interpretation Workshop

Field Detection of Drug and Explosive Odor Signatures Using Solid Phase Micro Extraction–Ion Mobility Spectrometry (SPME–IMS)

Advances in Forensic Anthropology

Rapid Biological Screening and Analysis Methodologies for Improving Throughput (multi-installment webinar using WebEx)

Comparison Study of Disinfectants for Decontamination

Assessment of Commercially Available DNA Quantitation Standards

A Comparison of Four Raman Spectrometers

Thermo Scientific® FirstDefender RM™ Raman Spectrometer

DeltaNu® ReporteR™ Portable Raman Spectrometer

ICx Fido® Verdict™ Portable Explosives and Narcotics Identifier

Smiths Detection RespondeR™ RCI Raman Spectrometer

DNA Laboratory Audit/Grant Progress Assessment Program

Michigan Public Safety Project

Technology Transition Workshops
Available online at projects.nfstc.org

Forensic Technology Evaluations
Download reports at www.nfstc.org/forensic-technology

Support Programs
Providing Resolution

The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) program continued to provide unique support to agencies and families for the investigation of missing and unidentified persons cases. During 2011, the number of missing persons cases published in the system increased by nearly 3,600 and the number of unidentified persons cases increased by 1,100. A total of 131 cases were resolved in 2011 with the aid of NamUs; of those, 40 missing people were found alive.

In one dramatic case, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement’s cold case team used NamUs to investigate an unidentified person who was discovered in Dixie County, FL in 1976. After entering descriptions of the remains into the system, the team identified a potential match—a man who had been reported missing from California in 1974. Using DNA analysis, the remains were positively identified as James Norris, the man who had gone missing 37 years earlier thousands of miles away. Without a system like NamUs, these two cases, and many just like them, would likely have remained unsolved indefinitely.

Several successful case resolutions were featured in People Magazine ("Case Closed: Finding Lost Loved Ones", 4/11/11), helping to boost awareness of the program. In addition, the NamUs team was honored with two prestigious awards: the Service to America Medal at a gala in Washington, D.C., and the IACP’s August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award for innovative use of forensic technology.

NFSTC completed activities in the NamUs program in 2011. We have been honored to support the dedicated law enforcement professionals, medical examiners, family members, victim advocates and volunteers in their quest to resolve these challenging cases.
Connecting With Our Community

To make it even more convenient for stakeholders to benefit from our numerous programs and services, NFSTC fully embraced social media in 2011. The number of people who subscribe to our Facebook page grew by 600%, and subscribers to our RSS feed nearly tripled to 1,263 by year end. This provided a casual way to connect with students and professionals around the world and helped dramatically boost applicants for training programs and workshops.

NFSTC’s outreach efforts were more ambitious than ever. NFSTC staff exhibited, attended and presented at more than 35 conferences, symposia and regional training events. Our newly designed collapsible set mimicked the hands-on crime scene scenarios used in training at NFSTC and facilitated demonstration of portable forensic tools. NFSTC and its programs earned media coverage from local television news outlets, trade magazines and newspapers around the country.

To ensure staff could easily stay up to speed with the numerous activities of our dynamic organization, we revamped our internal communications strategies. Using cutting-edge electronic tools and more effective meeting strategies helped keep our team ahead of the curve in an ever-changing environment.
Fueling Our Mission

NFSTC is committed to prudent and appropriate fiscal management, providing the best forensic support, training and services for our communities across the country. We’ve been honored to work with agencies from the Department of Defense, Department of Justice and law enforcement agencies across the country to fund valuable programs to enhance the delivery of forensic science services.

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Income</td>
<td>10,593,198</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Federal Funding</td>
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<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Income</td>
<td>2,921,733</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Governmental &amp; Private Agencies</td>
<td>104,729</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,619,660</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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### Expenses

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>66%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIJ Cooperative Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>BJA Cooperative Agreement</td>
<td>600,364</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>533,209</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts</td>
<td>3,052,660</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
<td>718,232</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,361,734</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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A copy of [IRS Form 990](http://www.nfstc.org/about/annual-reports) can be found on our website at: [www.nfstc.org/about/annual-reports](http://www.nfstc.org/about/annual-reports) For further information, please contact us at info@nfstc.org or (727) 549-6067.
Receiving Recognition

NFSTC’s programs, staff and dedication to quality service continued to receive kudos from a variety of local and national organizations in 2011. Each award reflects the spirit of teamwork that has become a hallmark of NFSTC.

*Tampa Bay Business Journal* CFO of the Year Finalist (Dennis Thureson)

*Tampa Bay Business Journal* Best Place to Work (3rd consecutive year)

*St. Petersburg Times* Top Workplace

Service to America Medal (NamUs)

IACP August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award (NamUs)

*Tampa Bay Business Journal* Tampa Bay Fast 50 (#15)

*Tampa Bay Business Journal* Ultimate Management Team (#3)

Governor’s Business Diversification Award (Florida)

*Tampa Bay Business Journal* “Up & Comer” (Billy Young)
“I really enjoyed the visit to … NFSTC. The day my campus traveled to NFSTC and explored the careers there, is the day I realized I wanted to be a Forensic Scientist. It opened my eyes to visualize me in the future.”

–Sabrina M., STEM TEC Student, St. Petersburg, FL

**Giving Back**

NFSTC understands the value and impact education can have on individuals and organizations and has made it a priority to share our passion for science since 1995. Through special events, school and business presentations, student tours, participation on educational advisory boards and social media, staff at all levels has the opportunity to inspire students and trainees to increase their knowledge and follow their dreams. In addition, NFSTC staff fields dozens of requests for information and guidance each year from aspiring forensic scientists around the United States and across the globe.

**Presentations**

- Pinellas County student tours
- STEM TEC Summer Program
- International Council of the Tampa Bay Region, in partnership with the U.S. State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program

**Advisory Boards**

- State of Florida Professional Science Master’s (PSM) Initiative
- Pinellas Park High School Criminal Justice Academy
“The people are great—friendly, helpful and talented—and the work is interesting, challenging and beneficial to the community.”
– NFSTC Staff member, Top Workplaces: Dream Jobs, Tampa Bay Times

Growing Closer

The NFSTC staff team of 47 is dynamic and comprises scientists, industrial security and business and administrative professionals. In 2011, the team was recognized for the third year running as a Tampa Bay Business Journal Best Place to Work, a coveted award in the region. Additionally, the Tampa Bay Times recognized NFSTC as a 2011 Top Workplace, highlighting the organization as a Dream Job location with a full-page photo feature (“Honing skills amid bodies, blood”, Trigaux, 4/17/2011). NFSTC staff are proud of the work we do and strive to remain flexible and customer-centric.

“Get a Clue”: In the spring, NFSTC hosted Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day with a half-day whodunnit based on the classic board game, Clue. Our mini-investigators gathered evidence and talked to “suspects” to solve a murder case right in the NFSTC warehouse. The morning’s activities were chronicled on Facebook and the students earned a better understanding of their parents’ careers.

Go Rats! All work, no play makes any team dull and NFSTC broke the mold in 2011 by fielding a club sport kickball team, the Lab Rats, in the fall.

Taking every opportunity to engage as a team and deliver the highest quality services is a hallmark of an NFSTC staff member.
# NFSTC Team Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive Team</th>
<th>David Touchton</th>
<th>Administration Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Lothridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Epstein</td>
<td>Jo Uber</td>
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<td>Dave Sylvester</td>
<td>Michael Courcelle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Richard Blacklidge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sophia Dargoltz</td>
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<td>Project Management</td>
<td>Dee Baker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eileen Fynan</td>
<td>Dennis Thureson, CPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td>Alice Ricketts</td>
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<td>Lori Sullivan</td>
<td>Nicole Svor</td>
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<td>Jennifer Shankle</td>
<td>Gina Andrews</td>
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<td>Diane Derr</td>
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<td>Jessica Ward</td>
<td>Christine Vivian</td>
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<td>William Coté</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jamie Fox</td>
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<td>Technology Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danny Nichols</td>
<td>Priscilla Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Zimmerman</td>
<td>Linda Margaritondo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Becky Carter</td>
<td>Nancy Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruce Bicknell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Duffin</td>
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<td>Forensic Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debra Figarelli</td>
<td>Mike O’Berry</td>
<td>Program Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joan Ring</td>
<td>Billy Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob O’Brien</td>
<td>Rose Sacchetti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirk Grates</td>
<td>Michael Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillary Markert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole McFarland</td>
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<td>Human Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liz Yourkievitz</td>
<td>Dale Heideman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phokham Torres</td>
<td>Bridget Tincher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Rickenbrode</td>
<td>Abby Meyer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kimberly G. Erturk</td>
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**Member Organizations**

The members of NFSTC meet annually to receive an update on organization activities and elect the board of directors.

- American Academy of Forensic Sciences
- American Board of Criminalistics
- Association of Forensic Quality Assurance Managers
- American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- Florida International University
- International Association for Identification
- National Association of Medical Examiners
- Southeastern Public Safety Institute of St. Petersburg College
- University of Central Florida
- University of South Florida

**Board of Directors**

- **Mitchell R. Morrissey**, *President*
  District Attorney, Denver, CO

- **James J. Cali**, CPA, *Treasurer*
  Bi-State Development Agency, dba METRO

- **Benny Del Re**
  *Retired Director*, Santa Clara County
  District Attorney’s Crime Laboratory

- **J.C. Upshaw Downs, M.D.**
  Georgia Bureau of Investigation

- **John W. Ives**
  *President*, Eagle 32 Innovative Solutions, LLC

- **Marie Samples**
  *Assistant Director*, Dept. of Forensic Biology
  Office of Chief Medical Examiner, New York City

- **Susan Uremovich**
  *Laboratory Director*, Virginia Dept. of Forensic Science – Eastern Laboratory

- **M. Fredric Rieders**, PhD
  *Laboratory Director*, NMS Labs, Willow Grove, PA

- **Anthony J. Tambasco**
  *Director*, Mansfield Police Forensic Science Laboratory
Leaving Our Mark

As in Locard’s exchange principle, “every contact leaves a trace”, we have left our mark—in the quality of our work, the systems we have developed, the practitioners we have taught. With every contact, we can trace the benefits to programs, agencies, communities and people’s lives.

In 2011, NFSTC began to apply solutions across different arenas. These include bringing field forensic training and technologies to our soldiers, launching education programs aimed at non-practitioners with the CSI Effect Theory project and providing hands-on training for medicolegal death investigators. NFSTC was recognized as a successful business entity with Best Place to Work designations, a CFO of the Year nominee, #3 in Tampa Bay’s top management teams and earning a Service to America Medal for one of its projects.

Also in 2011, innovative programs developed by NFSTC, like the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System and the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, were established to the point of operational consistency and our role in them came to completion. These programs are perfect examples of NFSTC’s unique ability to tackle complex problems, create model solutions and provide them for the community, allowing others to securely walk a pathway of success.

Looking back on 2011, it has been my honor and pleasure to serve with the board of directors and work with the many professionals at NFSTC whose dedication and imagination never cease to bring excellence to the forefront. Looking ahead, we are tremendously excited about new opportunities to serve the forensic science industry and those who work in and benefit from it.

We continue to make an impact and strive for excellence, and look forward to a future of innovation, solutions and service.

Mitchell R. Morrissey, President
District Attorney, Denver, CO