



# REGIONAL TOXICOLOGY LIAISONS

2025 – January to March Report  
Prepared by Amy Miles  
Regional Toxicology Liaison, Midwest

## Regional Toxicology Liaisons Program Overview

The RTL program aims to strengthen state toxicology programs by improving support, communication, and resources. We also coordinate with the criminal justice system, speed up toxicology sample processing, and enhance data reporting.

The RTLs focus on training, collaboration, and standardizing testing across state labs. We help improve data reporting so we can get a clearer picture of the drug-impaired driving issue.

We support toxicologists, traffic safety resource prosecutors, judicial outreach liaisons, law enforcement, and state highway safety offices across multiple regions and states.

<b>Northeast</b> <i>Dr. Sabra Jones</i>	<b>States</b>
Region 1	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
Region 2	New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands
Region 3	Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia
<b>Midwest</b> <i>Amy Miles</i>	<b>States</b>
Region 5	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin
Region 8	North Dakota, South Dakota
<b>Mid-South</b> <i>Chris Heartsill</i>	<b>States</b>
Region 6	Oklahoma, Texas
Region 7	Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska
Region 8	Colorado
<b>Western</b> <i>Kristen Burke</i>	<b>States</b>
Region 6	New Mexico
Region 9	Arizona, California, Hawaii
Pacific Territories	American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands

By attending conferences and staying involved with various organizations, we keep a pulse on the latest in toxicology—emerging drug trends, advancements in testing technology, or the challenges facing labs. This also allows us to connect with key partners in each state, including judges, TSRPs, DREs, Highway Safety Office reps, victim advocates, law enforcement, and data analysts.

The RTLs have expanded into new spaces through these connections, providing education and training on workflow, testing processes, and other toxicology challenges. At the same time, gaining a better understanding of their roles allows us to help toxicology personnel see the bigger picture of their impact.

The program provides support, training, collaboration, and key insights to help drive impaired driving initiatives forward. The following is a breakdown of the January to March 2025 RTL activities.

### **Supporting U.S. Government Forensic Toxicology Laboratories**

The four RTLs work as a cohesive team and meet weekly to address the challenges and barriers to comprehensive testing in government-funded toxicology laboratories and provide support. Virtual – Wednesdays at 10:00 AM CT.

With the expansion of the RTL Program, the focus has been on establishing connections in the added states. Much of our work includes engaging with state TSRPs, participating in state DUI Taskforces, and assessing laboratories' status and needs in these regions.

The RTLs receive several questions and inquiries. To streamline the process of requesting information from all laboratories, the RTLs have implemented a weekly email to compile responses to questions and provide updates on upcoming training opportunities.

Below are some of the key activities recently completed:

#### Northeast

The first months of the year were spent identifying and contacting the laboratories in this region. Over twenty laboratories met with Dr. Jones to discuss successes, challenges, and needs. In addition to the individual meetings with each laboratory, Dr. Jones attended regional toxicology meetings and chaired the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) Toxicology Resource Committee (TRC) meetings. Connections between the laboratories and instrument vendors were made to assist in troubleshooting and technical assistance. Forensic laboratories were connected to public health partners to demonstrate the need for testing and funding collaboration. The DC laboratory requested external competency testing challenges. Dr. Jones connected the DC laboratory with the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene in Madison, WI (Midwest Region). Dr. Jones is integral in the global Current Trends in Forensic Toxicology program and is on the planning committee, assisting laboratories worldwide in testing scope and capabilities.

#### Midwest

Establishing connections with the laboratories in the Midwest was key for the first three months. Many were already familiar with Ms. Miles, but communication was required to transition from Dr. Jones to

Ms. Miles as the RTL for this region. Meetings were held with most of the laboratories in the area, and the focus was on the two new additional laboratories in North Dakota and South Dakota. Several laboratories had questions that required connecting many laboratories. Laboratories in Ohio are interested in convening a meeting with highway safety partners, and the discussions have begun to plan the meeting.

#### Mid-South

With the addition of new states for Mr. Heartsill, much time has been spent identifying the forensic laboratories performing impaired driving testing. Once identified, several meetings occurred for each laboratory to understand their needs. One of the focus areas of the RTLs is standardization and the need for laboratories to implement the ANSI/ASB documents and standards. Heartsill is an expert in this area, specifically with the ASB 122 standard regarding retrograde extrapolations to estimate blood alcohol concentrations. Mr. Heartsill has already provided training on ASB 122 to the new laboratories in his region.

