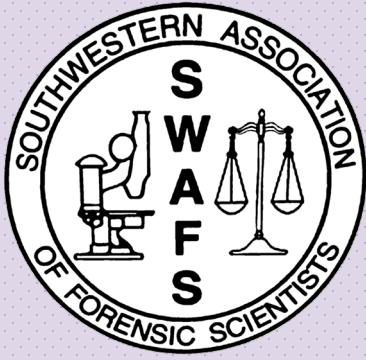




SWAFS

2026 Elections



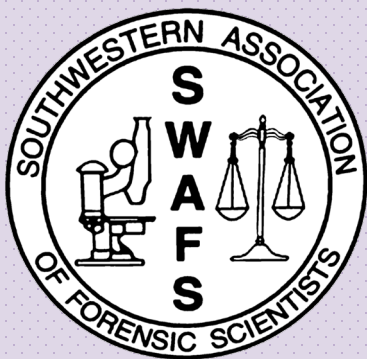
**President-Elect
Candidate
Blake Kinder**



Hello, my name is Blake Kinder. I have been employed with the West Virginia State Police Forensic Laboratory since 2017, where I currently serve as the Technical Leader in the Seized Drugs section. In addition to my responsibilities as a Forensic Scientist, I also serve as the department's photographer.

I attended my first SWAFS conference in 2018 and have been actively involved in the association ever since. Over the past six years, I have served on the Admissions Committee, Meeting Advisory Committee, Vendor Committee, and Constitution and By-Laws Committee, and presented at conferences. I have also had the privilege of serving SWAFS as an elected member of the Board of Directors.

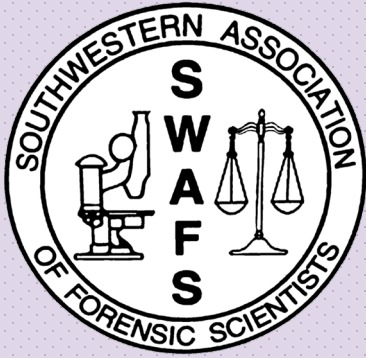
SWAFS has had a tremendous impact on my professional development, providing invaluable educational opportunities, meaningful collaborations, and lasting friendships throughout the forensic science community. I am excited about the direction of our organization and grateful for the opportunity to be considered for this role. I look forward to continuing to serve the association and its members as President-Elect and helping advance the purpose and future of SWAFS.



**Secretary
Candidate
Terra Lucas**



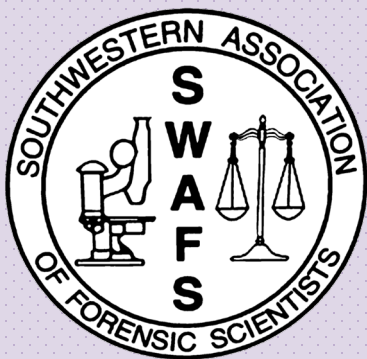
Terra Lucas earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry with a minor in Forensic Science from Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI in 2010. She began her forensics career as a Crime Scene Specialist for the Little Rock Police Department in June 2012. She then became a Forensic Drug Chemist at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory in November 2014 and was promoted to the Chief Forensic Chemist of the ASCL satellite lab in Lowell, AR in Oct. 2021. Terra is a Distinguished Member of SWAFS and has served on the Admissions Committee from 2016-2022, chaired the Meeting Advisory Committee in 2020, served as a Board of Directors member for the 2021/2022 term, and served as the SWAFS Secretary and Membership Committee Chair for the 2023/2024 and 2025/2026 terms. She became a Drug Analysis Fellow with the American Board of Criminalistics in 2018 and became certified and competent as a Clandestine Laboratory Chemist in 2020. Terra is also a member of Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists Association, serving as their Historian, a member of the Electronic Resources Committee, and a member of the 2021/2022 Audit Committee. In addition to her role as the Chief Forensic Chemist, Terra has trained new analysts, and performed method development, validations, and training of new analytical techniques in her lab. She is an ANAB Technical Assessor and a coordinator of ASCL's Summer Internship Program and has served as a Safety Officer, Grievance Officer, and on her laboratory's internal audit team. In her free time, she enjoys traveling as much as possible, camping, and hiking with her husband, yoga, and loves playing with her three little dogs Sophie, Stella, and Sadie.



