



Amanda M. Kogelschatz, M.S., D-ABFT-FT

she/her

Senior Toxicologist

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Background

Ms. Amanda Kogelschatz is board-certified in Forensic Toxicology as a Diplomate by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology and has over 12 years of experience working within the Toxicology field. Her experience includes supervising in a state forensic laboratory, where she was integral in the assessment and interpretation of a diversity of clinical samples, as well as establishing and adhering to proper laboratory compliance regulations and proper techniques established by state and federal regulations. Specifically, her forensic laboratory supervisory experience includes operations, including sample and case management, toxicology laboratory assessment/analysis, laboratory workflow, and chain of custody. She has extensive expertise in the pharmacology and interpretation of analytical data regarding alcohol and drugs, including drugs of abuse, pharmaceuticals, therapeutic, and emerging drugs, the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of alcohol and drugs, and human performance related to impairment. She holds a Master of Science degree in Forensic and Investigative Science, a bachelor's degree in Forensic and Investigative Science, and a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. Ms. Kogelschatz has testified in ten cases (nine criminal trials and one deposition).

Ms. Kogelschatz has experience in laboratory quality assurance activities, including adherence to recommendations for best practices of forensic activities and method validation of new test methods in a variety of instrumentation for alcohol and drug testing. She has participated in the implementation of oral fluid testing as a sole evidentiary sample and provided outreach to stakeholders regarding the implementation, collection, and interpretation of toxicology results. Furthermore, as a trained Forensic Scientist, she can evaluate cases pertaining to evidence collection, proper handling of evidence, Forensic Laboratory certifications and compliance, proper forensic document preparation, and standard operating procedures relating to testing, and provide insight into the interpretation of evidence and testing results.

As part of the Rimkus Toxicology and Food Safety practice group, Ms. Kogelschatz specializes in cases related to exposures (chemical, gases), general toxicology and usage of alcohol and drugs, including drugs of abuse, pharmaceuticals, therapeutic, and emerging drugs, and pharmacology of drugs, including questions related to impairment, alternative causation, increased risk, and dose response relationships. She also specializes in forensic investigative techniques, compliance, and chain of custody. She presently holds an academic position as an adjunct professor at Hudson Valley Community College since 2017, teaching Chemistry and Forensic Science.

Forensic Engagements

• Alcohol and Drug

- Drug impairment evaluations in driving and workers' compensation, including marijuana, alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, narcotic analgesics, PCP, inhalants, prescription drugs, emerging drugs of abuse, and synthetic drugs.
- Evaluation of blood alcohol concentration (BAC) as it relates to impairment, both in the presence of and absence of other drugs.
- Determination of possible impairment from alcohol before entry, at the point of sale, and after leaving an establishment (i.e., "DRAM shop" projects).
- Contribution of alcohol and drugs in causing death to an individual.

• Forensic Science

- Evidence storage and proper handling.
- Standard operating procedures/techniques used in testing.
- Chain of custody.
- Laboratory compliance to recommended standards of best practice and standard operating procedures.

• Exposures (Chemicals, Gases)

- Evaluation of relevant physiological injuries from documented chemical exposures.
- Assessment of exposure and risk assessment.
- Laboratory assessment of testing.

• Breath Devices

- Evaluation of testing/analytical data from breath devices (screening, evidential, probation devices, and ignition devices).
- Methodology of breath and probation devices, including standard of care.

Professional Experience

• Rimkus

2025 – Present

- Senior Toxicologist

Provide toxicology support in cases involving drug and alcohol use. Specialize in the areas of Toxicology to support and provide expert testimony in litigation and non-litigation cases. Responsibilities include evaluating the medical and scientific facts of each case, determining the validity of the allegations based on scientific literature, and communicating conclusions.

• New York State Police

2022 – 2024

- Supervisor of Forensic Services/Toxicology

Managed all casework for DUID investigations for biological specimens; aided in the development and validation of new test methods including Headspace GC/MS, GC/MS, and LC/MS/MS; communicated with police and attorneys regarding additional testing or interpretation of results; monitored quality assurance events including audit activities; led outreach presentations to stakeholders in the areas of laboratory operation; and interpreted reports and oral fluid testing.

- **New York State Police** **2014 – 2022**
 - Forensic Scientist I-III/Toxicology
Analyzed biological specimens for the presence of alcohol and drugs for DUID investigations using the technology of Headspace GCMS, GCMS, and LCMSMS; prepared and certified reports of findings; technically reviewed data and reports; aided in the development and validation of new test methods; assisted in the development of oral fluid testing; and testified when needed regarding human performance and pharmacology of alcohol for driving under the influence investigations.
- **Hudson Valley Community College** **2017 – Present**
 - Adjunct Professor, Science
Prepare and present lectures in General Chemistry, Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Forensic Science concepts; organize and grade assignments for lecture and laboratory; and assist students with laboratory safety and experiments.
- **West Virginia University** **2011 – 2013**
 - Graduate Research Assistant, Forensic Chemistry
Analyzed samples using ion mobility spectrometry to aid in the investigation of the contamination of common household building materials from clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. Analyzed common drugs of abuse samples using Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) for her thesis: “Reproducibility of Retention Indices Examining Column Type using HP-5 equivalent columns using GC/MS.”
- **Lower Paxton Police Department** **2009 – 2009**
 - Intern, Forensic Unit
Organized and logged over 300 pieces of evidence into a unique barcoded system (B.E.A.S.T.) for storage, court, and laboratory processing. Assisted in crime scene investigations and processing of evidence, including photographing and processing of evidence for fingerprints using Ninhydrin, magnetic powder, superglue fumigation, and standard black powder.