#### Western

Hawaii does not have a forensic toxicology laboratory. However, Ms. Burke has spent a great deal of time with the highway safety partners to understand how to move forward and fill this need. This work began before Ms. Burke took on the RTL role and continues as she works with Hawaii to plan 2025. New Mexico is a new addition to the RTL program, and Ms. Burke has had meetings and communications with the lab to begin work with them. California laboratories have contacted Ms. Burke for technical assistance in testing method development and validation. This work is important to move toward laboratory testing standardization.

### **Supporting U.S. State Highway Safety Offices, Departments of Transportation**

The RTLs strive to have continued engagement in traffic safety conferences and regional meetings, and impaired driving task forces have been a high priority. This engagement maintains a focus on toxicology and includes:

#### All RTLs

Many laboratories do not fully understand FARS. The RTLs are planning a webinar for the laboratories to meet TrisAnn Jodon and learn more about FARS and the laboratory data's impact on that system and overall data.

#### Northeast

Meetings with highway safety partners in Maine, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania have created opportunities to raise awareness of the RTL program and the needs of the publicly funded laboratories in those states. North Carolina has requested that Dr. Jones review the outcomes of the toxicology partners meeting held in 2023. Dr. Jones is evaluating the action items identified during that meeting and will provide feedback and follow-up.

#### Midwest

The Minnesota DWI Task Force meetings occur each month and have been a great opportunity for Ms. Miles to learn about the various partners that attend the meetings. Efforts are underway to integrate highway safety data, which is a topic on which most states are working. The meetings include individuals from the defense bar, and it has been beneficial to connect with that group and understand their role in impaired driving, particularly in treatment courts. Ohio will be including Ms. Miles in upcoming legal subcommittee meetings of the treatment court.

### Mid-South

Mr. Heartsill has become involved in the new states' impaired driving partner meetings. Texas and Oklahoma are including him in their Impaired Driving Task Force meetings as an advocate for their states' publicly funded laboratories. Since Mr. Heartsill is located in Texas, several are already familiar with his work and welcome his input.

### Western

The Impaired Driving Task Force in California is quite robust, and Ms. Burke continues to play a key role. California has more laboratories than any other state, and having one voice to advocate for them is crucial. Ms. Burke attends regular meetings of the Task Force and assists with various requests and activities, which helps the group understand the laboratories' needs and successes.

### **Supporting U.S. Judicial System and Drug Court Teams**

Providing training to the judiciary has proved to be a valuable contribution to the RTL Program. This group is responsible for making decisions in toxicology related cases and has historically lacked toxicology training. Engagement with this community spans from criminal trial judges to treatment court judges, prosecutors, and other partners in the DUID and drug related investigation process. Recent engagement includes:

### All RTLs

The National Traffic Law Center (NTLC) has requested the RTLs re-write their [Alcohol Toxicology for Prosecutors Monograph](#). The rewrite will be significant as many updates are required. The RTLs have met with the NTLC several times and will continue to write the monograph through June.

In addition to the work with the NTLC, the RTLs assisted AllRise in editing their Best Practices Manual for toxicology testing in treatment courts. The work began in 2024 and was finished in 2025 with the final review of the document. AllRise has asked the RTLs to continue to assist in areas related to forensic toxicology. This work will be ongoing.

During the Lifesavers Conference, the RTLs provided training for the Judicial Outreach Liaisons (JOL), Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors (TSRP) and Law Enforcement Liaisons (LEL). In a meeting before the conference, the RTLs gave an update on the program and Dr. Jones gave a "toxicology 101" presentation.

The American Bar Association (ABA) requested the RTLs present in a webinar for judges across the country. The webinar will occur in May and several planning and preparation meetings have occurred.

A roadside oral fluid testing bill will be introduced in Michigan. The RTLs have been asked to provide neutral, informational scientific testimony about oral fluid to include cannabis. The RTLs have been working with several individuals in the state to provide information.

### Northeast

Alabama is not currently in the RTL regions, however, they reached out to Dr. Jones for assistance and she presented for them at a Drug Court Conference. Dr. Jones also supports Ms. Burke in providing training for an upcoming treatment court conference in Arizona.