**Board of Directors
Candidate
Amy Arellano**



I am a Forensic Scientist Team Lead for the Seized Drugs Section with the Texas Department of Public Safety. I've been employed with Texas Department of Public Safety for 27 years. My responsibilities include the case management for the Seized Drugs Section in Austin, TX. Keep records of evidence and its disposal. Serve as an expert witness in a court of law. Present scientific data in an understandable manner to lay juries. I have served as a DPS Internal Auditor to ensure the work quality of the lab system complies with the accreditation standards and the DPS standards. I have served a couple of terms on the DPS Seized Drug Advisory Board. I am an ANAB Technical Assessor. I am also a member of the Texas Department of Public Safety Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT). I was selected as the Crime Lab Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter in 2015. I have been a SWAFS member since 1998 and served on the Audit Committee for 1 term. I was the Audit Committee Chair for 3 terms. I served on the SWAFS Board of Directors from 2016-2018, Chair of the Meeting Advisory Committee in 2019, President Elect from 2019-2020, President 2020-2021 and Chairman of the Board 2021-2022.

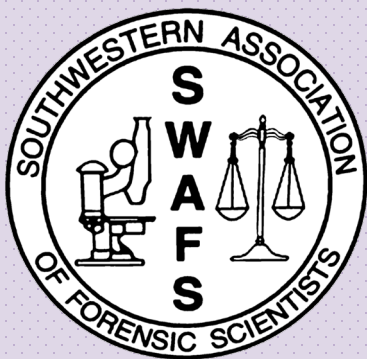


**Board of Directors
Candidate
Beth Royel**



My name is Beth Royel. I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Forensic Chemistry from York College of Pennsylvania and a Master's degree in Forensic Science from Bond University in Australia. I've been employed by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation for over 15 years. I am also the technical leader of our Chemistry Section. I have been ABC certified in drug analysis since 2021, an ANAB technical assessor since 2020 and a member of SWAFS since 2013.

My free time is spent caring for rescue cats and dogs. My wife and I currently care for 12 rescue/foster critters. I am also the president and grant writer for Pawsitively Jefferson County, a non-profit organization for the Trap-Spay/Neuter-Vaccinate-Return of feral/community cats in Jefferson County, Kansas.

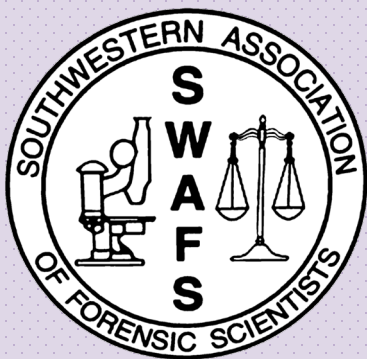


**Board of Directors
Candidate
David Gouldthorpe**



David Gouldthorpe has over 22 years of forensic science experience, currently serving as the Forensic Laboratory Manager of the Chemistry Detail for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Prior to LVMPD, he spent over four years with the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory, specializing in controlled substances, clandestine labs, and WMD hazard responses. A dedicated educator, he has trained professionals across all levels of law enforcement, academia, and emergency management.

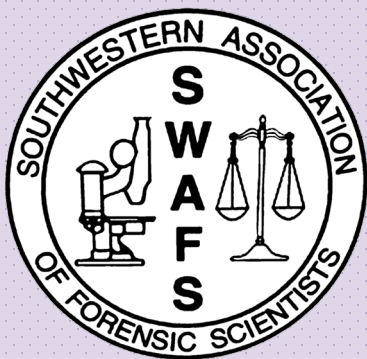
His organizational contributions include multiple leadership roles with the Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (SWAFS), including serving as President and chairing the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. He is also a member of Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists (CLIC) and ASTM International.



**Board of Directors
Candidate
Felisia Lackey**



Hi, my name is Felisia Lackey. I am very honored to be nominated as a candidate for the Board of Directors. After receiving my bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1999, I began my career as a bench chemist at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory in 2000. As a bench chemist, I served as the safety officer and quality manager. In 2014 I was selected as the Chief Forensic Chemist to manage a large staff of Forensic Chemists. During my tenor at the lab, I have mentored several rising Forensic Chemists and trained members of law enforcement from agencies across the state of Arkansas. I have been a member of SWAFS since 2002. I helped with the SWAFS conference held in Little Rock in 2004 and 2024. I have served on the SWAFS Membership Application Committee for the past 2 years and I am currently a part of the Audit Committee. I hope to serve in a larger capacity as a member of the Board of Directors. I look forward to providing effective service to the SWAFS organization if I am selected.



**Board of Directors
Candidate
Michella Carter**



Michella Carter has a B.S. in Forensic Science and a Master's in Business Analytics from the University of Central Oklahoma. She started with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) in the Controlled Substances Unit (CSU) in August of 2008. In February of 2021, Michella was promoted to Technical Manager of the CSU. While she continues to complete drug testing, Michella is also in charge of maintaining all technical documents and instrumentation for the Controlled Substances Unit while working closely with the laboratory Quality Manager to maintain accreditation of the CSU. During her career Michella has created and taught several CLEET approved classes to law enforcement that help them understand how the drug lab processes the evidence they submit. Michella is a member of SWAFS and CLIC.