

WS 1: Ethics in Action: Tools for Real-World Forensic Toxicology Challenges

Audience Knowledge: Basic

Workshop Chairs

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Abstract

Throughout their career, forensic toxicologists face ethical dilemmas in the laboratory and the courtroom. This ethics workshop by the SOFT Continuing Education and Ethics Committees will discuss the impact of human factors and cognitive bias on forensic decision-making. Participants will learn how to navigate the human factors associated with ethical quandaries and in the event of a potential breach of ethics, the SOFT Ethics Committee will detail the SOFT ethics complaint process. An example of how to respond to a real-life breakdown of scientific integrity will be presented to demonstrate how to repair processes, rebuild trust and strengthen transparency within a laboratory and community. The workshop will conclude with an interactive session with case examples, discussion, and a question-and-answer session with the panel. Workshop participants will leave with actionable tools to respond to human factors, recognize bias, strengthen ethical decision-making, and enhance transparency in both laboratory practice and courtroom testimony.

Speakers

Kelly Elkins

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Workshop Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
08:00 AM - 08:10 AM	Introductions	Beall, Simpson
08:10 AM - 09:05 AM	Ethics Basics: How Bias and Human Factors Can Impact Ethical Decision Making and How to Respond	Elkins
09:05 AM - 10:00 AM	Ethics In the Courtroom	DeAngelo
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Break	
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	SOFT Ethics Complaint Process	Rana
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	Tools For Repairing Trust and Moving Forward: The Colorado Example	Beall
11:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Examples Of Ethical Dilemmas in Toxicology: Interactive and Collaborative Session	Simpson, Midthun
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	Q&A Session with Panel	Elkins, DeAngelo, Simpson, Beall, Midthun, Rana