### Midwest

Illinois has had some challenges with current statutes and laboratory testing. Ms. Miles has met with the state TSRPs to discuss potential training for prosecutors. A bill was drafted in Indiana regarding roadside oral fluid testing and the TSRP in that state asked Ms. Miles for background and scientific information. In addition, another bill was drafted in Illinois looking to schedule and regulate THC isomers and derivatives. Ms. Miles provided information on these topics.

### Mid-South

Although Wyoming is not in any of the current regions, there was a request for assistance. The Wyoming JOL would like toxicology training for the state. Mr. Heartsill was contacted and has discussed the topic. There will be a training in the future and Mr. Heartsill will provide the content.

### Western

Arizona drug courts requested two presentations for an upcoming training. Ms. Burke developed and planned the content along with Dr. Jones. In addition to the work with the Arizona drug courts, Ms. Burke was asked to present during a Mississippi drug court conference. Mississippi is not in the currently represented regions. However, Ms. Burke was able to accommodate the request. Feedback from the conference was highly positive and beneficial to the attendees.

## **Supporting Traffic Safety and other Partners**

Other traffic safety partners include regional NHTSA offices, the Association of Transportation Safety Information Professionals (ATSIP) and conferences related to traffic safety. Engagement with these partners is critical to maintain current knowledge of issues, provide updates of the RTL Program, and provide training related to drug trends and toxicology issues. This support includes:

### All RTLs

The RTLs presented and moderated during the Lifesavers Conference on Roadway Safety. In addition to the pre-meeting with the JOLs, TSRPs, and LELs, the RTLs presented the impact of per se drug levels and impaired driving. They also had an opportunity to contribute in a separate session on the RTL program's successes and future state.

The IACP requested the RTLs review the scientific submissions to the IACP IDTS conference. The RTLs reviewed roughly 10 submissions to the annual conference and provided feedback and guidance.

### Northeast

The group planning the Advanced DRE Course requested assistance in planning and development for the upcoming training. Dr. Jones presented three times during the course on stop-testing, toxicology testimony, and training differences.

### Midwest

As Program Manager, Ms. Miles meets monthly the NHTSA COR regarding the RTL program and gives updates and receives feedback. The Association of Traffic Safety Information Professionals (ATSIP) Impaired Driving Working Group (IDWG) meets monthly. Ms. Miles provides feedback on barriers for toxicology laboratories to readily provide impaired driving data. The ATSIP IDWG requested Ms. Miles chair a Toxicology Sub Group (TSG) to focus on integrating toxicology data into the impaired driving dataset.

### Mid-South

NHTSA Region 7 holds monthly meetings with the Regional Administrators and other NHTSA leaders in the region. Mr. Heartsill has been integrated into these meetings for quite some time. This has allowed him to learn more about the region's goals and align them with the needs of the forensic toxicology laboratories. This partnership has been critical to the RTL program.

### Western

The Arizona DRE program has requested assistance from Ms. Burke. Using her connections with California, she has been identifying areas where the two programs can collaborate. The communication between the two states is beneficial not only for the DRE program, but it also allows Ms. Burke to advocate for the laboratories in each state and encourage continued communication between the DREs and the toxicologists.

### **Supporting U.S. Standards Development in Forensic Toxicology**

One of the major objectives of the RTL Program is to bring consistency to toxicology testing, testimony, laboratory accreditation, etc. The American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Academy Standards Board (ASB) is an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited standards development organization. The Toxicology Consensus Body facilitates the development of standards, best practices, and guidance documents for forensic toxicology through the Organizational Scientific Area Committees (OSAC).

Dr. Jones and Mr. Heartsill have been intimately involved in standards development. Their involvement provides unique insight for the RTL program as we continue to encourage laboratories to implement standards. The activities at the end of the report demonstrates the time Dr. Jones and Mr. Heartsill spend on standards development.

### **Support to the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT)**

The involvement in the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) allows the RTLs to interact with toxicologists from across the nation, developing a vast network of scientists who are able and willing to assist those labs and personnel in our regions with training, troubleshooting, instrument validation, and sharing of methods. That vast network is a critical missing factor in laboratories nationwide and has been a massive success in connecting people. Additionally, SOFT, and its annual conference, is the major provider of continuing education for the forensic toxicology community.

Several activities in the RTL report revolve around SOFT, the membership and its committees. The RTLs use SOFT as a platform for their webinars and other communications. Although many toxicologists are not members of SOFT, the RTLs are able to bridge that gap in their training and communications.

