**Ethical Standards in Forensic Science Key Terms**

1. **Forensic Science** –the application of science to the criminal and civil laws that areenforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system
2. **Ethics** –the branch of philosophy dealing with values relating to human conduct, withrespect to the rightness and wrongness of certain actions, and to the goodness and badness of the motives and ends of such actions
3. **Physical evidence** –any object that can establish that a crime has been committed orlink a crime and its victim or perpetrator
4. **Preservation** –to keep possession of or retain for safe keeping
5. **Rules of Evidence** –govern whether, when, how, and for what purpose proof of a casemay be placed before a court for consideration
6. **Impartiality** –not partial or biased; fair or just
7. **Testimony** –the statement or declaration of a witness under oath or affirmation, usuallyin court
8. **Expert Witness** –the Forensic Scientist and or Crime Scene Technician presenting thefindings of crime investigation in a court of law
9. **Chain of Custody** –refers to the chronological documentation or paper trail, showing theseizure, custody, control, transfer, analysis, and disposition of evidence, physical or electronic
10. **American Academy of Forensic Sciences** –this is currently the largest forensicscience organization in the world. Scientists may opt to follow the code of ethics from their regional professional organization or those from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences