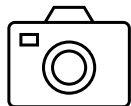## Standard Practice for Training in the Areas of Video Analysis, Image Analysis, and Photography

WHAT IS AN AAFS STANDARD FACTSHEET?

The AAFS produces clear, concise, and easy-to-understand factsheets to summarize the contents of technical and professional forensic science standards on the OSAC Registry. They are not intended to provide an interpretation for any portion of a proposed standard.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROPOSED STANDARD?

Video analysis, image analysis, and photography play fundamental roles in the investigation and prosecution of crimes. The collection, preservation, examination, and analysis of video and images require a foundation in the practical application of image science, photography, image and video technology, and the law.

This practice describes the minimum criteria for training-to-competency programs in technical topics related to the disciplines of forensic video analysis, image analysis, and photography to satisfy program content requirements of ANSI/ASTM E2917 – 19a.

WHY IS THIS PROPOSED STANDARD IMPORTANT? WHAT ARE ITS BENEFITS?

Due to the prevalence of multimedia evidence, training is necessary in the areas of video analysis, image analysis, and photography.

This standard promotes consistency in the training programs developed by forensic science service providers (FSSPs) by detailing topics recommended or required to be included.

Effective training in the areas outlined in this standard should add to other training already received in areas, including evidence identification, preservation, documentation, examination, analysis, interpretation, reporting, and testimony.

This OSAC Proposed Standard has been sent to ASTM International (ASTM) for further development and publication. Get involved as a member or by providing public comment.

HOW IS THIS PROPOSED STANDARD USED, AND WHAT ARE THE KEY ELEMENTS?

The standard is to be used-by forensic photographers and forensic image and video practitioners.

The training program developed by an FSSP can tailor the recommendations and requirements in this standard to fit the equipment used, the types of evidence encountered, and the examinations performed in their organization.

The standard recommends that training programs include content on core elements that address policy, legal issues, human factors, and discipline-specific topics. Discipline-specific topics are required to cover basic principles of digital multimedia evidence handling, basic photography concepts, and photography equipment. Additional requirements for image analysis – (i.e., engineering and scientific principles of imaging systems and digital image processing) – and for video analysis – (i.e., video technology fundamentals) - are included in the standard.

This is a standard guide. Additional training may be needed for new technologies and procedures that are not included in this document.