### **Support to the National Safety Council's Alcohol, Drugs, and Impairment Division (NSC-ADID)**

The involvement in the National Safety Council Alcohol Drug and Impairment Division (ADID) serves a similar but different objective than that of SOFT. ADID, as a division of the National Safety Council (NSC), provides resources and information to NSC and the public through position statements, one-page training documents, and verbal consultation (NSC only). The RTLs are members of ADID. The ADID focuses on several projects, such as updating the *DUID laboratory testing recommendations*. In addition, the *Stop Testing Committee* examines the impact of laboratories implementing a limit on drug testing due to the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC). This committee has been beneficial in understanding the specific impact to the labs and the overall impact to highway safety and public health.

The ADID meets in person twice annually in conjunction with the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT) and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) annual meetings. The Executive Board meets once a year prior to the AAFS meeting. In the interim, the Officers hold meetings with NSC, the Executive Board, and various Section or Committee Chairs to review position statements or other documents for revision or publication. The RTLs hold various leadership positions within ADID.

## January to March Activity Detail

### Northeast

An RTL introduction meeting with Connecticut (R1) Toxicology Laboratory, Virtual – December 11, 2024  
Northeastern Association of Toxicologists (NEAT) (R1) Guidance Meeting 2025, Virtual – January 6, 2025  
and January 30, 2025. NEAT is made up of government funded forensic toxicologists who meet annually  
to address drug trends and provide continuing education.

An RTL introduction meeting with Vermont (R1) Toxicology Laboratory, Virtual – January 7, 2025

An RTL introduction meeting with the Centers for Disease Control Meeting, Virtual – January 7, 2025

An RTL introduction meeting with Massachusetts (R1) State Police Toxicology Laboratory, Virtual –  
January 7, 2025

An RTL introduction meeting with New York/Westchester County (R2) Toxicology Laboratory, Virtual –  
January 9, 2025

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (R1) Forensic Science Oversight Board (FSOB), Virtual – January  
10, 2025, from 10:00 to 3:00 PM ET. I serve in the Forensic Science Expert board position. The mission of  
the FSOB is to provide enhanced, objective, and independent auditing and oversight of forensic  
evidence used in criminal matters. The board has oversight authority over all commonwealth facilities  
engaged in forensic services in criminal investigations. This includes ensuring the integrity of forensic  
analysis performed in state and municipal laboratories

An RTL introduction and planning meeting with NHTSA Region 2 Office, Virtual – January 6, 2025. This  
was an opportunity to share information on the support the RTL program can offer Region 2,  
government funded toxicologists, and other traffic safety partners in the states of NHTSA R2.

DARTS Discussions Advancing Research in Transportation Safety, Washington, DC (R3) – January 13,  
2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with Maine (R1) Toxicology Laboratory, Virtual – January 14, 2025

Assisted the Massachusetts (R1) State Police Toxicology Laboratory with Blood Alcohol Certified  
Reference Standards request for information. – January 14, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Philadelphia Medical Examiner's  
Office (R2), Virtual – January 15, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (R3),  
Virtual – January 17, 2025

The Society of Forensic Toxicology, Toxicology Resource Committee and the RTL program can leverage  
the membership in meeting its mission to identify gaps in publicly funded forensic toxicology labs and to  
target resources to assist in furthering the science of forensic toxicology. This committee provides  
guidance regarding available funding sources, compiles information about existing grant opportunities,



provides direction and assistance in filing grants for first-time applicants, and facilitates mutually beneficial partnerships with stakeholders to advocate for forensic laboratories and foster innovative ideas to further forensic toxicology. The SOFT TRC and RTLs met on January 17, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with Virginia's Department of Forensic Science Toxicology Laboratory (R3), Virtual – January 21, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the District of Columbia's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's Office (R3), Virtual – January 21, 2025

An RTL introduction and planning meeting with NHTSA Region 3 Office, Virtual – January 22, 2025. This was an opportunity to share information on the support the RTL program can offer Region 3, government funded toxicologists, and other traffic safety partners in the states of NHTSA R3.