Education and Certifications

- **Forensic and Investigative Science, M.S.:** West Virginia University (2013)
- **Forensic and Investigative Science, B.S.:** West Virginia University (2010)
- **Chemistry, B.A.:** West Virginia University (2010)
- **Board-Certified Toxicologist:** Diplomate- Forensic Toxicology, American Board of Forensic Toxicology (2019-Present)
- **Other Certifications:** Blood and Urine Alcohol Permit, NY Department of Health (2014-2023)

Memberships and Affiliations

- **Society of Forensic Toxicologists:** Full Member and Professional Mentoring Program, Committee Member (2020-2024)
- **Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Toxicology Session:** Co-chair and Presenter, 2024
- **Society of Forensic Toxicologists:** Annual Conference Attendee, 2020 (Virtual), 2023, 2025
- **IACP Impaired Driving & Traffic Safety (IDTS) Conference:** Annual Conference Attendee, 2023
- **Stop DWI New York Highway Safety Symposium:** Annual Conference 1-day Attendee, 2023
- **Society of Forensic Toxicologists:** Annual Conference Attendee, 2020 (Virtual), 2023, 2025

- **American Academy of Forensic Sciences:** Annual Conference Attendee, 2020
- **Northeastern Forensic Association of Forensic Scientists:** Regular Member and Annual Conference Attendee 2018
- **Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA):** Advanced Seminar Attendee, 2026
- **National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL):** NACDL 19th Annual Seminar Attendee, 2026
- **DRI Association of Lawyers Defending Business:** Trucking Law Seminar Attendee, 2026

Continuing Education

- **American Academy of Forensic Sciences:** Novel Synthetic Opioids in a Post Fentanyl Analog Environment Workshop, Annual Conference (2022); A Decade of Designer Drugs: Lessons Learned and Future Directions Workshop (2020)
- **American College of Medical Toxicology:** Seminar in Forensic Toxicology: A Look Forward at New Psychoactive Substances and a Look BAC at Ethanol, 2-day course (2021)
- **Indiana University Center for Studies of Law in Action:** The Robert F. Borkenstein Course on Alcohol and Highway Safety: Testing, Research, and Litigation, 5-day course (2015)
- **International Association for Chemical Testing:** Recommended Specimens, Scope, Cutoffs, and Strategies for DUI/D Testing and the Impact of Stop Testing Limits Workshop, Online Educational Symposium (2021); Alcohol Concentration Extrapolation, Online Educational Symposium (2021)
- **Robert F. Borkenstein Center for Studies of Law In Action/The Center for Forensic Science Research and Education:** The Borkenstein Drug Course: Effect of Drugs on Human Performance and Behavior, 5-day course (2022)
- **Seaglass Training:** Internal Auditor Training, Reviewed ISO/IEC 17025 2017 and ANAB AR 3125 (2019) Accreditation requirements for Forensic Laboratories, 20 hours (2022)
- **Society of Forensic Toxicologists:** The Pharmacology, Management, and Interpretation of Drug Withdrawal Workshop, Annual Conference (2023); Cannabis Testimony in Today's Environment Workshop, Annual Conference (2023); Developing an Oral Fluid Drug Testing Program- Basic considerations, guidelines, and implementation strategies Workshop (2020)
- **Waters and Center for Biopharmaceutical Education and Training:** Teaching Day in Forensic Toxicology, Refresher on THC isomers, drug screening techniques, and oral fluid testing (2024)

Presentations

- **"From Chemistry to Courtroom: The Role of Toxicology in Alcohol and Drug Cases."** NACDL 19th Annual Seminar, Making Sense of Science: Forensic Science, Technology, and the Law, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, April 24th, 2026.
- **"From Chemistry to Courtroom: The Role of Toxicology in Alcohol and Drug Cases,"** National Webinar, Broadcast to 1,436 attendees, June 18, 2025.
- **"Oral Fluids Implementation."** Empire State Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Conference, 2024.
- **"New York State Police's Evidential Oral Fluid Testing Pilot Program,"** Presenter, Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Conference, 2024.
- **"Drugs, Alcohol, and the COVID pandemic: A four year look at New York State Trends,"** Presenter, Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Conference, 2021.

Publications

- **“The Role of Toxicology in Litigation and Claims: Making sense of Alcohol and Drug Toxicology evidence”**. Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM), May/June 2026 Issue.
- Wickenheiser R, Cadau A, Muro C, Whitfield S, McGinnis C, Murray L, France M, Niles L, Barron D, and Valentin L (2024). **“The forensic educational outreach initiative – Bridging the gap between education and workplace,”** Forensic Science International: Synergy, 8, 100448, 1-6.
- **“Reproducibility of Retention Indices Examining Column Type using HP-5 equivalent columns using GC/MS,”** Master’s Thesis, 2013.