Forensic Dental Data Set

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 published standard.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STANDARD?

ANSI/ADA 1058-2010D Forensic Dental Data was established to assist in formulating documentation requirements for submitting antemortem dental and defining postmortem dental information. By establishing a common terminology for the description of forensic dental data, it can also simplify the reconciliation process. It is used to convey information to aid in identifying human remains or living individuals who cannot identify themselves.

This standard is relevant to practicing dentists, forensic odontologists, forensic pathologists, medical examiners, coroners, law enforcement personnel, dental school personnel, emergency planners, and others that utilize dental data.

WHY IS THIS STANDARD IMPORTANT? WHAT ARE ITS BENEFITS?

Dentists often play a crucial role in identifying unknown individuals and human remains. Law enforcement, medical examiners, and coroners may call upon practitioners to supply dental records. Understanding what information may be required and responding using standardized terminology is essential to properly assist these agencies in the forensic odontological identification process to ultimately reunite families with their loved ones.

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

This standard is used to decrease the submission of inadequate information due to a lack of standardization, thereby reducing the potential for increased time to establish the identification through dental means.

This standard is a requirement for numerous other forensic dental documents and technical reports, such as the basis for Type 12, forensic dental and oral records, in ANSI/NIST–ITL1:2011(Update 2015) and ADA 1088-2017D and ADA 1077-2020.

A great deal of information is gathered during the course of dental evaluation and treatment. This standard contains definitions for the most common terms and descriptors used by the forensic odontology community. It aims to define a precise set of words to promote standardized terms for the transmission of forensic dental data that will assist in identifying human remains or individuals who cannot identify themselves. Standardized terminology enhances accurate communication and improves the function of data queries and sorting algorithms.