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services Crime Laboratory / DWI Blood Chemistry Unit, NC (R3), Virtual – January 24, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the Allegheny County Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, PA (R3), Virtual – January 24, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the Pennsylvania State Police | Bureau of Forensic Services (R3), Virtual – January 27, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the NC Department of Justice Crime Laboratory (R3), Virtual – January 28, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the MD State Police Crime Laboratory (R3), Virtual – January 28, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the Onondaga County-Medical Examiner's Office-Forensic Toxicology, NY (R2), Virtual – January 29, 2025

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (R1) Forensic Science Oversight Board (FSOB), Virtual – January 31, 2025, from 10:00 to 2:00 PM ET.

An RTL introduction meeting with North Carolina (R3) Governor's Highway Safety Program, Virtual – January 7, 2025. This was an opportunity to share information on the support the RTL program can offer North Carolina, NC's government-funded toxicology laboratories, and other traffic safety partners in the state.

Meeting on Medication Assisted Therapies and Toxicology Testing for All Rise and Alabama Drug Courts, Virtual – January 14, 2025

Presentation development for Alabama Drug Courts Conference for Medication Assisted Therapies and Impact on Toxicology Testing. January 15, January 20, January 22, January 24

Presentation development for Alabama Drug Courts Conference for Toxicology Testing (Overview). January 16, January 20, January 23

Review of revised All Rise Standard VII. All Rise Standard VII focuses on Drug and Alcohol Testing within adult treatment courts. This standard provides comprehensive guidelines for effective and reliable testing practices. January 22, 2025

Conducted a review of scientific content submitted for the Impaired Driving and Traffic Safety conference, organized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). January 27, 2025

Alcohol Toxicology for Prosecutors--Monograph Update Meeting, Virtual – January 28, 2025

An RTL Introduction Meeting with the Massachusetts (R1) Assistant District Attorney in the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office, Virtual – January 29, 2025

The Toxicology ANSI/ASB Consensus Body meets monthly. Leadership meeting, Virtual – January 24, 2025, CB meeting, Virtual – January 9, 2025. Subcomm ASB 037 Meeting dates: January 15, 2025, January 23, 2025

The National Safety Council – Alcohol Drug and Impairment Division – Nominating Committee met on January 2, 2025, to finalize the selection of officers and Executive Board members. Cannabis Harmful Effects on Youth and Young Adults Working group meeting, Virtual – January 14, 2025. Impairment Advisory Board Virtual – January 30, 2025

## Midwest

### **Recurring:**

RTL Weekly Meetings – Wednesday each week

RTL NHTSA HQ Meeting – Fourth Thursday each month

Responsibility.org – Meet each Tuesday

Minnesota DWI Task Force – Third Friday each month

MADD Advisory Board Meeting – Third Wednesday each month

National Safety Council – Alcohol and Drug Impairment Division – Drug Section (NSC-ADID)\* – Last Friday of each month

Midwest Toxicology Collaborative Steering Committee – Last Friday of each month

Society of Forensic Toxicologists – 2025 Planning Committee Meeting\* – Serving as co-host for the 2025

- Planning Committee meets second Tuesday of each month
- SOFT Hosts and SOFT Office meeting first Wednesday of each month

Method Development and Validation Project – Every other Monday

Association of Traffic Information Professionals (ATSIP) Impaired Driving Data Task Force – Third Tuesday every month

ATSIP Knowledge Partners – Quarterly, third Wednesday of the month

Wisconsin Laboratory Check-In Meeting – Third Monday of each month

Addiction Grand Rounds\* – UW Madison – First Wednesday of each month

Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs (SCAODA)\* – Quarterly, dates TBD

National Institute of Justice – Forensic Laboratory Needs Working Group (FLN-TWG)\* – First Friday of the month

### **Past Single event:**

Meeting with GSA expertise – February 3<sup>rd</sup> - Looking to get SOFT/RTL program on the GSA Schedule. Strategy and educational meeting from two groups on the Schedule to understand expectations and process.

Meeting with the TrisAnn Jodon (FARS) – February 5<sup>th</sup> – Discussed needs of FARS from forensic tox labs. Used Wisconsin as an example, worked through multiple cases to understand what is needed by FARS and how the labs can improve communication. Will have TrisAnn give a webinar to the labs in the regions in June.

Waters instrument meeting – February 6<sup>th</sup> – Meeting with instrument vendor to talk about support for labs that use their instruments. Discussed the need for labs to become more efficient, using data transfers, going paperless, etc.

