**Name: Nikole Best Date of Last Update: 6/5/2025**

**Job Title: Forensic Scientist III - DNA**

**Indicate all disciplines in which you currently perform testing or calibration work:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [ ]  | **Seized Drugs** |  | [ ]  | **Blood Alcohol (Toxicology – Testing)** |
| [x]  | **Biology** |  | [ ]  | **Firearms/Toolmarks** |
| [ ]  | **Latent Prints (Friction Ridge)** |  | [ ]  | **Crime Scene** |
| [ ]  | **Breath Alcohol (Toxicology - Calibration)** |  | [ ]  | **Impressions (Footwear)** |

**For each discipline checked in the table above, list all categories in which you perform work:**

|  |
| --- |
| Body Fluid Identification, DNA-Nuclear |

**Education:** List all higher academic institutions attended (list high school only if no college degree has been attained)**.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Institution  | Dates Attended | Major | Degree Completed |
| University of Alaska Anchorage | 05/2012 – 05/2015 | Biological Sciences | Bachelor of Science |
| University of Alaska Southeast | 08/2018 – 12/2019 | Medical Coding Specialist | Certificate |

**Continuing Education:**  List formal coursework, conferences, workshops, in-service and other training received applicable to past and current forensic related positions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Course Title | Source of Training | Date(s) of Training |
| 2020 ISHI Conference | International Symposium for Human Identification | Sept 2020 |
| 2020 CODIS Conference | FBI CODIS | Dec 2020 |
| 2021 CODIS Conference | FBI CODIS | Nov 2021 |
| 2022 BODE Conference | BODE Technology | Apr 2022 |
| 2022 QIAGEN EZ2 and QCC Lecture & Hands-On Training | QIAGEN | May 2022 |
| 2022 Applied Biosystems RapidHIT ID System Install | Applied Biosystems | Oct 2022 |
| 2023 Review of Ethics, Impartiality and Confidentiality | Seaglass Training | May 2023 |
| 2023 Probabilistic Genotyping Of Evidentiary DNA Typing Results Webinars | Forensic Technology Center of Excellence | Oct 2023 |
| 2024 STRmix Training | STRmix | Apr 2024 |
| 2024 Testimony Training/Daubert Training | Ben McGough | Jun 2024 |
| 2024 CODIS Conference | FBI CODIS | Oct 2024 |
| 2025 HIDS Conference | Thermo Fisher Scientific | May 2025 |

**Testimony:** Complete the information below for testimony provided.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Discipline or Category of Testimony | Period of Time in Which Testimony Occurred | Approximate Number of Times Testified |
| Forensic Biology – Grand Jury | Calendar Year 2022 | 4 |
| Forensic Biology – Jury Trial | Calendar Year 2023-present | 5 |
| Forensic Biology – Evidentiary Hearing | Calendar Year 2023 | 1 |

**Professional Affiliations:** List professional organizations of which you are or have been a member. Indicate any offices or other positions held and the date(s) of these activities.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organization | Period of Membership | Offices or Positions Held/Dates |
| International Association for Identification | 2012-2016 | Student Membership |
|  |  |  |
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**Employment History:** List all scientific or technical positions held, particularly those related to forensic science. **List current position first.**

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| **Job Title** | Forensic Scientist III – DNA | **Tenure** | 3/20/2023-Current |
| **Employer** | Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
| Screening and DNA analysis of forensic casework. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job Title** | Forensic Scientist II – DNA | **Tenure** | 1/25/2021-3/20/2023 |
| **Employer** | Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
| Screening and DNA analysis of forensic casework. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job Title** | Forensic Scientist I – DNA | **Tenure** | 12/2/2019-1/25/2021 |
| **Employer** | Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
| Screening and DNA analysis of forensic casework. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job Title** |  | **Tenure** |  |
| **Employer** |  |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
|  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job Title** |  | **Tenure** |  |
| **Employer** |  |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
|  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job Title** |  | **Tenure** |  |
| **Employer** |  |
| Provide a brief description of principal duties: |
|  |

**Other Qualifications:** List below all personal certifications identifying the issuing organization and the dates; all scientific publications and/or presentations you have authored or co-authored, research in which you are or have been involved, academic or other teaching positions you have held, and any other information which you consider relevant to your qualifications.

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