

**Forensic Mass Spectral Technology: The Transition from Research to Practical Application**  
**(Organized by the Forensics and Homeland Security Interest Group)**

**Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:45-7:00 pm**

Coordinators: Brittany K. Casey and Ruth Smith

**Panel:** **Dr. Brittany K. Casey** (Chief of Forensic Chemistry, Dallas County Southwestern Institute of Forensic Chemistry (SWIFS))  
**Dr. Ruth Smith** (Professor of Forensic Chemistry, Michigan State University (MSU))  
**Mr. Jorge Smith** (Mass Spectrometry Sales Specialist, Shimadzu Scientific Instruments)

Estimated Attendance: 50-75 people

Audience Composition: academia, industry, practitioner, federal agencies

From attendee feedback from the past Forensic and Homeland Security Workshop, there was a growing sentiment that too much time was spent on panel biographies/presentations which did not allow for a meaningful amount of time for audience interaction. Accordingly, Coordinators Casey and Ruth organized a smaller panel of researchers and practitioners and reduced time spent on introductions. This year participants gained insight into the implementation challenges faced by practitioners and the practical factors that limit the adoption and operation of new technologies and methodologies in forensic laboratories. Discussion encouraging the open communication between academicians and practitioners to facilitate this transition and benefit all parties was also a focus.

Each panel member gave a brief introductory presentation regarding their organization and expertise, followed by Q&A with the audience for the majority of the workshop.

**Panel Discussion – Audience Questions and Responses (~45 minutes)**

*Lead Topic from Coordinators:* Our goal for this workshop is to facilitate discussion between the various stakeholders in the field and, in doing so, to streamline development and adoption of new technology and methodology. Coordinator Casey began by describing the implementation of QTOF (high resolution mass spectrometry) screening in her toxicology laboratory and LC-UV/MS for delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol quantitation in her drug laboratory.

*Questions for Discussion:*

- What are the things you wish you could do or that you are trying to solve that this community (ASMS/MS scientists) can help you with?

- In terms of developing/modifying methods, how do vendors better communicate (or what can they expect) from practitioners?
- While adopting new instrumentation is not common, where do you hear about or explore new analytical technologies? Do you rely mostly on sales representatives or turn to the literature?

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany K. Casey (Chair 2022) and Ruth Smith (Chair 2023)