NHTSA meeting regarding Lifesavers – February 6<sup>th</sup> – JOL/LEL/TSRP/RTL meeting has been canceled that was to be attended the day before the Lifesavers Conference. Side discussions occurred about the need for the RTLs to meet with the JOLS, TSRPS and LELs. Other meetings will occur to discuss this option.

FLN-TWG Data Modernization – February 7<sup>th</sup> – Group met to discuss the current status of data sharing between labs and partners. Barriers discussed including the need for LIMS vendors to get on board.

Communication with TIRF – February 11<sup>th</sup> – A few labs have asked about laboratory systems reviews that have occurred in other states. TIRF conducted one in Nevada (I was on the team) in 2020-2021. Requested the report from TIRF, unable to distribute. Outcomes of the Nevada report were not positive, barriers with legislation and funding.

Illinois lab request – Ongoing throughout February – lab requested an external examination of a Proficiency Test. The Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene volunteered to re-test the PT for the Illinois lab to compare results. All results matched, Illinois will take this information to the PT provider.

NSC – ADID Meeting – February 16<sup>th</sup> – Attended the NSC ADID meeting. Also attended the Robert F. Borkenstein Award dinner that evening.

ATSIP Impaired Driving Data TF – February 18<sup>th</sup> – Looking to standup a toxicology subcommittee to explore the feasibility of integrating toxicology data into highway safety data systems.

Mental Health and Impaired Driving Research webinar (R.org) – February 20<sup>th</sup> – Attended webinar on mental health and impaired driving, understanding the challenges.

NHTSA meeting – February 20<sup>th</sup> – Met with Jen Conlon (COR) and Barbara Rizzuti to find ways to better collaborate and communicate between the RTLs and the NHTSA regional offices. Suggestion to provide a blurb for Barbara's newsletter which will include a link to the SOFT website. The website has links to the quarterly reports I send to NHTSA.

NTLC Alcohol Monograph – February 21<sup>st</sup> – The RTLs have been asked to update the NTLC's alcohol monograph: <https://ndaa.org/wp-content/uploads/Alcohol-Toxicology.pdf> The groups met to strategize and discuss timeline.

Meeting with Wisconsin TSRPs – February 21<sup>st</sup> – Discussed how to better integrate the WI lab systems, also talked about recent caselaw regarding d/l-methamphetamine.

NASID Oral Fluid Working Group – February 25<sup>th</sup> – Covered the current outreach documents NASID is planning to disseminate that details roadside OF testing devices.

DRE Post-Incident review – February 25<sup>th</sup> – DrugImpairment.com is looking to create curriculum that examines the reconstruction of an impaired driving investigation through the DRE lens. Would like to include a toxicology component.

DrugImpairment.com – February 27<sup>th</sup> – Matt Myers met with the RTLs to request assistance in creating training on how to interpret toxicology reports for DrugImpairment.com. Myers would like several modules on the various aspects to include impaired driving and post-mortem toxicology.

Lifesavers planning meeting – February 28<sup>th</sup> – Due to several speaker cancelations, Lifesavers asked the RTLs to organize a session for the annual meeting. The topic will cover per se limits and the pros and cons of them. The panel will consist of an RTL, TSRP and Jim Eberspacher from AllRise.

Communications with Ohio – ongoing – Ohio labs are looking to hold a toxicology partners summit.  
Lifesavers Conference 2025 – Presented during a panel on the RTL program and moderated a panel focusing on the impact of per se limits in highway safety and public health

SOFT Site Visit – Travelled to Portland to walk through venues for the annual SOFT conference (as co-host)

Washington State Patrol Lab – Through a connection made during Lifesavers, a meeting was held with the WSP lab. Interest in getting an RTL in their region, discussed challenges lab is facing, need for support

SOFT CommUnity – The RTLs are assisting SOFT to launch an online community engagement software. This will enable greater communication between labs for a variety of topics

Webinar – Attended the “Exploring the Evolution and Detection of Alcohol and Illicit Drugs in Vaping Devices” webinar (3 hours)

American Bar Association Webinar – Met with the ABA to discuss details of the RTL toxicology webinar in May

TSRP Webinar – Attended “The Effect of Drugs in a DUI-D Case: Narcotic Analgesics, Part 2, The Toxicologist”

Michigan Oral Fluid Device Bill – Met with Michigan and discussed their desire to have an neutral party talk about the science of oral fluid at an upcoming bill hearing. Preparing a PPT for Rep. Begole in advance of the hearing to educate on the science behind oral fluid testing.

Attend SOFT Toxicology Resource Committee meeting – provide input to run a survey for SOFT through the UW Survey Center

South Dakota meeting – meeting with the South Dakota lab

Meeting with the Illinois TSRPs – met to discuss collaborations on upcoming trainings, assist in the planning of the Midwest Impaired Driving Conference.

### ***Upcoming Activities:***

Midwest Association of Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Conference – April 3-4, 2025  
Milwaukee, WI

Attend and present two sessions: RTL Update, Chasing Drug Trends

International Association of Chemical Testing Annual Conference – April 6-12, 2025, Las Vegas, NV  
(presenter)

Presenting on the expansion of the RTL program and a full day workshop on testimony training for toxicologists

SOFT Continuing Education Committee Meeting – (Virtual) April 8, 2025

SOFT Postmortem Committee Meeting – (Virtual) April 25, 2025

American Academy of Forensic Sciences Webinar – (Virtual) BPR 122 Alcohol Calculations, April 29, 2025

### Mid-South

### ***Recurring:***

RTL weekly meetings – Wednesday each week.

R7 Monthly State conference call – Third Tuesday each month

National Safety Council – Alcohol Drug and Impairment Division – Executive Board – Vice Chair, member of Administrative Committee.

Society of Forensic Toxicologists – monthly Board of Directors Meetings

Additional SOFT Activities include – Current President, Member of the Finance Committee, Member of the Toxicology Resource Committee, Co-Editor of ToxTalk  
OSAC Toxicology Subcommittee Monthly meetings  
Additional OSAC work includes participation on the Volatiles Standard and Quality Control subcommittee.  
Midwest Toxicology Collaborative – Round Table – monthly meetings  
Missouri Impaired Driving Subcommittee monthly meeting – Second Friday of the month  
Texas Impaired Driving Task Force – Quarterly Meetings  
Oklahoma Impaired Driving Task Force – Quarterly Meetings  
Working with the NDAA on revising and rewriting the Alcohol Toxicology for Prosecutors monograph

***Past Single event:***

Cultural Considerations for Supporting Impaired Driving Enforcement in Tribal Communities - GHSA Webinar, February 4, 2025  
National Safety Council – Alcohol Drugs and Impairment Division – Executive Board Meeting (virtual), February 10, 2025  
National Safety Council – Alcohol Drugs and Impairment Division – Full Division Meeting (virtual), February 16, 2025  
American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Baltimore, MD – February 17-21, 2025 (presenter)  
Presented on ASB 122 and applications to workplace injury cases.  
Met with representatives from Colorado Bureau of Investigation – February 19, 2025  
Discussed laboratory needs specifically surrounding training and resources  
Met with representatives from Oklahoma Laboratories – February 19, 2025  
Discussed laboratory needs specifically surrounding training and resources  
Met with representatives from Houston, Texas laboratories – February 19, 2025  
Discussed laboratory needs specifically surrounding training and resources  
Met with representatives from Tarrant County Medical Examiner’ Office – February 19, 2025  
Discussed laboratory needs specifically surrounding training and resources  
Quality Assurance in Forensic Toxicology: What’s Working, What’s Not, and What’s Next – Society of Forensic Toxicologists Webinar, February 25, 2025  
International Association of Chemical Testing Planning Meeting – (Virtual) February 27, 2025  
Lifesavers Conference Planning Meeting – (Virtual) February 28, 2025  
Joined Oklahoma Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement Task Group representing chemical testing and toxicology interpretation.  
NSC-ADID Executive Committee Meeting – (Virtual) March 4, 2025  
Texas Driving Under the Influence Forum – March 5, 2025, Austin, TX  
Texas DWI Taskforce Meeting – March 6, 2025, Austin, TX  
Lifesavers Conference on Roadway Safety – March 7-12, 2025, Anaheim, CA (presenter)  
Presenting on Toxicology interpretation as it is used in court  
Meeting with Kansas Bureau of Investigation Toxicology Laboratory – (Virtual) March 14, 2025  
Meeting with the Wyoming Judiciary (JOL) – (Virtual) March 18, 2025  
The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations – Board Meeting (Virtual) March 18, 2025  
Meeting with the Houston Forensic Science Center Toxicology Laboratory – (Virtual) March 19, 2025  
Meeting with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute – (Virtual) March 21, 2025 (met to discuss the Texas Impaired Driving Taskforce)  
ABA Webinar Planning Session – (Virtual) March 25, 2025

***Upcoming Activities:***

Missouri Treatment Court Conference – March 27-29, Branson, MO (Speaker)

Presenting on interpretation of toxicology results and their use in treatment courts

SOFT Toxicology Resource Committee Meeting – (Virtual) March 31, 2025

Meeting with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Toxicology Laboratory – (Virtual) March 31, 2025

OSAC Volatiles Standard Comment Adjudication Meeting – (Virtual) April 4, 2025 and April 14, 2025

International Association of Chemical Testing Annual Conference – April 6-12, 2025, Las Vegas, NV (presenter)

Presenting on the expansion of the RTL program, testimony training for toxicologists, challenges to alcohol testimony, and use of ASB 122 alcohol calculations

SOFT Continuing Education Committee Meeting – (Virtual) April 8, 2025

The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations – Board Meeting (Virtual) April 8, 2025

Iowa Impaired Driving Taskforce Meeting – (Virtual) April 9, 2025

Dallas County Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences – April 15, 2025, Dallas Texas

Working with the laboratory to understand operations and provide training on conforming to ASB documents

Texas Impaired Driving Taskforce Quarterly Meeting – April 17, 2025, Austin, TX (presenter)

Presenting on RTL Program and State Toxicology Assessments

Missouri Prosecutor Conference – April 18, 2025, Lake Osage, MO (presenter)

Presenting on interpretation of toxicology results and limitations of testimony

Mississippi Judicial Conference – April 22, 2025, Biloxi, MS (presenter)

Presenting on interpretation of toxicology results and limitations of testimony

SOFT Postmortem Committee Meeting – (Virtual) April 25, 2025

American Academy of Forensic Sciences Webinar – (Virtual) BPR 122 Alcohol Calculations, April 29, 2025

Kansas Judicial Conference – April 30 – May 2, 2025, Manhattan, KS (presenter)

Presenting on using toxicology results in court from a judicial perspective

## Western

### **Recurring:**

- RTL weekly meetings – Wednesday each week
- Region 9 Monthly State conference calls
- RTL Quarterly Meetings
- Ongoing research on the top 20 prescription drugs prescribed over the last ten years and drug trends in testing

### **Past Single Events:**

#### **January 2025**

- Met with Hawaii Lab – Advisement and 2025 planning
- Meeting with New Mexico Lab
- Toxicology Resource Committee Meeting

#### **February 2025**

- NSC ADID Meeting
- Alcohol Toxicology Monograph Update meeting with NDAA
- Meeting with Mississippi Drug Courts for future presentation
- Lifesavers Planning Meeting
- Met with New Mexico regarding the DRE Program and training collaboration with California
- Met with California Criminalistics Institute (CCI) to formulate four-day training for California laboratories on alcohol testing, including drinking study with CHP

### **March 2025**

- ABA Webinar Planning Meeting
- Multiple meetings with HI-DOT regarding Hawaii Lab
- Met with potential new lab testing company for Hawaii and Karen (HI DOT) to discuss accreditation and testing requirements
- SOFT TRC Meeting
- Preparation of presentation for Arizona RTL overview (partnered with Sabra Jones) and support for drug courts
- Preparation of presentation and research on prescription drug trends and correlation to impaired driving cases over the last 10 years
- Coordinated testing of Khat (cathinone) in Arizona toxicology cases with Arizona DRE and California lab
- Provided consultation to California DOJ Alcohol TAG on questions regarding method development and required procedure elements

### **Upcoming Activities:**

#### **Recurring**

- RTL weekly meetings – Wednesday each week
- Region 9 Monthly State conference calls
- RTL Quarterly Meeting

### **April 2025**

- Continue April and May - meet with all labs online
- Arizona Drug Court Conference – Presenting two sessions: Rx Drug Trends and RTL Information
- Mississippi Drug Court Conference – Presenting on Toxicology Information to Judges
- CAT meeting, South Lake Tahoe – Presenting on Rx Drug Trends

### **May 2025**

- ABA Webinar

### **June 2025**

- SOFT Drugs and Driving Committee Meeting

**July 2025**

- Annual Traffic Records Forum – Boston
- Toxicology Resource Committee Meeting

**August 2025**

- DRE Conference

**October 2025**

- SOFT Meeting in Portland